

Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

805.482.3847 www.mountcross.com



**Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 20, 2020, 9:30 a.m.**

PRELUDE - Brett Hanley

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie

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

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Faithful God,

C **have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P God hears the cries of all who call out in need,
and through his death and resurrection,
Christ has made us his own.
Hear the truth that God proclaims:
Your sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ.
Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness
to do God's work in the world.

C **Amen.**



GATHERING SONG - "Rain Down"

Refrain

Rain down, rain down, rain down your

love on your peo - ple. love, God of life.

Verses

1. Faith-ful and true is the word of our God. All of God's
 2. We who re - vere and find hope in our God live in the
 3. God of cre - a - tion, we long for your truth; you are the

1. works are so wor - thy of trust. God's mer - cy falls on the
 2. kind - ness and joy of God's wing. God will pro - tect us from
 3. wa - ter of life that we thirst. Grant that your love and your

1. just and the right; full of God's love is the earth.
 2. dark - ness and death; God will not leave us to starve.
 3. peace touch our hearts, all of our hope lies in you.

to Refrain

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



- 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

Assisting minister



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

All



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 Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Video of Joe Zimmerly and Pastor Julie with Intro to Bible class

CHILDREN'S SONG - "Jesus, We Are Gathered" - ELW 529 (sing twice in English)



Je - su, ta - wa pa - no, Je - su, ta - wa pa - no,
Je - sus, we are gath-ered, Je - sus, we are gath - ered,



Je - su, ta - wa pa - no, ta - wa pa - no mu zi - ta re - nyu.
Je - sus, we are gath-ered, we are gath-ered, Lord Je-sus, for you.

Text: Patrick Matsikenyiri

Music: JESU, TAWA PANO, Patrick Matsikenyiri

Text and music © 1990, 1996 General Board of Global Ministries, GBG Musik, 475 Riverside Dr., New York, NY 10115.

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FIRST READING: Exodus 16:2-15

Faced with hunger in the wilderness, the Israelites longed for life back in Egypt and wished they had never left. Then God miraculously and graciously gave them quails and manna to eat.

²The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. ³The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

⁴Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. ⁵On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” ⁶So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, ⁷and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” ⁸And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

⁹Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” ¹⁰And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. ¹¹The Lord spoke to Moses and said, ¹²“I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

¹³In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. ¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.”

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SONG OF RESPONSE - "Let All Things Now Living" - ELW 881



1 Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2 God rules all the forc - es: the stars in their cours - es and



God the cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise,
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine;



who fash - ioned and made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who
the hills and the moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the



still guides us on to the end of our days.
deeps of the o - cean pro - claim God di - vine.



God's ban - ners are o'er us, God's light goes be -
We too should be voic - ing our love and re -



fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the night,
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us raise



till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is ban - ished, as
till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks - giv - ing: "To



for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

²¹For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. ²³I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

²⁷Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well—³⁰since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – ELW 519 (Refrain)

Refrain

God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!

God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!

God has spo - ken to the peo - ple, hal - le - lu - jah!

God has spo - ken words of wis - dom, hal - le - lu - jah!

Text: Hasidic traditional; Willard F. Jabusch, 1930-2019, English version.

Text © 1966, 1982, Willard F. Jabusch, OCP Publications.

Music: Hasidic tune (YISRAEL V'ORATA, 9 8 9 5 and refrain).

GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16

Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

P The Holy Gospel of our Lord according to Matthew.

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you ⁷standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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



SERMON - Pastor Julie Morris

SONG OF THE DAY - "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High" - ELW 857 (sing twice)

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

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, Our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Drawn together in the compassion of God, we pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

*Each intercession ends, “**Lord, in your mercy.**” All respond, “**Hear our prayer.**”*

A All these things and whatever else you see that we need, we entrust to your mercy; through Christ our Lord.

