

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

805.482.3847 www.mountcross.com

As a caring community, masks are requested if you will be singing indoors and are strongly encouraged otherwise.

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

Thank you for being the welcoming Body of Christ!

**Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 27, 2022, 9:30 a.m.**

PRELUDE - "Lenten Meditation" (Althouse)
Mount Cross Choir

*Jesus Christ my Savior, lived for me and died, source of my salvation, yet was crucified.
Peace that knows no measure: This by faith I see. Love that knows no ending; Jesus died for me.*

*Lord, we renew our commitment these forty nights and days.
And Lord, by your grace, help us change our sinful ways.*

*Hear me now, Lord Jesus, I will never stray, I will never wander. Hear me as I pray.
Free me now from darkness. Cleanse me now from sin. Pardon my transgression.
Make me pure within.*

*Lord, we renew our commitment these forty nights and days.
And Lord, by your grace, help us change our sinful ways.
Amen, Amen, Amen.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie Morris

GATHERING SONG - "Gather Us In" - ELW 532

As able, the assembly stands.



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark-ness
2 We are the young, our lives are a mys-t'ry, we are the old who
3 Here we will take the wine and the wa-ter, here we will take the
4 Not in the dark of build-ings con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



van-ished a-way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through-out all of his-t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a-way— here in this place the new light is shin-ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king-dom, and now is the day.



Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en, gath-er us in, the
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty, gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com-pas-sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er, gath-er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

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CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P In the name of God, +
 who makes a way in the wilderness,
 walks with us,
 and guides us on our pilgrimage.

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,

C **we confess that we have wandered far from you:
 we have not trusted your promises,
 we have ignored your prophets in our own day,
 we have squandered our inheritance of grace,
 we have failed to recognize you in our midst.
 Have mercy on us.**

Forgive us and turn us again to you.

**Teach us to follow in your ways,
 assure us again of your love,
 and help us to love our neighbor.**

Amen.

P Beloved in Christ, God comes near to you
 and gathers you under wings of love.
 In † Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven.
 God journeys with us and teaches us how to live in love.

C **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

By celebrating the Passover and eating the produce of the promised land instead of the miraculous manna that had sustained them in the desert, the Israelites symbolically bring their forty years of wilderness wandering to an end at Gilgal.

⁹The Lord said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM 32 - "Lord, Forgive the Wrong I Have Done" (Guimont, adapt.)

Refrain

Lord, for - give the wrong I have done. _____

Lord, for - give the wrong I have done. _____

A Verse Tone **B**

C **D**

Verses

1. Happy are they whose transgressions are | for-given,
and whose sin is put | a-way!
2. Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes | no guilt,
and in whose spirit there | is no guile!

REFRAIN

3. While I held my tongue, my bones withered a- | way,
because of my groaning all | day long.
4. For your hand was heavy upon me day | and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer.

REFRAIN

5. Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal | my guilt.
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you forgave me the guilt of | my sin.
6. Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time | of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.

REFRAIN

7. You are my hiding-place; you preserve me | from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of | de-liverance.
8. “I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you | should go;
I will guide you | with my eye.

REFRAIN

9. Do not be like horse or mule, which have no un- | derstanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not | stay near you.”
10. Great are the tribulations of | the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust | in the LORD. *
11. *[REPEAT C & D]*
Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in | the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are | true of heart.

REFRAIN

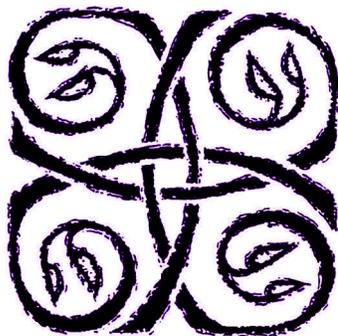
Text: Psalm 32. Verses from ELW Psalter, © 2022, Augsburg Fortress.
Music: Michel Guimont, adapt. © 1994, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.

