

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

805.482.3847 www.mountcross.com



**3rd Sunday after Epiphany
January 24, 2021, 9:30 a.m.**

PRELUDE - Guy Ervin III

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie Morris

GATHERING SONG - "The Summons" - ELW 798 - Verses 1, 2 and 5



1 "Will you come and fol - low me if I but call
2 "Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call
3 "Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call
4 "Will you love the you you hide if I but call
5 Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call



your name? Will you go where you don't
your name? Will you care for cruel and
your name? Will you set the pris - 'ners
your name? Will you quell the fear in -
my name. Let me turn and fol - low



know and nev - er be the same?
kind and nev - er be the same?
free and nev - er be the same?
side and nev - er be the same?
you and nev - er be the same.



Will you let my love be shown, will you let my
Will you risk the hos - tile stare, should your life at -
Will you kiss the lep - er clean, and do such as
Will you use the faith you've found to re - shape the
In your com - pa - ny I'll go where your love and



name be known, will you let my life be
tract or scare? Will you let me an - swer
this un - seen, and ad - mit to what I
world a - round, through my sight and touch and
foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and live and



grown in you and you in me?"
pray'r in you and you in me?"
mean in you and you in me?"
sound in you and you in me?"
grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: KELVINGROVE, Scottish traditional

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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.

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
To Final Refrain
 Spir-it, in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men._____

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** Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C** **Amen.**



CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - (Video from LRCC)

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: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The book of Jonah is a comedy starring a reluctant prophet who is given a one-sentence message: Nineveh will be destroyed in forty days. Much to Jonah's dismay, the people of Nineveh repent. The point of the story is to get the reader to wrestle with the question "On whom should God have mercy?"

¹The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, ²"Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." ³So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. ⁴Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's walk. And he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" ⁵And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SONG OF RESPONSE - "Take, Oh, Take Me as I Am" - ELW 814 (sing 3x's)

The image shows a musical score for the song "Take, Oh, Take Me as I Am". It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment line on a bass clef staff. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Take, oh, take me as I am; sum-mon out what I shall be; set your seal up - on my heart and live in me." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line with chords and some melodic movement in the right hand.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

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SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Paul does not disapprove of marriage or other human social institutions. He does, however, want Christians to live in the present in fervent anticipation of God's future, which even now has dawned through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

²⁹Brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, ³⁰and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, ³¹and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

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



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 1:14-20

Before Jesus calls his first disciples, he proclaims a message that becomes known as “the gospel” or good news from God. God is ready to rule our lives. Those who realize this will respond with repentance and faith.

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

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

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

¹⁶As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁷And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” ¹⁸And immediately they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. ²⁰Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The assembly is seated.



SERMON - Vicar Amanda Berg

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

SONG OF THE DAY - "Pescador de Hombres/Lord, You Have Come" (Gabaráin)

Verses



1. Lord, _____ you have come to the sea - shore, _____ nei - ther
2. Lord, _____ see my goods, my pos - ses - sions; _____ in my
3. Lord, _____ take my hands and di - rect them. _____ Help me
4. Lord, _____ as I drift on the wa - ters, _____ be the



search - ing for _____ the rich nor the wise, _____ de - sir - ing
boat you find _____ no pow - er, no wealth. _____ Will you ac -
spend my - self _____ in seek - ing the lost, _____ re - turn - ing
rest - ing place _____ of my rest - less heart, _____ my life's com -



on - ly _____ that I should fol - low. _____
cept, then, _____ my nets and la - bor? _____
love for _____ the love you gave me. _____
pan - ion, _____ my friend and ref - uge. _____

Refrain



O Lord, _____ with your eyes set up - on me, _____



_____ gent - ly smil - ing, _____ you have spo - ken my name; _____



_____ all I longed for _____ I have found by the wa - ter, _____



_____ at your side, _____ I will seek oth - er shores. _____

Spanish text: Cesáreo Gabaráin. English text: Robert C. Trupia.

Music: PESCADOR DE HOMBRES, © 1979, 1987, Cesáreo Gabaráin.

