

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

805.482.3847 www.mountcross.com

*For those of you worshipping with us in person,
thank you for wearing your mask (indoors required; outdoors optional)
and social distancing outdoors when singing.*

*Let us know you're watching us online - fill out our connection card:
<https://bit.ly/MCLCConnect>.*



To the Parents of Our Young Children –

We are so glad you are here. We know how challenging it can be to get a family out the door to come to church. We hope you can relax and receive the gifts of God that are here for you today. Please don't worry about squirming children or crying babies. All are welcome here. If you feel you must leave the service with your child, please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the children come to me."

We want them to know they are at home in this house of worship.

To All Worshippers –

The presence of those with special needs is a gift to us and the Church. Please welcome all children and give their parents a smile of encouragement. Please greet those with special needs and their families, helping them to know they are valued and accepted in our community.

Thank you for being the welcoming Body of Christ!

**2nd Sunday of Advent C
December 5, 2021, 9:30 a.m.**

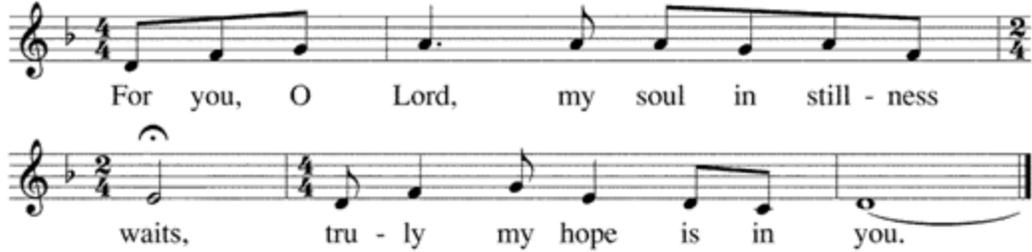
PRELUDE - Guy Ervin III

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie Morris

GATHERING SONG - "My Soul in Stillness Waits" (Haugen) - Verses 3 and 4

As able, the assembly stands.

Refrain

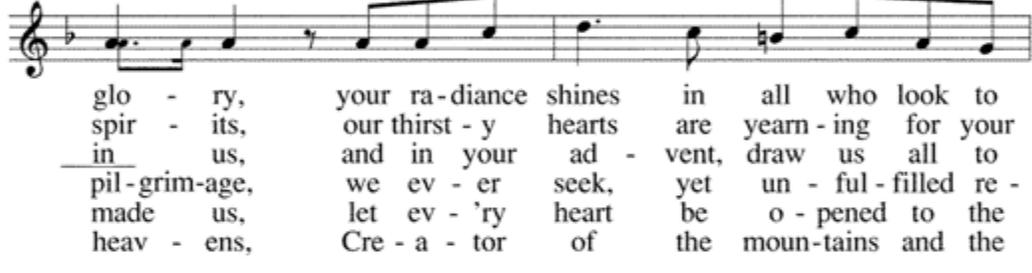


For you, O Lord, my soul in still - ness
waits, tru - ly my hope is in you.

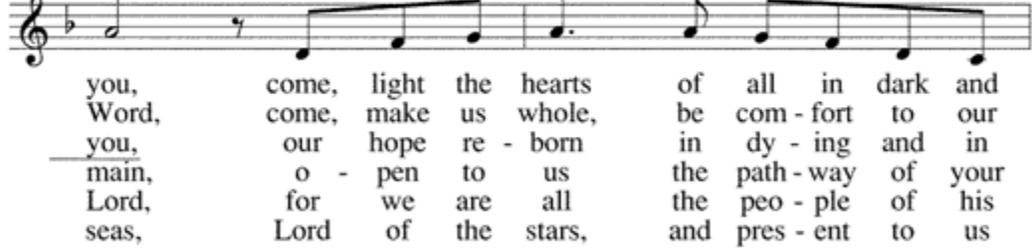
Verses



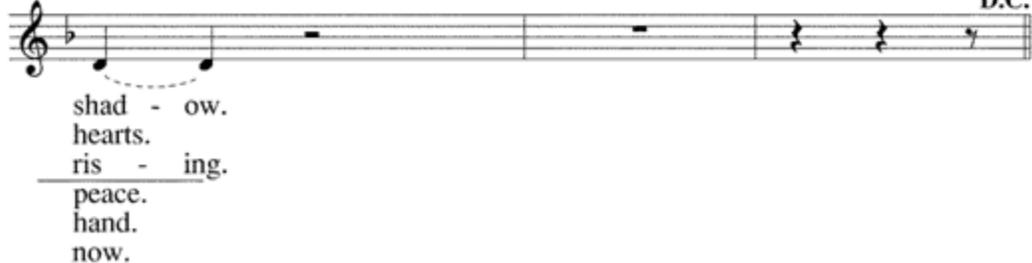
1. O Lord of Light, our on - ly hope of
2. O Spring of Joy, rain down up - on our
3. O Root of Life, im - plant your seed with -
4. O Key of Knowl - edge, guide us in our
5. Come, let us bow be - fore the God who
6. Here we shall meet the Mak - er of the



glo - ry, your ra - diance shines in all who look to
spir - its, our thirst - y hearts are yearn - ing for your
in us, and in your ad - vent, draw us all to
pil - grim - age, we ev - er seek, yet un - ful - filled re -
made us, let ev - 'ry heart be o - pened to the
heav - ens, Cre - a - tor of the moun - tains and the



you, come, light the hearts of all in dark and
Word, come, make us whole, be com - fort to our
you, our hope re - born in dy - ing and in
main, o - pen to us the path - way of your
Lord, for we are all the peo - ple of his
seas, Lord of the stars, and pres - ent to us



