

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

805.482.3847 www.mountcross.com



5th Sunday in Lent
March 21, 2021, 9:30 a.m.

PRELUDE - Guy Ervin III

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie Morris

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

C **Amen.**

P Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you
and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have turned from you
and given ourselves into the power of sin.**

We are truly sorry and humbly repent.

**In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things we have done
and things we have failed to do.**

**Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,
so that we may live and serve you in newness of life
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made
us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of †
Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power
through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C **Amen.**



GATHERING SONG - "Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery" - ELW 334



1. Tree of Life and awe-some mys - t'ry, in your
2. God of all our fear and sor - row, God who
3. Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum-bling



death we are re - born; though you die in all of
lives be - yond our death, hold us close through each to -
though our steps may be; one with you in joy and



his - t'ry, still you rise with ev - 'ry morn, still you
mor - row, love as near as ev - 'ry breath, love as
sor - row, we the riv - er, you the sea, we the



rise with ev - 'ry morn. _____
near as ev - 'ry breath. _____
riv - er, you the sea. _____

Text and Music (THOMAS, 8 7 87 7): Marty Haugen.
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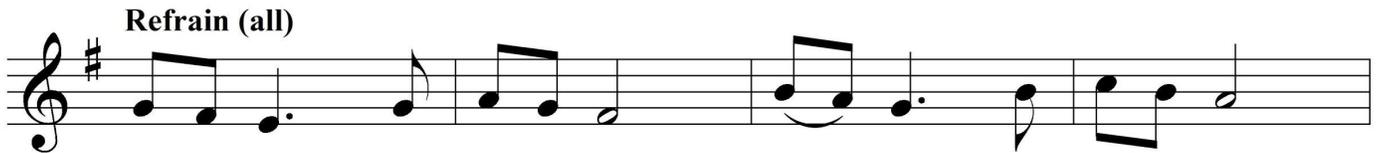
GREETING

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.**

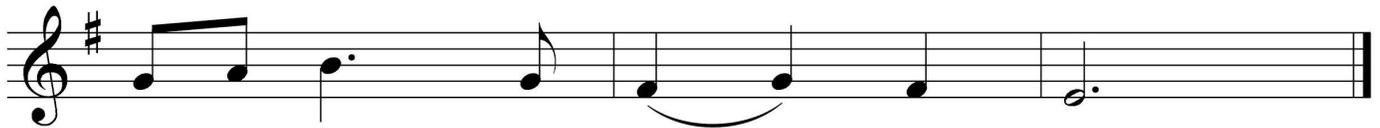
KYRIE - Mass of Remembrance (Haugen)



Cantor: Let us pray to the Lord:
Final: A - - - - - men.



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son, Chris - te e - le - i - son,



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

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 O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through 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 - LRCC Video



CHILDREN'S SONG - "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying" - ELW 752

The image shows a musical score for a children's song. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the treble clef staff. The first system of music ends with a double bar line, and the second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

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

Text and music © 1973 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It 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. ³³But 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. ³⁴No 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.**

SONG OF RESPONSE - "Lord, I Need You" - CCLI Song #5925687

Verse 1

Lord I come I confess
Bowling here I find my rest
And without You I fall apart
You're the one that guides my heart

Chorus 1

Lord I need You oh I need You
Ev'ry hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You

Verse 2

Where sin runs deep Your grace is more
Where grace is found is where You are
And where You are Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me
Where You are Lord I am free
Holiness is Christ in me

Bridge

So teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus You're my hope and stay
And when I cannot stand I'll fall on You
Jesus You're my hope and stay

Chorus 2

Lord I need You oh I need You
Ev'ry hour I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You
My one defense my righteousness
Oh God how I need You



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.

⁵Christ 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”; ⁶as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

⁷In 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. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having 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.

LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – ELW Setting 8



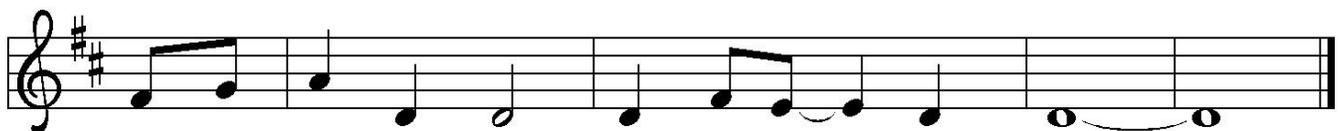
Let your stead-fast love come to us, O Lord.



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.**

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very 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. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷"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. ²⁸Father, glorify your name." Then a voice came from heaven, "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him." ³⁰Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." ³³He 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 - Vicar Amanda Berg



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

SONG OF THE DAY - "Unless a Grain of Wheat" (Farrell) - Verses 1, 3, 4 & 6

Refrain



Un - less a grain of wheat shall fall up - on the ground

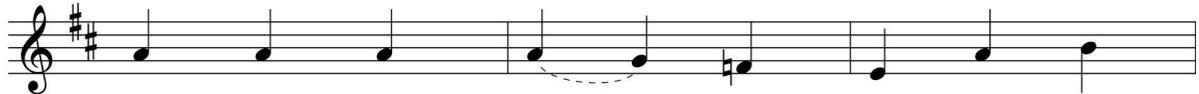


and die, it re - mains but a sin - gle grain



with no life. 1.- 6. To verses Last time 2. If

Verses



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



live	with	him;	if	we	hold	firm	we	shall
fol	-	low	me;	where	-	ev	-	er
mine	in	you;	those	who	re	-	main	in
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	



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

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 Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

You wash us through and through and remember our sin no more. Make your church a community of forgiveness throughout the world. Give your people courage to forgive; through them, show the world new possibilities. Bless ministries of repentance and reconciliation, and strengthen our commitment and work to be an anti-racist congregation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You fill the earth—from tiny grains of wheat to the mighty thunder—with your presence, and you call us to attend to your will for all creation. Grant weather that prepares the soil for seeds; protect all from violent storms, flooding, and wildfires, and watch over those who work in the fields, providing food for us. On this World Water Day, help us to work for clean water for everyone and to use this precious resource wisely. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You promise to write your law on our hearts. Guide citizens throughout the world to shape communities that reflect your mercy, justice, and peace, and give them creativity to work for the welfare of all. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

P You sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Give wisdom to our Re-opening Committee and Church Council as they continue to make decisions for our safety. Restore the joy of all who need to know your presence: those who are lonely or feel unforgivable, those who need healing of mind, body, or spirit, those who are dying, and all who grieve. We pray especially for (*those on our prayer list*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Jesus calls us to follow him in life and death. Empower this congregation in discipleship, especially our Learning Committee, Children, Youth & Family Ministries, and Child Development Center. Equip children and teachers in Children's Church, Bible studies, confirmation, and education ministries. Give us your truth and wisdom and teach us to follow Jesus. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

In the cross of Christ, your name is glorified. We praise you for those who have given us words to worship you. With all those who have died in Christ, bring us into life everlasting. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING SONG - "When We Are Living" - ELW 639



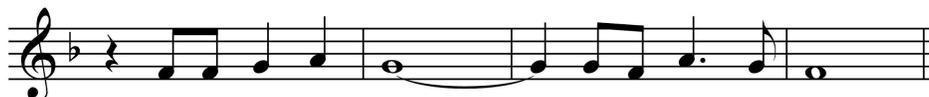
1. When we are liv - ing, ___ it is in Christ Je - sus,
2. 'Mid times of sor - row ___ and in times of pain,
3. A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find ___



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



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



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

OFFERING PRAYER

P Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

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. 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,



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



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



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



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



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

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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P Holy God,
 our living Water and our merciful Guide,
 together with rivers and seas, wells and springs
 we bless and magnify you.
 You led your people Israel through the desert,
 and provided them water from the rock.
 We praise you for Christ, our Rock and our Water,
 who joined us in our desert,
 pouring out his life for the world.

