

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

805.482.3847 www.mountcross.com



The Shamel Ash Tree at Bob Kildee Park

Please greet one another and introduce yourself to someone you have not yet met.

Thank you for being the welcoming Body of Christ!

The 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Worship in the Park

September 18, 2022, 9:30 a.m.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at Baptism, as the presiding minister says:

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

C **Amen.**

P Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy
and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

The children are invited to gather around the font and to repeat each sentence the presiding minister says, along with the assembly.

P We praise you, O God, for water.

C **We praise you, O God, for water.**

P We need water to drink.

C **We need water to drink.**

P We need water to wash.

C **We need water to wash.**

P We need water to grow.

C **We need water to grow.**

P We praise you, O God, for water.

C **We praise you, O God, for water.**

P We praise you, O God, for baptism.

C **We praise you, O God, for baptism.**

P We praise you, O God, for your Spirit.

C **We praise you, O God, for your Spirit.**

The children are invited to stretch their hands out over the font. Water is poured over their hands into the font.

P We praise you, O God, for water.

C **We praise you, O God, for water.**

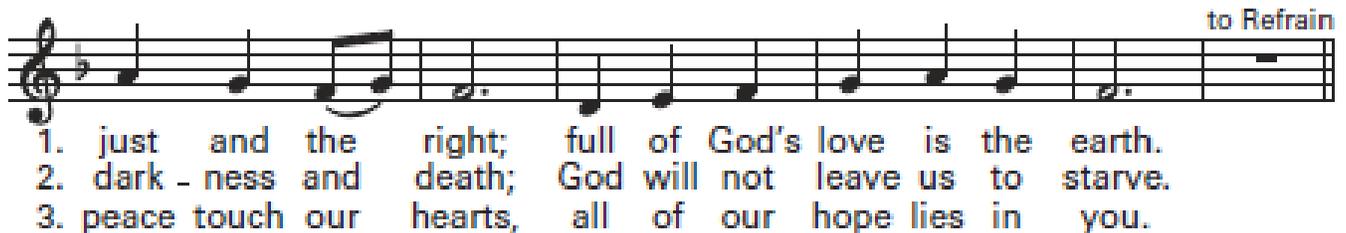
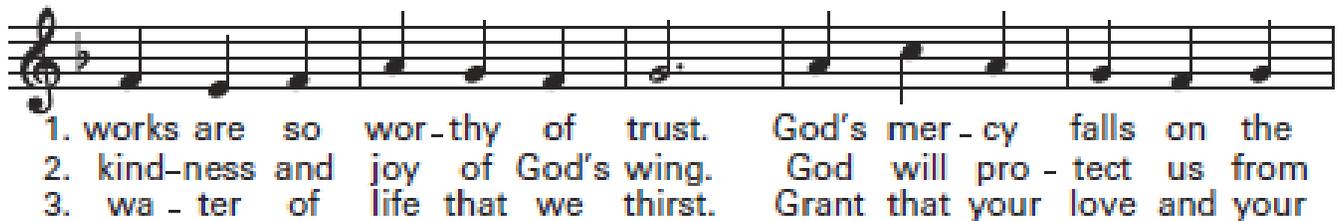
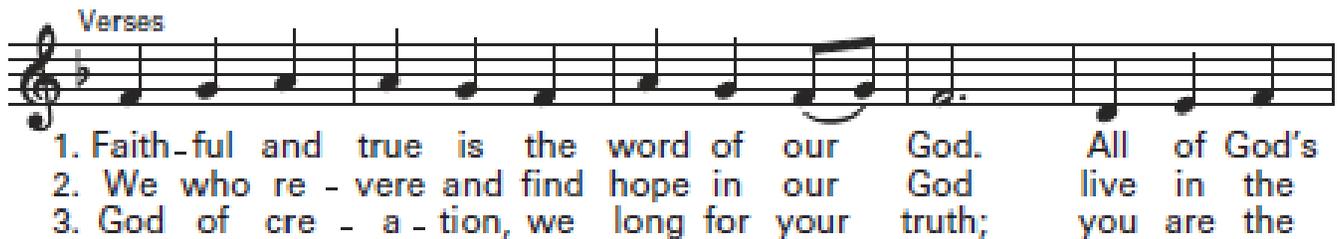
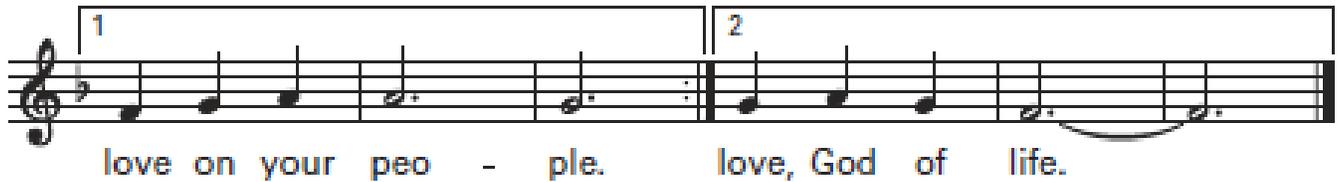
P Amen, with water.

