

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

805.482.3847 www.mountcross.com



Christ the King Sunday
November 22, 2020, 9:30 a.m.

PRELUDE - Guy Ervin III

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie Morris

STEWARDSHIP VIDEO

GATHERING SONG - "Soon and Very Soon" - ELW 439



1 Soon and ver - y soon
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
3 No more dy - in' there,
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

Coda after stanza 4



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

P Blessed be the + holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

P Holy One,

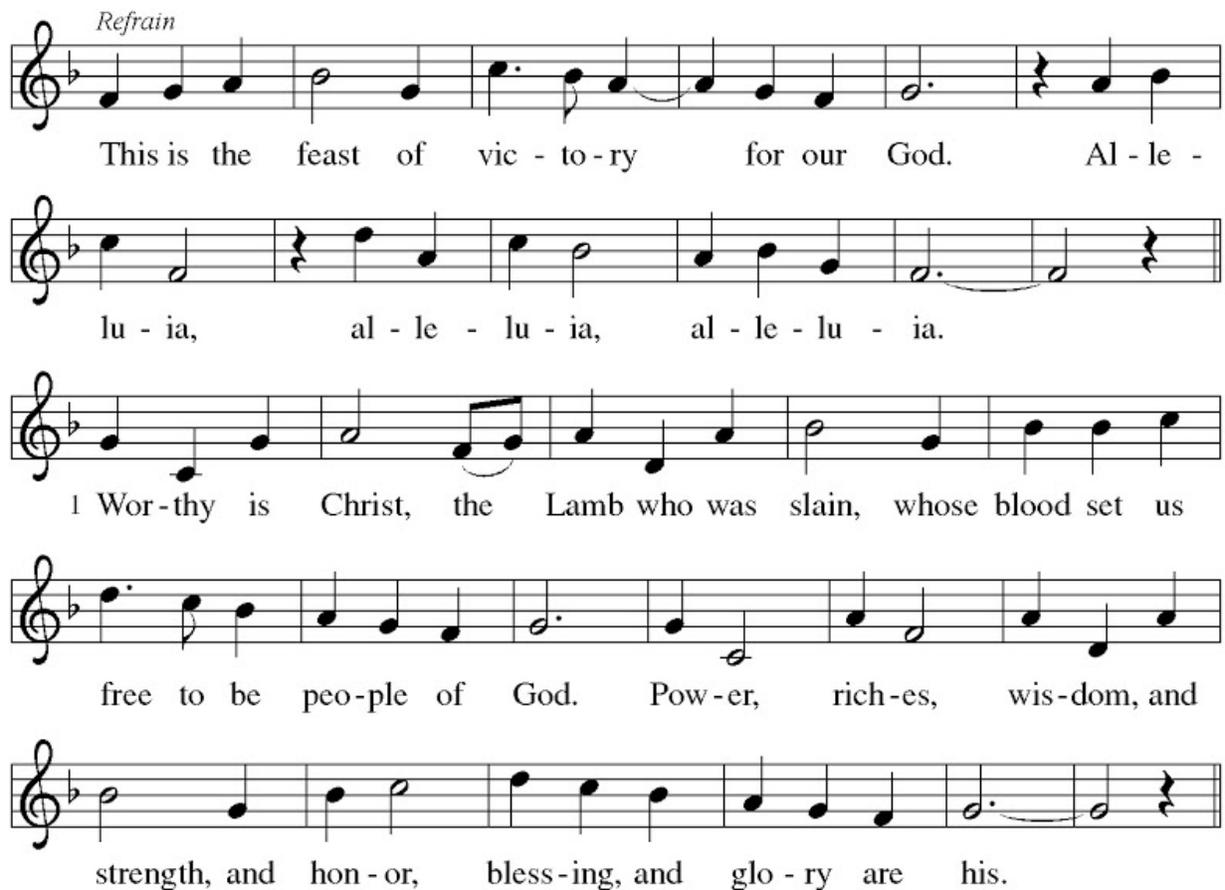
C **we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

P Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through † Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

C **Amen.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE - "This Is the Feast" - ELW Setting 2

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
I Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and
strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,



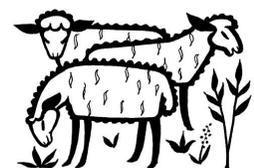
for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **And also with you.**



