

# Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

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

*For those of you worshipping with us in person,  
thank you for wearing your mask (indoors required; outdoors optional)  
and social distancing outdoors when singing.*

*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!**

**18th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 26, 2021, 9:30 a.m.**

## PRELUDE - Guy Ervin III

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie Morris

## GATHERING SONG - "How Small Our Span of Life" - ELW 636

*As able, the assembly stands.*



- 1 How small our span of life, O God, our years from birth till death:
- 2 And yet our speck of life is spanned by your in - fin - i - ty;
- 3 O Christ, you left e - ter - ni - ty to plunge in time's swift stream,
- 4 We thank you, God, for kind-ling faith that lights our tran - sient years,



a sin - gle beat with - in the heart, the catch - ing of a breath,  
our tick of time on earth is caught in your e - ter - ni - ty.  
to share the short-ness of our span, our mor - tal lives re - deem.  
il - lu - min - ing our pil - grim - age through mists of doubt and fears;



a drop with - in the o - cean's deep, a grain up - on the shore,  
While suns and stars spin end - less - ly through depths of cos - mic space,  
You filled your cross - closed years with love; you loved us to the end  
for hope that sees a life be - yond the swift - ly pass - ing days;



a flash of light be - fore we sleep to see the sun no more.  
while ae - ons roll and ag - es pass, you hold us in your grace.  
and touch us with your ris - en life that ours may time trans - cend.  
for love, both hu - man and di - vine, that lifts our hearts to praise.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

Music: KINGSFOLD, English traditional

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## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C **Amen.**

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.  
(*Silence for reflection*)

Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us.**

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

**We are truly sorry and humbly repent.**

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

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

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin,  
and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit,  
that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C **Amen.**



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

C **And also with you.**

# KYRIE - "Kyrie Eleison" - ELW Setting 8

*Refrain*



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, on our world and on our way.



Ky-ri-e e-lei-son, ev-'ry day.



1 For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the  
2 That we may live out your im-passioned re-sponse to the  
3 For peace in our hearts, . . . for peace in our homes, . . for  
4 For your Spir-it to guide; that you cen-ter our lives in the



u-ni-ty of all; for  
hun-gry and the poor; that  
friends and fam-i-ly; for  
wa-ter and the word; that you



this ho-ly house, for all who wor-ship and praise,  
we may live out . . . . truth and jus-tice and grace,  
life and for love, . . . . for our work and our play,  
nour-ish our souls . . . with your bod-y and blood,

*Refrain*



let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Pastor Julie Morris

### FIRST READING: Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

*What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?*

<sup>4</sup>The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat!" <sup>5</sup>We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; <sup>6</sup>but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at."

<sup>10</sup>Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. <sup>11</sup>So Moses said to the Lord, "Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me?" <sup>12</sup>Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, 'Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors'? <sup>13</sup>Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, 'Give us meat to eat!' <sup>14</sup>I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. <sup>15</sup>If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery."

<sup>16</sup>So the Lord said to Moses, "Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you."

<sup>24</sup>So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. <sup>25</sup>Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

<sup>26</sup>Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. <sup>27</sup>And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." <sup>28</sup>And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, stop them!" <sup>29</sup>But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!"

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

## SONG OF RESPONSE - "Thy Word" (Grant/Smith) - CCLI #14301

### Chorus

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet  
And a light unto my path

### Verse 1

When I feel afraid  
And I think I've lost my way  
Still You're there right beside me  
Nothing will I fear  
As long as You are near  
Please be near me to the end

### Verse 2

I will not forget  
Your love for me and yet  
My heart forever is wandering  
Jesus be my guide  
And hold me to Your side  
I will love You to the end

## **SECOND READING: James 5:13-20**

*Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.*

<sup>13</sup>Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup>Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup>The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup>Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. <sup>17</sup>Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup>Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

<sup>19</sup>My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, <sup>20</sup>you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

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” (Alstott/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: Mark 9:38-50

*On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.*

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

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

<sup>38</sup>John said to [Jesus,] “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” <sup>39</sup>But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. <sup>40</sup>Whoever is not against us is for us. <sup>41</sup>For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

<sup>42</sup>“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. <sup>43</sup>If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. <sup>45</sup>And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. <sup>47</sup>And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, <sup>48</sup>where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