C **Amen, with water.**

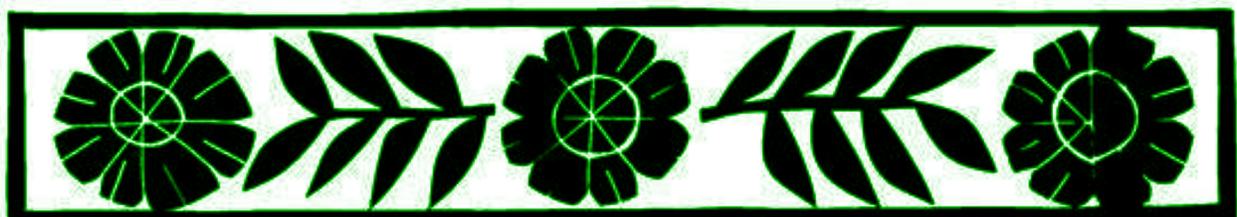
The children help sprinkle the assembly with water as a reminder of baptism, as we sing our Gathering Song.

GATHERING SONG - "Rain Down" (Cortez)

As able, the assembly stands.



Text: Based on Psalm 33. Text and music © 1991, Jaime Cortez. Published by OCP. All rights reserved.



GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

The assembly is seated.

PSALM 34 - "The Cry of the Poor" (Foley) - Verses 1-3

Refrain



The Lord hears the cry of the poor. Bless-ed be the Lord.

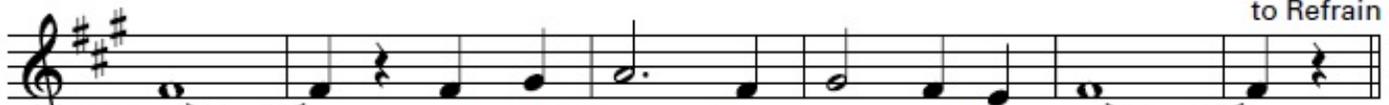
Verses: Slightly faster



1. I will bless the Lord at all times, with praise
2. Let the low-ly hear and be glad: the Lord
3. Ev-'ry spir-it crushed, God will save; will be
4. We pro-claim your great-ness, O God, your praise



1. ev-er in my mouth. Let my soul glo-ry in the
2. lis-tens to their pleas; and to hearts bro-ken, God is
3. ran-som for their lives; will be safe shel-ter for their
4. ev-er in our mouth; ev-'ry face bright-ened in your



to Refrain

1. Lord, who will hear the cry of the poor.
2. near, who will hear the cry of the poor.
3. fears, and will hear the cry of the poor.
4. light, for you hear the cry of the poor.

Text: Based on Psalm 34:2-3, 18-19a, 19b-20, 4.
Text and music © 1978, 1991, John B. Foley, S.J., and OCP. All rights reserved.

READING: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

The pastoral epistles offer insight into how early Christians understood many practical matters, such as church administration and worship. The church's focused prayer for others is an expression of the single-minded passion God has toward us in Jesus.

