

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

805.482.3847 www.mountcross.com



Baptism of Our Lord
January 10, 2021, 9:30 a.m.

PRELUDE - Carol Browning

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie Morris



THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

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 Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

C **Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John
and anointed with the Holy Spirit.**

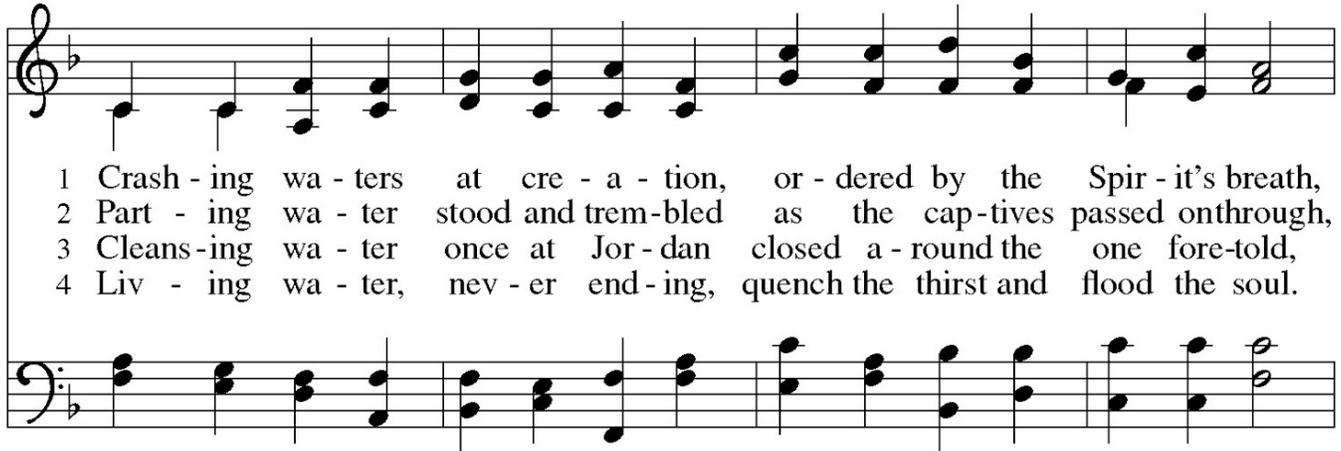
P By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.

C **Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.**

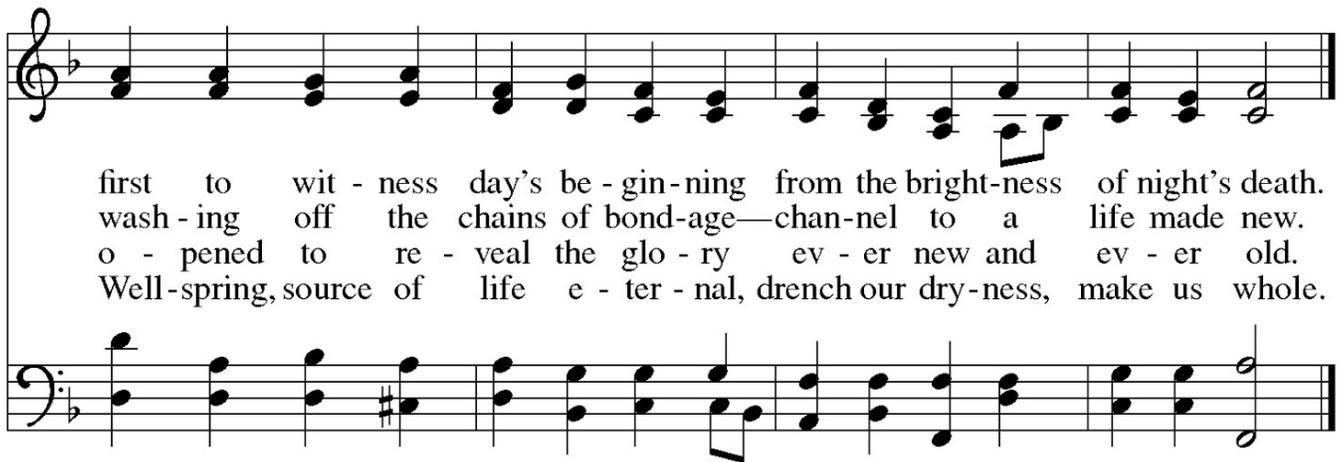
P To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG - "Crashing Waters at Creation" - ELW 455