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.

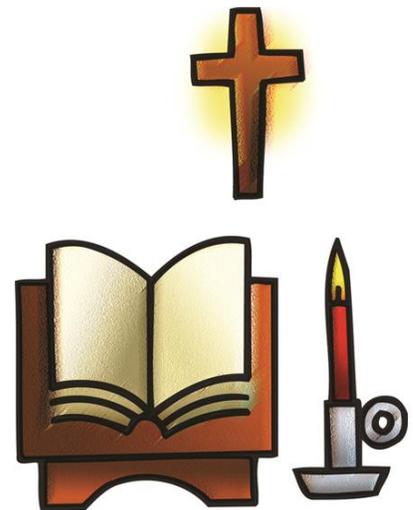
Remembering, therefore,
his life, death, and resurrection,
we await your salvation for all this thirsty world.
Pour out your Spirit on this holy food
and on all the baptized gathered for this feast:
wash away our sin,
that we may be revived for our journey by the love of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty God, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

C **Amen.**

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

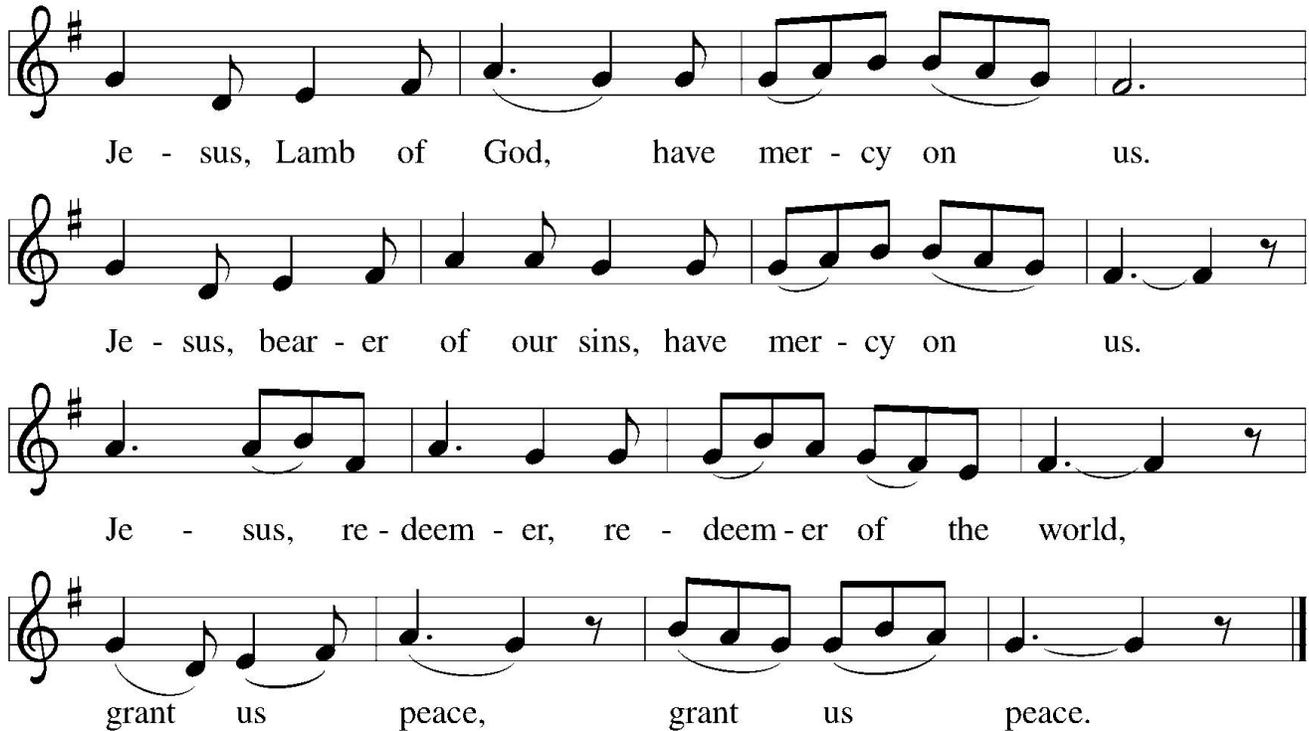
C **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine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



BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The assembly may be seated.

