

# Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

805.482.3847 [www.mountcross.com](http://www.mountcross.com)

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



## **To the Parents of Our Young Children –**

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

## **To All Worshippers –**

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

Please introduce yourself to someone you do not know.

**Thank you for being the welcoming Body of Christ!**



**Reconciling in Christ:**  
**Intentionally welcoming and affirming**  
**LGBTQIA+ people and families.**

**5th Sunday in Lent**  
**March 17, 2024, 9:30 a.m.**

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie Morris

### PRELUDE - "Give Me Jesus" (arr. Larson)

Mount Cross Handbell Choir

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*As able, the assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
who writes the law on our hearts, and  
whose mercy endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Held in God's grace, let us confess our sin in the presence of God  
and one another.  
(Silence for reflection)

C Holy God,  
**we confess our lives are infected by  
envy, hypocrisy, and apathy.  
We hoard resources while many suffer.  
We speak in ways that silence others.  
We are silent when we should speak up.  
We keep score in our hearts.  
We let hurts grow into hatred.  
For all these things and for sins only you know,  
forgive us, Lord.  
Amen.**

P Through the death and resurrection of ☩ Jesus Christ,  
God forgives you all your sins.  
The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness  
and keep you in eternal life.

C **Amen.**



## GATHERING SONG - "Restore in Us, O God" - ELW 328



- 1 Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love; re -
- 2 O Spir - it, wake in us the won - der of your pow'r; from
- 3 Bring us, O Christ, to share the full - ness of your joy; bap -
- 4 Three-per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace, that



new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.  
fruit - less fear un - furl our lives like spring - time bud and flow'r.  
tize us in the ris - en life that death can - not de - stroy.  
we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

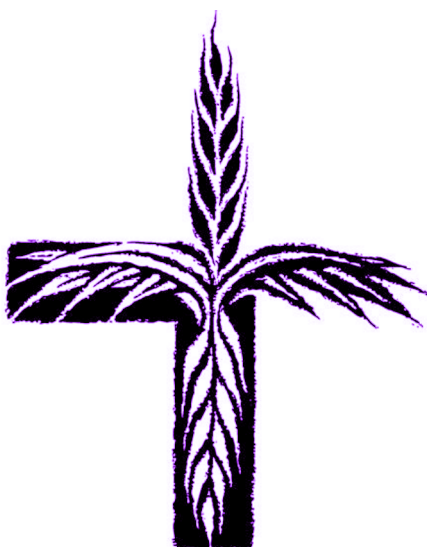
Music: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, b. 1933

Text © 1989 Hope Publishing Company.

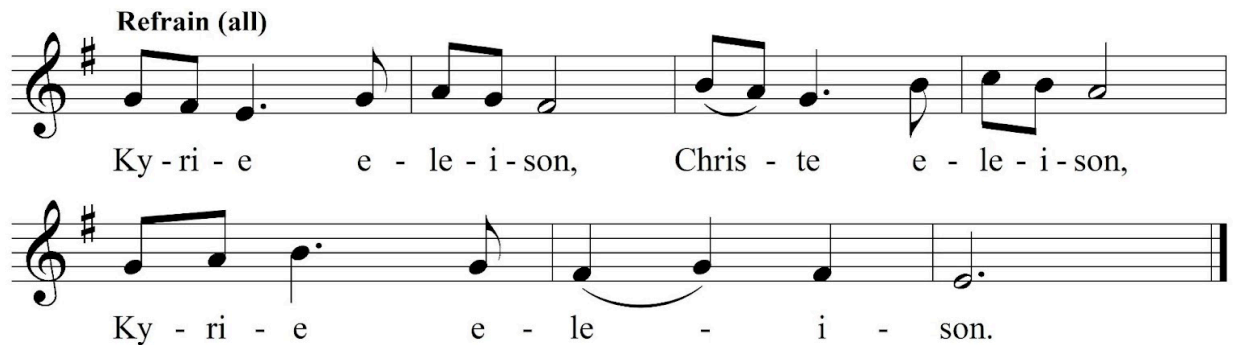
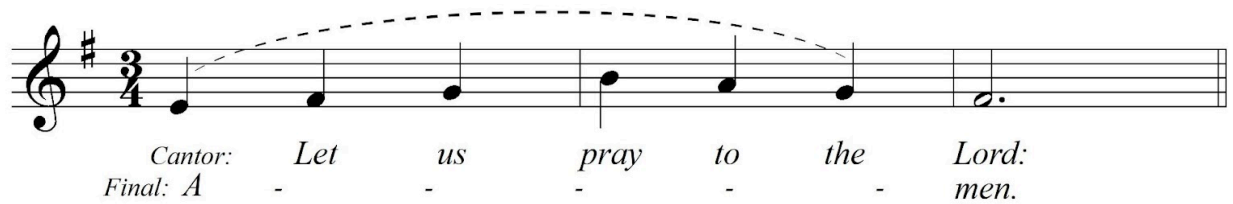
Music © 1985 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## 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.**