D.C.
shad - ow.
hearts.
ris - ing.
peace.
hand.
now.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who alone does wonders,
who lifts up the lowly,
who fills the hungry with good things.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another,
trusting in the tender mercy of our God.
(Silence for reflection)

C God for whom we wait,
**in the presence of one another,
we confess our sin before you.
We fail in believing that your good news is for us.
We falter in our call to tend your creation.
We find our sense of self in material wealth.
We fear those different from ourselves.
We forget that we are your children
and turn away from your love.
Forgive us, Blessed One,
and assure us again of your saving grace.
Amen.**

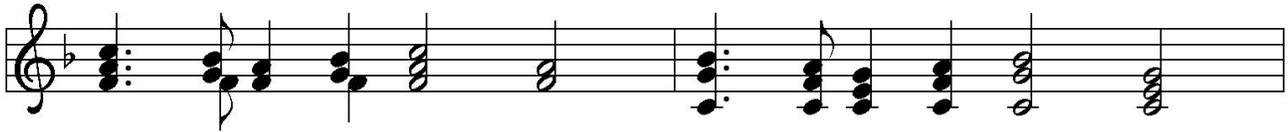
P God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you!
Through the power of the Holy Spirit,
† your sins are forgiven.
You are children of the Most High,
inheritors of the eternal promise,
and recipients of divine mercy.
God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

C **Amen.**



P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C **And also with you.**

KYRIE - "Kyrie" (Russian Orthodox) - ELW 155



1, 3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.
1, 3 Lord, . . . have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.
2 Christ, . . . have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - i - son.
Lord, . . . have mer - cy.
Christ, . . . have mer - cy.

Music: Russian Orthodox traditional

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.



LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH WITH CHILDREN - Pastor Julie Morris
(sing verse 1 and 2 while the first two candles on the wreath are lit)



1. Light one can-dle for hope, one bright can-dle for hope.
2. Light one can-dle for peace, one bright can-dle for peace.
3. Light one can-dle for joy, one bright can-dle for joy.
4. Light one can-dle for love, one bright can-dle for love.



Christ brings hope to ev' - ry heart. He comes! He comes!
Christ brings peace to ev' - ry heart. He comes! He comes!
Christ brings joy to ev' - ry heart. He comes! He comes!
Christ brings love to ev' - ry heart. He comes! He comes!

Words and music by Natalie Sleeth. © 1976, Hinshaw Music, Inc. Used with permission.

FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means “my messenger”) will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God’s people, as silver and gold are refined.

¹See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. ²But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; ³he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

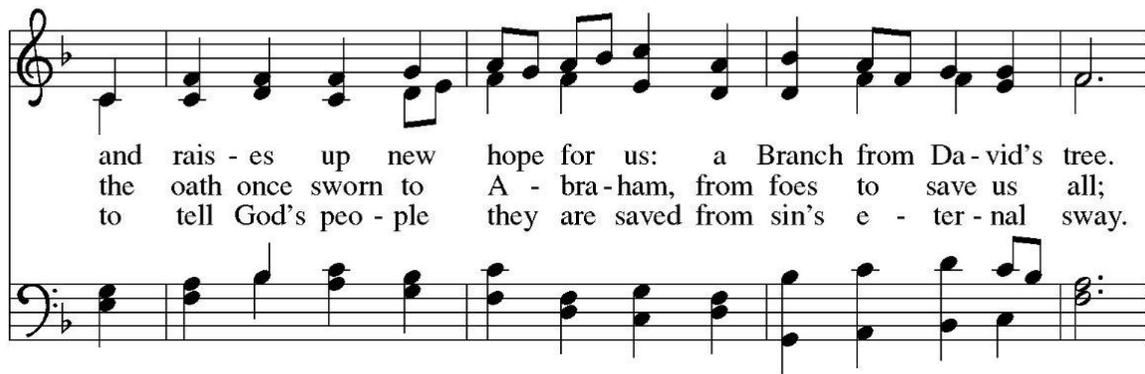
L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

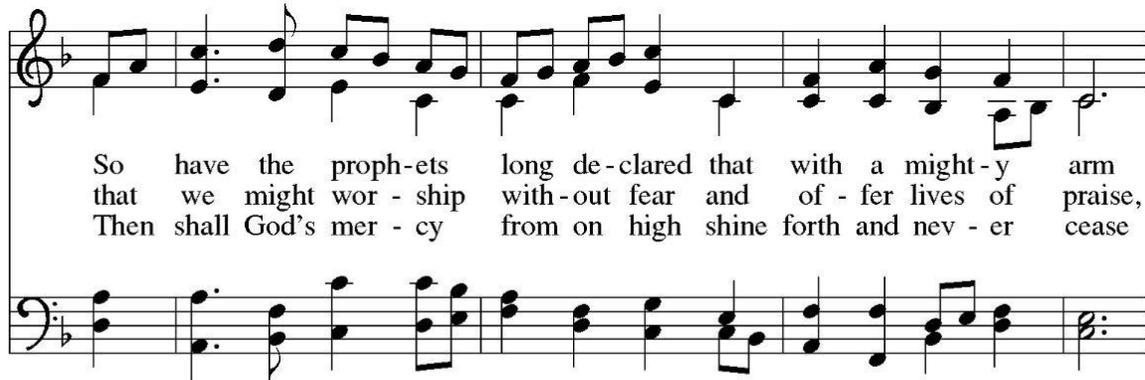
SONG OF RESPONSE - Canticle of Zechariah - "Blessed Be the God of Israel" -
ELW 250