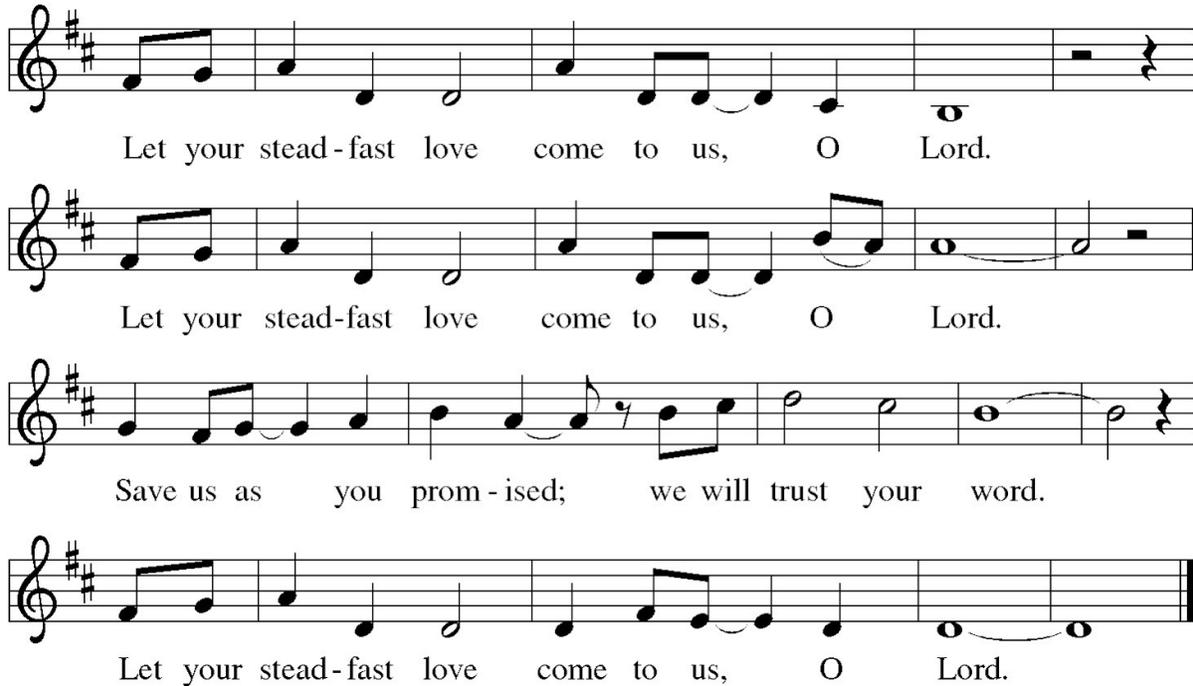
¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

L Word of God, word of life.
C **Thanks be to God.**



As able, the assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – “Lent 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: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.

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

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

¹Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.]

²And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: ^{11b}“There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need.

¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’”

²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.'"

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 - "Our Father We Have Wandered" - ELW 606

1 Our Fa - ther, we have wan - dered and hid - den from your face;
2 And now at length dis - cern - ing the e - vil that we do,
3 O Lord of all the liv - ing, both ban - ished and re - stored,

in fool - ish - ness have squan - dered your leg - a - cy of grace.
be - hold us, Lord, re - turn - ing with hope and trust to you.
com - pas - sion - ate, for - giv - ing, and ev - er - car - ing Lord,

But now, in ex - ile dwell - ing, we rise with fear and shame,
In haste you come to meet us and home re - joic - ing bring,
grant now that our trans - gress - ing, our faith - less - ness may cease.

as, dis - tant but com - pel - ling, we hear you call our name.
in glad - ness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.
Stretch out your hand in bless - ing, in par - don, and in peace.

Text: Kevin Nichols, 1929–2006

Music: HERZLICH TUT MICH VERLANGEN, Hans Leo Hassler, 1564–1612; arr. Johann Sebastian Bach, 1685–1750

Text from *Resource Collection of Hymns and Service Music for the Liturgy*, © 1981 International Committee on English in the Liturgy, Inc.

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,
who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Drawn close to the heart of God, we offer these prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Jesus formed the disciples in the ways of extravagant mercy and profound welcome. We pray that you lead your whole church, and especially Mount Cross, to be a community marked by forgiveness, hospitality, and celebration. Send us to transform a world plagued by fear and condemnation. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

You call us to be reconciled. We pray for an end to the Russian government's attacks on Ukraine, for the security of Ukraine, for the protection of civilians, and for solidarity among those who stand for peace. Anoint peacemakers trained in the art of diplomacy and foster a spirit of collaboration among political rivals. Merciful God, **hear our prayer.**

Your people cry for help in times of distress. We pray for resolution of disagreements among family members. Help us to set healthy boundaries, and console us with the promise that everything can become new. Hear our prayers for those who are sick, struggling, or grieving, especially those on our prayer list ...