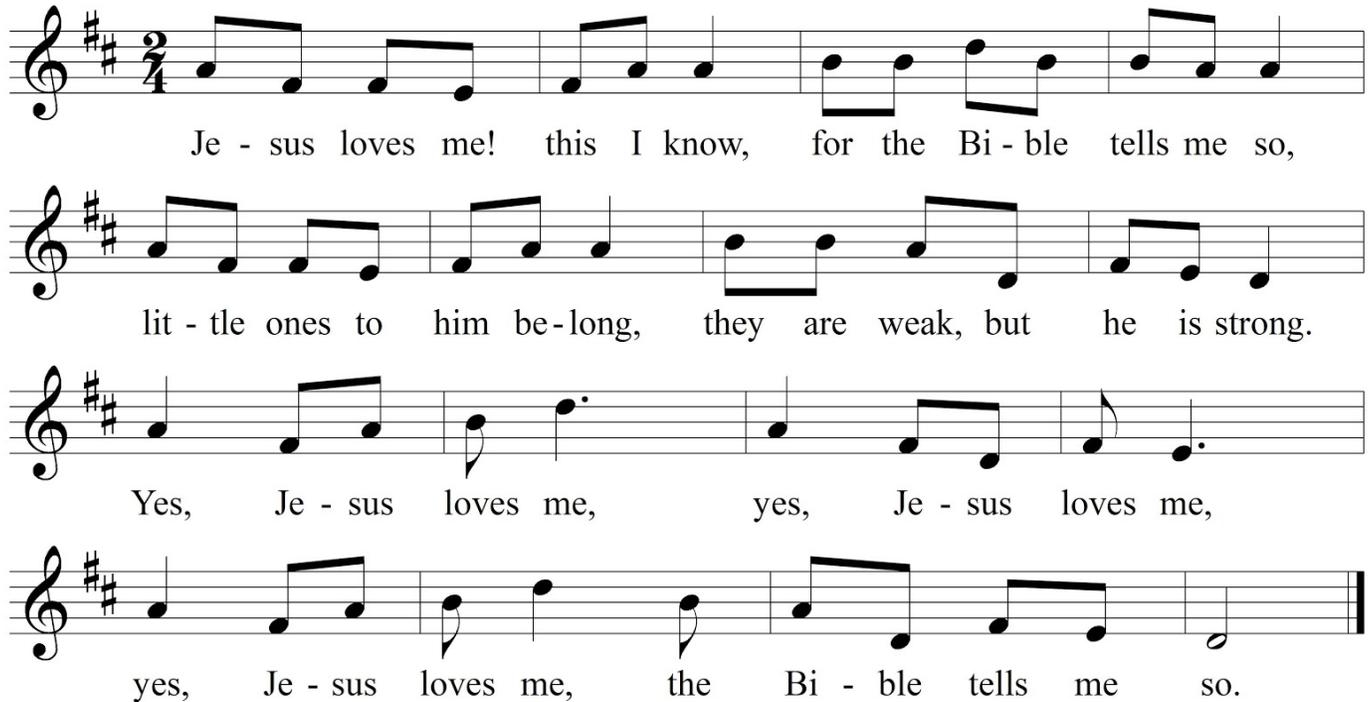
PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, 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 - Video from LRCC

CHILDREN'S SONG - "Jesus Loves Me" - ELW 595



Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so,
lit - tle ones to him be-long, they are weak, but he is strong.
Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,
yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.

Text: Anna B. Warner, 1820-1915, alt.

Music: JESUS LOVES ME (7 7 7 7 and refrain), William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 (Video reading by the Church Council)

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The Lord will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

¹¹Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.

¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

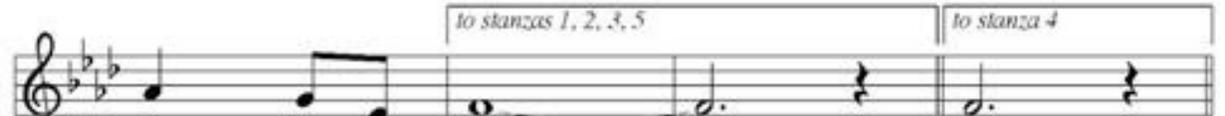
SONG OF RESPONSE - "Shepherd Me, O God" - ELW 780 - verses 1, 2 & 5

Refrain
All



Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be - yond my fears, from

to stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5 *to stanza 4*



death in - to life. life.