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,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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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."

All joining from home are invited to say the following prayer:

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

(We pause for silent prayer).

Fill us all with your love and grace, and strengthen us to serve the world in your name. Amen.¹



¹ Adapted by Pastor Julie from a prayer written by the Anglican Diocese of Niagara.

COMMUNION SONG - "Make a Difference" (Kurtz)

You gave your life to make a difference,
You gave your life to make a change.
You welcomed all to your table,
You're calling us to do the same.

Chorus

I want my life to make a difference;
I want my life to make a change.
I want my life to do some good here;
I want my life to make a change.

Working side by side, no out or inside,
Together we can make that change.
With a few or many, with a lot or not any,
Together we can make that change.

Chorus

Crossing the great divide, joy and peace will abide,
Together we can make that change.
Jesus is our peace, fighting will cease,
Together we can make that change.

Chorus

We're the citizens with the saints,
We're the sunshine with the rain,
We're the joy with the pain,
We're the change.
You healed the sick and fed the poor,
Loved the prophet and the whore,
Through us, you will do more.
You're the change.

Chorus (twice)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
C Amen.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE - Guy Ervin III

*Special thanks to our Youth Band - Tiana Stouch, Ben Fisher, and Joe Zimmerly -
for their gifts of music today!*

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God
by Melissa and Gordon Henry in honor of our 18th anniversary -
thanks be to God for the blessings we have received!
and by Sonja Demeter in celebration of
the anniversary of Allison Johnson's baptism.*

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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.

An Invitation for the Whole Congregation: "A Dive into Anti-Racism"

TODAY, Sunday, March 21, at **4:00 p.m.**, the Mount Cross Peace and Justice Team will host "A Dive into Anti-Racism." We will discuss the three videos listed below. You can watch all three of them in less than one hour. We ask that you watch the videos prior to the 4:00 p.m. gathering and then join us for an open and respectful discussion on Zoom.

The link is <http://bit.ly/MountCrossAntiRacism>. Meeting ID: 826 5585 0626 / Passcode: 081785

[I'm Tired of Talking About Race | Jasmine Roberts | TEDxOhioStateUniversity](#) - 10 min.

[We all have implicit biases. So what can we do about it? | Dushaw Hockett | TEDxMidAtlanticSalon](#) - 12 min.

[Bryan A. Stevenson, Johns Hopkins University's 2018 Commencement Speaker](#) - 25 min.

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), **Cynthia Bishop** (friend of Bob and Judy Winters), **the Brazil family** (friends of the Blois family), **Mike Carpenter, Terry Cline** (relative of Jim & Karen Gramacki), **Rob Conant** (boyfriend of Mary Goodenough's daughter), **Bob Edell, Steve Engh** (friend of Gayle & Cy Johnson), **Tabitha Ebright, Nora Fajnor, the family of Alice Herbruck, Ron Higginbotham, Charles Hilley, Jo Holler, Joan Husband** (friend of Bill & Glenda Greason), **Nancy Jaeger, Clem Johnson** (aunt of Darryl Johnson), **Ric Kienitz, Michelle Kolder** (daughter of Karen & Joe Diehl), **Jeff Miller** (friend of Becky & Ken Riley), **Dale and Mona Mueller** (cousin of Lois Watts), **Karen Nelson, Allan Steele** (friend of Becky & Ken Riley), **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, March 21, 2021

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

Contact Joe (joe@mountcross.com)
for the Zoom information.

A Dive into Anti-Racism

Zoom at 4:00 p.m.

See separate Announcement for details.

Youth Group On Site, Tonight, 5:00 p.m.