PRAYER CONCERNS from MOUNT CROSS

We pray for Bob Anderson, Tom Andino (friend of Carol Browning), **Ed and Tonna Brodie** (friends of Becky Riley), **Jackson Burke, Mike Caceres** (nephew of Becky Gilbertson), **Lorraine & Mike Carpenter, Dwayla Carr** (cousin of Gayle Johnson), **Steve Doshier** (brother-in-law of Paul Crockett), **Scott Fajnor, Doria & Vladimir Fanning** (sister and brother-in-law of Barbara Burke), **Linda Frantz, Charles Hilley, Jo Holler, Nancy Jaeger, Paul Marigonda** (friend of Becky Riley), **Rick Mahlke** (son of friend of Barbara Burke), **Lucille Miley, Karen Nelson, Lynn Nelson** (mother of Julie Fernandez), **Michael and Mercedes Olivera** (brother of Courtney Burke), **Maria Riley** (daughter-in-law of Becky Riley), **Jim Prosser, Byron Selbrede** (brother of Keith Selbrede), **Marie Swartz** (sister of Jo Holler), **Chris Truchan** (friend of the Burke family), **Chris Valenzano** (grandson of Herb & Jo Holler), **Mike Waldron** (brother of Denise Sobolik), **Marilyn Woody**, sister of Sonja Demeter.

*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.*

A 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.**

Accept the prayers we bring, O God, on behalf of a world in need, for the sake
of Jesus Christ.

C **Amen.**



PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING SONG - "Lord of All Hopefulness" - ELW 765



1 Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
2 Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
3 Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
4 Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy:
whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe:
your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace:
whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm:



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray,
be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray,
be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray,



your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Text: Jan Struther, 1901-1953
Music: SLANE, Irish traditional
Text © Oxford University Press 1931.

OFFERING PRAYER

- A Extravagant God,
you have blessed us with the fullness of creation.
Now we gather at your feast
where you offer us the food that satisfies.
Take and use what we offer here, come among us,
and feed us with the body and blood of Christ,
in whose name we pray.
- 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. The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics. The bass staff contains a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "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,

The second system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics. The bass staff contains a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,"

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

The third system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics. The bass staff contains a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "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.

The fourth system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics. The bass staff contains a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "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.

The fifth system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics. The bass staff contains a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "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.

The sixth system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a vocal line with lyrics. The bass staff contains a piano accompaniment. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est."

P Holy God, mighty and merciful,
by your promise
you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures,
and you bound yourself to your people of old,
blessing them and calling them to be a blessing to others,
By your promise
you joined us to Jesus, your Beloved,
grafting us into your living Vine,
and calling us to bear the fruit of your self-giving love.

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.

With this bread and cup
we remember his life laid down and lifted up
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

P Send your Holy Spirit upon us
and these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless us to be a blessing.
Make us a sign of your faithfulness.
Send us to tend and cherish the earth
and to serve the world with mercy and love.

With all the saints in light,
with the earth and all its creatures,
with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus,
in your Spirit, 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 Here is food and drink for the journey.
Take and be filled.

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,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Music: *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Schubert, 1797–1828; adapt. Richard Proulx, b. 1937
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All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Holy Communion will be distributed in the center aisle. Ushers will dismiss people by rows, beginning from the back of the church. Please come forward to receive the bread, and then walk to the side to receive wine or grape juice. Place your empty cup in the trays provided. Communion ministers will bring Holy Communion to those with mobility challenges (or those worshipping outside who don't wish to come inside).

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.¹

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

COMMUNION SONGS - "Welcome Home, Beloved of God" (Browning)

Refrain

Wel - come home, be - lov - ed of God.

Wel - come home, come and find rest.

Leave your wor - ries, lay down your bur - dens.

Wel - come home, be - lov - ed of God. 1. Re-

Verses

(1. Re-) turn to God with all of your heart,
 2. Leave your fear and troubles be - hind,
 3. Turn from your past and run to God's arms;

safe in God's warm em - brace. No
 trust in God's mer - cy and grace. Re -
 find the true home you seek. There is

mat - ter how far you wan - der or roam,
 joy in the love that's wait - ing for you,
 love and com - pass - ion, for - give - ness and peace,

To Refrain

wel - come home, be - lov - ed of God.

“Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing” - ELW 807



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer: "Hith-er by thy help I've come";
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con-strained to be;



streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud - est praise.
and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar - rive at home.
let that grace now like a fet - ter bind my wan-d'ring heart to thee.



While the hope of end-less glo - ry fills my heart with joy and love,
Je - sus sought me when a strang - er, wan-d'ring from the fold of God;
Prone to wan - der, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.



teach me ev - er to a - dore thee; may I still thy good-ness prove.
he, to res - cue me from dan-ger, in - ter - posed his pre-cious blood.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace,
you have fed us with your body, the bread of life.
Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need.

C **Amen.**

As able, the assembly stands for the Blessing.

BLESSING

P May Christ, who calls you to take up your cross,
give you strength to bear your own and one another's burdens.
And the blessing of God our Creator, + Redeemer
and Giver of life be with you now and always.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG - "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling" - ELW 608



1 Soft - ly and ten - der - ly Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing for
2 Why should we tar - ry when Je - sus is plead - ing, plead - ing for
3 Oh, for the won - der - ful love he has prom - ised, prom - ised for



you and for me. See, on the por - tals he's wait - ing and watch - ing,
you and for me? Why should we lin - ger and heed not his mer - cies,
you and for me! Though we have sinned, he has mer - cy and par - don,

Refrain



watch - ing for you and for me.
mer - cies for you and for me? "Come home, come home!
par - don for you and for me.



You who are wea - ry, come home." Ear - nest - ly, ten - der - ly,



Je - sus is call - ing, call - ing, "O sin - ner, come home!"

DISMISSAL

- A Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness;
be of good courage;
hold fast to that which is good;
render to no one evil for evil;
strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak;
help the afflicted; honor all people;
love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE - Guy Ervin III

Today's Postlude, Handel's "Water Music," was played by Guy Ervin here at Mount Cross, as the Postlude for the wedding of Gordon and Melissa Henry nineteen years ago. Congratulations, Gordon & Melissa, and thanks to Guy for his ministry!

Thank you to our Mount Cross Choir for their inspiring prelude this morning!

*Deacon Cecelia is in Minnesota this weekend. She is one of the group leaders in an ELCA Deacon Formation Event entitled "To Church and World: Called, Formed and sent to Bridge the Gap!" This event brings diaconal candidates together where they can reflect, wonder, build community, and practice articulating their call to the word and service ministry aloud with others.
We look forward to her return and wish Deacon Cecelia safe travels.*

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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 **11:00-11:30 a.m.**

Please consider your vulnerabilities and risk factors before choosing to participate.

The Week at a Glance

TODAY, March 27

Leadership Retreat, Noon-5:00 p.m.

All are invited for our annual Leadership Retreat from Noon to 5:00 p.m. today. See details below.

High School Youth Group, 6:00 p.m.

The High School Youth Group meets at 6:00 p.m.
Questions, contact Joe Zimmerly
(joe@mountcross.com)

Monday, March 28

Monday Meditation, 3:00 p.m.

The Meditation group meets on Zoom at 3:00 p.m. Questions, contact LaJean Wenzel.

Lectio Divina at St Columba's,
7:00 p.m.

All are welcome at St. Columba's Episcopal (1251 Las Posas Rd., Camarillo) for Lectio Divina to reflect on the upcoming Gospels for the Sundays of Lent.

Tuesday, March 29

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

The Women's Bible Study meets at 9:00 a.m. in the sanctuary and is following the *Gather* magazine study.

Wednesday, March 30

Fun with Faith, 5:00 p.m.

Fun with Faith happens at 5:00 p.m. in the Pavilion. Contact Joe (joe@mountcross.com) with questions.

"Embracing an Adult Faith"

Lenten Study, 5:00 p.m.

Our Lenten Study with St. Columba's meets at 5:00 p.m. Wednesday in the Mount Cross Parish Life Center.

Bell Choir, 5:45 p.m.

The Bell Choir rehearses in the sanctuary loft, masked and with the doors open.

Wednesday Soup Supper, 6:00 p.m.

Our Wednesday Soup Supper is at 6:00 p.m., in the Pavilion or Parish Life Center. Financial donations appreciated but not necessary.

Confirmation, 6:30 p.m.

Confirmation begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Pavilion. Contact Joe (joe@mountcross.com) for info.