Leader or All



1 God is my shep-herd, so noth - ing shall I want, I
2 Gent - ly you raise me and heal my wea - ry soul, you



rest in the mead-ows of faith - ful - ness and love, I
lead me by path-ways of righ - teous-ness and truth, my

Refrain



walk by the qui - et wa - ters of peace.
spir - it shall sing the mu - sic of your name.

Leader or All

5 Sure-ly your kind-ness and mer-cy fol-low me all the days of my life;

I will dwell in the house of my God for-ev - er - more.

Final refrain

All

Shep-herd me, O God, be - yond my wants, be -

yond my fears, from death in - to life.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950, based on Psalm 23
 Music: SHEPHERD ME, Marty Haugen
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SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23 (Video reading by the Church Council)

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

As able, the assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – “Alle, Alleluia” (Schaner/Keil)

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

Text and music, © 1996, Bernadette Schaner and Kevin Keil.

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GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

P The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to Matthew.

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’

⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

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 - “To Be Your Presence” - ELW 546



1	To	be	your	pres - ence	is	our	mis - sion	here,	to	show	com -		
2	To	be	your	pres - ence	is	our	mis - sion	bold,	to	feed	the		
3	To	be	your	pres - ence	is	our	mis - sion	blest,	to	speak	for		
4	We	are	your	heart,	O	Christ,	your	hands	and	voice,	to	serve	your



pas - sion's	face	and	lis - t'ning	ear,	to	be	your	heart	of	mer - cy	
poor	and	shel - ter	home - less	cold,	to	be	your	hands	of	jus - tice,	
all	the	bro - ken	and	op - pressed,	to	be	your	voice	of	hope,	your
peo - ple	is	our	call	and	choice,	and	in	this	mis - sion	we,	the



ev - er	near,									
right	up - hold,									
love	ex - pressed,	al	-	le	-	lu	-	ia!		
church,	re - joice,									

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: ENGELBERG, Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924

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APOSTLES' CREED

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, Our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

The assembly may be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

Sovereign of all, train our ears to hear your cry in the needs of those around us. Bless all social ministries of the church, especially our Mount Cross Service & Missions outreach, the Graceful Diaper Pantry, and Lutheran World Relief, through which we seek to serve others as we ourselves have been served. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Grant healing to our world. Direct our use of creation to provide for the needs of all people in ways that are sustainable for the earth. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bring peace to every place where conflict rages. Grant opportunities for ending divisions among us and usher in your reign of unity and reconciliation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Heal the sinful divisions we create between us and release us from systems of oppression and prejudice. Restore our capacity to see your image in those whose dignity we have stripped away. We thank you for the ongoing work of our Peace & Justice team and our recent panel discussion with Pastor Julie, Fr. Patrick Mullen from Padre Serra Parish, and Camarillo Police Chief Eric Tennessen. Help us as we continue to grow and learn. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Pour out the gifts of your Spirit on children and youth throughout the church. Sustain those who work in children and youth ministry, campus ministry, and the ministries of our Lutheran camps, especially for El Camino Pines and Luther Glen, as they nurture the gifts of young people. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Comfort and bring healing to those who are experiencing illness, including those with Covid-19. Especially today we also pray for those on our prayer list (*names from bulletin list*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Thank you for saints now departed who fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and tended to the sick. Inspire us by their example, that we may see your presence in those in need around us. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Generous and loving God, You call us to be disciples of Your Son Jesus and good stewards of all Your many gifts. On this last Sunday of our stewardship season, we thank you for the Stewardship Team and the ways they have helped us to see your blessings in our lives and congregation. Bless them and all the work they have done on our behalf. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

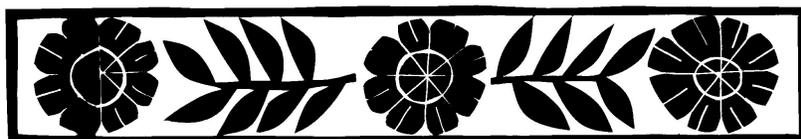
C Amen.