<sup>49</sup>“For everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup>Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

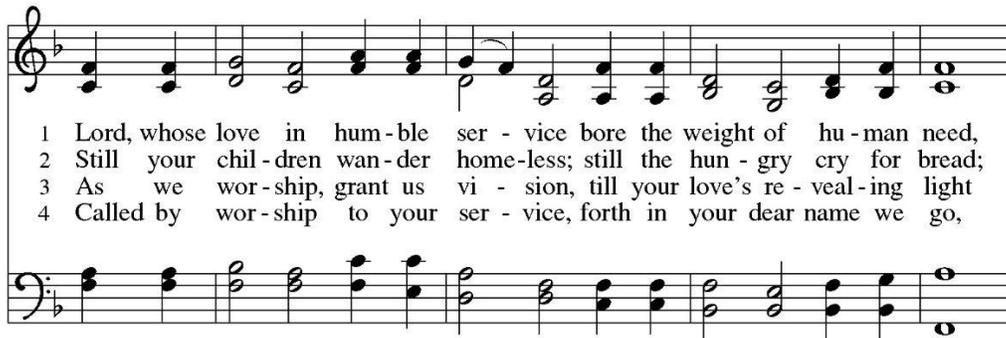
P The Gospel of the Lord.  
C Praise to you, O Christ.

The assembly is seated.

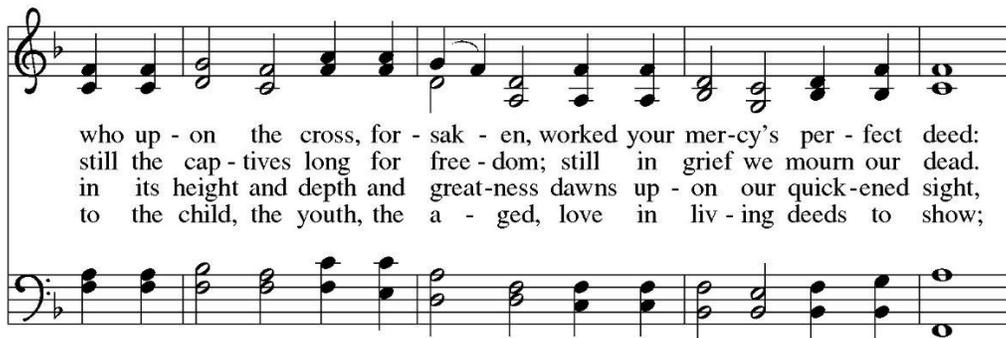
SERMON - Pastor Julie Morris

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

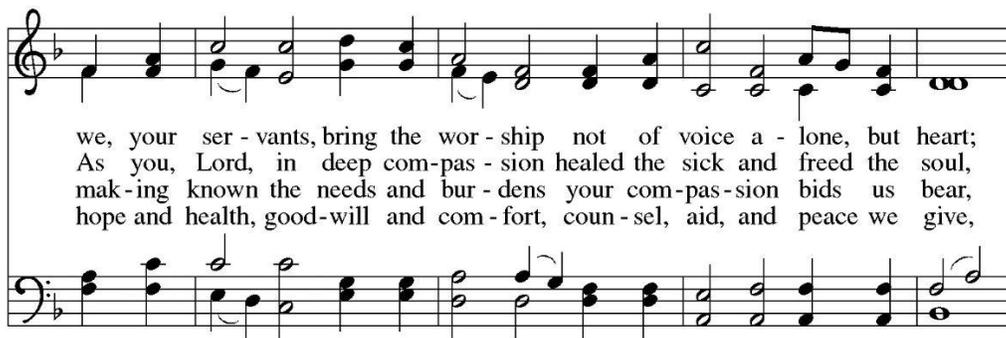
SONG OF THE DAY - "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service" - ELW 712 - verses 1-3