Holden Evening Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

All are welcome for Holden Evening Prayer in the sanctuary, also livestreamed.

Choir, 7:30 p.m.

The Choir rehearses in the sanctuary following Holden Evening Prayer, masked and with the doors open.

Friday, April 1

Afternoon Chapel Committee, 2:00 p.m.

The Afternoon Chapel Committee meets at 2:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 2

Church Work Day, 8:00 a.m.-Noon

All are invited to help take care of our church buildings and grounds. See the announcement below for details.

Announcements

Sunday Worship

We always need worship assistants, especially for technology. We will train you. Contact Vicky Edell at 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

Our programs are mainly on Wednesdays. Email Joe (joe@mountcross.com) with any questions.

Anti-Racism Work of the Week:

These links are offered by the Peace & Justice Team in a spirit of goodwill to those who are seeking to learn from diverse voices and take action towards reconciliation and healing. We invite everyone to be a part of these ongoing conversations as we learn together.

Many interesting things have come out of the Covid 19 pandemic. One of them is that more churches are recording or streaming their services. This is a chance to visit other churches in our synod and worship with ADLA members. You are invited to join (or watch later) Lent services at our LA churches. Visit the website here to read about their work, and the videos for the services are at the bottom of the page. [The African Descent Lutheran Association - Los Angeles \(ADLA-LA\)](#)

Altar Flowers

To request flowers for our worship: <http://bit.ly/AltarFlowers2021>. The cost is \$35.00; 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, please let us know; we'll deliver the arrangement to another member to enjoy.

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!

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 are always a good choice. They could also use boxes of breakfast cereal. **Please do not donate food that is expired.** Thanks for your support.

Worship Guidelines

Thanks be to God, COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations are declining in our community. Below is the updated COVID-19 guidance from our Mount Cross Re-Opening Committee. **Effective March 13, 2022:**

- For indoor worship at Mount Cross: As a caring community, **we request** that you **wear a mask if you will be singing in worship**. If you will not be singing, masks are strongly encouraged.
- In **all other indoor settings** at Mount Cross, **masks are strongly encouraged**.
- There may be situations in the life of our community where we will require masks out of concern for vulnerable people.
- When committees, groups, or individuals meet indoors, please defer to the needs of those who are immunocompromised or are at greater risk of serious illness, or those who live with them.

Thank you for the goodwill, patience, cooperation, and love for your neighbor that you have displayed throughout the pandemic.

Grace and Peace, Pastor Julie

Mount Cross Leadership Retreat - TODAY, March 27

Church Council Members, Committee Chairs, and all members of Mount Cross are invited to our annual **Leadership Retreat** on **TODAY, March 27**, from **Noon-5:00 p.m.**, here at Mount Cross. Thank you!

Legacy Giving/Endowment Fund Requests

The Legacy Giving Team is currently soliciting requests for distributions from the Endowment Fund. Requests may be made in the areas of Missions, Education, Children & Young Adult Ministry, Worship & Music, as well as Capital Projects. All applications must include the simple one-page form that is available in the office and on our website. College scholarship applicants should work with Joe on an appropriate essay and materials to submit.

The Legacy Giving Team will consider all requests and submit recommendations to the Church Council for funding. Provide funding requests to the Church Office (office@mountcross.com) **by April 30, 2022**. Please contact Tracy Blois (tracy.allyson@gmail.com, 619.277.2059) or Brian Fisher with any questions.

Easter Lilies - Sign Up to Donate

Easter is Sunday, April 17, 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: **<https://bit.ly/EasterLilies2022>**.

The lilies are \$8 and can be paid online or by check (marked for "Easter lily").

Please sign up **by April 4**.



Lutheran World Relief - Aid to Ukraine Matching Donations

Thanks to the generosity of Nelsonville Lutheran Church and Peace Lutheran Church in Amherst, WI, all **congregational gifts given through Lutheran World Relief will be doubled** – up to \$258,000!

Your love will provide food, shelter and emergency funds for refugees impacted by the Ukraine crisis. Lutheran World Relief expects that their initial response will also include supporting critical health needs through the provision of medical supplies or support for emergency medical services. And thanks to the generosity of Lutheran congregations across the country, LWR will be air-lifting Mission Quilts and Personal Care Kits already pre-positioned in their Dubai warehouse. These urgently needed supplies will reach Ukrainian families who have fled for safety.