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING SONG - Virtual Choir Stewardship Video (“We Are an Offering”)



BLESSING OF THE STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE PACKETS

P Lord, you have entrusted us as stewards of your creation. We pray that we will be good stewards of all you have given us. We dedicate our gifts, our pledges, and our lives to you, Lord. Please guide our hearts as we carry out our decisions regarding this stewardship. May we always be mindful of our service to you. We confess that we are nothing without you and our trust is in you completely. We seek you first in all that we do. We are ready to go where you lead us.

C **Amen.**

As able, the assembly stands for the Great Thanksgiving.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



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

P Holy God, we praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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.

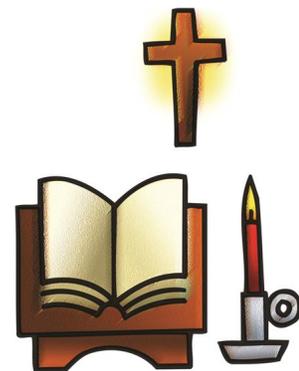
Lord, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

With your holy ones of all times and places, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

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

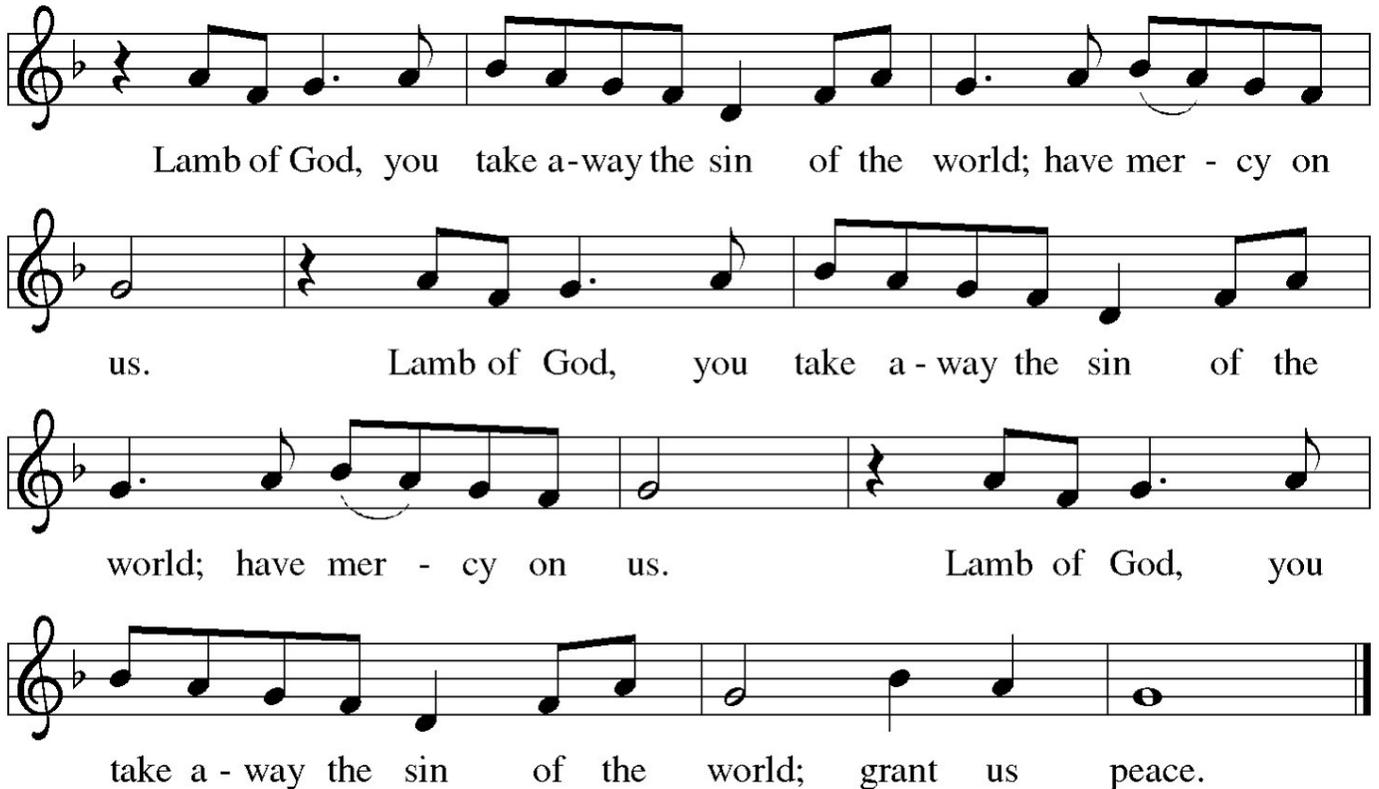
C **Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**



BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.
The assembly may be seated.

LAMB OF GOD - ELW Setting 2



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

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

The Assisting Minister invites all to say the following prayer:

Jesus, my savior and friend, thank you for your presence in the Sacrament of Holy Communion and your presence with us here and now. Trusting your words, "This is my body; this is my blood—given for you," I welcome you into my heart. Let my life witness to your grace and peace. Strengthen all of us with faith, hope and love until we can meet at your table again. Amen.¹



¹ Adapted by Pastor Julie from prayers written by Bishop Guy Erwin and St. Alphonsus Liguori.

COMMUNION SONG - "Let Us Give Thanks for Unknown Blessings"

Refrain based on a Quaker blessing
Verses based on Matthew 6:25-34 and Luke 12:22-32

Words and Music by
Carol Browing

Refrain



Let us give thanks for un - known bless - ings



al - read - y on the way.



Let us give thanks for un - known bless - ings



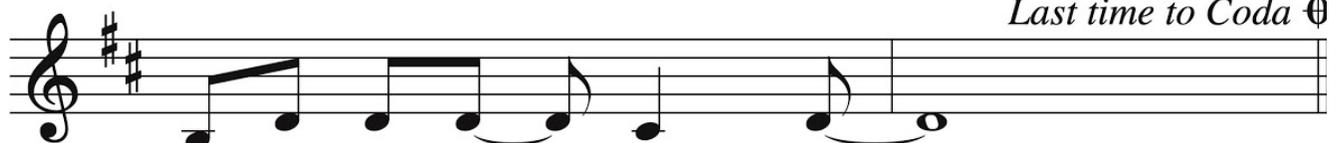
al-read-y on the way. God holds the fu-



- ture, the pres - ent, and the past, so



let us give thanks for un - known bless - ings



al - read - y on the way.

Last time to Coda ☺

Verses 1-3



1. See the birds of the air: they
2. Lilies of the field, they
3. Do not fear or fret. Our



neither sow nor reap, yet
neither toil nor spin; as
lives are in God's hands, so



God will give them food to eat, and
they are clothed in glorious light, God
praise and thanks should be our song to

D.C.

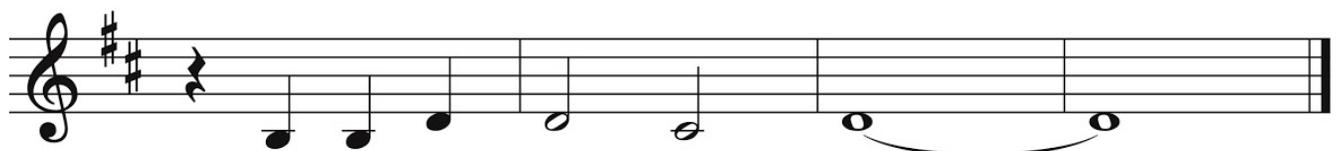


God will care for us.
gives us what we need.
God, our hope, our home.

⊕ Coda



Let us give thanks for unknown blessings



al- ready on the way.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Creator, † Redeemer, and Sustainer, be with you today and always.

C **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

P Rooted in God's grace,

C **we joyfully witness and serve!**

POSTLUDE - Guy Ervin III

*The flowers at the altar are given
by Evonne Kuchera
in loving memory of Lynn and Carmen Kuchera
and
by Avis Miley
in loving memory of Jim Miley.*

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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. There is a **new 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)**.