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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

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 the church throughout the world, for pastors and teachers, for deacons and deaconesses, and for musicians and servers, that they all proclaim the good news of God's reconciling love, we pray, Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, we praise you for the beauty of the earth, for the sky's glory and the love you have given us since before our birth. We cannot escape your glory surrounding us night and day. May God raise up advocates and scientists to care for all the earth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of Possibility, Lord of this world and universe, we pray for your presence with the powerful people of our time. For those who lead the countries of the world, may they be quickened by cool heads and caring hearts, by wisdom and sage advice. May all leaders called to service feel your presence in their lives and in their decisions. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A For those who are sick and distressed or grieving , for the outcast and all who await relief in the midst of suffering, may God’s peace and mercy surround them, especially (*names on prayer list*) and all those touched by the coronavirus. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For our congregation and community, for all families big and small, and for God’s steadfast love to serve as a model for all relationships. Forgive us for thoughtless words and careless deeds. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

O Lord, grant us spiritual wisdom to count each moment perfect which is filled with joy, to spend each day with care as though it were our last, to celebrate each person we meet so they might be glad to have passed our way. 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 - “By Our Love” (Nockels) - (Video)

Quartet (Marion Cole, Jessie Hanevich, Carina McVeigh, Jerry Warren)

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.**

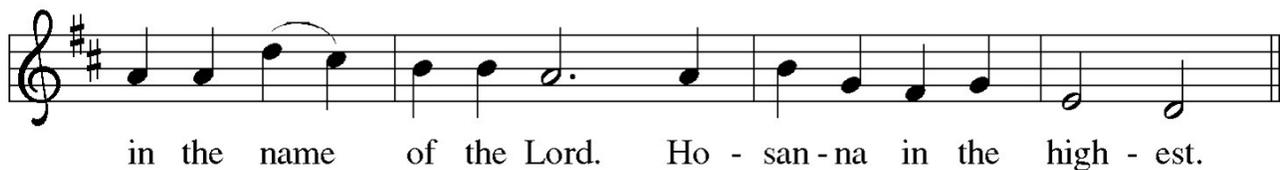
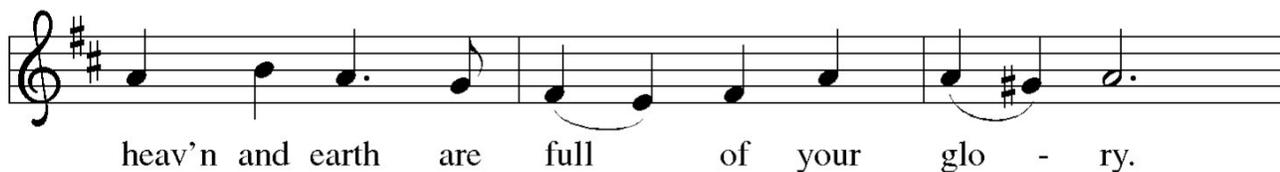
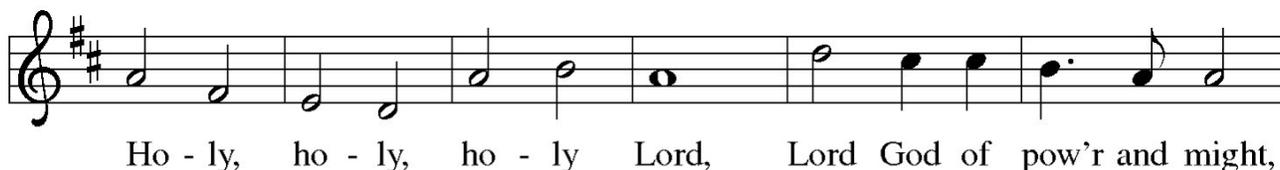
P Lift up your hearts.

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.

P Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

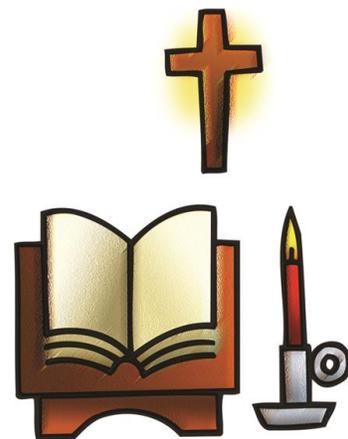
P Gracious God, send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts
that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and
his Blood of the new Covenant.
Gather into one all who desire to share this bread and wine:
May your Word take flesh in us.
Awaken your people, fill us with your light,
and bring the gift of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

Ostinato Refrain

My soul is at rest in God a-lone, my sal-va-tion comes from God.

Text: Psalm 62; Taizé Community
Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
© 1982, 1983, 1984, 1991, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

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 - Guy Ervin III

*The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God
by Valerie and Stan Patscheck,
in memory of Valerie's mother, Eunice Koch.*

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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 is one more **opportunity to review and discuss the 2021 budget** on Zoom: **TODAY**, at 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), **Vladimir Fajnor** (father of Scott Fajnor), **Michelle G** (friend of Carina McVeigh's mother), **Ron Higginbotham, Charles Hilley, Norm Morgan, Karen Nelson, Angie Patscheck** (sister-in-law of Stan and Valerie Patscheck), **Lee Patscheck** (brother of Stan Patscheck), **the family of Maria Perales and of Julie Reynoso** (friends of Pastor Julie's family), **Sara and Dominic Preston** (friends of Carina McVeigh), **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

TODAY, January 24, 2021

Children's Church Zoom , 9:00-9:20 a.m.

Learning Committee Planning Zoom
12:30-2:00 p.m.

See the announcement below
for more info.

2021 Budget Zoom, 1:00 p.m.

<http://bit.ly/MC2021BudgetZoom> or call (408) 638-0968.

Meeting ID: 849 4273 7690,
Passcode: 843137

Youth Group Zoom, TONIGHT, 6:00 p.m.

High School Youth gather with Joe Zimmerly, email
joe@mountcross.com for Zoom info.

Monday, January 25, 2021

Bring Goodies for Loving Arms to
Drive-through Communion

Please bring your donations for our Loving Arms
outreach to St. John's Medical Center, Oxnard, to
drive-through Communion on January 24, or contact
Barbara Cranfill to arrange for another time. See the
announcement below for details.

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 26, 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, push pound (#).

Wednesday, January 27, 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, finishing 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 28, 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 (#).

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

Meets on Zoom at 7:00 p.m.

Next Sunday, January 31

**Annual Congregational Meeting
via Zoom**

Sunday, January 31, 2021, 4:00 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)

Children's Church is back! Join us Sundays on Zoom from 9:00-9:20 a.m. for 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.

Loving Arms: Support Local Healthcare Workers

As the holiday-related COVID surge has filled up our hospitals and over-taxed local 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 and go" snacks and writing letters of encouragement. Individually wrapped chocolate, snack bars (e.g. KIND bars) and nuts have been suggested (fun size bars, nuts 1.6 oz), as well as notes that say things like:

"Thank you for hanging in there"

"We are wearing our masks because we know it saves lives" or "We are so thankful for you all"

You can **bring donations to drive-through Communion on Sunday**. Thanks to Barbara Cranfill for coordinating this effort, which will be once a month for 3 months. The **first** deadline is **January 25**. If you have questions, please contact Barbara (ebarby1@gmail.com, 575-707-1509, cell)

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.

Learning Committee

The Mount Cross Learning Committee meets **this Sunday** for a 2021 planning session to discuss youth and family programming for the upcoming year. This is an opportunity to share your ideas and learn more about this important ministry. There is NO commitment to join the committee; all are welcome to join this session.

When: Sunday, January 24, 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Where: via Zoom

Please RSVP in the link below to receive a Google Calendar invite with the Zoom details.

<https://forms.gle/ET7o2vUiWhaxzfyd9>.

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!

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 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.