**KYRIE - “Mass of Remembrance” (Haugen; adapt.) - “Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison” is Greek for “Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy.”**



**Verses**

1. For the peace from above and for our salvation ...
2. For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,  
and for the unity of all ...
3. For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise ...
4. Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord ...

Kyrie Refrain from *Mass of Remembrance*, Marty Haugen, ©1987, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.  
Verse text: *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. All rights reserved.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** Let us pray.

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in 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.**

The assembly is seated.

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE - Pastor Julie Morris**

Children through 5th Grade are welcome (but not required) to come up for the Children's Message and then follow the staff to the Parish Life Center for an age-appropriate Bible lesson and activity. They will return to the sanctuary before Holy Communion. There are faith activity bags available near the front door for children who would rather stay in church.



# CHILDREN'S SONG - "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" - ELW 752 (sing 2 times)



Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your Spir-it in this place;

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943

Music: CHILDREN PRAYING, Ken Medema

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## FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

*The Judeans in Babylon blamed their exile on their ancestors, who had broken the covenant established at Sinai. Here the prophet looks to a day when God will make a new covenant with the people. There will be no need to teach the law, because God will write it on their hearts.*

<sup>31</sup>The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup>It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. <sup>33</sup>But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup>No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

**L** Word of God, word of life.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 51 - "Bring Forth a New Heart" (Browning)

**Refrain**

Bring forth a new heart in me, O God.

Change me, re - shape me, re - new me.

Bring forth a new heart, a new heart, O God. Trans -

form me, bring me back to You.

**Final**

You. Trans - form me, bring me back to You.

**Verses**

1. Have mer - cy, O God, have mer - cy on me. In your  
 2. A - gainst you I've sinned and strayed from your path; grac - ious  
 3. Cre - ate in me, God, a heart made of love and a  
 4. O give back to me the joy of your grace. Help me

**To Refrain**

grace, blot out my trans - gress - ions.  
 God, for - give all my fail - ings.  
 spir - it born of your Spir - it.  
 know that you will sus - tain me.

Text: Paraphrase of Psalm 51.

Words and music: Carol Browning, © 2022, Out Of The Way Music.



## SECOND READING: Hebrews 5:5-10

Using priestly imagery and references to the Old Testament, the author explains how Christ lived in trusting obedience to God, and so God has made Christ the source of our eternal salvation.

<sup>5</sup>Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; <sup>6</sup>as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

<sup>7</sup>In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. <sup>8</sup>Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; <sup>9</sup>and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, <sup>10</sup>having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

As able, the assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – “Let Your Steadfast Love” (ELW Setting 8)

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

Save us as you prom-ised; we will trust your word.

Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.

## **GOSPEL: John 12:20-33**

*Jesus entered Jerusalem for the last time to celebrate the Passover festival. Here Jesus' words about seeds planted in the ground turn the disaster of his death into the promise of a harvest in which everyone will be gathered.*

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

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

<sup>20</sup>Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup>They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup>Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup>Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup>Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup>Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup>Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

<sup>27</sup>"Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—'Father, save me from this hour'? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. <sup>28</sup>Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." <sup>29</sup>The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." <sup>30</sup>Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. <sup>31</sup>Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. <sup>32</sup>And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." <sup>33</sup>He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

**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.

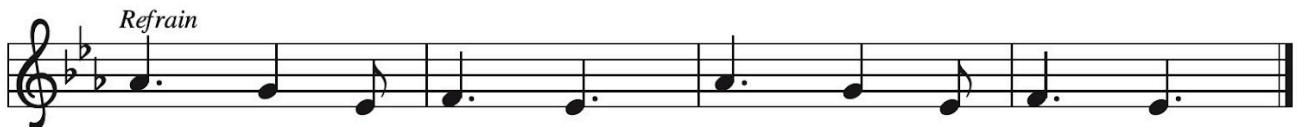
## SONG OF THE DAY - "God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me" - ACS 1084



