

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!

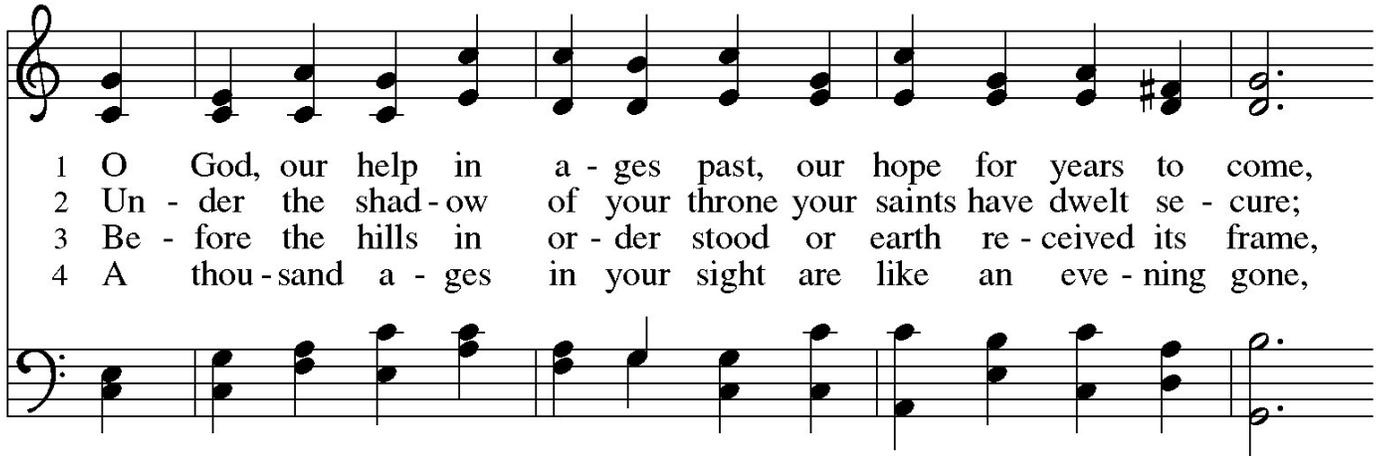
**The 6th Sunday after Epiphany
February 13, 2022, 9:30 a.m.**

PRELUDE - Guy Ervin III

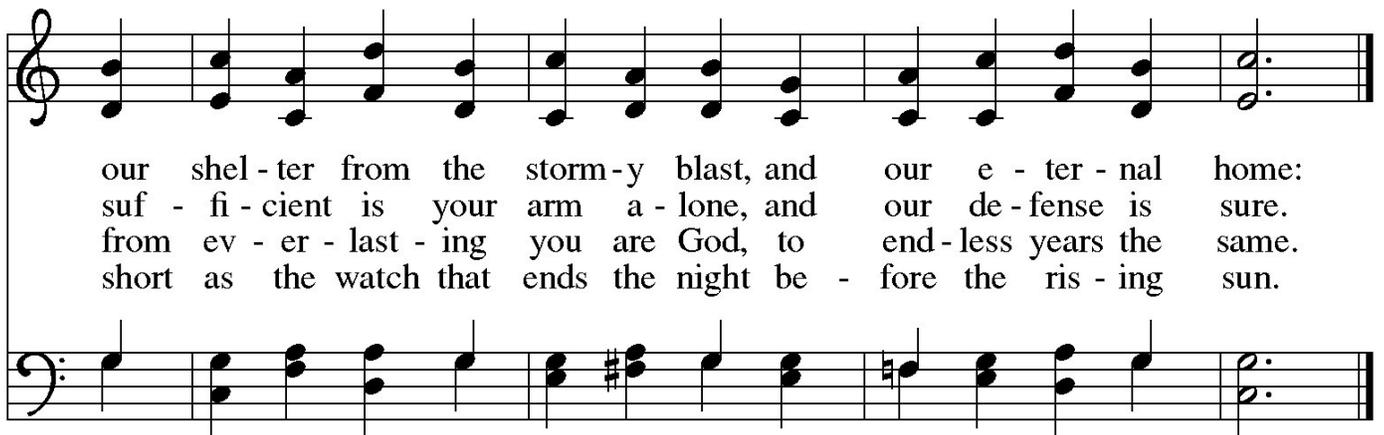
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie Morris

GATHERING SONG - "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" - ELW 632 - Verses 1, 3, 5 & 6

As able, the assembly stands.