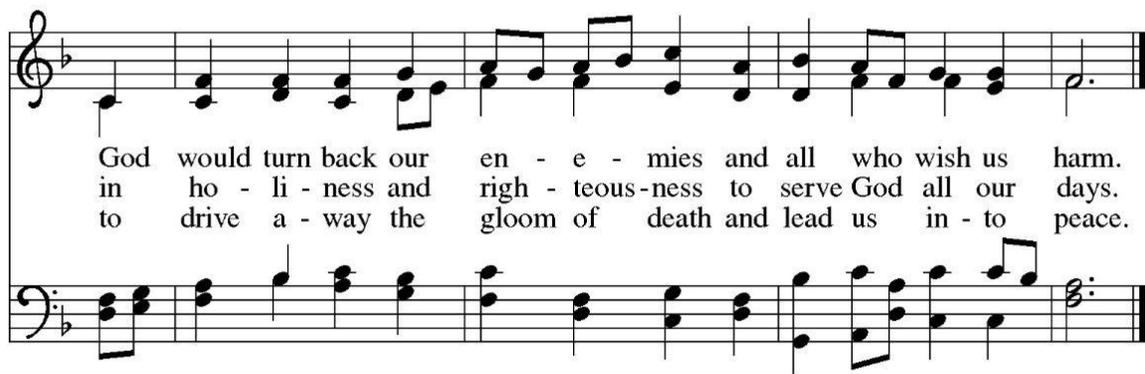
1 Blessed be the God of Is - ra - el who comes to set us free
2 With prom-ised mer - cy will God still the cov - e - nant re - call,
3 My child, as proph-et of the Lord you will pre-pare the way,



and rais - es up new hope for us: a Branch from Da-vid's tree.
the oath once sworn to A - bra-ham, from foes to save us all;
to tell God's peo - ple they are saved from sin's e - ter - nal sway.



So have the proph-ets long de - clared that with a might - y arm
that we might wor - ship with-out fear and of - fer lives of praise,
Then shall God's mer - cy from on high shine forth and nev - er cease



God would turn back our en - e - mies and all who wish us harm.
in ho - li - ness and righ - teous-ness to serve God all our days.
to drive a - way the gloom of death and lead us in - to peace.

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-11

The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.

³I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

As able, the assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - "Advent Gospel Acclamation" (Pishner) - sing twice

Based on VENI EMMANUEL
Stephen Pishner



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6

John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

P The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ²during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. ⁵Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; ⁶and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

SERMON - Pastor Julie Morris



As able, the assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.

SONG OF THE DAY - "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry" - ELW 249 - Verses 1-3

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676-1749; tr. composite

Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

The assembly may be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A In this season of watching and waiting, let us pray for all people and places that yearn for God's presence.

Holy One, you send messengers into the world to proclaim the day of your coming. Make our bishops, pastors, deacons, and lay preachers confident in their preaching, that their words and our lives witness to your grace. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy One, send leaders to our nations, cities, schools, and businesses to work on behalf of those who have lost parents, spouses, and loved ones; and to speak out for immigrants, the imprisoned, those living in poverty, and all who are oppressed. Make them bold in their commitments to justice, peace, and reconciliation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy One, send prophets to speak difficult truths, even when they are poorly received. Embolden those who ask hard questions and challenge accepted ways. Instill in youth and elders alike a passion for pointing to Jesus in all things, and teach us to always listen for your voice and your Spirit leading us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy One, send your servants to care for those who suffer. Use our ministries, especially our pastoral leaders, our Health Ministries, Service and Missions, and our Care Team, and use our very lives to reach out with compassion to those who are hungry, oppressed, lonely, ill, or in need of your protection especially (*those on our prayer list below*).

PRAYER CONCERNS from MOUNT CROSS

We pray for Bob Anderson, Tom Andino (friend of Carol Browning), **Alice** (friend of Barbara Burke), **Jenny** (daughter of friend of Barbara Burke), **Linda** (friend of Barbara Burke), **Mike Caceres** (nephew of Becky Gilbertson), **Lorraine & Mike Carpenter, Bonnie** (sister of Karen Cherry), **Steve Doshier** (brother-in-law of Paul Crockett), **Paul Edwards and Nancy Edwards** (friends of Denise Sobolik), **Natalie Faltin, Doria & Vladimir Fanning** (sister & brother-in-law of Barbara Burke), **Bill Greason, Charlene** (sister of Glenda Greason), **Charles Hilley, Jo Holler, Jordan Kessler** (granddaughter of Janet Kessler), **Paul Marigonda** (friend of Becky Riley), **Rick Mahlke** (son of friend of Barbara Burke), **Marie DeVere McClain** (daughter of Jody DeVere), **Lucille Miley, Karen Nelson, Lynn Nelson** (mother of Julie Fernandez), **Michael and Mercedes Olivera** (brother of Courtney Burke), **Samantha Roberts** (friend of Judy and Bob Winters), **Gloria Saldano** (mother of Lisa Saner) **and the Saner family, Maria Swartz** (sister of Jo Holler), **Chris, Wayne & Maria Truchan** (friends of the Burke family), **Lois Watts, the people of Waukesha Wisconsin, Howard Wullschleger.**

*Unless otherwise specified, prayer requests remain in the bulletin for four weeks.
If you would like to add or remove someone to or from the prayer list, please
e-mail the church office at office@mountcross.com or call 805.482.3847.*

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A Holy One, we remember your saints, both those publicly celebrated and those more humbly remembered. Today, on the first anniversary of her death, we especially remember Barbara D'Addario and pray for ongoing comfort for her family and friends. Confident that your work will be completed, we live in faith until the day of your coming ... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God who listens, we now offer you our own prayers, either silently or aloud (*pause*) ... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of new life, you come among us in the places we least expect. Receive these prayers and those of our hearts, in the name of Jesus.