1 God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to  
2 Bind to my-self the name of Ho - ly, great cloud of wit - ness -  
3 Bright-ness of sun and glow of moon-light, flash - ing of light - ning,  
4 Walk - ing be-hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to  
5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me, Christ in the ears that



move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:  
es en - fold; proph - ets, a - pos - tles, an - gels wit - ness:  
strength of wind, depth of the sea to soil of plan - et:  
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:  
hear my voice, Christ in the hearts of all who know me:



O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, b. 1967

Music: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

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*The assembly may be seated.*

## PRESENTATION OF BAPTISMAL CANDIDATE

*The one being welcomed and her sponsor gather with the pastor and assisting minister in front of the assembly. The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

P Dear friends, we gather today with this candidate who has been called by God's Spirit to seek Holy Baptism. Together, let us welcome her to this community of faith in Jesus Christ.

*Her sponsor presents the baptismal candidate.*

S I present Claire Johnson who is preparing for baptism.

*The presiding minister asks the candidate presented:*

P What do you ask of God's church?

C To hear God's word with you.

P What do you seek from God's word?  
C *Faith and fullness of life.*

*The presiding minister continues:*

P Grace and mercy are given to all who call upon God's name.  
Will you be faithful in learning the way of Christ?  
C *I will, and I ask God to help me.*

*The presiding minister addresses the sponsor and the assembly.*

P People of God, will you help Claire to hear the gospel of Jesus Christ within this household of faith?  
C **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

### **SIGN OF THE CROSS**

*The presiding minister addresses the one being welcomed.*

P You have heard the holy and saving gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
Now receive the sign of that gospel on your body and in your heart,  
that you may know the Lord and the power of his resurrection.

*A sponsor for the person being welcomed traces a cross on the person's forehead as the presiding minister says:*

P Receive the ✝ sign of the cross,  
a sign of God's endless love and mercy for you.  
C **Praise to you, O Christ, the wisdom and power of God.**

*The assisting minister presents a Bible to the person being welcomed. These or similar words may be spoken.*

A Receive this Bible.  
Hear God's word with us.  
Learn and tell its stories.  
Discover its mysteries.  
Honor its commandments.  
Rejoice in its good news.  
May God's life-giving word inspire you and make you wise.



*The one preparing for baptism may kneel. The presiding minister may extend both hands over her or may lay a hand on her head during the prayer.*

P Let us pray.

Merciful God, creator and giver of life, you have called all people from darkness into light, from error into truth, from death into life. Grant grace to Claire and bless her. Raise her by your Spirit. Revive her by your word. Form her by your hand. Bring her to the water of life and to the bread and cup of blessing, that with all your people she may bear witness to your grace and praise you forever through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

*The pastor addresses Claire.*

P God bring you in peace and joy to fullness of life in Christ in the waters of baptism.

C **May the God of all grace, who has called you to glory, support you and make you strong.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

God of the covenant, through the church, you draw us into community. We give thanks for the means of grace around which we gather. Bless Claire Johnson and all who are preparing for baptism, and strengthen us to renew our baptismal covenants at Easter. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, you desire peace and plenty for all people. Defend those who challenge oppression and expose corruption. Support advocates for human rights, social justice, and the welfare of children. Teach us to work for peace in our world, especially in the Middle East and Ukraine. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

God of good will, you restore what is broken. We pray for any experiencing estrangement, conflict, or abuse in families and intimate relationships. Protect and comfort all who are vulnerable, especially those living in institutions. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

- A God of every time and place, you are with us. Support ministries of prayer and presence in this congregation. Move us to reach out to any who are homebound, lonely, grieving, in treatment, ill, or suffering in any way, especially those on our prayer list ...