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. Pick up a 2020 directory, if you haven't already. If you need to make corrections to the directory, please email office@mountcross.com or call 805-482-3847, from 1:00-5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

PRAYER CONCERNS from MOUNT CROSS

We pray for an end to the coronavirus, for doctors, nurses, and caretakers, for researchers searching for a vaccine, and for the families grieving the loss of each victim.

We pray also for Angelica (friend of the Marroquin family), **Elizabeth A, Pauline** (grandmother of Jaimie Marroquin's friend Mindy), **Roger Allmandinger** (brother-in-law of Jim & Susan Prosser), **Sharon Benner** (sister of Karen Gramacki), **Mike Carpenter, Terry Cline** (relative of Jim & Karen Gramacki), **Rob Conant** (boyfriend of Mary Goodenough's daughter), **Howard Corey, Barbara D'Addario, Sonja Demeter, Tom Demeter** (uncle of Allison Johnson), **Bob Edell, Steve Engh** (friend of Gayle & Cy Johnson), **Ron Higginbotham, Charles Hilley, Sandra Manning** (friend of Judy Winters), **Nury Martinez-Silva** (friend of Bernie Lau), **Karen Nelson, the Posthauer family, Lisa Saner, Patricia Springer** (mother of Joan Brundage), **Mike Turek** (friend of the Henrys).

Unless otherwise specified, prayer requests remain in the bulletin for four weeks. If you would like to add or remove someone to or from the prayer list, please e-mail the church office at office@mountcross.com or call 805.482.3847.

The Week at a Glance

Monday, November 23, 2020

Monday Meditation, 3:00 p.m.

The Monday Meditation group meets at 3:00 p.m. To join by computer or smart phone/tablet go to <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83666658855> or to call on your phone, dial 1 (669) 900-6833. You will be asked to enter the Meeting ID which is 836 6665 8855 and then push pound (#).

Tuesday, November 24, 2020

Women's Bible Study

The Women's Bible Study is not meeting this week. They'll resume next Tuesday, December 1, at 9:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

Upper Room Zoom, 12:00 noon

Upper Room Zoom meets on Tuesdays and Thursdays. It's a nice 15-minute break in your day that includes scripture, prayer, and relaxing video/audio. Join us as often as you'd like.

Join: <http://bit.ly/MCUpperRoomZoom>

OR, you can call in on a phone. Dial 1 (408) 638 0968. You will be asked for a Meeting ID. It is 847 4745 9576, then push pound (#).

Wednesday, November 25, 2020

Thanksgiving Eve Holden Evening Prayer, 7:00 p.m.

Join us online for Holden Evening Prayer, including your videos of gratitude.

Drive-Through Pie Pickup and Diaper Drive

After Holden Evening Prayer (about 7:30 p.m.), come get a slice of pie and bring your donations of diapers.

Thursday, November 26, 2020

Thanksgiving Holiday
Church Office Closed
(Thursday and Friday)

Have a blessed and wonderful holiday!
We are grateful for all of you!
(No Upper Room Zoom today.)

Sunday November 29, 2020

Advent Wreath Making, 4:00 p.m.
Sign up (<https://signup.com/go/XcALNsa>) to make an Advent wreath for your home.
See details below.

Announcements

Sunday Worship

The Re-Opening Committee has approved a testing phase for outdoor worship. Email office@mountcross.com or call 805-482-3847 if you are interested in attending the service in person.

When arriving for Sunday morning worship, participants should park in designated areas or on the street; sign in and have their temperature taken; wear a mask; practice social distancing; bring a chair (some chairs available).

Thank you in advance for helping to make this a safe worship experience!

Help with Sunday Worship and Communion

We are looking for help to make Sunday worship and drive-through Communion possible. If you would like to sign up to help set up or as a parking lot usher, greeter, or communion assistant, please sign up at <http://bit.ly/WorshipandCommunionAssistants> or call the office at (805) 482-3847.

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

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

High School Youth Group meets tonight at 6:00 p.m. Email Joe (joe@mountcross.com) for other details or questions.

Graceful Diaper Pantry

In the month of November, Mount Cross is collecting diapers for the Graceful Diaper Pantry at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Oxnard. They especially need diapers in sizes 2 - 6 to help support low income families in Oxnard, Port Hueneme and Ventura. You can bring diapers to drive-through Communion on Sundays

or place them in the box under the pavilion during the week. Thank you for helping!