C **Amen.**

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING SONG - "Wait for the Lord" (Taizé) - sing 3 times

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

The first line of musical notation is for the offering song. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in the key of D major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." The music ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart.

The second line of musical notation continues the offering song. It consists of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in the key of D major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart." The music ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Words and music, © 1984, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent.
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OFFERING PRAYER

- A God of our waiting and watching,
we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people.
Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal,
through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace.
- C **Amen.**



As able, the assembly stands for the Great Thanksgiving.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P The Lord be with you.
- C **And also with you.**
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
- P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.
You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,
through whom you will also make all things new
in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

P And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *A Community Mass*, Richard Proulx, b. 1937
Music © 1971, 1977 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.
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P Holy God, the Beginning and the End,
our Salvation and our Hope,
we praise you for creating a world of order and beauty.
When we brought on chaos, cruelty and despair,
you sent the prophets to proclaim your justice and mercy.
At this end of the ages
your Son Jesus came to bring us your love
and to heal all the suffering world.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Remembering, therefore,
his life, death, and resurrection,
we await his coming again
in righteousness and peace.

Send your Spirit on us
and on this bread and wine we share:
strengthen our faith, increase our hope,
and bring to birth the justice and joy of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty God, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

C Amen.

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**C Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory,
forever and ever.
Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

P Come to Christ's banquet.
Feast on God's gift of grace.

The assembly may be seated.



LAMB OF GOD - "What Feast of Love" - ELW 487 - Verse 1



What feast of love is of-fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last - ing life, what gra - cious gift__ is giv - en?



This, this__ is Christ the king, the bread come down__ from heav - en.



Oh, taste__ and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, © 1993, admin. OCP Publications.

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Holy Communion will be distributed in the center aisle. Ushers will dismiss people by rows, beginning from the back of the church. Please come forward to receive the bread, and then walk to the side to receive wine or grape juice. Place your empty cup in the trays provided. Communion ministers will bring Holy Communion to those with mobility challenges (or those worshipping outside who don't wish to come inside).

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (for our Livestream viewers)

A spiritual communion is a personal devotion that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion. As Martin Luther once wrote: "I can enjoy the sacrament ... every day if only I keep my eyes on the promise, that is, on the words and promise of Christ, which feeds and strengthens my faith."

As we distribute Holy Communion to the congregation here, we invite those on the livestream to offer the Prayer of Spiritual Communion displayed on your screen:



I worship and adore you, Lord Jesus Christ, present in the bread and wine, and present in your people, who are gathered in spirit. In this moment I join with them to receive you in my heart.

(We pause for silent prayer).

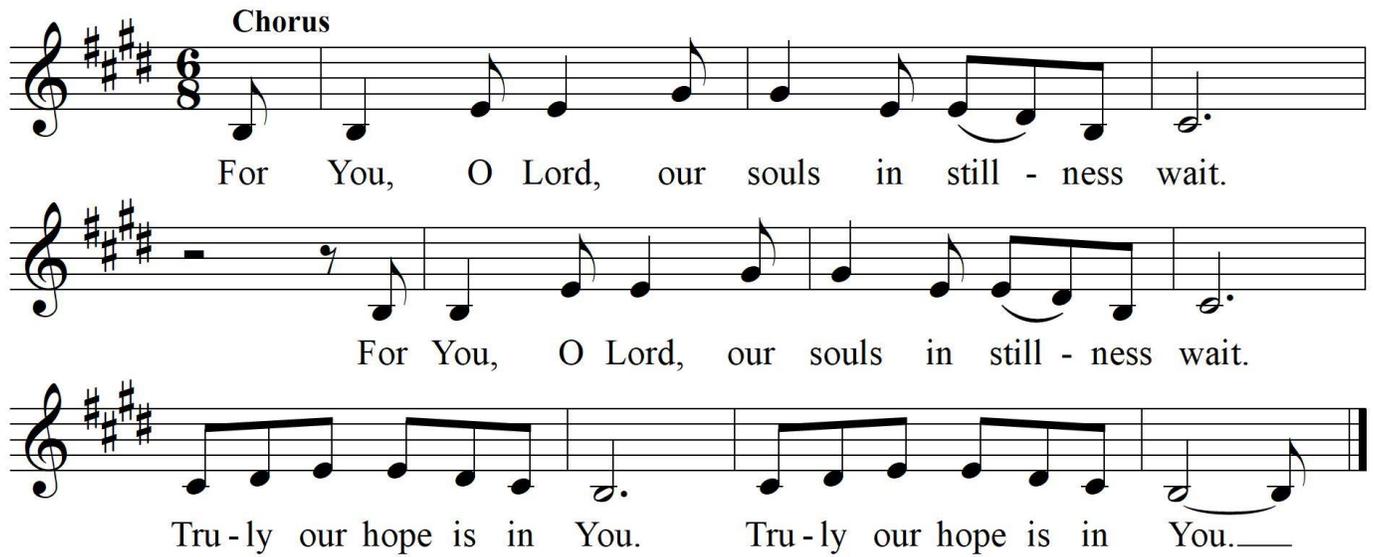
Fill us all with your love and grace, and strengthen us to serve the world in your name. Amen.¹

¹ Adapted by Pastor Julie from a prayer written by the Anglican Diocese of Niagara.