¹First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ²for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. ⁷For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

As able, the assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - "Alleluia! Raise the Gospel" (Farrell)

Refrain

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Raise the Gos - pel o - ver the earth!

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Peace and jus - tice bring - ing to birth!

Verse

Speak, Lord, for your ser - vant's lis - t'ning, Speak, Lord, for we're long - ing to hear

To Refrain

Good News, that at last the prom - ised reign of God is near!

Text: Owen Alstott, © 2002, Owen Alstott

Music: Bernadette Farrell, © 2001, 2002, Bernadette Farrell.

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GOSPEL: Luke 16:1-13

Jesus tells the curious story of a dishonest manager who cheats his employer and then is commended by him for having acted so shrewdly. Jesus wonders why his own followers are less creative and diligent in their stewardship given that they are managers of a far more valuable household.

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

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

¹Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ²So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ ⁵So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

¹⁰“Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹²And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

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 - "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" (Robinson/NETTLETON)



1. Come, Thou fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
2. Here I raise mine Eb - e - ne - zer; Hith - er by Thy help I'm come;
3. O, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con - strained to be!



1. Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing, call for songs of loud - est praise:
2. And I hope, by Thy good pleas - ure, safe - ly to ar - rive at home:
3. Let Thy grace, Lord, like a fet - ter, bind my wan - d'ring heart to Thee:



1. Teach me __ some me - lo - dious son - net, sung by __ flam - ing tongues a - bove;
2. Je - sus __ sought me when a stran - ger, wan - d'ring _ from the fold of God;
3. Prone to __ wan - der, Lord, I feel __ it, prone to __ leave the God I love;



1. Praise the mount! I'm fixed up - on it, mount of my re - deem - ing love.
2. He, to res - cue me from dan - ger, in - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.
3. Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it; Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.

Text: Robert Robinson (1735-1790). Tune: NETTLETON; John Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music*.

(NOTE: In Verse 2, "Ebenezer" means "Stone of Help," a reference to 1 Samuel 7:12.)

The assembly may be seated.



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A As scattered grains of wheat are gathered together into one bread, so let us gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and all of God's good creation.

God our Savior, you keep your church in faith and truth. Help us all to live out our baptismal promises. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Divine teacher, you instruct us to be responsible stewards of your creation. Show us how best to care for the earth and its resources. Bring aid to areas harmed by climate change, extremes of weather, and natural disasters. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Ruler of the nations, you direct those in authority. Give leaders wisdom and compassion so that all may live in peace. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Helper of the needy, you lift up those who are oppressed. Sustain those in any need, especially those on our prayer list ...

PRAYER CONCERNS from MOUNT CROSS

We pray for Levi (friend of Dan & Karen Nelson), **Barbara Burke, Marion Cole, Joseph and Rosanna DeVere** (son and daughter-in-law of Jody DeVere), **Guy Ervin III, Johnathan Hammersley** (great-nephew of Marni Engh), **Doug Harris** (cousin of Kristine Dawson), **Tom Heathorn** (cousin of Marni Engh), **Charles Hilley, Jo Holler, Nancy Jaeger, Jerry Kochans, Kathy McBroom** (friend of Nancy & Bill Rowley), **Dave McDonnell** (friend of Karin and John Grennan), **the family of Bob McMenamin** (cousin of Karen Gramacki), **Karen Nelson, Chrissy O'Farrell, Scott Otjen** (friend of Mary and Ric Kienitz), **Ellie Ranson** (friend of Evonne Kuchera), **Ken and Becky Riley, Heather Rogers** (granddaughter of Nancy and Jim Jaeger), **Val Starkgraf, Marie Swartz** (sister of Jo Holler), **Chris Valenzano** (grandson of Herb & Jo Holler, on active military deployment).

*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 God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

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

Gathered together in the sweet communion of the Holy Spirit, gracious God, we offer these and all our prayers to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C **Amen.**

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C And also with you.

OFFERTORY - "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. Come home, come home!

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!"