1 Crash - ing wa - ters at cre - a - tion, or - dered by the Spir - it's breath,
2 Part - ing wa - ter stood and trem - bled as the cap - tives passed on through,
3 Cleans - ing wa - ter once at Jor - dan closed a - round the one fore - told,
4 Liv - ing wa - ter, nev - er end - ing, quench the thirst and flood the soul.



first to wit - ness day's be - gin - ning from the bright - ness of night's death.
wash - ing off the chains of bond - age—chan - nel to a life made new.
o - pened to re - veal the glo - ry ev - er new and ev - er old.
Well - spring, source of life e - ter - nal, drench our dry - ness, make us whole.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: STUTTGART, attr. Christian F. Witt, 1660–1716; adapt. Henry J. Gauntlett, 1805–1876

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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

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.

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.

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.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Vicar Amanda Berg

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: Genesis 1:1-5 (Video reading by Peggy Stevenson)

Out of chaos, God brings order. Out of the formless void, God brings light. This familiar story was good news for the Israelites, who experienced much chaos in their history. It remains good news for us. God created and continues to create new life.

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SONG OF RESPONSE - "Morning Has Broken" - ELW 556



1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing;
2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en,
3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing,



black-bird has spo - ken like the first bird.
like the first dew - fall on the first grass.
born of the one light E - den saw play!



Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the morn - ing!
Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet gar - den,
Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry morn - ing,



Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!
sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.
God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, admin. David Higham Associates

SECOND READING: Acts 19:1-7

In Ephesus, Paul encounters people who had received John's baptism of repentance but had never heard of the Holy Spirit or of baptism in the name of Jesus. After Paul baptizes them, the Holy Spirit comes upon them and empowers them with gifts of the Spirit.

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." ³Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." ⁴Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

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

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

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

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 lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!'. The second staff continues the melody, featuring a 9/8 time signature change and ending with a double bar line, with lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!'.

Text: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker
© 1985, Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker. Published by OCP.



GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11

Mark's gospel reports the story of Jesus' baptism with some irony: the one on whom the Spirit descends is himself the one who will baptize others with the Holy Spirit.

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

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

⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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 - "This Is the Spirit's Entry Now" - ELW 448



- 1 This is the Spir - it's en - try now: the wa - ter and the word,
- 2 This mir - a - cle of life re - born comes from the Lord of breath;
- 3 Let wa - ter be the sa - cred sign that we must die each day
- 4 Re - new - ing Spir - it, hear our praise for your bap - tis - mal pow'r



the cross of Je - sus on your brow, the seal both felt and heard.
the sin - less one from life was torn; our life comes through his death.
to rise a - gain by his de - sign as fol - l'wers of his way.
that wash - es us through all our days. Come, cleanse a - gain this hour.

Text: Thomas E. Herbranson, b. 1933

Music: LAND OF REST, North American traditional

Text © Thomas E. Herbranson, admin. Augsburg Fortress

The assembly may be seated.

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM BY THE ASSEMBLY (Video)

Pastor Julie welcomes new members to Mount Cross - Jody DeVere, John & Karin Grennan, and Bruce & Peggy Stevenson - in a pre-recorded video presentation.

P Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism as we come before God to make public affirmation of baptism into Christ.

Let us pray.

Merciful God, we thank you that you have made us your own by water and the Word in baptism. You have called us to yourself, enlightened us with the gifts of your Spirit, and nourished us in the community of faith. Uphold us and all your servants in the gifts and promises of baptism, and unite the hearts of all whom you have brought to new birth. We ask this in the name of Christ.