### PRAYER CONCERNS from MOUNT CROSS

We pray for **Rachel A. and her family** (friend of Chrissy O'Farrell), **Tom Andino** (friend of Carol Browning), **Jim & Joyce Boyd** (friends of Scott & Nora Fajnor), **Barbara Burke**, **Mike Caceres** (nephew of Becky Gilbertson), **John Colby**, **Kris Dawson**, **Sonja Demeter**, **Vinse Gilliam** (friend of Becky & Ken Riley), **Norma Harvey**, **Patrick Heckman** (relative of Marni Engh), **Gordon Henry**, **Rebecca Henry**, **Trevor Jeffrey** (friend of the Phipps family), **Craig Kaihara** (friend of Scott & Nora Fajnor), **Susan Klein**, **Jerry Kochans**, **Joyce Larisey** (mother of Val Starkgraf), **David Ludwig** (friend of Jim & Susan Prosser), **Jack & Penny Luhrsen**, **Michael McCandless** (relative of Melissa Henry), **Julianna McKillop** (grandmother of Rachel Zook-Brimer), **Karen Nelson**, **Angie Patscheck** (sister-in-law of Stan Patscheck), **Michael Potts** (friend of Becky & Ken Riley), **Dianne Selbrede**, **Carol Smith** (friend of Marni Engh), **Val Starkgraf**, **Marie Swartz** (sister of Jo Holler), **Waldon Swenson** (brother of Janet Rubin), **Alex Willis-Hutton** (niece of Carol Broderick), and **Nancy Zeph** (niece of Barbara Sletten).

*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](mailto:office@mountcross.com) or call 805.482.3847.*

Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

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

Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

### PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

**OFFERTORY - "Break Thou the Bread of Life" (arr. Larson)**  
*Mount Cross Handbell Choir*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

- A Jesus, you are the bread of life  
and the host of this meal.  
Bless these gifts that we have gathered  
that all people may know your goodness.  
Feed us not only with this holy food  
but with hunger for justice and peace.  
We pray this in your name.
- C **Amen.**



*As able, the assembly stands for the Great Thanksgiving.*

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

- P The Lord be with you.  
C **And also with you.**  
P Lift up your hearts.  
C **We lift them to the Lord.**  
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
- P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.  
You call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff in B-flat major (two flats). The treble staff features a melody of eighth and quarter notes, with a final half note tied to the next system. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment of chords, mostly in the left hand, with some right-hand accompaniment in the final measures.

ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The treble staff melody is identical to the first system. The bass staff accompaniment continues with similar chordal patterns, maintaining the harmonic support.

heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.

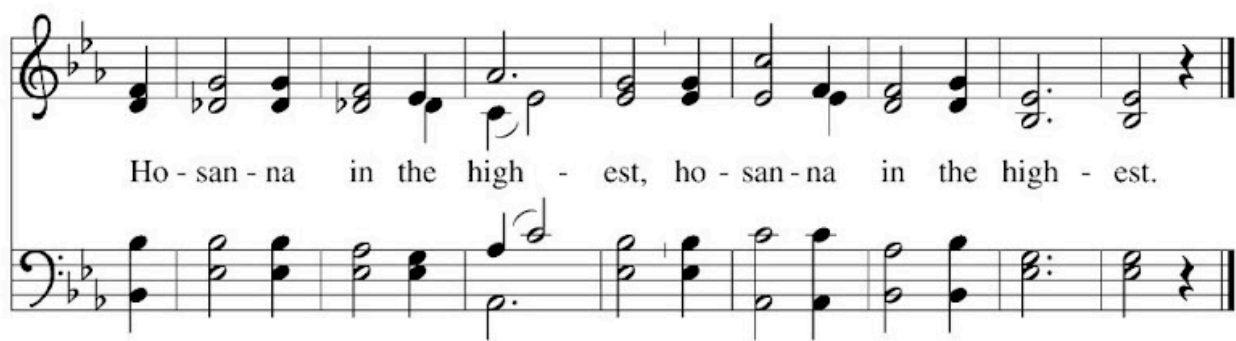
The third system introduces a new melodic phrase in the treble staff, featuring a half note followed by a quarter note and then a half note. The bass staff accompaniment continues with chords, providing a steady harmonic base.

Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

The fourth system continues the 'Ho-san-na' melody. The treble staff features a half note followed by a quarter note and then a half note. The bass staff accompaniment continues with chords, providing a steady harmonic base.

Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

The fifth system concludes the hymn with the final phrase. The treble staff features a half note followed by a quarter note and then a half note. The bass staff accompaniment continues with chords, providing a steady harmonic base.



Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937  
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P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
 In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
 who preached good news to the poor,  
 and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
 we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
 and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
 the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
 be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C **Amen.**



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

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

## **BREAKING OF THE BREAD/INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

P Bread for the journey.  
A feast for hungry hearts. Come!