OFFERING PRAYER

A Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, 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 right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, O God, the Creator of heaven and earth. 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:

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

System 1:
 San - to, san - to, san - to, oh Dios del u - ni - ver - so:
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of might and mer - cy,

System 2:
 . . . lle - nos es - tán el cie - lo y la tie - rra de tu glo - ria.
 your glo - ry fills all heav - en and earth. . . . You are ho - ly, God.

System 3:
 Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en nom - bre del Se - ñor. . . .
 . . . Bless - ed be the Sav - ior, the one who comes in your name.

System 4:
 Ho - san - na en el cie - lo. San - to e - res, oh Dios.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. You are ho - ly, God.

Text: Traditional; English text, hymnal version
 Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional
 English text © 2020 Augsburg Fortress

P Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, and to reconcile us to you.

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.

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

P Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal,
and make us one in this community of faith
and with your people throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O God,
Author of life,
Word made flesh,
Power of the Most High,
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/INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Taste and see that the Lord is good.

The assembly may be seated.

LAMB OF GOD - "This Is the Body of Christ" (Bell)

This is the Bod-y of Christ, bro-ken that we may be
whole; this cup, as prom-ised by God, true to his word,
cra-dles our Lord: food for the good of the soul.

Text: John L. Bell, b.1949
Tune: John L. Bell, b.1949
© 1998, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent

All are welcome at the Lord's Table.

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 - "You Are My Vision" (Hull/Byrne/Rend Collective) - CCLI
Song #6054533**



1. You are ___ my vi - sion ___ O ___ King of ___ my heart.
2. You are ___ my wis - som, ___ You ___ are my true ___ word.
3. You are ___ my bat - tle - shield, ___ sword for ___ the fight.
4. I don't ___ want ___ rich - es ___ or ___ man's emp - ty ___ praise.
5. High King ___ of ___ heav - en, ___ when ___ vic - to - ry's ___ won



1. Noth - ing ___ else sat - is - fies, on - ly ___ You, ___ Lord.
2. I ev - er with You, ___ and You ___ with ___ me, ___ Lord.
3. You are ___ my dig - ni - ty, You're ___ my de - light.
4. You're my ___ in - her - i - tance, now ___ and ___ al - ways.
5. may I ___ reach heav - en's ___ joy, O ___ bright ___ heav'n's Son.



1. You are ___ my ___ best thought by day or ___ by ___ night.
2. You're my ___ great ___ Fa - ther, ___ and I'm Your ___ true ___ son.
3. You're my ___ soul's ___ shel - ter ___ and You're my ___ high ___ tower.
4. You, and ___ you ___ on - ly, ___ the first in ___ my ___ heart.
5. Heart of ___ my ___ own heart, ___ what - ev - er ___ be - fall,

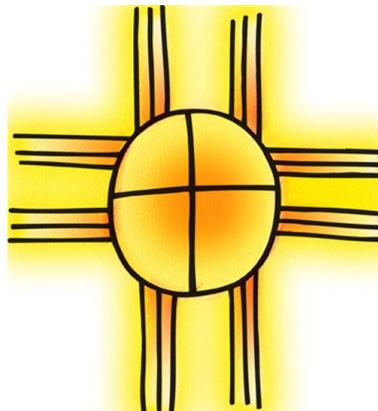


1. Wak - ing ___ or sleep - ing, ___ Your ___ pres - ence ___ my ___ light.
2. You dwell ___ in - side ___ me, ___ to - geth - er ___ we're ___ one.
3. Come, raise ___ me heav'n - ward, ___ O ___ Pow'r of ___ my ___ pow'r.
4. High King ___ of ___ heav - en, ___ my ___ treas - ure ___ You ___ are.
5. still be ___ my vi - sion, ___ O ___ Rul - er ___ of ___ all.

Text: Mary Elizabeth Byrne and Elenor Henrietta Hull. Adapted by Rend Collective Experiment.

Music: SLANE; Irish folk song. Adapted and arranged by Rend Collective Experiment.

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“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High” - ELW 857

Lord, I lift your name on high; Lord, I love to sing your praise.

I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us.