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,
bears all our years away;
we fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.
Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678-1727



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who creates us,
redeems us,
and calls us by name.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

C Most merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned against you
and your beloved children.
We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.
We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.
We have failed to show hospitality
to those you called us to welcome.
Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.
For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation.
Amen.**

P Rejoice in this good news:
In † Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven.
You are descendants of the Most High,
adopted into the household of Christ,
and inheritors of eternal life.
Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

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.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE - "Glory to God" - ELW Setting 2



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en - ly King, al - migh - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of



God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us; you are



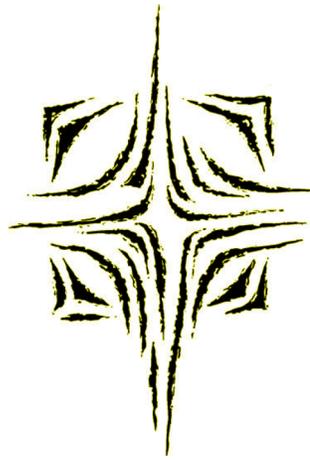
seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

3 For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,
you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly
Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

Refrain
Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Pastor Julie Morris

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 17:5-10

These verses compose a poem that is part of a larger collection of wisdom sayings that contrast two ways of life. Life with God brings blessing; the power and vitality of God is active in our life. Life without God brings a curse, the power of death.

⁵Thus says the Lord: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the Lord. ⁶They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

⁷Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord. ⁸They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

⁹The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse—who can understand it? ¹⁰I the Lord test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 1 - “The Way” (Psalm 1) - Brian Doerksen/Brian Thiessen/Calum Rees/Teresa Trask - CCLI Song # 7029167

Verse 1

Contented the one
Who does not walk with the wicked
Or stand in the way
Sinners and scoffers delight
For the Lord's teaching is her desire
These are the words
She's singing softly
Day and night
Day and night

Verse 2

Just like a tree
Planted by streams of water
Yielding its fruit
In its appointed season
In the heat of the day
Its leaves won't wither
In all that he does
He has more than enough
More than enough
More than enough

Verse 3

Not so the wicked
They are like wind blown chaff
Offenders and scoffers
Will have no defense to stand
For the Lord embraces the way of the righteous
And the way of the wicked is lost
For the Lord embraces the way of the righteous
And the way of the wicked is lost

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

For Paul, the resurrection of Christ is the basis for Christian hope. Because Christ has been raised, those who are in Christ know that they too will be raised to a new life beyond death.

¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

As able, the assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – “Alleluia” - ELW Setting 2

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

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

Repeat alleluia

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL: Luke 6:17-26

After choosing his twelve apostles, Jesus teaches a crowd of followers about the nature and demands of discipleship. He begins his great sermon with surprising statements about who is truly blessed in the eyes of God.

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

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

¹⁷[Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

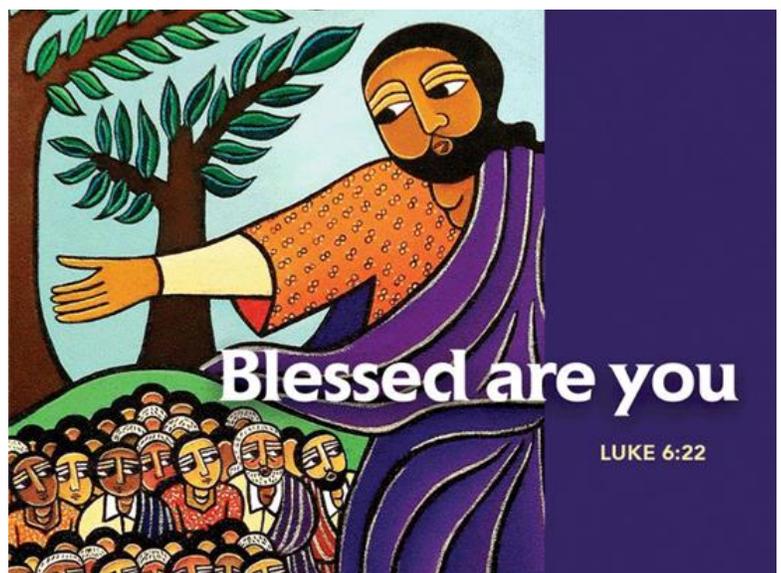
²⁰Then he looked up at his disciples and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. “Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²²“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵“Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. “Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