C Amen.

P I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C I renounce them.

P Do you believe in God the Father?

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

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

C I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by 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.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

C **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.**

P You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people,
to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper,
to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed,
to serve all people, following the example of Jesus,
and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

C **I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.**

P People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

C **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

P Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence both now and forever.

C **Amen.**

WELCOME (Live)

Pastor Julie congratulates the new members, welcomes them to the Mount Cross congregation, and the gathered assembly sings a welcome:

All are wel - come, all are wel - come,
all are wel - come in this place.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

For renewal in the Church throughout the world, and for our new members, that they may be welcomed and blessed as they joyfully witness and serve with the Mount Cross community, we pray, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For wilderness and water, wind and wild beasts, and all living things on earth, that God's goodness is revealed through creation and faithful stewards care for all God has made, we pray, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the nations of the world and their leaders, for laborers busy both day and night, and for peacemakers amid strife, that God inspire all people to use their strength wisely, we pray, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For our country in these divisive days, that our leaders may work for healing and unity, and that we may treat one another with respect, dignity, and grace, we pray, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the sick and for those who provide medical care, especially in these pandemic times, for the imprisoned and those who show them mercy, for the lonely and those who provide companionship, for all who suffer, that God will shower compassion on them, especially for those on our prayer list (*names from bulletin list*), we pray, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the congregation gathered here, for students returning to school, for those seeking renewal in their daily work, that all the beloved of God experience grace and peace, we pray, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In thanksgiving for the faithful departed who now rest from their labors, that their witness inspires us in our baptismal vocations, we pray, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING SONG - "This Is My Song" - ELW 877 - Verses 1 and 3



1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
 3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,



a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
 your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.



This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
 O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,



here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
 and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.



but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;



with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

Text: Lloyd Stone, 1912-1993, sts. 1-2; Georgia Harkness, 1891-1974, st. 3

Music: FINLANDIA, Jean Sibelius, 1865-1957

Text sts. 1-2 © 1934, 1962 Lorenz Publishing Company, st. 3 © 1964 Lorenz Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

Outside USA: Music © Breitkopf & Härtel, Wiesbaden.

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.**

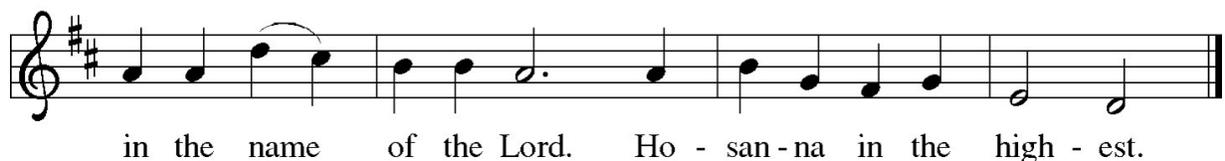
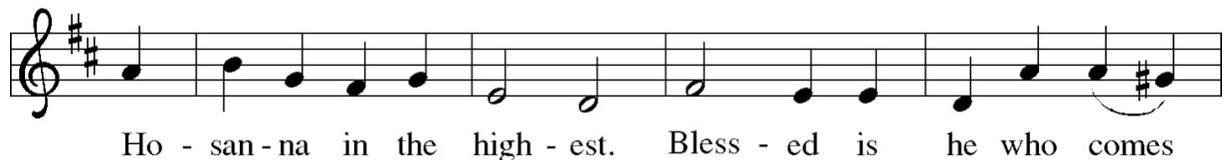
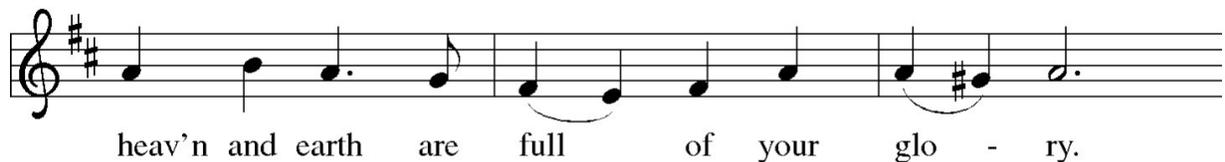
P Lift up your hearts.