Melissa Henry would be happy to shop for diapers at Costco for those who prefer to donate money to the church. An anonymous donor will match the first \$300 raised for diapers!

You can also bring your diapers on Thanksgiving Eve, November 25, and pick up a slice of pie after our Holden Evening Prayer livestream!

Silent Night Virtual Choir Video

Tomorrow is the deadline to upload a video for our Mount Cross virtual choir version of "Silent Night." We have a session this afternoon (check with Carol to see if there are any openings.) Instructions were emailed from the office but if you didn't get them or have questions, please contact Carol at office@mountcross.com

If you're not much of a singer, you can light candles or sign (ASL) along, or be creative in other ways. If you need help recording your video, Julie Merrick or Kevin Churchill are available to provide assistance and support. Or contact Carol in the office.

Please Share About Medical Alert Systems

If you or a family member currently have a medical alert system, would you be willing to share information about how you selected the system and how it works? The Mount Cross Care Team has been asked to provide this type of information and it would be so helpful if we had your experience to share with fellow members. If you have information to share, please call or email Susan, to share your knowledge and experience at 805-657-6222 or prosser1@sbcglobal.net.

Thank you in advance from Mount Cross members who will benefit from this information.

More Ways to Give

Thank you, Mount Cross congregation, for all the generosity you have shown in these times of trial! We want to make it as simple as possible for you.

If you'd like 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 the April Year-To-Date statements to Financial Secretary Joan Brundage at jbrundage@mountcross.com. Also, if you haven't already, 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!

Advent Wreath Making

Join us for our annual Advent Wreath Making event on **November 29 at 4:00 p.m!** This year Mount Cross has the opportunity to host this event and is excited to partner with St. Columba's Episcopal Church again. This is open to all families and households. Join us for some socially distanced fun outside under the pavilion as we learn about the season of Advent. Make an Advent wreath to use at home. Please sign up using this link. <https://signup.com/go/XcALNsa> No charge but donations welcome (\$10-15 suggested).

MOUNT CROSS STEWARDSHIP 2021



Our Church in Changing Times – Ready to Go Where God Leads

“Perhaps you are here for just such a time as this” Esther 4:14

Rather than present the specific plans for Mount Cross in the coming year, we have spent the past five weeks learning about some of the ways our congregation has successfully adapted in the current year. Resources provided by faithful givers allowed Mount Cross to continue to meet the needs of what might have otherwise been a disconnected congregation. Our circumstances remain unpredictable, and so, **for 2021, we seek continued financial support for an adaptable ministry looking to maintain and grow connections with members and friends who have growing needs for spiritual support and comfort.**

Our congregation has successfully recognized that the current needs of our church go beyond those of worship and Christian education. During the coronavirus pandemic, we have offered: allowable virtual and in-person social interaction for adults, children, youth, and families; caring through personal communication, meals, and rides; community support with masks, donated food and diapers; social justice efforts through virtual book studies, forums, and collaboration with ecumenical partners, as examples.

Feedback about offerings of live streaming worship services and drive-through Communion made us aware of the surprise benefits of these adaptations. There is much more we will learn from our challenges. Mount Cross can come out of this time as a congregation of strengthened faith with an enhanced awareness for the needs of others.

At this point, we say **THANK YOU** to those who have responded to the call to pledge of their Time, Talent and Treasure. We are at slightly more than half of our 2020 pledged giving level. For those who have yet to respond, we recognize that uncertainty may be impacting some members as they consider their commitment for 2021. **We ask only that you be as generous with your financial pledge as your circumstances allow and that you commit your time and talent to join in following where God leads.**

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN SCHEDULE FOR 2021

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22 – Deadline for Financial Pledges & Time and Talent Forms

Forms can be completed online at www.mountcross.com.

THERE IS NO SUCH THING AS A LATE PLEDGE FORM –
THEY WILL BE ACCEPTED AT ANY TIME.

Mail or bring paper forms to the office, or complete the forms online.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6 & 13 – Giving envelope boxes will be available for pickup at church (after live stream worship or during drive-through Communion)

for those who requested them on their pledge form.

Also available from the Church Office,
Monday – Friday, 1:00–5:00 p.m., from December 7 on.