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 - "Ask the Complicated Questions" - ACS 1005



1 Ask the com - pli - cat - ed ques - tions.
2 Seek the dis - con - cert - ing an - swers,
3 Knock on doors of new i - de - as,
4 For in strug - gle we dis - cov - er



Do not fear to be found out; for our God makes
fol - low where the Spir - it blows; test com - pet - ing
test as - sump - tions long grown stale, for Christ calls from
truth both sim - ple and pro - found; in the knock - ing,



strong our weak - ness, forg - ing faith in fires of doubt.
truths for wis - dom, for in ten - sion new life grows.
shores of won - der, dar - ing us to try and fail.
ask - ing, seek - ing, we are o - pened, an - swered, found.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: RESTORATION, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

Text © 2018 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**



The assembly may be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

Blessed are those whose trust is in you. Strengthen the faith of those who profess your name and bring reassurance to those who doubt or fear. Through your church speak continued blessing into the world. We praise you for the work of your Spirit, which renews and nourishes us when we feel uncertain, weary, or anxious. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Search the hearts of those who govern, that they lead with humility. Inspire leaders to collaborate on policies that protect people and the planet. Sustain truth-tellers and social movements that challenge society to become more honest and just. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Renew this congregation in our shared mission. Bless the work of ELCA World Hunger, the Souper Bowl of Caring, Food Share, and the food ministries at St. Columba's Episcopal Church and our other ecumenical partners, and help us to provide for those who are hungry. As we plan and dream for the future that you are preparing, inspire us by the examples of Martin Luther and all the reformers. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

- A Send your blessings of mercy upon those who long for consolation. Tend to those struggling with poverty, unemployment, or uncertainty. Console those who face persecution. Grant peace to all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially those on our prayer list ...

PRAYER CONCERNS from MOUNT CROSS

We pray for Aliah Alegria (friend of Jessica Easter), **Bob Anderson, Tom Andino** (friend of Carol Browning), **Heather Askew** (daughter of a cousin of Joan Brundage), **Ed and Tonna Brodie** (friends of Becky Riley), **Bob Brown** (friend of Pastor Julie Morris), **Mike Caceres** (nephew of Becky Gilbertson), **Lorraine & Mike Carpenter, David Diehl** (son of Karen & Joe Diehl), **Steve Doshier** (brother-in-law of Paul Crockett), **Tim, Steph & Aurelia Euken** (niece and nephew of Mona & Tom Neuhaus), **Bill Greason, Melissa Henry, Charles Hilley, Nancy Jaeger, Paul Marigonda** (friend of Becky Riley), **Rick Mahlke** (son of friend of Barbara Burke), **Lucille Miley, Mary O'Donnell, Karen Nelson, Lynn Nelson** (mother of Julie Fernandez), **Michael and Mercedes Olivera** (brother of Courtney Burke), **Marina Olsen** (cousin of Marni Engh), **Jim Prosser, James Purcer, Cheyenne and her family** (student of Denise Sobolik), **Chris, Wayne & Maria Truchan** (friends of the Burke family), **the family of 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.*

- A God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God who listens, we now offer you our own prayers, either silently or aloud (*pause*) ... God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

- C **Amen.**

PEACE

- P The peace of Christ be with you always.
C **And also with you.**

**OFFERING SONG - "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" (Founds) - ELW 857 / CCLI
Song # 117947 - sing twice through**

Verse

Lord I lift Your name on high
Lord I love to sing Your praises
I'm so glad You're in my life
I'm so glad You came to save us

Chorus

You came from heaven to earth
To show the way
From the earth to the cross
My debt to pay
From the cross to the grave
From the grave to the sky
Lord I lift Your name on high