*The assembly may be seated.*

### **LAMB OF GOD - "Jesus, Lamb of God" - ELW 199**



Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,





Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937  
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**All are welcome at the Lord's Table.** During Lent, Holy Communion will be distributed at the altar rail. Ushers will dismiss people by rows, beginning from the back of the church. Please come forward and stand or kneel around the altar. The pastor will distribute bread, then ministers will follow with wine or grape juice. You may choose to receive wine from the common cup or from the intinction chalice (by dipping the bread in the wine), or receive grape juice in the small cups in the trays.

### **PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION (for our Livestream viewers)**

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

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

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

**(We pause for silent prayer).**

**Fill us all with your love and grace, and strengthen us to serve the world in your name. Amen.<sup>1</sup>**



<sup>1</sup> Adapted by Pastor Julie from a prayer written by the Anglican Diocese of Niagara.

## COMMUNION SONGS - "As the Grains of Wheat" - ELW 465

*Refrain*

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were  
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from  
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,  
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

*Refrain*

may we share the pres - ence of your love.  
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: AS THE GRAINS, Marty Haugen

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## "Unless a Grain of Wheat" (Farrell)

*Refrain*

Un - less a grain of wheat shall fall up - on the ground  
and die, it re - mains but a sin - gle grain



1.- 6. *To verses* | *Last time* 



with no life. 2. If


Verses



1. If we have died with him then we shall  
 2. an - y - one serves me then they must  
 3.  Make your home in me as I make  
 4. If you re - main in me and my word  
 5.  Those who love me are loved by my  
 6.  Peace I leave with you, my peace I



live with him; if we hold firm we shall  
 fol - low me; where - ev - er I am my  
 mine in you; those who re - main in me  
 lives in you, then you will be my dis -  
 Fa - ther; we shall be with them and  
 give to you; peace which the world can - not



D.C.

reign with him.  
 ser - vants will be.  
 bear much fruit.  
 ci - ples.  
 dwell in them.  
 give is my gift.

Text: John 12:24; Bernadette Farrell, b.1957

Tune: Bernadette Farrell, b.1957

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## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Generous God,  
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.  
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,  
now make us one loaf to feed the world;  
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

C **Amen.**

*As able, the assembly stands for the Final Blessing.*

### **BLESSING (from the Anglican Prayerbook)**

P May Christ, who calls you to take up your cross,  
give you strength to bear your own and one another's burdens.  
May Christ give you grace to follow him in the way of love.  
And may the blessing of God our Creator, ✠ Redeemer,  
and Giver of life be with you always.

C **Amen.**

## SENDING SONG - "Go, My Children, with My Blessing" - ELW 543



1 "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone.  
2 "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.  
3 "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me.



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy - ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for-ev - er.  
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.  
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com-fort stilled you.



Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."  
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."  
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, b. 1919, alt.  
Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional  
Text © 1983 Concordia Publishing House

## DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Share your bread.  
C **Thanks be to God**

## POSTLUDE - Guy Ervin III

*Today's altar flowers are given  
by Becky and Ken Riley in honor of their 34th wedding anniversary,  
by Hannah McFadden to the glory of God,  
and by Jim Dinges for special loving remembrances honoring the birthday of  
Donette "Brooke" Dinges - a most special woman, wife, mother, teacher, friend, and  
mentor to so many individuals.*

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

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

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

Come to the Table: Mount Cross is offering **Communion reception in the  
sanctuary or in your car** from **11:00-11:15 a.m.**

## The Week at a Glance

### TODAY, March 17

Harbor House Sandwich-Making,  
after worship

Spend a few minutes of service making sandwiches for  
Harbor House. Many hands make light work!

Choir Rehearsal,  
after worship

The choir will rehearse anthems for Holy Week  
after worship.

## **Monday, March 18**

### **Men's Al-Anon, 7:00 p.m.**

A Men's Al-Anon group meets in the Parish Life Center at 7:00 p.m.

## **Tuesday, March 19**

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

The Women's Bible Study meets at 9:00 a.m. off-site. Questions, contact Pastor Julie.

### **Church Council Zoom, 7:00 p.m.**

The Church Council meets at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom  
<https://bit.ly/MountCrossCouncil>.

## **Wednesday, March 20**

### **Meditation, 10:00 a.m.**

The Meditation group meets on Zoom at 10:00 a.m. Questions, contact LaJean Wenzel.