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:



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.

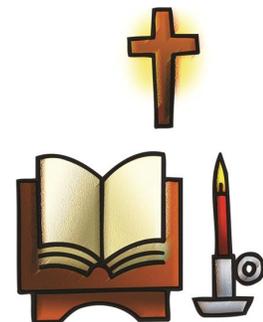
P Gracious God, send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts
that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and
his Blood of the new Covenant.
Gather into one all who desire to share this bread and wine:
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people, fill us with your light,
and bring the gift of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

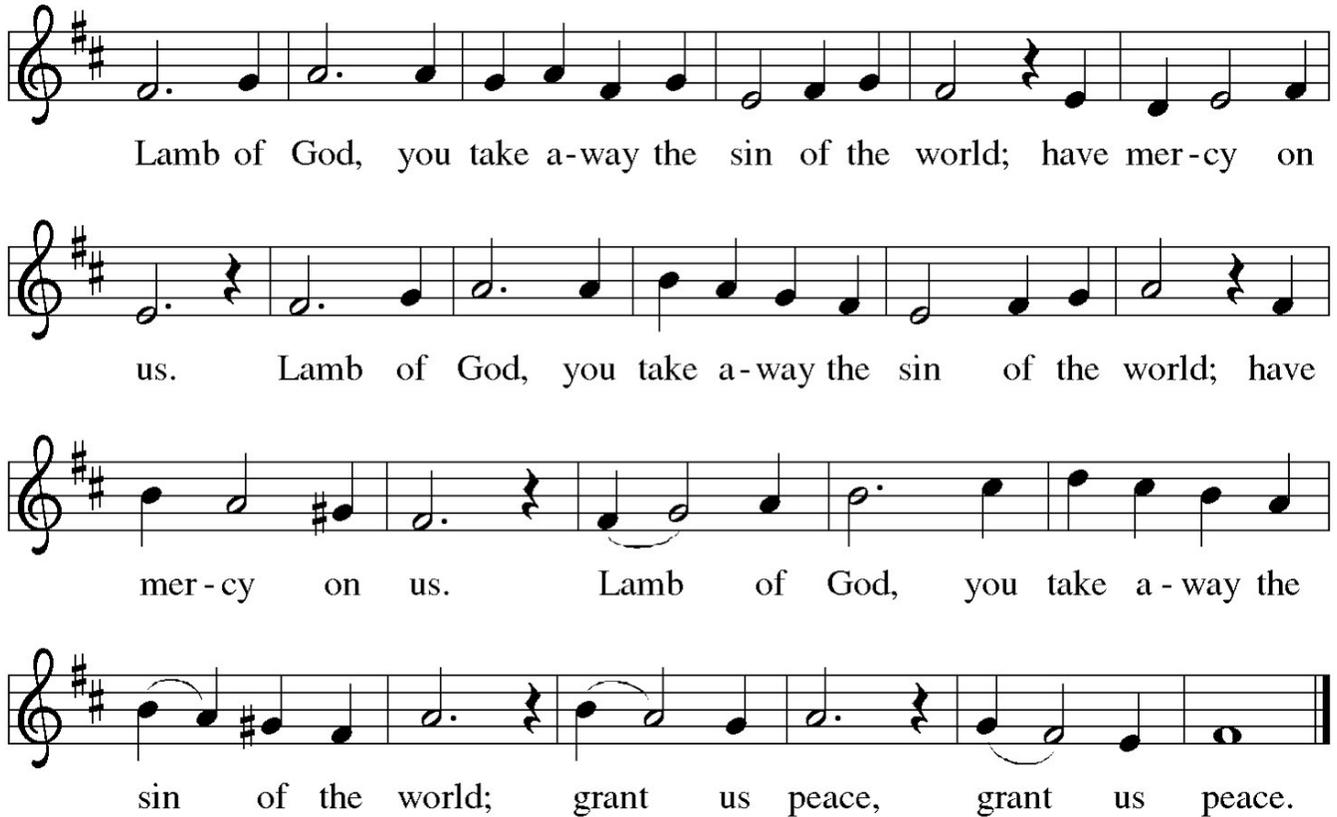
C **Our Father in heaven,**
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory 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 - "Shall We Gather at the River" - ELW 423



