

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

805.482.3847 www.mountcross.com



**5th Sunday after Epiphany
February 7, 2021, 9:30 a.m.**

PRELUDE - "SLANE" (Trad. Irish melody; arr. John Purifoy)

Justin Thai, flute; Carol Browning, piano

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie Morris

GATHERING SONG - "Be Thou My Vision" - ELW 793



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose voice is upon the waters,
whose mercy is poured out upon all people,
whose goodness cascades over all creation.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Holy God,

C **you search us and know us.**

You are acquainted with all our ways.

**We confess that our hearts are burdened by sin—
our own sins and the broken systems that bind us.**

**We turn inward, failing to follow
your outward way of love.**

We distrust those who are not like us.

**We exploit the earth and its resources
and fail to consider generations to come.**

Forgive us, gracious God,

for all we have done and left undone.

**Even before the words are on our tongues,
you know them;**

receive them in your divine mercy.

Amen.

P How vast is God's grace!
Through the power and promise of † Christ Jesus,
our sins are washed away
and we are claimed as God's own beloved.
Indeed, we are forgiven.
In the wake of God's forgiveness,
we are called to be the beloved community
living out Christ's justice
and the Spirit's reconciling peace.

C **Amen.**



CANTICLE OF PRAISE - "Glory to God" - ELW S213b

Refrain



Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God in the high - est;



glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth. To Verses

Final



earth, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

Verse 1

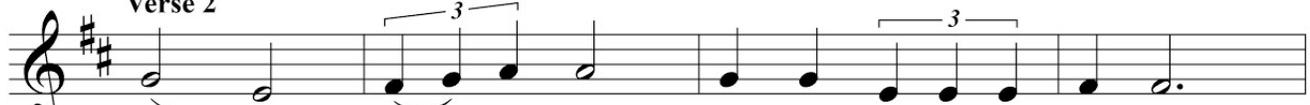


1. Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we wor-ship you,



we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. **To Refrain**

Verse 2



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. **To Refrain**

Verse 3

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. _____
To Final Refrain

Text © 2002, *Holy Baptism and Related Rites*, Renewing Worship, vol. 3, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
 Music: Jeremy Young, © 2003, Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

GREETING

- 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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C **Amen.**



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Vicar Amanda

CHILDREN'S SONG - "He Came Down" - ELW 253



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31 (Video reading by Jeffrey Saner)

The Judeans in exile have a good reason to be hopeful: the one who will bring them to freedom is the God who created the world, the God who subdues the rulers of the earth and gives strength to those who are weary.

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.

²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SONG OF RESPONSE - "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty" - ELW 413, verses 1&2

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 which wert and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.
 per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 (Video reading by Marli Saner)

God entrusted Paul with the responsibility of bringing the gospel to diverse people. Hence the focus of Paul's ministry is not his own rights or privileges as an apostle but the privilege of serving God by freely sharing the good news of Christ with others.

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

As able, the assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - "Celtic Alleluia" - ELW 174

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the 'Celtic Alleluia'. The first staff is in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time, with a key signature of one sharp and a time signature of 6/8. The melody is: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter). The lyrics are: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! The second staff continues the melody: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4-G4 (beamed eighth notes), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter). The lyrics are: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! The time signature changes to 9/8 for the second half of the second staff, then back to 6/8 for the final measure.

Text: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
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GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39

Everywhere Jesus goes, many people expect him to set them free from oppression. Everywhere he goes, he heals people and sets them free. Disease, devils, and death are running for their lives. The forces that diminish human life are rendered powerless by Jesus.

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

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

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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 - "Precious Lord, Take My Hand" - ELW 773

1. Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, help me
2. When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger
3. When the dark - ness ap - pears And the night draws

stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
near; When my life is al - most gone,
near, And the day is past and gone;

Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the
Hear my cry, hear my call, Hold my hand lest I
At the riv - er I stand, Guide my feet, hold my

light, Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.
fall; Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.
hand; Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

Text: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993.

Tune: PRECIOUS LORD, Irr.; George N. Allen, 1812-1877; adapt. by Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899-1993.