You came from heaven to earth to show the way, from the earth

to the cross, my debt to pay, from the cross to the grave,

from the grave to the sky; Lord, I lift your name on high.

Text and Music: Rick Founds. © 1989 Maranatha Praise, Inc., admin. Music Services.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A O God, in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

As able, the assembly stands for the Blessing.

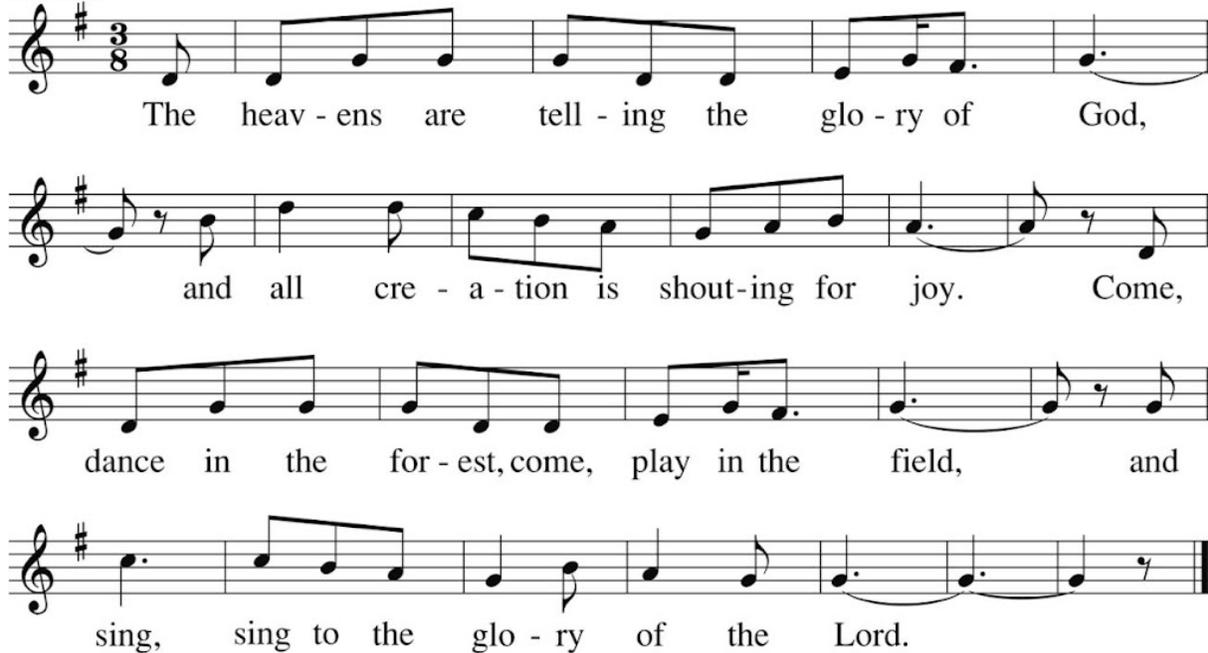
BLESSING

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor
and ☩ give you peace.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG - "Canticle of the Sun" (Haugen) - Verses 1-3

Refrain



The heav - ens are tell - ing the glo - ry of God,
and all cre - a - tion is shout - ing for joy. Come,
dance in the for - est, come, play in the field, and
sing, sing to the glo - ry of the Lord.

Verses



1. Praise for the sun, the bring - er of day, He car - ries the
2. Praise for the wind that blows through the trees, The seas' might - y
3. Praise for the rain that wa - ters our fields, And bless - es our
4. Praise for the fire who gives us his light, The warmth of the
5. Praise for the earth who makes life to grow, The crea - tures you
6. Praise for our death that makes our life real, The knowl - edge of



light of the Lord in his rays;	The moon and the stars who
storms, ♪ the gen - tl - est breeze;	They blow where they will, they
crops ♪ so all the earth yields;	From death un - to life her
sun ♪ to bright - en our night;	He danc - es with joy, his
made ♪ to let your life show;	The flow - ers and trees that
loss ♪ that helps us to feel;	The gift of your - self, your



light up the way	Un - to your throne.
blow where they please	To please the Lord.
mys - t'ry re - vealed	Springs forth in joy.
spir - it so bright,	He sings of you.
help us to know	The heart of love.
pres - ence re - vealed	To lead us home.