OFFERING PRAYER

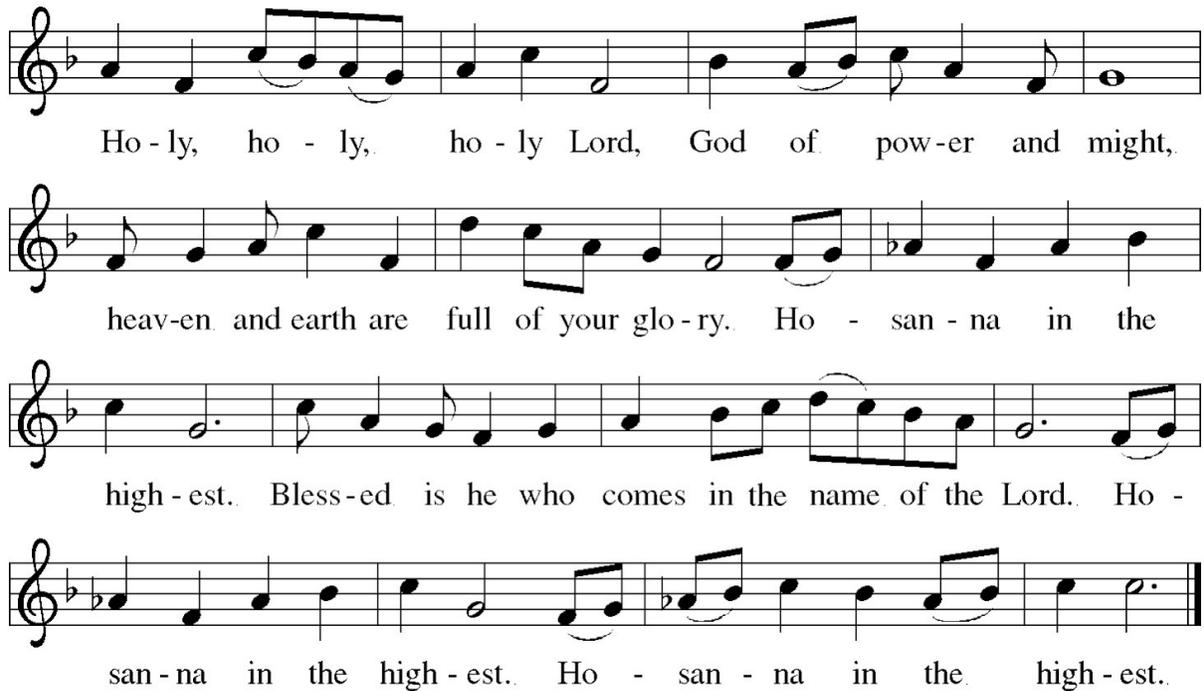
- A Blessed are you, O God, Sovereign of the universe.
You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey.
Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food,
and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world,
in the name of Christ our light.
- C **Amen.**

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,
for you are the source of light and life,
you made us in your image,
and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Holy God,
the universe declares your praise
and generations bless your faithfulness.
We give you thanks for your dear Son,
Our Lord Jesus Christ.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
he 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.

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.

P Remembering his love for us
on the way,
at the table,
and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C **Christ has died.**
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

P Send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts.
Let them be for us the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.
Grant that we who eat this bread and drink this cup
may be filled with your life and goodness.

All blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit,
in your church, without end.

C **Amen.**

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

C **Our Father in heaven,**
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen.