© 1938, renewed, arr. © 1994, Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp.

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.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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 (Video reading by Andrew and Nathan Johnson)

A Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

Gracious God, we pray for the Church, for ministries of healing and wholeness, for hospitals, hospice, and military chaplains, and for those serving in prison ministry. We pray for all who proclaim freedom and release in the name of Christ. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Creating God, we praise you for the beauty of the earth, for flowers and seeds, clouds and snow on mountaintops, for animals and insects. Bless us as we care for all you have created. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Holy God, we pray for the nations, for all who lead in cities and states and countries, and for those who make decisions. May they dare to be imaginative in a world that fears change. May each claim a vision of hope, and compose plans with purpose and conviction. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A For all wearied by life's burdens, for those who are poor, for those lacking supportive relationships, for those crushed by debt, for those struggling with chronic pain or other sickness, for those exhausted from overwork or stress, and for all who cry out to you, especially (*names on prayer list*), we pray, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For our Mount Cross congregation, for outreach and ministries still happening, for our Care Team offering support, for our Youth Ministry, that the changes we have had to make address the needs of those we serve, we pray, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed, who were called by name and now rest from their labors, that their lives serve as witnesses to the goodness of God, we pray, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken aloud or resting in our hearts, and for the promise of knowing you dwell among us, we pray in your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING SONG - "Indescribable" (Laura Story & Jesse Reeves)

From the highest of heights to the depths of the sea
Creations revealing Your majesty
From the colors of fall to the fragrance of spring
Every creature unique in the song that it sings
All exclaiming

Indescribable, uncontainable
You placed the stars in the sky
And You know them by name
You are amazing, God

All powerful, untameable
Awestruck we fall to our knees
As we humbly proclaim
You are amazing, God

Who has told every lightning bolt where it should go
Or seen heavenly storehouses laden with snow
Who imagined the sun and gives source to its light
Yet, conceals it to bring us the coolness of night
None can fathom

Indescribable, uncontainable
You placed the stars in the sky
And You know them by name
You are amazing, God

All powerful, untameable
Awestruck we fall to our knees
As we humbly proclaim
You are amazing, God

Incomparable, unchangeable
You see the depths of my heart
And You love me the same
You are amazing, God
You are amazing, God

OFFERING PRAYER

P O God, receive these gifts as you receive us: like a mother receives her child, with arms open wide. Nourish us anew in your tender care, and empower us in faithful service to tend to others with this same love, through Jesus Christ, our saving grace.

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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n 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.

P 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.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

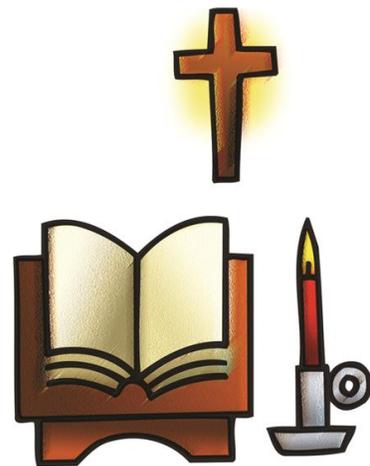
P Gracious God, send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts
that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and
his Blood of the new Covenant.
Gather into one all who desire to share this bread and wine:
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people, fill us with your light,
and bring the gift of peace on earth.

All praise and glory are yours,
Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate,
Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

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

P Beloved: here is bread; here is wine. Here is Jesus with us.
The assembly may be seated.

LAMB OF GOD



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, grant us peace.

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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."

The Assisting Minister invites those joining from home to say the following prayer:

Jesus, my savior and friend, thank you for your presence in the Sacrament of Holy Communion and your presence with us here and now. Trusting your words, "This is my body; this is my blood—given for you," I welcome you into my heart. Let my life witness to your grace and peace. Strengthen all of us with faith, hope and love until we can meet at your table again. Amen.¹



¹ Adapted by Pastor Julie from prayers written by Bishop Guy Erwin and St. Alphonsus Liguori.