D.C.

DISMISSAL

A Rooted in God's grace,
C **we joyfully witness and serve!**

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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>.

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, September 18 Worship and Picnic in the Park!

Monday, September 19

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

Tuesday, September 20

Women's Bible Study, 9:00 a.m.
Women's Bible Study resumes, meeting in the sanctuary, following the *Gather* study, "Jesus and Nature: Teachers of Faith."

Church Council, 7:00 p.m.

The Church Council meets at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.

Wednesday, September 21

Adult Bible Study, 5:00 p.m.

The Adult Bible Study meets in the Parish Life Center at 5:00 p.m., facilitated by Allison Johnson.

ROOTED, 5:00 p.m.

This is a new program for Faith Formation parents and others, Wednesdays, 5:00-5:45 p.m. See the announcement below! If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Julie, pastorjulie@mountcross.com.

Fun with Faith, 5:00 p.m.

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

Community Dinner, 5:45 p.m.

All are invited to join us for dinner each Wednesday in the pavilion and Parish Life Center. Suggested donation: \$5/person. Questions, contact Joe (joe@mountcross.com)

Confirmation, 6:15 p.m.

Confirmation for our Middle School youth meets at 6:15 p.m. on Wednesdays. Questions, contact Joe (joe@mountcross.com).

Bell Choir, 6:15 p.m.

The Bell Choir rehearses in the sanctuary loft from 6:15-7:15 p.m..

Choir Rehearsal, 7:30 p.m.

The choir meets in the sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. to rehearse music for Sundays and learn anthems and special music.

Thursday, September 22

First Day of Autumn

Quilters, 2:00 p.m.

The Quilters meet at 2:00 p.m. in the pavilion.

Next Sunday, September 25

Baptism and New Members
Information Meeting, after worship
See the announcement below for details.

New Masking Guidelines at Mount Cross

Now that the COVID level in Ventura County is LOW (www.cdc.gov) and the new COVID vaccine booster, covering the original virus and the omicron subvariants, is available, masks are **optional** in all indoor and outdoor settings at Mount Cross. We encourage all members to take precautions to protect themselves and others from illness. We will continue to offer seating outside for Sunday worship. Our masking guidelines will change again if the COVID case rate rises and Ventura County reinstates a mask mandate. Thank you for your cooperation and care. For more information, contact the Mount Cross Executive Committee.

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 weekly programs return mid-September. 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.

We're taking a week off from Anti-Racism Work to enjoy the beautiful weather and a day in the park!

Altar Flowers

To request flowers for our worship:

<https://bit.ly/AltarFlowers2022>. The cost is \$40.00; you can take the arrangement home with you after worship, or pick it up at Communion following worship. If you aren't here but would still like flowers, 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.

Holy Baptism and New Member Information Session

Next Sunday, September 25, 11:00 a.m. - Noon in the Parish Life Center

Pastor Julie will host an informational meeting for all who are interested in exploring Baptism into the Body of Christ and Membership at Mount Cross.

Contact Pastor Julie for more information or if you would like to attend (pastorjulie@mountcross.com).

Childcare is available upon request.

Save the date: We will offer the Sacrament of Holy Baptism and receive new members on All Saints' Sunday, November 6, 2022.

New Program! ROOTED for Parents and All Adults

Wednesdays, 5:00–5:45 p.m. Attend weekly or occasionally.

Instead of preparing dinner, set aside 45 minutes in the center of the week to be re-centered and rooted in God's grace. Pastor Julie will facilitate a space for you to breathe, pray, savor scripture, move a little bit, and connect with God and each other about things that matter. Fun with Faith is offered at the same time for preschool through elementary-aged children.

Community dinner is served at 5:45 p.m. for all to enjoy. Meet Pastor Julie in the Prayer Garden.