COMMUNION SONGS -

“Come Light Our Hearts” (McCracken)

Chorus



For You, O Lord, our souls in still - ness wait.

For You, O Lord, our souls in still - ness wait.

Tru - ly our hope is in You. Tru - ly our hope is in You. —

The musical notation consists of three staves. The first staff is labeled 'Chorus' and has a treble clef, a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#), and a 6/8 time signature. It contains the melody for the first line of the chorus. The second staff contains the melody for the second line. The third staff contains the melody for the third line, which ends with a double bar line. The lyrics are written below each staff, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

Words and Music: Sandra McCracken, ASCAP. © 2014, Drink Your Tea, admin. by Music Services.
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Verse 1 (sung twice)

O Lord of life, our only hope,
Your radiance shines on all who look
to you in the dark. Emmanuel, come,
come light our hearts.

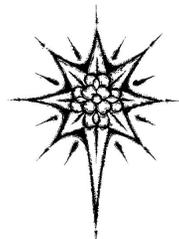
Chorus

Verse 2 (sung twice)

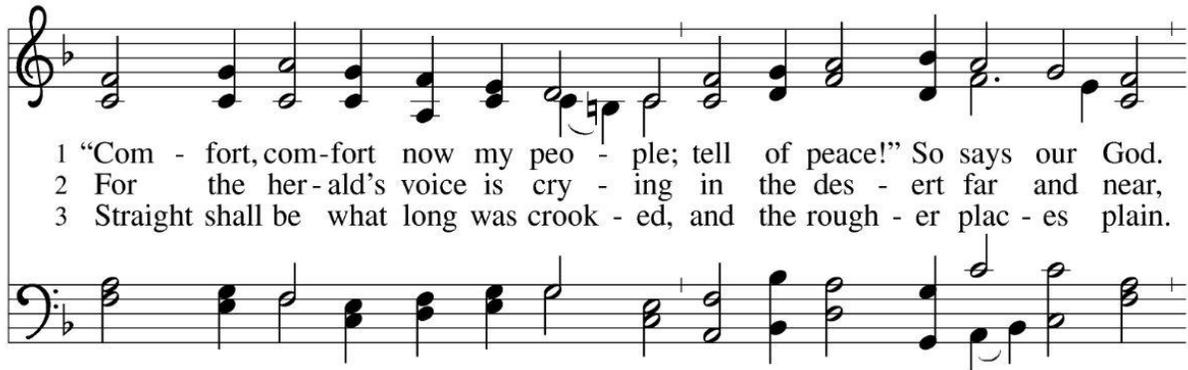
O Joy above all other loves,
in You we find more than enough.
We come as we are, O heal and restore,
Come light our hearts.

Chorus

Truly our hope is in You.



Comfort, Comfort Now, My People - ELW 256



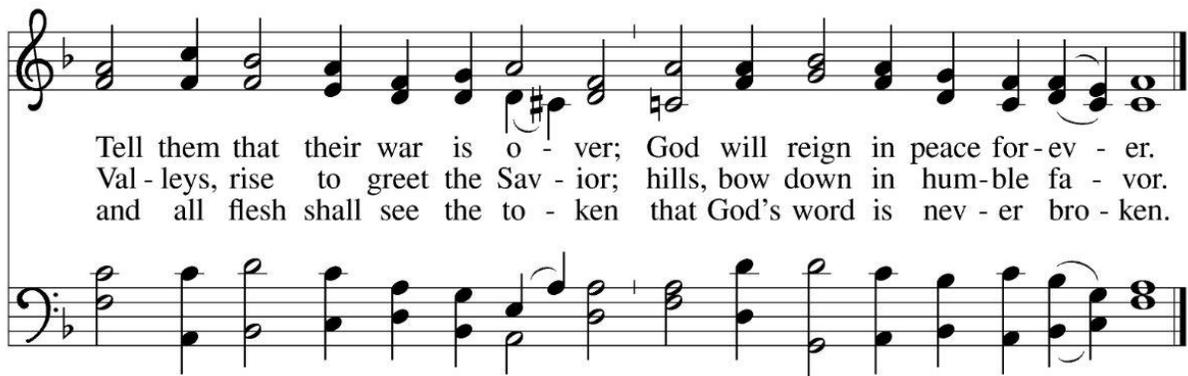
1 "Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!" So says our God.
2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load.
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.



To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them!
Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way.
For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad,



Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for - ev - er.
Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum - ble fa - vor.
and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Most High God,
you have come among us at this table.
By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word,
sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all,
through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

C **Amen.**

As able, the assembly stands for the Blessing.