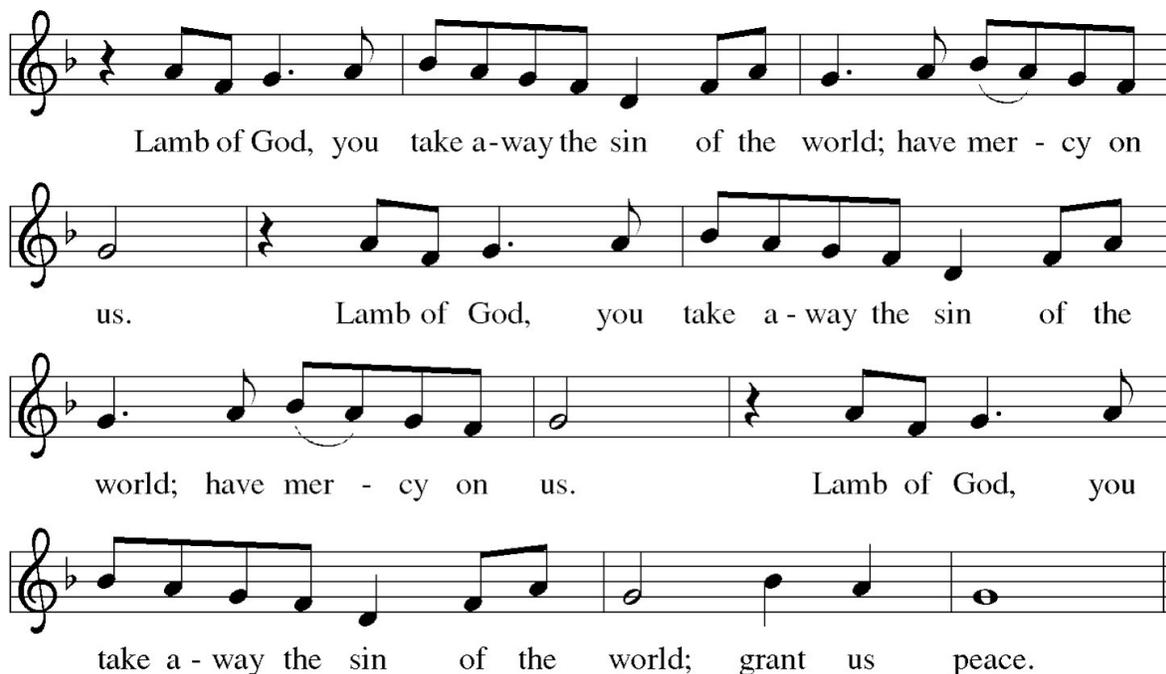


BREAKING OF THE BREAD/INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to God's table.
There is a place for you and enough for all.

The assembly may be seated.

LAMB OF GOD - "Lamb of God" - ELW Setting 2



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

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 worshiping 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 - "When We Are Living" - ELW 639



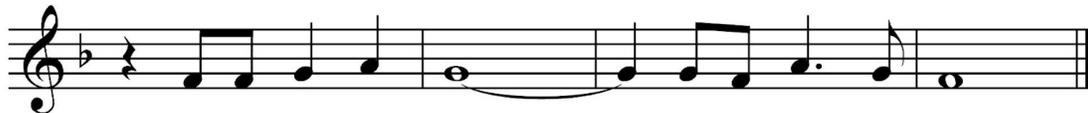
1. When we are liv - ing, ___ it is in Christ Je - sus,
 2. 'Mid times of sor - row ___ and in times of pain,
 3. A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find ___



and when we're dy - ing, ___ it is in the Lord.
 when sens - ing beau - ty ___ or in love's em - brace,
 those who are cry - ing ___ with no peace of mind;



Both in our liv - ing ___ and in our dy - ing,
 wheth - er we suf - fer, ___ or sing re - joic - ing,
 and when we help them, ___ or when we feed them,



we be - long to God, ___ we be - long to God.
 we be - long to God, ___ we be - long to God.
 we be - long to God, ___ we be - long to God.

Text: v. 1, based on Romans 14:8; tr. Elise S. Eslinger; v. 2-3, Roberto Escamilla; tr. George Lockwood.
 Music: Spanish trad. (SOMOS DEL SEÑOR). Spanish text, v. 2-3, © 1983 Abingdon Press
 and tr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House. All rights reserved.