C **Amen.**

PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING SONG - “**Better Is One Day**”

How lovely is Your dwelling place
O Lord Almighty for my soul longs
And even faints for you
For here my heart is satisfied
Within Your presence
I sing beneath the shadow of Your wings

Better is one day in Your courts
Better is one day in Your house
Better is one day in Your courts
Than thousands elsewhere

One thing I ask and I would seek
To see Your beauty
To find you in the place Your glory dwells
One thing I ask and I would seek
To see your beauty
To find you in the place Your glory dwells

My heart and flesh cry out
For you, the living God
Your spirit's water to my soul
I've tasted and I've seen
Come once again to me
I will draw near to you
I will draw near to you

Better is one day, better is one day
Better is one day than thousands elsewhere



GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

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

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

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



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



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho-san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

P Holy God, 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:

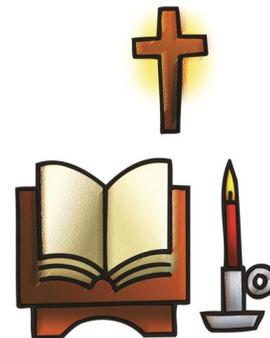
C **Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

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.

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.**



LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf - fered death our lives to save: have mer - cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer - cy now, we pray.
e - ter - nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Text: Martin A. Seltz, b. 1951, based on the Agnus Dei
Music: LAND OF REST, North American

Text © 1998 Augsburg Fortress

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



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

COMMUNION SONG - "Christ, Be Our Light" - ELW 715



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P We give you thanks, gracious God, that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare, the body and blood of Christ. Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven, into your beloved vineyard to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst, guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BLESSING

P Mothering God,
Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you and lead you into the way of truth and life.

C **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE - Brett Hanley

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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 is offering **Drive-Through Communion** today from 11:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. We ask that you please consider your vulnerabilities and risk factors before choosing to participate in drive-through Communion. Pick up a 2020 directory, if you haven't already. If you need to make corrections to the directory, please email office@mountcross.com or call 805-482-3847, from 1:00-5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday.

PRAYER CONCERNS from MOUNT CROSS

Elizabeth A, Roger Allmandinger (brother-in-law of Jim & Susan Prosser), **the family of Jan Beat, Sharon Benner** (sister of Karen Gramacki), **Mike Carpenter, Richard Casey** (friend of Mary Kienitz), **Terry Cline** (relative of Jim & Karen Gramacki), **the family of Janet Colby, Rob Conant, Tom & Teri Crawford and family, Barbara D'Addario, Bob Edell, Steve Engh** (friend of Gayle & Cy Johnson), **Juan Flores** (friend of Stan Patscheck), **Dana Palmer Freeman and family** (friend of Melissa & Gordon Henry), **Loren Gallentine and family, Ron Higginbotham, Luke Hahn** (son of Erica Hahn, Mount Cross preschool teacher), **Sandy Knierim** (daughter of Barb Sletten) **Glen Mueller** (cousin of Lois Watts), **Nury Martinez-Silva** (friend of Bernie Lau), **Karen Nelson, Suzanne Palmer, Lisa Saner, Byron Selbrede** (brother of Keith Selbrede),
Patricia Springer (mother of Joan Brundage).

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, September 21, 2020

Monday Meditation, 3:00 p.m.

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

Tuesday, September 22, 2020

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

Women's Bible Study meets every Tuesday morning at 9:00 a.m., in Nancy Bush Park. Wear a mask and bring a chair.

Upper Room Zoom, 12:00 noon

Upper Room Zoom meets 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, September 23, 2020

Fun with Faith, 5:00 p.m.

Fun with Faith (Preschool through 5th grade) meets with Jessica and Inger. Gather at the church office at 5:00 to be escorted to the park by Jessica and Inger. Children will be picked up back at the church at 6:00 p.m.

Intro to Bible, 5:00 p.m.

Children in 2nd grade or above who have not taken our Intro to Bible class, you are invited to join us September 16 and 23 at 5:00 p.m. for the two-week course, led by Pastor Julie and Joe.

Sign up with this link:

<https://signup.com/go/pYGzaXj>

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.

Confirmation, 6:30-8:00 p.m.

Students preparing for Confirmation meet with Joe Zimmerly on-site. Email Joe (joe@mountcross.com) if you have any questions.

Use Your Voice Zoom

(Middle School Youth), 6:30 p.m.

Our new campaign for children, youth, and families is "Use Your Voice," events and discussions around speaking up when injustice is present. Stacy Germundson, a school counselor for middle and high school students, will focus on every child believing they are precious and important with infinite potential. Contact Joe (joe@mountcross.com) if you need the Zoom link.

Use Your Voice Zoom (Parents), 7:30 p.m.

Stacy Germundson will continue the discussion with parents of middle and high school students. Contact Joe (joe@mountcross.com) if you need the Zoom link.

Thursday, September 24, 2020

Men's Bible Study, 7:30 a.m.