BLESSING

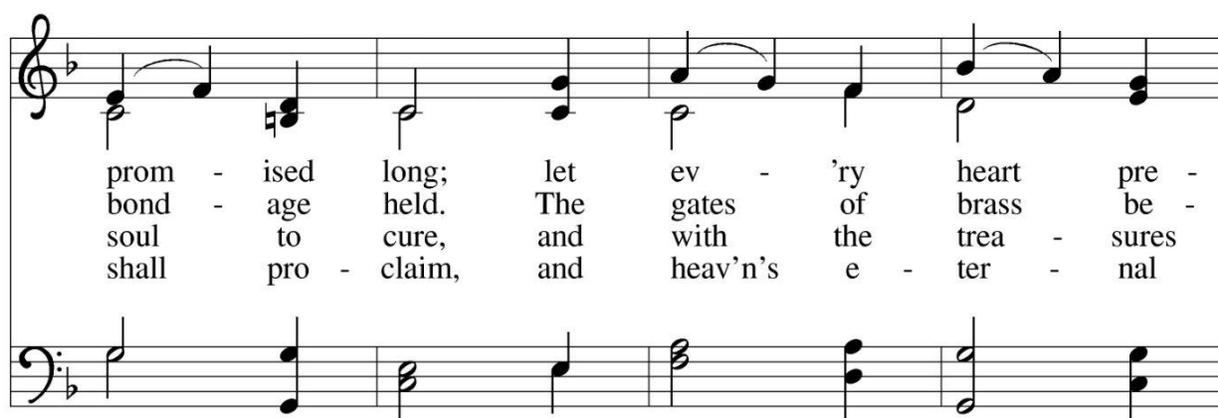
P The God of hope
fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope
by the power of the Holy Spirit,
through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.
And the blessing of God,
Father, Son, ✠ and Holy Spirit
be upon you and those you love,
now and always.

C **Amen.**

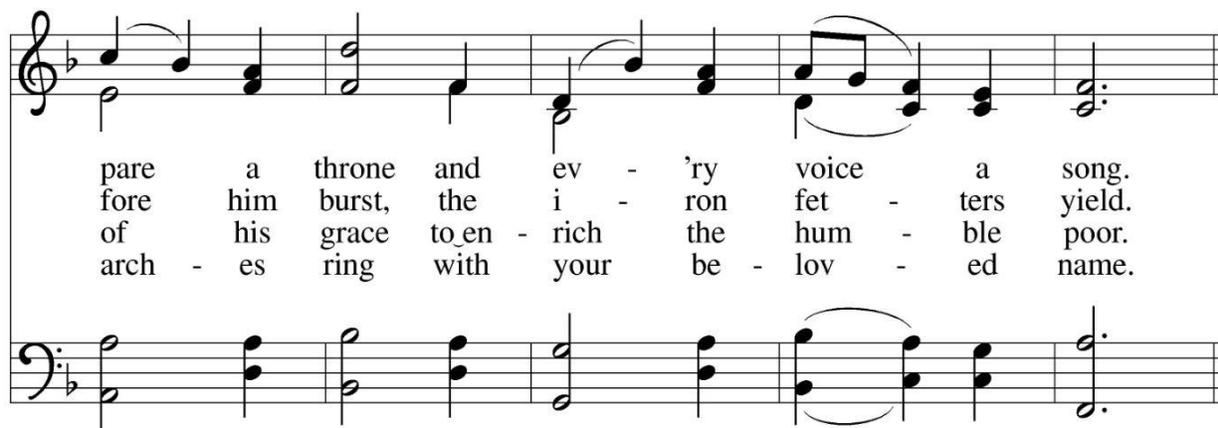
SENDING SONG - Hark, the Glad Sound! - ELW 239



1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come



prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal



pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751
Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Christ is near.
C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE - Guy Ervin III

**Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God
by Maria D'Addarios and Angela Elam n loving memory of their mother,
Barbara D'Addario.**

"On the one-year anniversary of our mother's (Barbara D'Addario) passing, we would like to let the parish know of our gratitude for everyone's love and support of our mom. She always spoke of how loved she felt at Mount Cross, and it was her joy to be a part of the community and to lead the Classical Concert Series. We miss her terribly, but are confident she's with our dad and her family again. Thank you so very much for your kindness to us and our mom - we are most grateful."

Maria D'Addario and Angela Elam

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If you haven't already done so today, let us know you're watching us online - fill out our connection card: <https://bit.ly/MCLCConnect>.

Join us for **Fellowship in the Pavilion** after worship each Sunday!

Come to the Table: Mount Cross is offering **Communion reception in the sanctuary or in your car** from **11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon**. If you are unable to come inside, we will serve Communion to those who prefer to remain in their cars.
Please consider your vulnerabilities and risk factors before choosing to participate.

The Week at a Glance

TODAY, December 5, 2021

Fair Trade Sale after Worship

Fair Trade coffee, chocolates, and other goodies are available for sale on the patio after worship.

Youth Group, 6:00 p.m.

Youth Group meets at 6:00 p.m. Questions, contact Joe (joe@mountcross.com).

Monday, December 6, 2021

Monday Meditation, 3:00 p.m.

The Meditation group meets on Zoom at 3:00 p.m. Questions, contact LaJean Wenzel.

Service & Missions Committee, 6:00 p.m.

The Service & Missions Committee meets on Zoom at 6:00 p.m.

Learning Committee, 7:00 p.m.

Learning Committee meets at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. All are invited to join! Contact Tracy Blois at tracy.allyson@gmail.com for details. Learning Committee plans our children, youth, and family programming working closely with Joe and the amazing CYFM team.

