

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

805.482.3847 www.mountcross.com



Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 2020 9:30 a.m.

PRELUDE - Carol Browning

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie

P Blessed be the Holy Trinity, + one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Gracious God,

C **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We misuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.**

P Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through + Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**



GATHERING SONG - "Gather Us In" vs. 1, 2, & 4 - ELW 543



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



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



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



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



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



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

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen

Text and music © 1982 GIA Publications Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

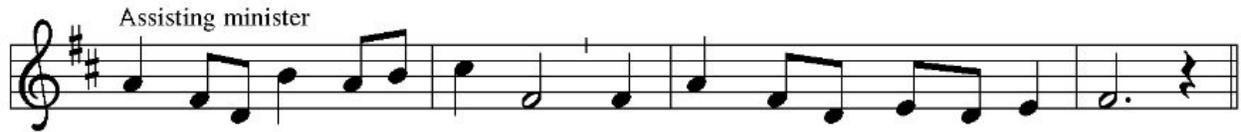
All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

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.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE



Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al - might-y God and Fa - ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Vacation Bible School

CHILDREN'S SONG - "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" v. 3 - ELW 674

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!



3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

FIRST READING: Genesis 45:1-15

Moved to tears by Judah's plea on behalf of Benjamin, Joseph declares, "I am Joseph!" and asks, "Is my father still alive?" Despite the brothers' evil intent, God used Joseph to preserve many lives at a time of famine.

[After Judah offered himself in place of his brother Benjamin,] ¹Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, "Send everyone away from me." So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. ²And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. ³Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

⁴Then Joseph said to his brothers, "Come closer to me." And they came closer. He said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me

before you to preserve life. ⁶For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’ ¹²And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. ¹³You must tell my father how greatly I am honored in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” ¹⁴Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. ¹⁵And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SONG OF RESPONSE - “Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me
I once was lost but now I’m found
Was blind but now I see

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear
And grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear
The hours I first believed

My chains are gone, I’ve been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood, His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace

The Lord has promised good to me
His word my hope secures
He will my shield and portion be
As long as life endures

My chains are gone, I've been set free
My God, my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood, His mercy reigns
Unending love, amazing grace

The Earth shall soon dissolve like snow
The sun forbear to shine
But God Who called me here below
Will be forever mine
Will be forever mine
You are forever mine

SECOND READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.

[Paul writes:] ¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

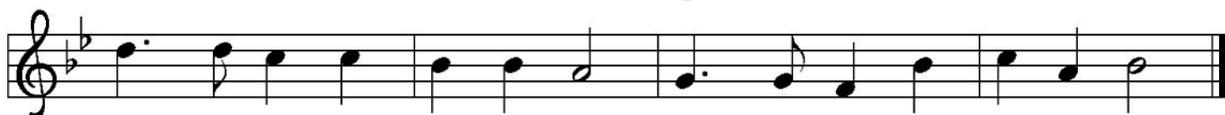
GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – ELW p. 205



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Matthew 15:21-28

Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.

P The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to Matthew.

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

²¹Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." ²⁴He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." ²⁶He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." ²⁷She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

L The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

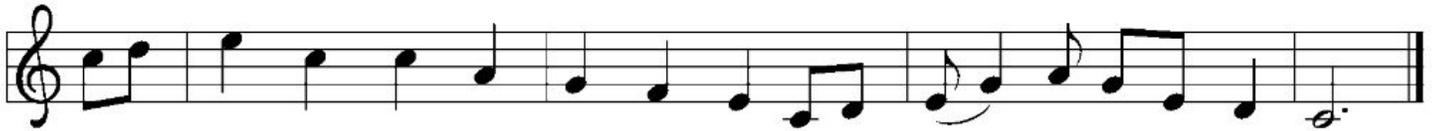
SERMON - Pastor Julie Morris



SONG OF THE DAY - "In Christ There Is No East or West" - ELW 650



1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com-mu-nion find;
3 Join hands, dis-ci-ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



but one com-mu-ni-ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
his ser-vice is the gold-en cord close bind-ing hu-man-kind.
All chil-dren of the liv-ing God are sure-ly kin to me.
all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852-1941, alt.

Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866-1949

APOSTLE'S 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Confident of your care and helped by the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church,
the world, and all who are in need.

Each intercession ends, "Lord, in your mercy," All respond, "Hear our prayer."

A In the certain hope that nothing can separate us from your love, we offer these prayers 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 - "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" - ELW 631



1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

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, Lord God_ of heav-en-ly hosts.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God_ of heav-en-ly hosts.



Heav-en and earth are full___ of your glo - ry.



Ho-san - na!_ Ho-san - na! Ho-san-na in the high-



est. Ho-san - na!_ Ho-san - na!_



Bless-ed is he__ who comes! Bless-ed is he__ who comes!_____



Bless-ed is he__ who comes___ in the name of the Lord!___

P Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

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

P Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

C **We bless you, O God.**

P We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

C **We thank you, O God.**

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

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

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen.