You can give directly through Lutheran World Relief at **lwr.org/match** or by mailing to Lutheran World Relief, PO Box 17061, Baltimore, MD 21297-1061.

Please write "Ukraine Match" in the memo line.

Thrivent Choice Deadline for Directing Funds

The Thrivent Choice charitable grant program engages Thrivent clients and Thrivent Member Networks by providing grants to support their favorite churches, nonprofit organizations and causes. The deadline for ThriventChoice members to direct **2021 Choice Dollars®** is **March 31, 2022**, designating Mount Cross (or another charitable organization) to receive your Choice Dollars donation.

Church Work Day - Saturday, April 2, 8:00 a.m.-Noon

All hands on deck! Help us maintain our beautiful church and get to know other church members even better. **A Church Work Day has been scheduled for Saturday, April 2, 8:00 a.m.-12:00 Noon.**

Projects will include: raking and cleaning the junipers, spreading mulch, weeding the property, sweeping the gutters, sanding/painting the sacristy door, cleaning the kitchen, and polishing the brass and woodwork in the church. Please bring your rakes, hoes, shovels, rags, and work gloves.

There is a lot to do and many hands make the work go much faster (it's more fun too!).

Plenty of snacks, juice, and coffee will be on hand for everyone.

Come for any part of the morning; no need to sign up in advance.

If you have any questions, please contact Cy Johnson at clopsj@gmail.com or 805-388-3293.

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.

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

FUNDRAISER AT PRESTO PASTA

Monday, April 4, 2022

Eat at Presto Pasta anytime on this day and they will donate 20% of your total bill to Mount Cross Lutheran Church. Valid on dine in or take out. Simply present this flyer at the restaurant when ordering. Flyers may not be distributed at Presto Pasta.

1701 Daily Dr, Camarillo

805-445-7737

Join us **Monday, April 4**, for our **Youth Fundraiser** at **Presto Pasta** in Camarillo anytime from 10:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Make sure to show this flyer at the counter so our youth receive credit. Thank you all for your continued support of our youth here at Mount Cross!



Food Share Volunteer Opportunity

Join us for another opportunity to **volunteer** at **Food Share** on **Thursday, April 7**, from **6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.** Please sign up using this link: <https://cerv.is/0303g0M5Xgj>. All participants must be 12 years or older. If you would like to carpool, please meet at church at 5:30 p.m. on that day.

Helping Hands Ministry ... **Additional Coordinator(s) Needed!**

Helping Hands is the **Mount Cross service group** that assists by arranging and serving at memorial/funeral receptions held at Mount Cross. Help is currently needed in the role of coordination. We currently are in **need of one or two additional co-coordinators for this ministry to continue**. If you are interested in more information on serving as a co-coordinator for this important ministry, please contact Marilyn Gardner at 805-368-0554 or momgardner_722@msn.com.



Year-Round Stewardship

We have a stewardship “season” at Mount Cross but did you know stewardship is really year-round? Stewardship means much more than pledging money to the church. It also means giving of our time and talents that are pleasing to God. Giving of our time and talents, we offer support and kindness to our Mount Cross family. With these acts of kindness and support, we draw closer to Jesus. We will be sharing stories of how members and friends of Mount Cross have generously contributed to or received the benefit of stewardship at Mount Cross. Watch for these in the coming weeks.

Hebrews 13:16

*“Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have,
for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.”*

Amazing Creation Care Opportunity!

Help increase biodiversity, combat climate change, and connect to nature by volunteering with Channel Islands Restoration (CIR). They need help this month mapping the native plants in Santa Barbara's San Marcos Foothills West Mesa.

The address is Salvar Rd, Santa Barbara, CA 93105

Here is the link to sign up: <https://cirweb.org/map-native-plants>.

For more information, contact Rachel Zook, 805-331-3442.

Mount Cross CDC Scholarship Fund

As a Christian preschool, part of the Child Development Center’s mission is to bring education to all who seek it. In honor of our former and founding director, a scholarship fund has been established in Cathy Channels’ name. By making a donation to the Cathy Channels scholarship Fund, you can help ensure that our preschool is open to all families in our community.

To donate, put a check in the Offering receptacle or mail it to the office, with “Scholarship Fund” in the memo field. Or you can donate [online](#) on our website, again, designating your gift for the “Scholarship Fund.”