COMMUNION SONG - "Christ, Be Our Light" - ELW 715 - Verses 1 & 2



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Christ Jesus,
at this table we have feasted on your very life
and are strengthened for our journey.
Send us forth from this banquet
nourished in body and in spirit
to proclaim your good news
and serve others in your name.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P God the creator strengthen you;
Jesus the beloved fill you;
and the Holy Spirit the comforter ✠ keep you in peace.

C **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE - "SIMPLE GIFTS" (Shaker hymn; arr. John Purifoy)

Justin Thai, flute; Carol Browning, piano

***Our altar flowers are given to the glory of God
by Marion and Bob Cole in memory of Christopher.***

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Join us for **Community Conversation Time on Zoom** following this service! Grab a cup of coffee or tea and some treats and visit with us. Here is the **Zoom link**:

<http://bit.ly/CommunityConversationTime>.

Or to join by phone, call **1 669 900 6833**. You will be asked for the **meeting ID (889 0267 0619)** and **passcode (302996)**.

Let us know you're watching us online - fill out our connection card:

<https://bit.ly/MCLCConnect>.

Come to the Table: Mount Cross is offering **Drive-Through Communion** today from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We ask that you please consider your vulnerabilities and risk factors before choosing to participate in drive-through Communion.

PRAYER CONCERNS from MOUNT CROSS

We pray for an end to the coronavirus, for doctors, nurses, and caretakers, for researchers, all involved in the vaccine efforts, and for the families grieving the loss of each victim.

We pray for peace, unity, and understanding in our country.

We join Karen Gramacki in giving thanks for her sister Sharon's recovery from cancer.

We mourn with Stan Patscheck and his family on the death of his brother, Lee. We pray for comfort as they grieve.

We pray also for Elizabeth A, Robert and Robin A (friends of Becky & Ken Riley), **Katelyn Abernathy** (granddaughter of Bob & Judy Winters), **Roger Allmandinger** (brother-in-law of Jim & Susan Prosser), **Cynthia Bishop** (friend of Bob and Judy Winters), **Mike Carpenter, Chip** (friend of Wendy & Mike McClary), **Terry Cline** (relative of Jim & Karen Gramacki), **Rob Conant** (boyfriend of Mary Goodenough's daughter), **Bob Edell, Steve Engh** (friend of Gayle & Cy Johnson), **Tom and Maria Eyler** (parents of Patti Stouch), **Vladimir Fajnor** (father of Scott Fajnor), **Karen Fort** (mother of Julie Merrick), **Ron Higginbotham, Alice Herbruck, Charles Hilley, Ric Kienitz, the family of Evelyn Lacy, the family of Ann McClary** (Mike & Wendy McClary's sister-in-law), **Karen Nelson, Angie Patscheck** (sister-in-law of Stan and Valerie Patscheck), **Ric** (friend of Karen Cherry), **the family of Marvel Sheller** (mother of Melinda Sheller), **Patricia Springer** (mother of Joan Brundage), **the family of Jim Unger** (Tom Lacalamita's uncle), **Bill Voigt** (father of Heather Edwards).

*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.*

The Week at a Glance

TODAY, February 7, 2021

Children's Church Zoom , 9:00-9:20 a.m.
Contact Joe (joe@mountcross.com)
for the Zoom information.

Fair Trade Sale/Souper Bowl of Caring
During Drive-through Communion, come and
purchase Fair Trade items and bring your
contributions for the Souper Bowl of Caring.

Youth Group Zoom, TONIGHT, 6:00 p.m.
High School Youth gather with Joe Zimmerly, email
joe@mountcross.com for Zoom info.

Monday, February 8, 2021

Monday Meditation, 3:00 p.m.
The Monday Meditation group meets at 3:00
p.m. To join by computer or smart
phone/tablet go to
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83666658855> or
to call on your phone, dial 1 (669) 900-6833.
You will be asked to enter the Meeting ID which
is 836 6665 8855 and then push pound (#).

Tuesday, February 9, 2021

Women's Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
The Women's Bible Study meets at 9:00 a.m.
via Zoom. Contact Pastor Julie,
pastorjulie@mountcross.com, or Vicar Amanda,
amanda@mountcross.com
for the Zoom information.