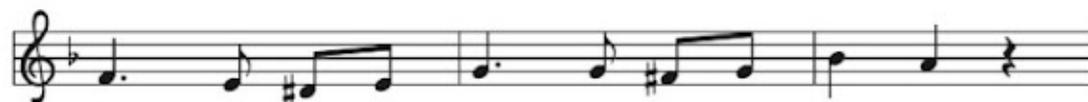
"May This Church Be Like a Tree" - ACS 1042



1 *Que es - ta i - gle - sia se - a un ár - bol en el*
 1 May this church be like a tree, be - hind your
 2 May this church be like a tree there in the
 3 May this church be like a tree, O God, that



fon - do de tu ca - sa, que ha - ya fies - ta, ya - le -
 house, there in your gar - den, meet - ing - place for joy, and
 street or in the pla - za, for the birds a nest - ing -
 thrives where you have plant - ed; may it stand to show the



grí - a y o - ra - ción ba - jo sus ra - mas.
 feast, and sim - ple prayer be - neath its branch - es.
 branch, for pass - ers - by a wel - come shel - ter.
 way, your way of lov - ing and self - giv - ing,



Con ra - í - ces bien pro - fun - das y sus bra - zos
With its roots in earth so fer - tile, and its arms raised
May it stand as if it's watch - ing, near my house, just
of - f'ring shade, and fruit for shar - ing, giv - ing up its

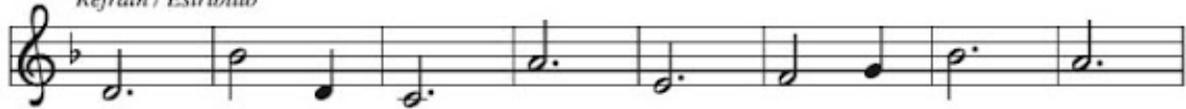


ha - cia el cie - lo, que es - ta i - gle - sia sea fe -
high to heav - en, may this church bear fruits of
round the cor - ner, wait - ing for this wea - ry
wood for burn - ing. May this liv - ing church that

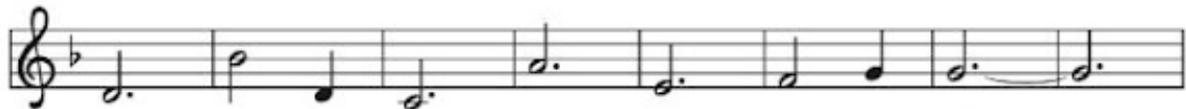


cun - da dan - do fru - tos de con - sue - lo.
jus - tice, acts of lov - ing and com - pas - sion.
pil - grim with its arms wide to em - brace me.
names you be a tree of life e - ter - nal.

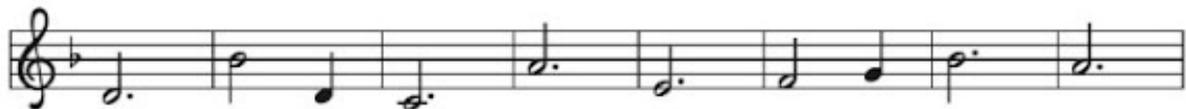
Refrain / Estribillo



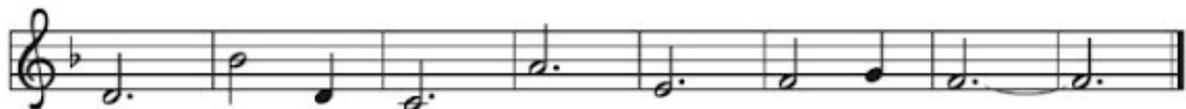
Ár - bol plan - ta - do jun - to a las a - guas
Tree ev - er grow - ing by liv - ing wa - ter,



de vi - da e - ter - na de nues - tro Dios.
run - ning e - ter - nal, flow - ing from God.



Ár - bol plan - ta - do jun - to a las a - guas
Tree ev - er grow - ing by liv - ing wa - ter,



de vi - da e - ter - na de nues - tro Dios.
run - ning e - ter - nal, flow - ing from God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A We give you thanks, gracious God,
for we have feasted on the abundance of your house.
Send us to bring good news
and to proclaim your favor to all,
strengthened with the richness of your grace
in your Son, Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**

As able, the assembly stands for the Blessing.