**Lectio Divina at St. Columba's,
7:00 p.m.**

Come to St. Columba's Chapel (1251 Las Posas Rd., Camarillo), Mondays at 7:00 p.m., through December 20, for *Lectio Divina* on the upcoming Gospels for the Sundays of Advent and Christmas. This ancient practice of reading and reflecting on the scriptures helps enter into our Sunday worship more fully, especially in this holy time when we are preparing to celebrate the Incarnation.

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

**All Day - Presto Pasta
Fundraiser**

Get a flyer from the kiosk and eat at Presto Pasta to help our Youth Ministry.

Women's Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.

The Women's Bible Study meets in the sanctuary at 9:00 a.m. for Advent Yoga Chapel led by Pastor Jennifer Witten.

Justice in Action, 7:00 p.m.

The Justice in Action Group meets at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Fun with Faith, 5:00 p.m.

Fun with Faith happens at 5:00 p.m. in the sanctuary for Christmas Program practice. Contact Joe (joe@mountcross.com) with questions.

Adult Bible Study, 5:00 p.m.

Adult Bible Study meets at 5:00 p.m. in the Parish Life Center. We study the Gospel reading for the upcoming Sunday.

Wednesday Dinner, 6:00 p.m.

Our Wednesday dinner is at 6:00 p.m., in the Pavilion or Parish Life Center. Suggested donation, \$5.

Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6:15 p.m.

The Bell Choir rehearses in the loft (doors open, masked), from 6:15-7:15 p.m.

Confirmation, 6:30 p.m.

Confirmation begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Pavilion. Contact Joe (joe@mountcross.com) for info.

Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.

The Choir rehearses in the sanctuary (masked and with the doors open) from 7:30-8:15 p.m.

Thursday, December 9, 2021

Care Team, 1:00 p.m.

The Care Team meets at 1:00 p.m.

Quilters, 2:00 p.m.

The Quilters meet at 2:00 p.m.

CDC Christmas Celebration,
6:30 p.m.

The CDC Christmas Celebration is at 6:30 p.m.

Young Adults, 6:30 p.m.

The Young Adult group is meeting at 6:30 p.m. off-site. Contact Joe Zimmerly (joe@mountcross.com) for details.

Friday, December 10, 2021

CDC Drive-in Movie, 6:00 p.m.

Join us for an evening of holiday family movie fun as we watch "Elf." Please bring canned foods to support Ventura County Food Share.

Sign up using this link:

<https://signup.com/go/maduKOK>

Next Sunday,

December 12, 2021

Deacon Ordination, 2:00 p.m.

All are invited to the ordination to the diaconate of Dr. Cecelia Travick-Jackson at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary, Bishop Brenda Bos presiding. RSVP to the church office (805-482-3847, office@mountcross.com).

Announcements

Sunday Worship

The Re-Opening Committee meets monthly to review our COVID precautions. We continue to require masks for indoor worship. Masks are optional for outdoor worship in the pavilion, but please maintain social distancing. We also need worship assistants:

<https://signup.com/Group/7769976983269200115/>.

Thank you in advance for helping to keep Mount Cross safe!

Help with Drive-through and Sanctuary Communion Reception

We are looking for help to make Sunday Sanctuary and Drive-through Communion possible. If you would like to help set up or as a parking lot usher, greeter, or communion assistant, please sign up at

<http://bit.ly/WorshipandCommunionAssistants>

or call the office at (805) 482-3847.

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

Programs are going strong so check the newsletter or email Joe (joe@mountcross.com) for details or questions.

Justice in Action Work of the Week:

These links are offered by the Peace & Justice Team in a spirit of goodwill to those who are seeking to learn from diverse voices and take action towards reconciliation and healing. We invite everyone to be a part of these ongoing conversations as we learn together.

We're taking a break this week from a particular "action" but invite you to pray for peace and reconciliation, to support others through purchasing Fair Trade items after worship, to help with Hope for the Holidays cards, and to support the Hickory House Christmas Party.

Vaccine Sign-up Site

COVID-19 vaccines are available by appointment at MyTurn.CA.gov or for walk-ins.

Altar Flowers

To request flowers for our worship:

<http://bit.ly/AltarFlowers2021>. The cost is \$35.00; you can take the arrangement home with you after worship, or pick it up at Communion following worship. If you aren't here but would still like flowers, please let us know; we'll deliver the arrangement to another member to enjoy.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our Prayer Shawl ministry could use additional helpers to knit or crochet prayer shawls to be given to those in need of comfort. To give a shawl or for instructions to knit or crochet one, contact Diana Hagen (805-482-6411).

More Ways to Give

Thank you, Mount Cross congregation, for all the generosity you have shown in these times of trial! To give to Mount Cross on your cell phone or tablet, download Vanco's free GivePlus app from the App Store or Google Play, enter zip code 93010, and choose Mount Cross.

Please email any questions about giving and/or statements to Financial Secretary Joan Brundage at jbrundage@mountcross.com.

Amazon Smile

If you haven't already done so, choose Mount Cross Lutheran Church as your non-profit to support on smile.amazon.com so 0.5% of purchases will go to Mount Cross. Thank you!

St. Columba's Food Pantry

Each Sunday, we have a bin where you can bring non-perishable food for St. Columba's Project Hope food pantry. Canned vegetables or proteins are always a good choice. They could also use boxes of breakfast cereal. **Please do not donate food that is expired.**

Thanks for your support.

Worship Guidelines

The Re-opening Committee met and has decided to stay the course for our worship.