### **ROOTED, 5:00 p.m.**

This program for Faith Formation parents and others is on Wednesdays, 5:00-6:00 p.m. For Lent, we're studying "The Seven Last Words." Questions, please contact Pastor Julie, [pastorjulie@mountcross.com](mailto:pastorjulie@mountcross.com).

### **Fun with Faith, 5:00 p.m.**

All children Preschool through 5th grade are invited to join Joe Zimmerly at 5:00 p.m. for "Fun with Faith"! Questions, contact Joe ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)).

### **Bell Choir Rehearsal, 5:45 p.m.**

The Bell Choir rehearses in the sanctuary loft from 5:45-6:45 p.m.

### **Soup Supper, 6:00 p.m.**

All are invited to join us for Soup Supper at 6:00 p.m. in the pavilion and Parish Life Center, sponsored this week by Family Faith Formation.

### **Confirmation, 6:30 p.m.**

Confirmation for our Middle School youth meets at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. Questions, contact Joe ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)).

### **Holden Evening Prayer**

**7:00 p.m.**

All are welcome for sung Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

### **Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.**

The choir meets in the sanctuary to rehearse music for Sundays and learn anthems and special music.

## **Thursday, March 21**

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

The Men's Bible Study meets at Marie Callender's (185 E. Daily Drive, Camarillo). A \$15 donation covers breakfast and a tip, No RSVP necessary. Contact Randy Churchill ([hrchurchill@verizon.net](mailto:hrchurchill@verizon.net)) with any questions.

### **Afternoon Chapel, 2:00 p.m.**

Afternoon Chapel is at 2:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

## **Saturday, March 23**

### **Church Work Day, 8:30 a.m.**

See the announcement below for details on our Church Work Day. Come, help get our church and grounds ready for Easter!

### **Al-Anon, 10:00 a.m.**

Al-Anon meets at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Life Center.

# **Announcements**

## **Sunday Worship**

We always need worship assistants. We will train you. Contact Vicky Edell at [vickyedell5@gmail.com](mailto:vickyedell5@gmail.com) or sign-up online at <https://signup.com/Group/7769976983269200115/>. Thank you for serving at Mount Cross!

## **Children, Youth, and Family Ministry**

For information on our programs, email Joe ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)).

## **Altar Flowers**

To request flowers for our worship: <https://bit.ly/AltarFlowers2023>. The cost is \$40.00; you can take the arrangement home with you after worship, or pick it up at Communion following worship. If you aren't here but would still like flowers, let us know; we'll deliver the arrangement to another member to enjoy. If you ordered flowers, please remember to pay for them - online or in the offering, marked for "Flowers."



### **Financial Statements**

Thank you, Mount Cross congregation, for all the generosity you show your church family!  
Please email any questions about giving and/or statements to Financial Secretary Joan Brundage at [jbrundage@mountcross.com](mailto:jbrundage@mountcross.com).

### **St. Columba's Food Pantry**

Each Sunday, we have a bin where you can bring non-perishable food for St. Columba's Project Hope food pantry. **Canned vegetables or proteins** (tuna or chicken) are always a good choice. They could also use **cereal, oatmeal, pasta sauce, pasta, canned soup, mac & cheese, fresh bread, toilet paper, paper towels, and Kleenex**. Please **do not donate food that is expired**.  
Thanks for your support.

## **One More Wednesday in Lent (March 20)**

5:00 p.m. Fun with Faith

5:00 p.m. Rooted for Adults (childcare available)

6:00 p.m. Soup Supper

6:30 p.m. Confirmation

7:00 p.m. Holden Evening Prayer

At **5:00 p.m.**, in Rooted, we study "**The Seven Last Words**," also known as the sayings of Jesus from the cross, with the hope of learning more about Jesus and what it means to be his disciples. A simple **Soup Supper** (provided by Family Faith Formation this week) is served at **6:00 p.m.** and sung **Holden Evening Prayer** is at **7:00 p.m.**

## **Afternoon Chapel**

Join us for **Afternoon Chapel** on **Thursday, March 21**, at **2:00 p.m.** in the Mount Cross Sanctuary. This shortened Worship Service includes communion, singing, prayers, and fellowship. Contact the church office at 805-482-3847 if you need a ride to the Chapel Service or for more information.

## **Donate Calla Lilies for Easter**

Every year, we order pastel calla lilies to make the church look festive for Easter. If you would like to donate toward the lilies, each one is **\$12**. **Sign up** here:

<https://bit.ly/MCEasterFlowers2024> by **March 25**.