BLESSING

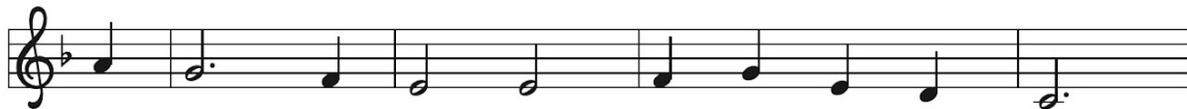
P The blessing of God our Creator,
✠ Christ our Redeemer,
and the Holy Spirit our Sustainer,
be with you now and always.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG - "Go to the World" - ACS 991



1 Go to the world! Go in - to all the earth.
2 Go to the world! Go in - to ev - 'ry place.
3 Go to the world! Go strug - gle, bless, and pray;
4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,



Go preach the cross where Christ re - news life's worth,
Go live the word of God's re - deem - ing grace.
the nights of tears give way to joy - ous day.
for I am with you till the age shall end,



bap - tiz - ing as the sign of our re - birth.
Go seek God's pres - ence in each time and space.
As ser - vant church, you fol - low Christ's own way.
when all the hosts of glo - ry cry, A - men!"



Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Music © Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

DISMISSAL

A Rooted in God's grace,
C we joyfully witness and serve.

POSTLUDE - Guy Ervin III

**Today's altar flowers are given by Cy and Gayle Johnson
to celebrate their son Erik's birthday.**

Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE License #A-706290 and CCLI License #2022482. Images from sundaysandseasons.com used with permission from Augsburg Fortress.

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 11:00-11:30 a.m.**

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, February 13

Souper Bowl of Caring

Vote for your favorite team - the Rams or the Bengals - or even for the commercials, with donations of food or money to support ELCA World Hunger and St.

Columba's Food Pantry, on the patio.

Monday, February 14

Valentine's Day

Monday Meditation, 3:00 p.m.

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

Tuesday, February 15

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

The Women's Bible Study meets at 9:00 a.m. in the sanctuary and is following the *Gather* magazine study.

Church Council, 7:00 p.m.

The Church Council meets on Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, February 16

Fun with Faith, 5:00 p.m.

Fun with Faith happens at 5:00 p.m. in the Pavilion. 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 to 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, 6:15 p.m.

The Bell Choir rehearses in the sanctuary loft, masked and with the doors open.

Confirmation, 6:30 p.m.

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

Choir, 7:30 p.m.

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

Thursday, February 17

Men's Bible Study, 7:30 a.m.

Men's Bible Study will be on Zoom at 7:30 a.m. The Zoom link is <https://bit.ly/MensBibleStudy2022>

Meeting ID: 868 2353 5409

Passcode: 943576

Questions, contact Randy Churchill (hrchurchill@verizon.net).

Afternoon Chapel, 2:00 p.m.
Afternoon Chapel is at 2:00 p.m. All are welcome to this shortened service of Communion, songs, prayer, and fellowship.

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

Our programs are mainly on Wednesdays. Check the newsletter or email Joe (joe@mountcross.com) for any questions.

Anti-Racism 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.

[Talks at the Desk](#) - a weekly video from ELCA African Descent Ministries

February is Black History Month and the ELCA is celebrating! Every day on FB, tune into our Stories to learn more about Black Lutherans, their experiences and achievements. Join us **every Wednesday at 5:30 p.m.** for our Talks at the Desk video series on the Facebook page or at [African Descent - Evangelical Lutheran Church in America \(elca.org\)](#) where you can stream that week's video any time after Wednesday night.

A discussion guide to help individuals and congregations engage with these conversations is available at ELCA.org/ADM. Continue the conversation on Twitter with [#TalksAtTheDesk](#).

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 5), 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.



Souper Bowl of Caring - TODAY, February 13

Are you a fan of the Rams or the Bengals? Or the commercials? **Look for the team tables** on the patio for the Souper Bowl of Caring **TODAY, February 13**. Bring funds and food for St Columba's food pantry and ELCA World Hunger.

Contact Melissa Henry (805-279-9256 or mgreason@hotmail.com) with questions. You'll be done in plenty of time so you won't miss a moment of the game, but you will help hungry neighbors near and far...



Blood Drive - February 27

Since the beginning of the pandemic, there has been a serious blood shortage. On **Sunday, February 27**, between 8:00 a.m. and 12:15 p.m. Mount Cross is hosting a blood drive through Vitalant Blood Services. **Sign up** at <https://bit.ly/BloodDriveFeb27>.