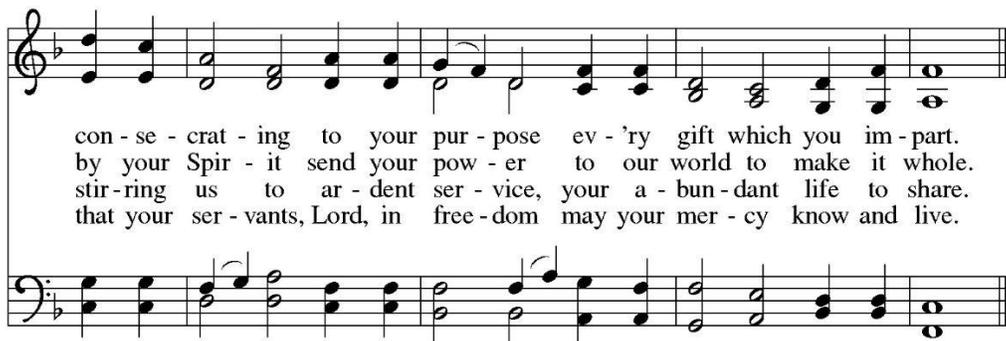
1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,  
2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;  
3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light  
4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:  
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.  
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,  
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;  
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,  
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.  
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.  
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.  
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

## 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.

*The assembly may be seated.*



## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

God of all, we pray for the church and its ministries. Sustain all members of the body of Christ in lives of prayer, service, and worship. Help us to lift each other up in our troubles, to examine our own lives, and to be at peace with one another. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of life, we pray for the natural wonders of your creation. Restore damaged forests, waterways and natural habitats and lead us to be good stewards of what you have provided. We pray for all affected by ongoing wildfires in the western United States, for continued relief efforts following earthquakes in Haiti and Mexico, for relief efforts following Hurricane Ida, Tropical Storm Nicholas, and other major storms, and for the work of Lutheran Disaster Response. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God who hears us, we ask your blessing on our prayer chain, Care Team and Health Ministry. Give them understanding and compassionate hearts and the energy to reach out to support our congregation through prayer and caring acts. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

A God of praise, we pray for the worship leaders of this congregation: our pastor, deacon in training, musicians, assisting ministers, readers, acolytes, altar guild, ushers and greeters, worship engineers and interns. Bless us through their ministry and grant them the passion and humility to continue in their service. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of the broken, we pray for those who are struggling with cancer, dementia, COVID, mental illness, or any other disease. Provide them with peace, comfort, and resilience for the days ahead. Sustain caregivers with energy, grace, and patience. We lift up all who are in need, especially (*those on our prayer list below*). Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

### PRAYER CONCERNS from MOUNT CROSS

**We pray for Bob Anderson, Tom Andino** (friend of Carol Browning), **Alice** (friend of Barbara Burke), **Jenny** (daughter of friend of Barbara Burke), **Linda** (friend of Barbara Burke), **Lorraine & Mike Carpenter, Crista and Bonnie** (niece and sister of Karen Cherry), **Steve Doshier** (brother-in-law of Paul Crockett), **the family of Steve Engh** (friend of Gayle & Cy Johnson), **Bob Edell, Natalie Faltin, Doria & Vladimir Fanning** (sister & brother-in-law of Barbara Burke), **Bill Greason, John Grennan, Jo Holler, Jerry Kochans, Michelle Kolder** (daughter of Karen & Joe Diehl), **Dick Kuchera** (Evonne Kuchera's husband's uncle), **Rick Mahlke** (son of friend of Barbara Burke), **Lucille Miley, Karen Nelson, Lynn Nelson** (mother of Julie Fernandez), **Mary O'Donnell, Jennifer** (daughter of Mary O'Donnell), **Michael and Mercedes Olivera** (brother of Courtney Burke), **Gloria Saldano** (mother of Lisa Saner) **and the Saner family, Larry** (brother of Lisa Saner), **Marlene** (sister of Lisa Saner), **Walter** (friend of Denise Sobolik), **the family of Kathleen Stevens, Maria Swartz** (sister of Jo Holler), **Chris, Wayne & Maria Truchan** (friends of the Burke family), **Bob Winters, Howard Wullschleger.**

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

A God who listens, we now offer you our own prayers, either silently or aloud (*pause*) ... Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

### PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

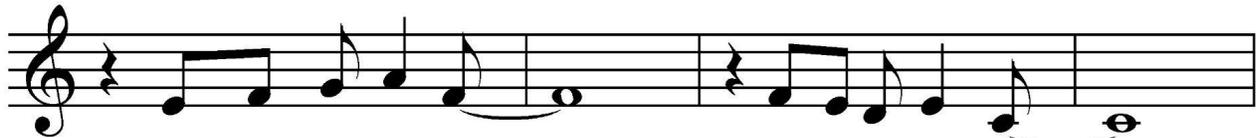
C **And also with you.**

# OFFERING SONG - "Change My Heart, O God" - ELW 801

Words and music by  
Eddie Espinosa



Change my heart, O God; \_\_\_ make it ev-er true. \_\_\_



Change my heart, O God; \_\_\_ may I be like you. \_\_\_



You are the pot - ter; I am the clay. \_\_\_



Mold me and make me; this is what I pray. \_\_\_



Change my heart, O God; \_\_\_ make it ev-er true. \_\_\_



Change my heart, O God; \_\_\_ may I be like you. \_\_\_

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## OFFERING PRAYER

A God of abundance,  
you cause streams to break forth in the desert  
and manna to rain from the heavens.  
Accept the gifts you have first given us.  
Unite them with the offering of our lives  
to nourish the world you love so dearly;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**



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

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

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

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

**P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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:

*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,

*. . . 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.

*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.

*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.

P Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
who preached good news to the poor,  
and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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

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

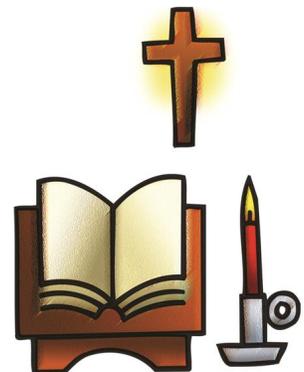
C **Amen.**

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

C **Our Father 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**

P All who hunger and thirst, come.  
The table is ready.



The assembly may be seated.

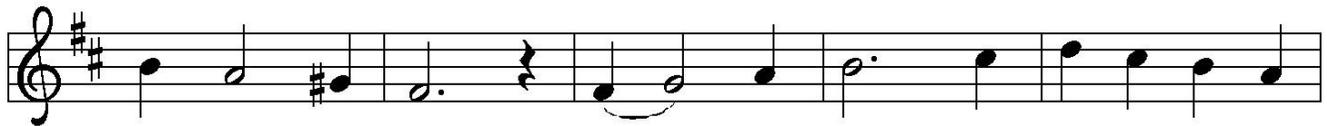
## LAMB OF GOD - "Lamb of God" - ELW Setting 4



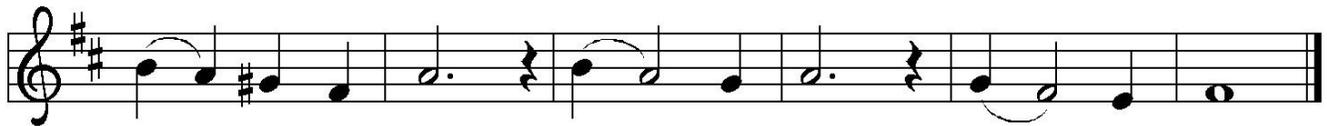
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



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, grant us peace.

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

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

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



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

*(We pause for silent prayer).*

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

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

# COMMUNION SONGS - "Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" - ELW 800

1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;  
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,  
 3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;  
 4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,

wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;  
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,  
 all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind?  
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame:

stoop to my weak - ness, strength to me im - part,  
 no an - gel vis - i - tant, no op - 'ning skies;  
 I see your cross; there teach my heart to cling.  
 the bap - tism of the heav'n - de - scend - ed dove,

and make me love you as I ought to love.  
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.  
 Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!  
 my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

## “You Satisfy the Hungry Heart” (“Gift of Finest Wheat”) - ELW 484



You sat - is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat.



Come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.



1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;

2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude

3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out-poured?

4 The mys - t'ry of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:

5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,



so when you call your fam - 'ly, Lord, we fol - low and re - joice.

that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav' n - ly food.

Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?

whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.

to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

*Refrain*

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997  
Music: BICENTENNIAL, Robert E. Kreutz, 1922–1996  
Text and music © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A We thank you, O God, that you have strengthened our hearts through this feast of life and salvation. Shine the light of Christ on our path, that we may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

### 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 - "Every Time I Feel the Spirit" - ACS 942

*Refrain*

Ev - 'ry time I feel the spir - it mov - ing

in my heart, I will pray. Ev - 'ry time I feel the

spir - it mov - ing in my heart, I will pray.