High School Youth gather with Joe Zimmerly, email joe@mountcross.com with questions.

Monday, March 22, 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 (#).

HeBrews: Men's Pub Theology Night,

7:00 p.m. Zoom

Interested in the Bible AND Bevs? Mount Cross is hosting a pub theology night where we invite the men of Mount Cross to gather on Zoom. If you have any questions, contact Joe Zimmerly

(joe@mountcross.com). Zoom Link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81349801746?pwd=dXEvV3l2enlqQVYwSzYrTlBiMERkQT09>

Meeting ID: 813 4980 1746, Passcode:
HeBrews123

Tuesday, March 23, 2021

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

The Women's Bible Study meets at 9:00 a.m. in the church. Contact Pastor Julie, pastorjulie@mountcross.com, or Vicar Amanda, amanda@mountcross.com, if you have questions.

Upper Room Zoom, 12:00 noon

Upper Room Zoom meets on Tuesdays. It's a nice 15-minute break in your day that includes scripture, prayer, and relaxing video/audio.

Join 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 (#).

Fellowship Committee, 7:00 p.m.

The Fellowship Committee meets on site at 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 24, 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., **on site**. Any questions, contact Joe at joe@mountcross.com.

Lent Adult Bible Study, 5:00 p.m.

Join with St. Columba's Episcopal for our final Bible study on the events of Holy Week, offered on Zoom: <http://bit.ly/MCWednesdayNights> or call 1 (408) 638 0968. The Meeting ID is 827 1932 0163 and the Passcode is 615543.

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

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

Virtual Soup Supper, 6:30 p.m.

Make a bowl of soup and join us for community conversation and connection at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays (3/24). The Zoom link is <http://bit.ly/VirtualSoupSupper>. The Meeting ID is 846 2020 8049 and the passcode is 531718.

Holden Evening Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

Access the Holden Evening Prayer service at 7:00 p.m. on <https://www.facebook.com/MountCross/live>.

Thursday, March 25, 2021

Lent Bible Study, 10:00 a.m.

(repeat of Wednesday study)

Join with St. Columba's Episcopal for a Bible study on the events of Holy Week, offered on Zoom: <http://bit.ly/LentThursdayMorning> or call 1 (669) 900-9128. The Meeting ID is 873 5801 5010



Announcements

Sunday Worship

The Re-Opening Committee has approved in-person attendance for our outdoor worship. Those attending need to sign in, have their temperature checked, wear masks, and observe social distancing. We have some chairs available or you may bring your own. We also need worship assistants:

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/587031493102206086/true#/invitation>. Thank you in advance for helping to keep Mount Cross safe!

Help with Drive-through Communion

We are looking for help to make Sunday Drive-through Communion possible. If you would like to help set up or as a parking lot usher, greeter, or communion assistant, please sign up at

<http://bit.ly/WorshipandCommunionAssistants> or call the office at (805) 482-3847.

Children's Church (Sunday School)

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

Diaper Pantry

In March, CYFM is sponsoring the Graceful Diaper Pantry that is run through Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Oxnard. We are collecting donations every Sunday in March during Drive-through Communion. For more information, please contact Joe Zimmerly (joe@mountcross.com).

Additionally, the Graceful Diaper Pantry is looking for 2-3 volunteers to help package diapers from 9:00-11:30 a.m. on Saturday, April 3. If you would like to help, please contact Joe Zimmerly (joe@mountcross.com).

Thrivent Choice Dollars Expiring Soon!

Thrivent members, if you haven't checked your Thrivent account lately, you might want to do so before the end of March. **All Choice Dollars from 2020 expire on March 31.** Choice Dollars are like free money that you get to "direct" to organizations of your choice - don't miss your chance to support Mount Cross or the CDC (or thousands of other organizations)!

Additional Vaccine Sign-up Site

If you are having trouble getting a vaccine appointment through the county website, you can try myturn.ca.gov. Unlike venturacountyrecovers.org, you can make both first and second dose appointments at the same time. The myturn site also appears to show more availability.