Lilies may be taken home after our 9:30 a.m. Easter service on March 31.

## **Submit Prayers to be Carried with the Cross on Good Friday**

What is breaking your heart? What suffering in your own life, in the lives of your loved ones and neighbors, or in our world is weighing on you? What moves you to cry out in the words of the Psalms, "How long, O Lord?" (Psalm 13) or even "My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?" (Psalm 22). Part of our calling as Christians is to bring the pain and sorrow of the world to God through Jesus Christ. At the cross, we learn of God's solidarity with us and all who suffer. We experience a love that meets us where we are and longs to heal and transform us. On March 29, Good Friday, three churches will carry the heartbreak, grief, and prayers of the community along with a large wooden cross for two miles, starting at Mount Cross Lutheran at 5:00 p.m., pausing at St. Columba's Episcopal, and ending at Camarillo UMC in time for the Good Friday worship service at 7:00 p.m. All are welcome to join us in this prayerful walk for peace and healing. What is breaking your heart? Place your prayers in the offering plates on Palm Sunday, or email your prayers to [camarilocross@gmail.com](mailto:camarilocross@gmail.com) and we will carry them with the cross on Good Friday.

## **Friends of the Library - Fill-a-Bag Book Sale**

The Friends of the Camarillo Library Bookstore is having a "Fill-a-Bag Book Sale" on **Saturday, March 23**, from **10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.** All proceeds benefit the Camarillo Library (4101 Las Posas Rd., Camarillo, 93010). Hundreds of gently used children's books available.

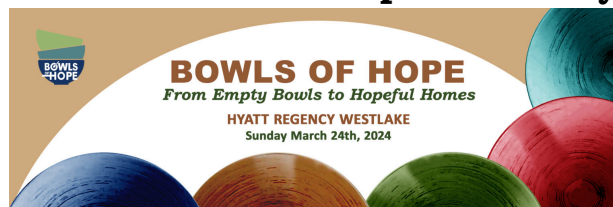
## **Church Work Day - This Saturday, March 23, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 Noon**

Join us for our NEXT Mount Cross **Work Day** on **Saturday, March 23**, 8:30 a.m. - 12:00 Noon. What if instead of giving something up for Lent, you consider doing something new? How about making a commitment to help with our upcoming church workday? Come for any part of the morning, no need to sign up in advance. No time is too short, and no job is too small! Please come and enjoy this great time of fellowship as we prepare our church for the Easter season. There is a lot to do and many hands make light work. We welcome and appreciate your help. Refreshments will be provided.

**HELP NEEDED** ... Due to all the recent rain, we have LOTS of weeds at Mount Cross. It's much easier to remove the weeds right after the rain when the ground is wet. Please consider helping with weeding the church property. This can be done anytime that's convenient for you. Contact Marilyn Gardner at [momgardner\\_722@msn.com](mailto:momgardner_722@msn.com) if you are able to help! Another project we need help accomplishing is moving some of the crushed granite out of the prayer garden walkways to another area under the junipers. We will then mix sand in with the remaining crushed granite to make it easier to walk on the pathway in the prayer garden. If you are able to help, please contact Marilyn and we'll organize a day/time to complete this project.

*Let's come and serve the Lord together as one in a body-wide expression of gratitude for these grounds and this facility that He has given to us.*

## **Many Mansions Bowls of Hope - Sunday, March 24**



Many Mansions Bowls of Hope event aims to raise awareness for the need for affordable housing in our community, as well as raise funds for Many Mansions' programs that serve the formerly homeless, veterans, seniors, and families of very low income. Designed to represent a soup kitchen, attendees select a bowl handcrafted by community members and enjoy delicious and comforting food, in community. Experience meaningful & fun family activities: an informative exhibition on the homelessness issue, affordable housing, and Many Mansions; an opportunity to take action and be part of the solution; crafts, games, a raffle, silent auction, and more! By attending Bowls of Hope, you're investing in your community! All proceeds from this event support our continued work to provide affordable housing and life-changing services to families that call Many Mansions home.

Tickets and info: <https://www.manymansions.org/news-events/bowls-of-hope-event/>

## **Help Feed People in Need**

The second Monday of every month, Mount Cross joins with Camarillo United Methodist Church to cook for Many Meals, the dinner served at St. Mary Magdalen Church to people in need. The recipes are provided. All you need to do is sign up, cook, and drop off the food at 4:00 p.m. at St. Mary's. If you can help, please let Karin Grennan know. Her email address is [grennan4@verizon.net](mailto:grennan4@verizon.net).