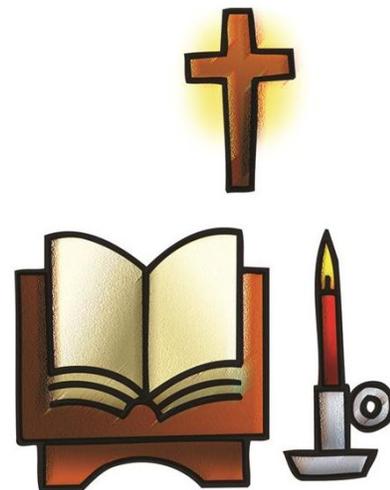
Christ will come again.

P We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world. Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

C **Amen.**

P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, led by the vacation bible school children.

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.**



P Be known to us, Lord Jesus, in the breaking of the bread.
The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.

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 presider invites the following prayer to be said by all:

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



COMMUNION SONG - "There Is a Balm in Gilead" - ELW 614

Refrain

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Some - times I feel dis - cour-aged and think my work's in vain,
2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can-not pray like Paul,
3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour-aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
and if you lack for knowl-edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

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

BLESSING

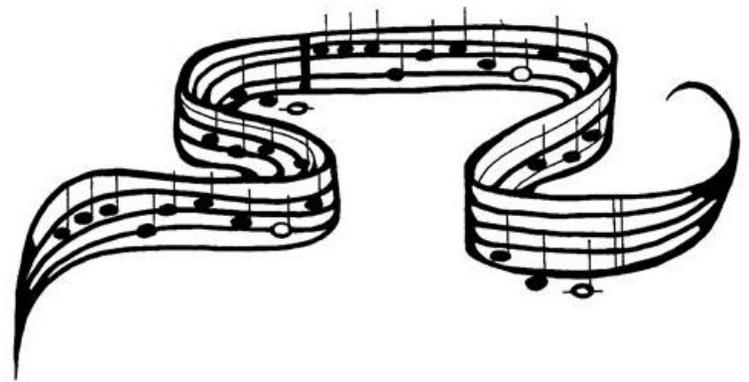
P May the Wisdom of God
the Love of God
and the Grace of God
strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this hungry world,
and the blessing of God our Creator,
✠ Christ our Redeemer,
and the Holy Spirit our Sustainer,
be with you now and always. Amen.

C **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

P Rooted in God's grace,
C **We joyfully witness and serve!**

POSTLUDE - Carina McVeigh



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

Join us for **Coffee Hour on Zoom** following this service! Grab a cup of coffee or tea and some treats and visit with us. The Zoom link is <https://bit.ly/coffeehour102> OR you can call in from your phone. Dial **1 (669) 900-6833**. You will be asked for the meeting ID number. It is **574 003 985** and then push pound (#).

Come to the Table: Mount Cross will be offering **Drive-Through Communion** today from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. While we are very excited to offer this as part of our next steps toward reopening, we ask that you please consider your vulnerabilities and risk factors before choosing to participate in drive-through Communion.

PRAYER CONCERNS from MOUNT CROSS

Roger Allmandinger (brother-in-law of Jim and Susan Prosser), **Jan Beat, Sharon Benner** (sister of Karen Gramacki), **Mike Carpenter, Terry Cline** (relative of Jim and Karen Gramacki), **Janet Colby, Rob Conant, Tom & Teri Crawford and family, Barbara D'Addario, Bob Edell, Steve Engh, Karen Geutschoff, Norma Harvey, Ron Higginbotham, Carolyn Hobbs, the family of Robert Jackson, Glen Mueller** (cousin of Lois Watts), **Nury Martinez-Silva** (friend of Bernie Lau), **Zitlali Perez, Byron Selbrede** (brother of Keith Selbrede), **Patricia Springer** (mother of Joan Brundage), **Simone Sylve** (cousin of Bernie Lau).

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, August 17, 2020

Monday Meditation, 10:00 a.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, August 18, 2020

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

Women's Bible Study meets every Tuesday morning at 9:00 a.m. under the Pavilion. We will remain physically distanced from each other and all participants must wear facial coverings during the meeting.

Upper Room Zoom, 12:00 p.m.

Upper Room Zoom will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Join us as often as you'd like. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84747459576> 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, August 19, 2020

Adult Bible Study, 5:00 p.m.

On Wednesday evenings at 5:00 p.m. we gather to study the Gospel for the upcoming week. To join by computer or smart phone/tablet go to this link <https://zoom.us/j/861819171> or to call on your phone dial **1 (669) 900-6833**. You will be asked to enter the Meeting ID which is **861 819 171** and then push pound (#). All are welcome.

Thursday, August 20, 2020

Upper Room Zoom, 12:00 p.m.

Upper Room Zoom will meet on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Join us as often as you'd like. The Zoom link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84747459576> 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 (#).