Upper Room Zoom, 12:00 noon

Starting this month, Upper Room Zoom meets on Tuesdays only. It's a nice 15-minute break in your day that includes scripture, prayer, and relaxing video/audio. Join us as often as you'd like.

Join: <http://bit.ly/MCUpperRoomZoom> OR, you can call in on a phone. Dial 1 (408) 638 0968. Meeting ID: 847 4745 9576, push pound (#).

Re-opening Committee, 7:00 p.m.

The Re-opening Committee meets at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

Fun with Faith, 5:00 p.m.

Fun with Faith (Preschool through 5th grade) meets with the Children, Youth & Family staff from 5:00-6:00 p.m., **via Zoom**. Any questions, contact Joe at joe@mountcross.com.

Adult Bible Study, 5:00 p.m.

On Wednesday evenings at 5:00 p.m., we gather for Bible Study on the upcoming Sunday's Gospel. Via Zoom: <http://bit.ly/MCWednesdayNights>
OR you can call in by phone, 1 (669) 900 6833.
Meeting ID: 827 1932 0163, Passcode: 615543.

Confirmation, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Students preparing for Confirmation meet with Joe Zimmerly **via Zoom**. Email Joe (joe@mountcross.com) if you have any questions.

Thursday, February 11, 2021

Anti-Racism Check-in, 7:00 p.m.

Join Vicar Amanda and Jacquanna Davis for a monthly "Anti-Racism Check-In" on Zoom to discuss ways to address the racism we encounter in our own hearts and community. The Zoom link is <http://bit.ly/MCAntiRacism>. The meeting ID is 871 0569 3251 and the passcode is 141223. See you there!

CDC Task Force Meeting, 7:00 p.m.

Meets on Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

Announcements

Sunday Worship

Because of the surge in COVID cases in our county, the Re-Opening Committee and Council have decided that in-person attendance for our outdoor worship is not permitted until the numbers improve. Thank you in advance for helping to keep Mount Cross safe!

Help with Drive-through Communion

We are looking for help to make Sunday 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's Church (Sunday School)

Join us Sundays on Zoom from 9:00-9:20 a.m. for Children's Church with a fun story and gathering! Please print out your children's bulletins before the meeting. If you need a hard copy, please message Joe at joe@mountcross.com.

Souper Bowl of Caring - Tailgate Party!

Just as in prior years, we are participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring. Like everything else, it's a little different this year, but we still need to tackle hunger. Our Souper Bowl of Caring theme is "Bigger Than the Bowl" - so we're going "bigger" than a table on the patio. Join us **TODAY (February 7 for non-football fans!)**. Bring a donation of food items or a monetary donation to church. Food items support St Columba's Food Pantry, while monetary offerings will be donated to ELCA World Hunger.

We welcome you to wear your favorite team colors, decorate your car, celebrate football and food however you want ... as long as you stay in your car and masked while you do it. You will still use your donation to "vote" for your favorite team to "win," but instead of a boring table outside the sanctuary divided into the three candidates, you will find a "tailgate party" in the parking lot as you drive through for Communion. Look for the team you want to support, and drop your donations there. Not planning on attending drive-through Communion and you still want to participate? Just mail your donation to the church office and write your "vote" on the memo line of the check or the envelope - include a picture of your family celebrating if you want - we'd love to include it in the follow-up! Join us to celebrate feeding our neighbors here and around the world.

Loving Arms: Support Local Healthcare Workers

The ongoing pandemic has filled our hospitals and over-taxed health care workers. Mount Cross has been invited to show support for the staff at St. John's Regional Medical Center in Oxnard by donating "grab & go" snacks (wrapped chocolate, fun size snack bars such as KIND bars, and small bags (1.6 ounces) of trail mix, almonds and cashews-we now have plenty of peanuts). To limit handling, please leave items in the bag/box as purchased. Of equal or more importance are

the notes of encouragement and thanks that are sent along with the snacks. We have received many including fun cards from the CDC children. The hospital representative said the notes "warm our hearts." The **deadline for our February delivery is Monday, February 15.** We will do a final snack delivery in March. Donations can be dropped off during drive-through Communion or at the church office. IN ADDITION to "Loving Arms," we will be taking snacks/cards to St. John's Pleasant Valley Hospital from Mount Cross. If you have questions, please contact Barbara Cranfill at 805-702-4003. Thanks for your generous support.