Men's Bible Study meets every other Thursday from 7:30-9:00 a.m. via Zoom. To join on your laptop, smartphone, or tablet, go to <https://zoom.us/j/122561229> or from your phone, dial 1 669 900 6833. You will be asked for a meeting ID number. Enter 122 561 229 and push pound (#).

Upper Room Zoom, 12:00 noon

Upper Room Zoom meets 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 (#).

Hunger in the Time of COVID-19 Zoom, 7:00 p.m. (CT)

Rick Steves, guidebook author and travel TV host, the Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton, presiding bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), and the Rev. Shelley Bryan Wee, bishop of the Northwest Washington Synod of the ELCA, invite you to an online benefit – the first of its kind – for ELCA World Hunger. Together, we hope to raise \$250,000 to confront hunger in the time of COVID-19 at this event. Thursday, September 24, 7 p.m. Central time. Register: <https://elca.org/hungerfundraiser>

Saturday, September 26, 2020

Janet Colby Funeral

Live stream, 1:00 p.m.

Janet Colby's service will be available to the Mount Cross community on our Facebook live stream (https://www.facebook.com/pg/MountCross/posts/?ref=page_internal) at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, September 26. The bulletin will be available from our website.

Announcements

Sunday Worship

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

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

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

Help with Sunday Worship and Communion

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

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

Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

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

Intro to Bible and

Intro to Holy Communion Classes

If you are in 2nd grade or above and have not taken our Intro to Bible class, the class continues for one more week September 23 at 5:00 p.m. Led by Pastor Julie and Joe, we will teach your children the ins and outs of how to read the Bible.

Those who do not attend are invited to join Jessica for Fun With Faith. Sign up with this link: <https://signup.com/go/pYGzaxj>

The Intro to Holy Communion class will be September 30 and October 7 at 5:00 p.m. This is for children who have not had any instruction about Holy Communion or for those who want a refresher. Pastor Julie and Joe will help children appreciate this great gift of Jesus' presence and grace so they can receive the Sacrament with gratitude and joy. Those who do not attend are invited to join Jessica for Fun With Faith.

Sign up with this link:

<https://signup.com/go/YiMMfkN>

We encourage parents to attend these classes with their children as well. We will be letting you know whether these will be in person or over Zoom by next week. If you have any questions, please contact Joe. We hope you can join us!

Lutheran World Relief Health Care Kits

The recent explosion in Beirut meant the loss of 22,000 quilts, 100 cartons of School Kits, 300 cartons of Personal Care Kits and 125 cartons of Baby Care Kits. We have work to do, to replace those kits.

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 or messages, any patriotic or military symbols, including camouflage or the U.S. flag.

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. A donation box to collect the items will be available ANYTIME, sitting by the glass door to the sanctuary near the parking lot. Thank you for your generosity!

September is Suicide Prevention Month

If you or someone you care about is in crisis, there is help. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is a national network of local crisis centers that provides free and confidential emotional support to people in suicidal crisis or emotional distress 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

We're committed to improving crisis services and advancing suicide prevention by empowering individuals, advancing professional best practices, and building awareness. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline is 1-800-273-8255.

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!

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** or **shelf-stable milk**. 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!

Card Ministry Seeking Volunteers

The card ministry at Mount Cross sends out notes and cards to members of the congregation who 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.

St. Columba's Zoom Book Group Waking Up White

St. Columba's is beginning a new book group on *Waking Up White* and Mount Cross folks are welcome to join in. The group will meet via Zoom on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 (September 29-November 17), OR Thursday mornings at 10:00, (October 1-November 19). Pick up a copy of the book and be part of the discussion. Please let Fr. Greg (greg.larkin@stcolumbaca.com) or St. Columba's office (office.manager@stcolumbaca.com) know in which group you would like to take part.

Take Action! - Vote!

Voting is one way to advocate for policies that advance the call for peace and justice in our communities and nation. Make sure you are registered to vote: <https://voterstatus.sos.ca.gov>. Encourage those you know to vote.

Additional Resources:

Lutheran Office of Public Policy –
California 2020 Voter Guide:
<http://lutheranpublicpolicyca.org/2020-voter-guide>

ELCA Civic Engagement Guide
https://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/ELCAvotes_civic_engagement_and_voter_education_guide.pdf?_ga=2.36652391.670041802.1599148443-1099257076.1595169200