1 Up - on the moun - tain my Lord spoke,  
 2 . . All a - round me looked so fine,  
 3 . . Jor - dan riv - er, chilly and cold,

*Refrain*

out of his mouth came fire and smoke.  
 asked . . . . my Lord if all was mine.  
 chills the bod - y but not the soul.

## DISMISSAL

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

## POSTLUDE - Guy Ervin III

**Today's altar flowers are given to the glory of God in love and celebration by Cy and Gayle Johnson for the marriage yesterday of their son Matthew Johnson and Summer Baird.**

*Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-722573 and CCLI License m#2022482. Images from sundaysandseasons.com used with permission from Augsburg Fortress.*

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

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

Come to the Table: Mount Cross is offering **Communion reception in the sanctuary or in your car** from **11:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon**. If you are unable to come inside, we will serve Communion to those who prefer to remain in their cars.

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

## The Week at a Glance

### TODAY, September 26, 2021

Youth Group, 6:00 p.m.

Youth Group meets at 6:00 p.m.. Questions, contact Joe ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)).

### Monday, September 27, 2021

Monday Meditation, 3:00 p.m.

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

### Tuesday, September 28, 2021

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

The Women's Bible Study meets in the sanctuary at 9:00 a.m.

Fellowship Committee, 7:00 p.m.

The Fellowship Committee meets at 7:00 p.m. in the Parish Life Center.

### Wednesday, September 29, 2021

Fun with Faith, 5:00 p.m.

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

Adult Bible Study, 5:00 p.m.

Adult Bible Study meets at 5:00 p.m. in the Parish Life Center. We study the Gospel reading for the upcoming Sunday.

Wednesday Dinner, 6:00 p.m.

Our Wednesday dinner resumes at 6:00 p.m., in the Pavilion or Parish Life Center. Suggested donation of \$7.

Confirmation, 6:30 p.m.

Confirmation begins at 6:30 p.m. in the Pavilion. Contact Joe ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)) with questions.

Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.

The Bell Choir rehearses in the sanctuary loft (masked and with the door open) from 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Celtic Book Study Zoom, 7:00 p.m.

Join with our friends at St. Columba's for our Fall Book Study of John Philip Newell's newest book, *Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul*, at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom **through October 21. Read Chapter 2: Bridget and Chapter 3: John Scotus Eriugena.** To access the Zoom Book Study, visit <https://bit.ly/SCCelticBookGroup>

## Choir Rehearsal, 7:45 p.m.

The Choir rehearses in the sanctuary (masked and with the doors open) from 7:45-8:30 p.m.

## **Thursday, September 30, 2021**

Celtic Book Study (at St. Columba's),  
10:45 a.m.

Join with our friends at St. Columba's for our Fall Book Study of John Philip Newell's newest book, *Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul*, at 10:45 a.m. in person in St. Columba's parish hall, **through October 22. Read Chapter 2: Bridget and Chapter 3: John Scotus Eriugena.**

## **Next Sunday, October 3, 2021**

### Blessing of the Animals

Next Sunday, bring your pets who get along well with people and other animals to the pavilion for our 9:30 a.m. worship. After the service, Pastor Julie will offer individual blessings for your animals. Or bring your pets to Drive-through Communion for their blessing. Pictures of your pets or stuffed animals can stand in for your pets, if they do not like to travel. We also remember with thanksgiving our pets who have died.

## Announcements

### Sunday Worship

The Re-Opening Committee meets monthly to review our COVID precautions. We continue to require masks for indoor worship. Masks are optional for outdoor worship in the pavilion, but please maintain social distancing. We also need worship assistants:

<https://signup.com/Group/7769976983269200115/>.

Thank you in advance for helping to keep Mount Cross safe!

### Help with Drive-through and Sanctuary Communion Reception

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

### Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

Programs resume September 15 so check the newsletter or email Joe ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)) for details or 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.*

From newly installed Bishop Brenda Bos:

Dear people and friends of the SWCA Synod, Sunday, September 12 was an important day for our synod: the installation of a bishop. As Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton and I were walking into Angelica Church, following a large parade of deacons and pastors, I turned to her and said, "Wow, I really feel the weight of this...this day isn't about me, it's about the church. I simply hold the church."