- 1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
- 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
- 3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
- 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

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 - Carol Browning

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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.

There are two **opportunities to review and discuss the 2021 budget** on Zoom:
January 17, 1:00 p.m., and **January 24**, 1:00 p.m. The Zoom link is
<http://bit.ly/MC2021BudgetZoom> or call (408) 638-0968.
Meeting ID: 849 4273 7690, Passcode: 843137

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 pray also for Elizabeth A, Robert and Robin A (friends of Becky & Ken Riley), **Roger Allmandinger** (brother-in-law of Jim & Susan Prosser), **Sharon Benner** (sister of Karen Gramacki), **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), **the family of Stephanie Copenhaver** (friend of Kathleen Jones) **Howard Corey, Travis and Jacquanna Davis, Bob Edell, Steve Engh** (friend of Gayle & Cy Johnson), **Michelle G** (friend of Carina McVeigh's mother), **Sharon Goodenough** (daughter of Mary Goodenough), **Ron Higginbotham, Charles Hilley, Norm Morgan, Karen Nelson, Angie Patscheck** (sister-in-law of Stan and Valerie Patscheck), **the family of Maria Perales and of Julie Reynoso** (friends of Pastor Julie's family), **Lisa Saner, the family of Jerry Schumann** (Janet Kessler's daughter-in-law's father), **Patricia Springer** (mother of Joan Brundage), **Patrick Tovar** (uncle of Christina Tovar-Hamernik), **Mike Turek** (friend of the Henrys), **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

Monday, January 11, 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, January 12, 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

Upper Room Zoom meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays. 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, then push pound (#).

Church Council, 7:00 p.m.

The Church Council meets via Zoom.

Wednesday, January 13, 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, beginning a 3-week session with Vicar Amanda on the Gospel of Mark.

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, January 14, 2021

Upper Room Zoom, 12:00 noon

Upper Room Zoom meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays. 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. You will be asked for a Meeting ID. It is 847 4745 9576, then push pound (#).

Anti-Racism Check-In, 7:00 p.m.
Pastor Julie and Jacquanna Davis host 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!

Next Sunday, January 17 **2021 Budget Zoom, 1:00 p.m.**

<http://bit.ly/MC2021BudgetZoom> or call (408) 638-0968. Meeting ID: 849 4273 7690, Passcode: 843137

Family Bingo Night on Zoom **January 17, 7:00 p.m.**

Join us for Family Bingo Night January 17, at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom. All you will need for this event is a device for Zoom. Joe will email more instructions of how this will work as the date approaches.

Make sure to sign up using this link:
<https://signup.com/go/zjcMtkb>

Planning ahead: **Annual Congregational Meeting** **Sunday, January 31, 2021, 4:00 p.m.**

Announcements

Sunday Worship

The Re-Opening Committee has approved outdoor worship. Email office@mountcross.com or call 805-482-3847 if you are interested in attending the service in person. When arriving for Sunday morning worship, please park in designated areas or on the street; sign in and have your temperature taken; wear a mask; practice social distancing; bring a chair (some chairs available). Thank you in advance for helping to make this a safe worship experience!

Help with Sunday Worship and Communion

We are looking for help to make Sunday worship 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.