Holy Week Worship - The Three Days

We will be joining with St. Columba's Episcopal Church for our virtual Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Vigil worship services, April 1-3, 7:00 p.m. each evening.

Easter Flowers

Easter is Sunday, April 4, and we want to be sure our worship environment reflects the joy of the celebration with beautiful pastel calla lilies as part of our decor. If you would like to dedicate a calla lily in honor or memory of a loved one (or for some other dedication), we have a SignUp form online: <http://bit.ly/MCEasterLilies2021>. The lilies are \$8 and can be paid online or by check (marked for "Easter lily").

Please sign up by tomorrow, March 22.

Virtual Choir Video for Eastertime!

We "fast" from singing /saying a particular word during Lent, however, it is THE word for Eastertime. Although we don't know when we'll all be able to sing together in person, we can do another virtual choir video together, this time of "Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord." **Today is the deadline for receiving videos - we have one more recording session this afternoon - or record at home and upload the file. Questions, email office@mountcross.com or talk to Carol Browning.**

Mount Cross Story Time Videos Requested

We are hoping to compile videos of church members reading bedtime stories or Bible stories for the children of Mount Cross Lutheran Church. Record a video of yourself telling the story and submit it to joe@mountcross.com. If you would like assistance recording a video through Zoom please let us know. Please sign up if you are interested.

<https://signup.com/go/qzNyBuL> Thank you so much in advance for your time!

Anti-Racism Work of the Week:

This week, join us today at 4:00 p.m. on Zoom for "A Dive into Anti-Racism." See the separated announcement for details.

Wednesdays in Lent

Join with Mount Cross for **one more Wednesday** (March 24) at 6:30 p.m. for a virtual soup supper, followed by Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 p.m. Make a bowl of soup and join us for community conversation and connection at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays (3/24). The Zoom link is <http://bit.ly/VirtualSoupSupper>. The Meeting ID is 846 2020 8049 and the passcode is 531718. Access the Holden Evening Prayer service at 7:00 p.m. on <https://www.facebook.com/MountCross/live/>.

The Mount Cross "Gifts of Life" Campaign - Donate Now through Easter!

Please join us in raising funds to send Pastor Fermin Hernandez, Oxnard Police Chaplain and pastor of Centro Cristiano Familiar de Oxnard, and his wife, Lucila, to attend training to become "trainers of trainers" for the suicide prevention of farmworkers and others in Ventura County. Recently, Pastor Hernandez spoke at our Peace & Justice Team meeting and informed us about the effects of COVID within our local farmworker community and the growing concern for an increase in suicide rates. The community and congregation that Pastor Hernandez serves includes many Ventura County farmworkers. From Lent to Easter, the Mount Cross Peace & Justice Team, together with the Service & Missions Team, invites you to join in raising money for this worthy cause. Similar to the "Gifts of Hope" Christmas fundraiser, **"Gifts of Life" donations can be made at our table following the worship services today, March 28, and April 4. Donations may also be made during drive-through Communion, as well as online through the Mount Cross website (designating your donation as "Gifts of Life").** Thank you in advance for your generosity to this worthy cause!

Altar Flowers

We've resumed having altar flowers, when requested, for our outdoor worship. We've added an Altar Flower SignUp Request:

<http://bit.ly/AltarFlowers2021>.

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

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

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

More Ways to Give

Thank you, Mount Cross congregation, for all the generosity you have shown in these times of trial!

To give to Mount Cross on your cell phone or tablet, download Vanco's free GivePlus app from the App Store or Google Play, enter zip code 93010, and choose Mount Cross. Please email any questions about giving and/or statements to Financial Secretary Joan Brundage at jbrundage@mountcross.com.

Amazon Smile

If you haven't already done so, choose Mount Cross Lutheran Church as your non-profit to support on smile.amazon.com so 0.5% of purchases will go to Mount Cross. Thank you!