Come give the gift of life at Mount Cross.

Afternoon Chapel - Thursday, February 17

Please join us for Afternoon Chapel on Thursday, **February 17**, at **2:00 p.m.** in the Mount Cross sanctuary. This shortened Worship Service is complete with Communion, singing, prayers, and fellowship. Contact the Mount Cross office at 805-482-3847 if you need a ride to the Chapel Service or for more information.

-The Senior Adult Ministry Team

Work Day at Boys and Girls Club of Oxnard

When: **Saturday, February 26**, check-in at 8:30 a.m.,
work day 9:00 a.m.-Noon, lunch Noon-1:00 p.m.

Where: Boys and Girls Club Teen Center, 126 E 7th St, Oxnard, CA 93030

What: We will be painting their outdoor patio wall, building garden boxes, and cleaning up their outdoor space - there is a job for everyone!

Why: Inspired by the book *Just Mercy*, Mount Cross Peace & Justice team has been called to serve the needs of incarcerated and at-risk youth in our community.

We have been building relationships with the teen center since 2021 and look forward to improving their outdoor patio space (painting and building garden boxes). Please join us!

Who: Contact Tracy Blois (tracy.allyson@gmail.com, 619.277.2059), Bill Stoll, or Becky Gilbertson with any questions.

Sign up here: <https://forms.gle/jNbmTnPxDxHouQ9>

Concordia Choir at Ascension Lutheran - February 28

Hear one of the nation's finest college choirs, the world-renowned **Concordia Choir** of Concordia College, Moorhead, Minnesota. perform on **Monday, February 28, 7:00 p.m.**, at **Ascension Lutheran Church** (1600 E. Hillcrest Dr., Thousand Oaks). Dr. Michael Culloton conducts the 69-voice a cappella choir on his first tour in a varied concert ranging from the music of J.S. Bach to familiar hymn arrangements. The Concordia Choir will amaze you with their technical mastery and incredible sound. Visit ConcordiaTickets.com for tickets today! Tickets also available at the door. Masks required for all performers, staff, and audience members.

Lent Is Coming

Lent begins on **Ash Wednesday, March 2.**

In partnership with St. Columba's Episcopal Church, we'll offer **three options for services** that day

7:00 a.m. and 12:00 Noon at St. Columba's

7:00 p.m. here at Mount Cross Lutheran.

The 7:00 p.m. service will be livestreamed.

On the **Wednesdays in Lent** (March 9, 16, 23, 30, and April 6), we'll host St. Columba's for a Lenten Class, Dinner, and Holden Evening Prayer, beginning at 5:00 p.m. each week, here at Mount Cross. Our theme will be "Embracing an Adult Faith" as we explore a richer understanding of issues in contemporary Christian practice and theology, featuring renowned theologian Marcus Borg. (The class will also be repeated on Zoom on Thursdays at 11:00 a.m. each week.)

Save the Date - CROP Hunger Walk - March 13

Mount Cross is hosting the **CROP Hunger Walk** this year on **Sunday, March 13**.
Save the date now and watch for information on how you can participate.

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

Winter Camps - DATE CHANGES

In the interest of the health and safety of guests and staff, **several of the LRCC Winter Retreats have been pushed back**. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause you and your family and we sincerely hope you will still join.

If you have questions, please contact Joe Zimmerly (joe@mountcross.com)
or email office@lrcchome.com.

February 25-27 - new date

El Camino Pines Middle School & High School Winter Retreat COMBINED
El Camino Pines

March 11-13 - new date

El Camino Pines Family Winterfest
El Camino Pines

St. Columba's Book Group for Epiphany

Join St. Columba's Episcopal Church to explore *Wholehearted Faith* by Rachel Held Evans —
Tuesdays at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom: <https://bit.ly/WholeheartedBookZoom>, or
Thursdays **in person in St. Columba's parish hall at 10:45 a.m.** If you have a conflict for one week,
you can switch between Zoom and in-person sessions.

No meetings this week - Fr. Greg is out of town. The sessions will resume next week.