Service and Missions Collection for September: Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits

Lutheran World Relief goes in on our behalf to help our neighbors when they need it the most.

They provide support to communities in West Africa facing cycles of drought and food shortages, for wildfire and flood victims in the US and multiple disasters around the world. They are committed to helping the people affected by the war in Ukraine, supporting refugee centers, providing medical equipment to hospitals, and distributing quilts and care kits.

Visit www.lwr.org to learn more.

After food and water, one of the most requested items is the personal care kit. Allowing a person who has suffered a trauma to clean themselves and brush their teeth goes a long way toward restoring their HOPE!

For the entire month of September, we will be collecting items to build Personal Care Kits for LWR. We have a goal of 75 kits this year. Please put all items you donate into the plastic box at the back of the sanctuary. We will be assembling the kits together later this fall.

Here's what we need:

- light-weight bath-sized towels (between 20" x 40" and 27" x 52" dark color recommended)
- Bath-size bars of soap, any brand, in original wrapping
- sturdy combs
- metal nail clippers (attached file optional)
- toothbrushes (adult size only, may be in bulk packaging)

These items are very specific and should be new. They cannot have any religious symbols or messages, any patriotic or military symbols, including camouflage or the U.S. flag. **If you prefer to let someone else do the shopping, give your donation to Melissa Henry (or drop it in the offering plate labeled LWR kits) and she will happily take care of it for you!**

Food Share FED UP - Annual Shindig Friday, September 23, 5:00 p.m.

Our congregation is a supporter of Food Share and the work they do in our county. Here's what they say about themselves and their event. "We're pretty good at feeding people. 220,000 Ventura County residents depend on Food Share for food assistance every year. Are you FED UP about food insecurity? We are too! Join us in your boots and jeans as we gather to ensure our food-insecure friends and neighbors in Ventura County get FED UP. With your help, we can and will feed everyone! Purchase your tickets today to get an exclusive tour of our 36,000 sq ft facilities with drink and tasting stations, a cocktail hour with entertainment, and a full meal prepared and plated by Peirano's. The FED UP Shindig is on **Friday, September 23, at 5:00 p.m.** Look for more information on the kiosk, or visit foodshare.com.

LUTHERAN RETREATS, CAMPS & CONFERENCES

El Camino Pines & Luther Glen Farm

The 31st Christian Camp Classic - Support Camp!

The 31st Christian Camp Classic is **September 29, 2022**, at Sterling Hills Golf Club! Tournament is a 4-player start scramble. \$170 tournament fee includes green fees, cart, banquet and a small donation to camp. Bring your friends for a day of golf and fun. Raffle and dinner to follow the tournament. Non-golfers are welcome to attend the banquet and raffle. Dinner tickets are \$35.

Sign up your foursome today! If you have questions or want to donate to support LRCC, contact Joe Zimmerly (joe@mountcross.com).

[Register Online](#)

Help Wanted-Skilled Volunteers

Mount Cross' Property Committee welcomes the help of skilled volunteers from the congregation. Right now, we can especially use expertise in electrical, light plumbing, finish carpentry, and irrigation. If you have some knowledge and a little time to apply it, please call the church office or contact Cy Johnson at clopsj@gmail.com or 805-479-4489.

Generosity Is Year-Round

Be Biblical. Let God do the Talking

"I was hungry and you gave me something to eat."

Matthew 25:35

Generosity is year-round but our time for Estimated Giving/Pledges and the Time & Talent forms is near. You will see more information in October but hopefully you will start praying about what you can do to further the mission of Mount Cross to "be Rooted in God's Grace as we Joyfully Witness and Serve."

Matthew speaks of hunger and receiving something to eat. Mount Cross deals with this spiritually through Worship & Music, Missions/Outreach, Youth programs, Bible studies, Anti-Racism work, VBS, our Prayer ministry and Meditation group. We also receive physically through the Caring team, Quilters, Food Pantry, Helping Hands, Disaster Relief & Disaster Response, and many other services provided by our generous staff and volunteers at Mount Cross.

We appreciate all that you do and hope to continue these missions into the new year.

- Your Generosity Team