Ash Wednesday, February 17

Lent is just around the corner. On Ash Wednesday, February 17, we'll join with St. Columba's for pre-recorded worship airing at 7:00 a.m., Noon, and 7:00 p.m. We'll be mailing ashes to all the homes on our mailing list so that you can participate in the service from home.

The following Wednesdays of Lent (February 24, March 3, 10, 17, 24), we'll livestream Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m.

Learning Committee

Looking for ways to serve? The Mount Cross Lutheran Church Learning Committee develops, plans and supports the youth of our congregation through learning, community service, activities and events to help them grow in their Christian faith. We have lots of exciting ideas for this year! The Mount Cross Learning committee meets once a month on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom and extends an invitation to anyone in the congregation with a desire to serve the youth and our ministries to join us. Contact Tracy Blois, Learning Committee Chair by phone: 619-277-2059 or email: tracy.allyson@gmail.com or Joe Zimmerly, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries by phone: (805) 482-3847 or email: joe@mountcross.com. We have lots of exciting ideas for this year!

CYFM - How do you communicate?

In hopes of finding the best way to communicate all information regarding children, youth and family ministry information, we created a survey for you to answer. Please let Joe (joe@mountcross.com) know if you have any questions.

<http://bit.ly/CYFMcommunicate>

Altar Flowers

We've resumed having altar flowers, when requested, for our outdoor worship. We've added an Altar Flower SignUp Request: <http://bit.ly/AltarFlowers2021>.

The cost remains \$35.00 and you are welcome to take the arrangement home with you after worship, or pick it up at Drive-through Communion. If you are not present but would still like flowers for a special occasion, please let us know and we can deliver the arrangement to a homebound member to enjoy.

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

To find out about our programs, email Joe (joe@mountcross.com) for details or questions.

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. See the article in the January newsletter for details. Thank you!



Lenten Studies with St. Columba's



Swanson, John August. Last Supper, from *Art in the Christian Tradition*, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN.

<http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=56552> [retrieved January 26, 2021].
Original source: www.JohnAugustSwanson.com - copyright 2009 by John August Swanson.

“Hosanna: A Spiritual Journey through Holy Week”

We will join with St. Columba's Episcopal for a Bible study on the events of Holy Week. The 5-week study will be offered on Zoom, on Wednesdays from 5:00-6:30 p.m. or Thursdays from 10:00-11:30 a.m. Choose which time is best for you. We will meet February 24/25, March 3/4, March 10/11, March 17/18, and March 24/25. We will be using the book *Hosanna: A Spiritual Journey through Holy Week* by Carol Miller. Books will be available through the church office for a suggested donation of \$15. **Please let the office know (805-482-3847 or office@mountcross.com) if you want to get a book and which group you'd like to be in.**

On Wednesdays, please visit <http://bit.ly/MCWednesdayNights> or call 1 (408) 638 0968. The Meeting ID is 827 1932 0163 and the Passcode is 615543. On Thursdays, please visit <http://bit.ly/LentThursdayMorning> or call 1 (669) 900-9128. The Meeting ID is 873 5801 5010.

Lent Madness at St. Columba's



On Sunday mornings at 8:45, join St. Columba's for “Lent Madness” (beginning Sunday, February 14) as we journey through Lent, pairing off the field of 32 Saints to see which Saint wins the coveted “Golden Halo.” We will meet on Zoom and wrap up in time for people to join the livestream worship at 9:30. Let the St. Columba's office (office.manager@stcolumbaca.com) know if you would like the Zoom link and a Saintly Scoreboard, and then join us for a wild ride through Lent as we play Lent Madness.