If you'd like to serve as a lector, intercessor, or musician on a Sunday, either by joining us on-site for the live stream or by recording in advance, please contact the office

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, if attending in person, 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.

Celebrating 20 Years of **Full Communion Partnership**

It has been 20 years since the ELCA and the Episcopal Church entered into a full communion agreement called, "Called to Common Mission." At 9:30 a.m. next Sunday, January 17, the eve of the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, Mount Cross Lutheran and St. Columba's Episcopal will combine their Sunday worship services at Mount Cross in celebration of this wonderful partnership.

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

To find out about our programs, email Joe (joe@mountcross.com) for other 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!

Word in Season

The daily devotional from Augsburg Fortress, *Word in Season*, was delayed because of all the shipping challenges this holiday season. For January-March only, because of the delay, Augsburg has allowed customers to sign up for these daily devotions by email: <https://go.augsburgfortress.org/temporary-word-in-season-emails>. We have received printed booklets, available at Drive-through Communion.

Upcoming Workshops from Holy Spirit Retreat Center

"CALLING ALL PEACEMAKERS: BEING AGENTS OF PEACE IN DIFFICULT TIMES"

Presenters: Amanda Berg, Spiritual Director, HSRC and Sr. Deborah Lorentz, M.Ed.

Saturday, January 30 - 9:00 a.m.-12:00 noon

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God." —Matthew 5:9

Mother Teresa reminds us, "If we have no peace, it is because we have forgotten that we belong to each other." Please join us for a morning of engaging conversation and thoughtful learning about being people of peace in our times. Drawing upon insights and research from peacemaking communities around the world, we will explore tangible ways we can become "peacemakers" in our everyday lives. This retreat is offered online through the Zoom format. Fee: \$30.00 Register online at hsrcenter.com by January 27. A Zoom link will be provided prior to the event.

"EMBODYING PEACE: WORKING FOR PEACE PEACEFULLY"

Facilitator: Sr. Chris Machado, SSS

Saturday, January 30 - 2:00-4:30 p.m.

In this afternoon Zoom and on-site retreat/workshop, we will examine how to promote peace by being people of peace; by EMBODYING PEACE. People sometimes work for peace in ways that do not create it; in fact, their methods can actually be violent! To work for peace, we must BE PEACE. The input will include Thomas Merton's ideas on non-violence and Cynthia Bourgeault's teaching on nonduality, which involves uniting the mind with the heart, which is our greatest organ of spiritual perception. Fee: \$25.00.

Please register at hsrcenter.com. For more information, call Sr. Chris at 818-285-3354. A Zoom link will be provided prior to the day.

Introduction to the Gospel of Mark - 3-Week Bible Study Series

Wednesday Evenings on Zoom, 5:00-6:00 p.m. -

<http://bit.ly/MCWednesdayNights>

Led by Vicar Amanda

Come and join in the learning and conversation as we explore the Gospel of Mark. Thought to be the oldest of the four gospels, this action-packed and fast-moving narrative provides insights to both the human and divine aspects of Jesus. See how this shortest gospel, provides us with deep insights into our understanding of Christ and our call as disciples.

Week One (January 13): *Jesus and His Public Ministry (Chapters 1-8:21)*

In week one, we will travel back in time to learn about the historical context in which the gospel was written. We will gain insights about the author, Jesus' identity, and his public ministry.

Week Two (January 20): *Jesus and the Journey on the Way (Chapters 8:22-10)*

In week two, we'll look at the middle of the gospel, between the healing of two blind men: the man at Bethsaida and Bartimaeus, to gain insights about Christ's journey toward his passion, death, and resurrection. This "journey on the way" with his disciples turns our attention to why Jesus has come.

Week Three (January 27): *Jesus and His Passion, Death, & Resurrection (Chapter 11-16)*

In week three, we will explore key stories leading up to the passion, death, and resurrection of Christ. We will engage with the unfolding of these events and the key people and themes present. Finally, we will discuss the "two endings" of the gospel and how Mark invites us to play a role in this ongoing story.