She agreed, understanding this in ways I never will. We took about five steps forward and someone ran up to tell me the internet was down. I realized all the satellite sites were now disconnected from the celebration. This was the church I hold, one part moving forward to an amazing in-person celebration, and another part not being able to share it as broadly as we had hoped.

When my team designed this event, we got the most joy thinking about broadcasting out to the full synod. What a way to bring people together safely! And of course, this did not happen. All of us who worked so hard on the day are so disappointed by this. I know the sites were also disappointed, even though some were able to connect to livestreams coming from a few participants at Angelica.

During the bishop's election at Synod Assembly, I talked about bringing people together. I talked about lowering the barriers which keep people from participating in the broader church. The theme of the installation was the immigrant experience. I wanted to bring us together and technology failed us.

Technology often fails people who are trying to connect, as most of our congregations have learned during the pandemic. In some cases, people do not even *have* access to technology. We discovered the Pico-Union neighborhood, where Angelica is located, does not have high-speed internet available, and 5G service is very spotty. This is yet another example of inequity in our civic infrastructure, and one I hope we can address as a church.

In the meantime, we are disappointed together. We are making video elements from the service available on [the synod YouTube channel](#), including the [Thanksgiving for Baptism in a Land of Drought, Telling Our Stories - Art of the Bishop's Installation](#), my [children's sermon and gospel acclamation](#), and some of the [migrant stories and the prayers of God's people](#). These were not able to be shown during the event, and my prayer is that more people can view them now than would have been able to during the livestream.

I am both grateful and humbled to be serving as Bishop for the Southwest California Synod and I look forward to seeing how the Spirit will guide us all as we further the Gospel of Jesus Christ together.

Thank you again, Bishop Brenda  
[bbos@socalsynod.org](mailto:bbos@socalsynod.org)

### Vaccine Sign-up Site

COVID-19 vaccines are available by appointment at [MyTurn.CA.gov](http://MyTurn.CA.gov) or for walk-ins.

Locations available throughout the county!

### **Altar Flowers**

To request flowers for our worship:

<http://bit.ly/AltarFlowers2021>. The cost remains \$35.00; you are welcome to take the arrangement home with you after worship, or pick it up at Sanctuary/Drive-through Communion. If you are not present but would still like flowers, please let us know and we can deliver the arrangement to a homebound member to enjoy.

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Our Prayer Shawl ministry could use additional helpers to knit or crochet prayer shawls to be given to those in need of comfort. To give a shawl or for instructions to knit or crochet one, contact Diana Hagen (805-482-6411).

### **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](mailto: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.

Thanks for your support!

## **All Creatures of Our God: Blessing of the Animals**

### **Next Sunday, October 3**

Pets who "play well with others" are welcome to join their humans for Sunday worship under the pavilion at 9:30 a.m. on October 3. As usual, the service from the sanctuary will be streamed to the pavilion. In honor of Saint Francis Day, after worship, Pastor Julie will be in the pavilion to offer blessings for your animals. Or bring them to drive-through Communion from 11:00 a.m.–Noon for their blessing. Invite your friends and neighbors to have their furry friends blessed, too. If your pets don't travel well, bring a photograph of your companion animals or even stuffed animals to be blessed.

"But ask the animals, and they will teach you; the birds of the air, and they will tell you; ask the plants of the earth, and they will teach you; and the fish of the sea will declare to you. Who among all these does not know that the hand of the Lord has done this? In [God's] hand is the life of every living thing and the breath of every human being. (Job 12:7-10)

### **Worship Guidelines**

The Re-opening Committee met and has decided to stay the course for our worship.

**Masks are still required for indoor worship.** Although some places have chosen to make masks optional for those who are vaccinated, we, as Lutherans, love to sing and there are concerns about singing indoors and keeping people safe, which is our first priority. Because we love to sing and out of respect to those in our congregation who cannot yet be vaccinated (including children under 12), masks are required indoors for worship. Masks are optional **outside** and we offer seating in the pavilion outdoors, but we ask you to keep socially distanced from those not in your household. Thanks for your continued cooperation in following these guidelines to help keep Mount Cross safe.