Announcements

Mount Cross Office Update

Our new Office Manager, Carol Browning, starts Monday, August 17, 2020! With this change, we will also be implementing new office hours. While the Mount Cross office is still officially closed to the general public, its new hours will be Monday through Friday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please email office@mountcross.com if you have any questions or need any assistance.

Worship and Communion Assistants

We are looking for communion assistants in August! Please consider taking this rewarding opportunity to celebrate Communion with your fellow Mount Cross members and friends as we navigate these trying times together. If you would like to sign up for a one hour shift (10:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. or 11:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.) as a parking lot usher, greeter, or communion assistant for any Sunday in August, please sign up at <https://bit.ly/AugustCommunionSignUp> or call the office at (805) 482-3847.

We are also looking for worship assistants! 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.

St. Columba's Food Pantry

The Food Pantry at St. Columba's continues to serve our community and your gifts of food items have been greatly appreciated. Currently the food pantry is especially seeking **canned vegetables**. Your gifts of food can be dropped off at the church during Sunday drive-through communion.

Please do not make a specific grocery trip for your items but think of the food pantry while shopping at the store or during a grocery delivery. Please check the 'best by' date as the pantry cannot use expired items. Thank you for your generosity to the people of Camarillo!

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

There will be no children, youth, and family ministry programs from August 16-22, 2020 as Joe will be on vacation. We will resume on August 23, 2020 starting with High School Youth Group at 6:00 p.m. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

It's Census Time!

Every 10 years, people across the country and in California fill out the Census in order to have an accurate count of all people in the United States. It is a 9-question survey that helps determine California's federal funding for important community services that help support families and a fair share of representation in California and Washington D.C.

How to fill out your 2020 Census:

Online: For the first time, the Census form will be available to complete online in 13 languages. Visit my2020census.gov to complete your Census today!

By Phone: The Census can be completed by phone in 13 languages including Telecommunication Device for the Deaf. Call 844-330-2020 today to complete your Census in English.

By Mail: The paper Census form will be available in English and Spanish languages and can be mailed back to the U.S. Census Bureau. Census workers have started to physically drop off the Census questionnaire to some communities that don't use a city-style addresses such as those with P.O. boxes. Complete and return your Census!

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!

Lutheran World Relief School Kits

Even with Covid-19 wreaking havoc on our school system (distance learning, anyone?) there are still students in the world who cannot attend school not because of the pandemic but because they can't afford the materials they need. Lutheran World Relief is there to help - with backpacks full of the simple supplies a student needs to learn! Last year, we created more than 100 school kits - let's do it again!

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 backpacks if you want her to do the shopping for you.

Blessing of the New School Year

Calling all teachers and students! Join us as we bless the new school year on September 6, 2020 at 9:30 a.m. We will be doing a virtual blessing during our church service so make sure to gather around the screen as a family. After the service you are invited to come through Drive Through Communion and grab some goodies for the school year. We love all our teachers and students!

Card Ministry Seeking Volunteers

The card ministry at Mount Cross sends out notes and cards to members of the congregation that may need a little extra cheer. There are a variety of reasons why we want to express our caring for others of our faith community. If you are interested in joining this caring ministry to send greetings to another at least once a month or more we would love to have you join in this expression of compassion.

Please contact Gayle Johnson with your interest for more information at cygaylej@verizon.net or (805) 388-3293.

Fundraiser to Multiply Meals:

Abundant Table's Virtual Feast in the Field

In 2020 B.C. (Before COVID-19) The Abundant Table had big plans for an August 22nd fourth annual Feast in the Field celebration on the farm. Then COVID-19 health and safety prescriptions dramatically changed our lives. So we have transformed Feast in the Field 2020 into a virtual occasion focused on the needs of our neighbors who work the land and pack the produce. The theme of the Feast in the Field continues through Solidarity Shares for farmworkers by transforming the meal price for one guest at the table last year, \$90, into a Share that delivers our CSA boxes for six weeks at a special discount for farmworker families -- a multiplication of meals.

You are invited to this virtual feast by contributing one or more shares as a sign of solidarity with farmworkers in our locale. You may visit www.theabundanttable.org and click [Donate](#), or pay by check via mail to

The Abundant Table

P.O. Box 6295

Ventura, CA 93006

Blood and Platelets Needed

Mount Cross member Ron Higginbotham is currently in need of blood and platelet donations. There is no upper age limit for donating platelets, and you can donate platelets to Ron regardless of your blood type.

To see if you are eligible, please visit www.uclahealth.org/gotblood/eligibility. If you qualify, please contact the Special Donor Office at UCLA at (310) 794-7207. All donations are specifically earmarked for the designated patient, and the donation must be made on site at UCLA. There is currently a nationwide blood shortage so no matter your blood type or compatibility, any donation will help bolster the inventory, which will in turn support Ron's transfusion needs. For more information, contact the Mount Cross office.