Masks are still required for indoor worship. Although some places have chosen to make masks optional for those who are vaccinated, we, as Lutherans, love to sing and there are concerns about singing indoors and keeping people safe, which is our first priority. Because we love to sing and out of respect to those in our congregation who cannot yet be vaccinated (including children under 12), masks are required indoors for worship. Masks are optional **outside** and we offer seating in the pavilion outdoors, but we ask you to keep socially distanced from those not in your household. Thanks for your continued cooperation in following these guidelines to help keep Mount Cross safe.

Advent Lectio Divina

All are welcome to come to St. Columba's Chapel (1251 Las Posas Rd., Camarillo) on Monday evenings at 7:00, through December 20, for *Lectio Divina* on the upcoming Gospels for the Sundays of Advent and Christmas. This ancient practice of reading and reflecting on the scriptures helps us enter into our Sunday worship more fully, especially in this holy time of preparing to celebrate the Incarnation.

ELCA World Hunger's Advent Calendar

Celebrate the excitement, anticipation and wonder of the birth of Christ with an Advent calendar. Each day is a reminder of the reason for the season with hymns, prayers, Bible verses and information about how ELCA Good Gifts make a difference in the world. Pick one up from the table on the patio after church or ask for one during drive through communion.

WH also has weekly study guides for Advent - available for download at www.elca.org/resources. Blessings to you in this season of Advent!

Youth Fundraiser

Presto Pasta Camarillo (1701 Daily Dr.)

This Tuesday, December 7, 10:30 a.m.-9:00 p.m.

Join us on Tuesday, December 7, for our Presto Pasta fundraiser. Get a flyer from the Welcome Kiosk or show the Event photo on Facebook to the cashier in order for us to receive credit (20% of the sales). This event runs ALL DAY, however if you would like to dine in, Joe Zimmerly will be at Presto Pasta from 5:00-7:00 p.m. that night and so will some of our youth.

The funds raised will go towards sending our high school youth to Minnesota for the ELCA National Youth Gathering during the Summer of 2022. Send this event to your friends and family. All are welcome and we thank you in advance for supporting our programs!

Advent – Prepare for the Coming of the Lord with Care

Lutherans use the four weeks of Advent to prepare for and remember the real meaning of Christmas. The Care Team offers some simple acts of caring for these weeks:

- *This Week* – Ask Pastor Julie for a list of members who are homebound or restricted in their activity and send one or all of them a Christmas card/note. (List can be given to you in person, by email, or by mail.)
- *Next Week* – Send/give a Christmas card/thank you note to one or more person(s) who provide you a service.
- *Week of December 19* – Send/give a Christmas card/note to a neighbor that you have not exchanged cards with in the past.

Hospitality Sign-ups Now Online!

Who doesn't enjoy a hot cup of coffee and a light snack after church on Sunday mornings? Sign-ups for hosting a Sunday morning Hospitality on the patio has gone online. The new link is:

https://bit.ly/MtCross_Hospitality. Thank you for your service to the Mount Cross community!

Hickory House Christmas Party, Wednesday, December 15

Sign up today on the patio to purchase \$10 gift cards to the 99¢ Store for 35 residents of Hickory House (now called Oak Place). No need to shop! We will purchase the cards for you.

Oak Place is a residential care facility in Old Town Camarillo.

Let's help make their Christmas a little brighter!

Poinsettias for Christmas

Again, this year, we're asking for donations of poinsettias to help our Christmas Eve service look festive. Each poinsettia is \$5. You can sign up online: <https://bit.ly/MCPoinsettias> and include a dedication if desired.

You can make the donation through Mount Cross' online donation website <https://www.mountcross.com/online-giving.html> (choose "designated" and type in "poinsettias") OR you can mail a check to the church OR drop it in the offering bucket at worship or during drive-through Communion.

No matter your method of payment, please write on your check or note on the online donation website: "poinsettias." Responses are needed by December 15, please.

For those who want to take the plants home, poinsettias will be available after the 8:00 p.m. Christmas worship service, or after 9:30 a.m. worship on Sunday, December 26.

Hope for the Holidays: A Project of Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Services

Help bring hope and cheer to families and children waiting in detention centers for their asylum cases to be processed. We want to give them assurance that they are not forgotten, especially at Christmas. And it's easy!

All you need to do is come to the table in the patio and write a greeting on a card. We will gather the cards and send them to LIRS where they will be distributed to the detention centers. If you are participating from home, please just fill out a card at home and bring it in to add to our collection. (No envelope or last names, please.)

2022 Generosity Campaign



"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's grace. 1 Peter 4:10
Thank you to everyone who has already submitted your pledge cards and time & talent surveys. Our church budget depends on the treasure you have committed to Mount Cross. In pledging, you are generously supporting our staff and various ministries. If you haven't had a chance to complete your pledge or survey, pledges and time & talent surveys are always accepted.

Thank you for your generosity!

I am the vine, you are the branches - John 15:5

*The People of Mount Cross Lutheran Church invite
you to a celebration of
Holy Communion and the Ordination and Installation of our new Deacon.*

*Dr. Ceedia Travick-Jackson
Will be installed as Deacon of Mount Cross Lutheran Church
Bishop Brenda Bos, Presiding
Sunday December 12, 2021
At 2:00 p.m.*

*Mount Cross Lutheran Church
102 Camino Esplendido
Camarillo, California 93010*

*Reception following in the pavilion
Clergy & Rostered Leaders are invited to vest: Red
Kindly RSVP to the church office by Thursday, December 9, 2021*

(805) 482-3847 office@mountcross.com