## **Hospitality Sign-ups Now Online!**



Who doesn't enjoy a hot cup of coffee and a light snack after church on Sunday mornings? Sign-ups for hosting a Sunday morning Hospitality on the patio has gone online. The new link is: [https://bit.ly/MtCross\\_Hospitality](https://bit.ly/MtCross_Hospitality).

Thank you for your service to the Mount Cross community!

## **Justice in Action: Supporting Incarcerated Youth**

**Thursday, October 14, at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom**

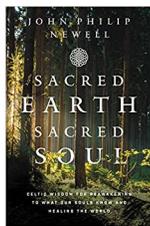
The Just Mercy summer book group (sponsored by our anti-racism team) was inspired to read about the work of Bryan Stevenson and the Equal Justice Initiative on behalf of incarcerated youth. We felt called to explore the needs of incarcerated youth in our area.

Join us October 14 at 6:00 p.m. to hear a panel discussion of people working directly with youth in Ventura County before, during, and after incarceration.

The Zoom link is <https://bit.ly/JusticeAction>, Meeting ID: 818 6149 8062 Passcode: 122357.

For more information, contact Tracy Blois, [tracy.allyson@gmail.com](mailto:tracy.allyson@gmail.com)  
or Becky Gilbertson, [dbgilly2@gmail.com](mailto:dbgilly2@gmail.com).

## **Fall Book Study with St. Columba's Episcopal Church: Exploring Celtic Wisdom**



Plan now to join with our friends at St. Columba's for our Fall Book Study of John Philip Newell's newest book, *Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul*. There are two options for our gatherings: **Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom** and **Thursday mornings at 10:45 a.m. in person in St. Columba's parish hall**, through October 20 & 21. To access the Zoom Book Study, visit <https://bit.ly/SCCelticBookGroup>

Join us as we explore this Celtic Wisdom deep within us. For more information or if you need help acquiring the book, reach out to [pastorjulie@moundcross.com](mailto:pastorjulie@moundcross.com).

- **September 29-30 – Chapter 2: Bridget and Chapter 3: John Scotus Eriugena**
- October 6-7 – Chapter 4: Carmina Gadelica and Chapter 5: Alexander Scott
- October 13-14 – Chapter 6: John Muir and Chapter 7: Teilhard de Chardin
- October 20-21 – Chapter 8: George MacLeod, Chapter 9: Kenneth White, and Conclusion

## **Child Development Center Scholarship Fund**

Founding director Cathy Channels recently retired from our Mount Cross Child Development Center preschool after 33 years. To honor her dedication and commitment to the CDC, a “**Cathy Channels Scholarship Fund**” has been established. If you would like to contribute to this fund, you can donate online or bring/mail a check, payable to Mount Cross Lutheran Church. Please designate “Cathy Channels Scholarship” in the memo field.

## **Mission for September - Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits Collection**



Soap, towels, toothbrushes, and combs. These simple gifts improve the standard of living for people around the world. In the Andes, these kits are helping dairy farmers in the Peruvian Andes practice proper hygiene and, in turn, improve their dairy products through sanitary milking practices.

We can't control when disasters strike and we can't end poverty overnight. But there are things we can do now to help people around the world reach their full potential.

Here's what we need:

- light-weight bath-size towel (between 20"×40" & 52"×27"), dark color recommended
- bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of soap, any brand, in original wrapping
- toothbrushes (adult size only, can be in bulk packaging)
- sturdy combs
- metal nail clippers (attached file optional)

These items are very specific and should be new. They cannot have any religious symbols of messages, any patriotic or military symbols, including camouflage of the U.S. flag.

With care in mind for those of you who don't want to make shopping trips out, Melissa Henry is willing to be your shopper. You can send a donation to the church office marked “LWR Personal Care Kits” if you want her to do the shopping for you.

## **Harbor House - Concert 4 the Conejo**

The pandemic has taken a disproportionate toll on the underprivileged.

In an effort to meet the increasing number of households in need, Harbor House is having a fundraiser on October 3. The event will be outdoors, under the big tent at Anthem Church.

We ask that you join us to show our collective support for those who have been affected most by this COVID crisis. If you cannot join us in person, please consider contributing by donating online: <https://www.harborhouseto.org/>