## **CDC Spring Sing and Silent Auction**

The Child Development Center (Mount Cross' preschool) is excited to announce the date - Sunday, April 21 - for our Spring Sing and Silent Auction. If you would like to donate items for a basket, gift cards, or items from your business, please let the preschool know (805-482-9706 or [cdc@mountcross.com](mailto:cdc@mountcross.com)).

All donations are tax-deductible.

More information coming soon about April 21.

## **ELCA National Youth Gathering - July 15-20, 2024**

Every three years, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America hosts the National Youth Gathering in various cities around the country for over 30,000 high-school-aged youth. In each city, youth and their adult chaperones will serve and worship together. In fact, young Lutherans have been gathering for more than 100 years! The Lutheran denominations that made up the ELCA each had rich traditions of bringing their young people together. The Gathering's goal is to create environments and opportunities for faith formation through worship, interactive learning, Bible study, service, and fellowship. While some of the experiences can be replicated at home, some are unique and special to the Gathering because of the size and scope of this ministry. I mean, just think .... 30,000 Lutherans in the same room. Now, that is something I can confidently say only happens at this event. As we worship in the Superdome (home of the New Orleans Saints), walk through Jackson Square, listen to the community, pray for one another, I encourage you to follow our journey and I also invite you to find ways to support our youth from Mount Cross. Whether that be financially, or by prayer, we want the entire Mount Cross community to remember that we are all on this journey together. —Joe Zimmerly

## **Giving to Mount Cross!**

If you would like to give to Mount Cross, in addition to adding your offering to the collection plate on Sundays, you can do so via our online giving page, through mail (102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010), or via our Venmo account (@MountCross-LutheranChurch, or scan the QR code) 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 be sure to indicate what your payment / donation is designated for. Thank you!



## **Mount Cross Lutheran Church Welcome Statement**

Mount Cross Lutheran Church welcomes, embraces, and affirms all individuals, regardless of race, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, faith background, physical or mental ability or anything else that may set us apart from each other. We are a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation, one of over 1000 Lutheran communities that intentionally welcome and affirm LGBTQIA+ people and families. We are committed to racial equity and the work of anti-racism, celebrating the beautiful tapestry of humanity and fostering an inclusive community that recognizes the inherent worth and dignity of every person. We strive to follow Jesus' way of love, compassion, and justice and invite you to walk this path alongside us. With open hearts and open arms, we welcome you.

## **The Great Three Days with Three Churches**

**Maundy Thursday, March 28**

**7:00 p.m. Worship** at St. Columba's Episcopal Church  
(1251 Las Posas Rd., 93010)

**9:00 p.m.-9:00 a.m. Night Watch** at St. Columba's

From 9:00 p.m. on Maundy Thursday, March 28, to 9:00 a.m. on Good Friday, March 29, there will be a Night Watch in St. Columba's Chapel to keep vigil in memory of Christ's time in the Garden of Gethsemane before he was arrested and condemned to death. Members of the "Three Churches" (St. Columba's, Mount Cross, and Camarillo UMC) are invited to sign up for one-hour prayer shifts during the night. You may sign-up for more than one shift.

<https://bit.ly/2024NightWatch>

**Good Friday Stations of the Cross, March 29**

**Noon** at St. Columba's

**Good Friday Prayer Walk with the Cross of Christ for Peace and Healing,**

**March 29**

Meet at Mount Cross at 5:00 p.m. We will walk two miles to Camarillo United Methodist, carrying the cross and the prayers of the community.

Email prayers to [CamarilloCross@gmail.com](mailto:CamarilloCross@gmail.com).

**Good Friday Service, March 29,**

**7:00 p.m.** at Camarillo United Methodist Church  
(291 Anacapa Dr., 93010).

**The Easter Vigil, Saturday, March 30**

**7:00 p.m.** at Mount Cross

The new fire of Easter, the story of salvation, the Easter Gospel, and Holy Communion.

**Easter Sunday, March 31**

**9:30 a.m. Worship** at Mount Cross

**Alleluia! Christ is Risen!**

Bring a flower to add to the cross.

Sign up to donate calla lilies: <https://bit.ly/MCEasterFlowers2024>

**Pancake Breakfast 8:00-9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.-Noon**

**Easter Egg Hunt after Worship**