

# Mount Cross Lutheran Church

102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010

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

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## **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.

Please introduce yourself to someone you do not know.

**Thank you for being the welcoming Body of Christ!**



**Reconciling in Christ:  
Intentionally welcoming and affirming  
LGBTQIA+ people and families.**

**The 5th Sunday of Easter  
April 28, 2024, 9:30 a.m.**

**PRELUDE - "Christ Comes to Us" (Frombach/Pethel)**

Mount Cross Choir; Guy Ervin III, piano

*In the bread in the wine  
Christ gives Himself to us  
Given now for all time  
Salvation comes to us  
As He serves at His table  
We each become a servant too*

*In the bread in the wine  
Christ comes to us  
Nourish and sustain us Lord  
Feed us with Your grace  
Fill us with Your righteousness  
As we gather in this place*

*In the bread in the wine  
Christ gives Himself to us  
Given now for all time  
Salvation comes to us  
As He serves at His table  
We each become a servant too*

*In the bread in the wine  
Christ comes to us*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - Pastor Julie Morris**

**GATHERING SONG - "Morning Has Broken" - ELW 556**

*As able, the assembly stands.*

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Morning Has Broken". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The treble staff contains the melody, and the bass staff contains the accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, with three verses. The first verse is "1 Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing; black - bird has", the second is "2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sun - lit from heav - en, like the first", and the third is "3 Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing, born of the". The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a 4/4 time signature.

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the  
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet  
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - 'ry

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965  
 Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version  
 Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.  
 Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.



## THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*During the Easter season, Confession and Forgiveness is replaced with Thanksgiving for Baptism.*

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

P Refreshed by the resurrection life we share in Christ,  
 let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister and the congregation continue.

P We thank you, risen Christ,  
for these waters where you make us new,  
leading us from death to life, from tears to joy.

C **We bless you, risen Christ, that your Spirit comes to us  
in the grace-filled waters of rebirth,  
like rains to our thirsting earth,  
like streams that revive our souls.**

P Breathe your peace on your church when we hide in fear.

C **Clothe us with your mercy and forgiveness.**

P Send us companions on our journey as we share your life.

C **Make us one, risen Christ.**

P Cleanse our hearts.

C **Shower us with life.**

P To you be given all praise,

C **with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God,  
now and forever.**

**Amen.**

## GREETING

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

C **And also with you.**


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

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -  
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
I Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er, rich-es, wis-dom, and



strength, and hon-or, bless-ing, and glo-ry are his.


*Refrain*




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




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



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



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



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

*Final refrain*



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



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



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

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE - Pastor Julie Morris

*Children through 5th Grade are welcome (but not required) to come up for the Children's Message and then follow the staff to the Parish Life Center for an age-appropriate Bible lesson and activity. They will return to the sanctuary before Holy Communion. There are faith activity bags available near the front door for children who would rather stay in church.*



## CHILDREN'S SONG - "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" - ELW 172 (sing 2 times)



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

Music: Caribbean traditional

## **FIRST READING: Acts 8:26-40**

*Led by the Spirit, Philip encounters an Ethiopian official who is returning to his African home after having been to Jerusalem to worship. Philip uses their encounter to proclaim the gospel to him. Upon coming to faith in Jesus, he is baptized by Philip.*

<sup>26</sup>An angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” (This is a wilderness road.) <sup>27</sup>So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship <sup>28</sup>and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. <sup>29</sup>Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” <sup>30</sup>So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” <sup>31</sup>He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. <sup>32</sup>Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: “Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. <sup>33</sup>In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

<sup>34</sup>The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” <sup>35</sup>Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. <sup>36</sup>As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?” <sup>38</sup>He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. <sup>39</sup>When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. <sup>40</sup>But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

**L** Word of God, word of life.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**



**PSALM 22:25-30 - "You Are My Praise" (Psallite)**

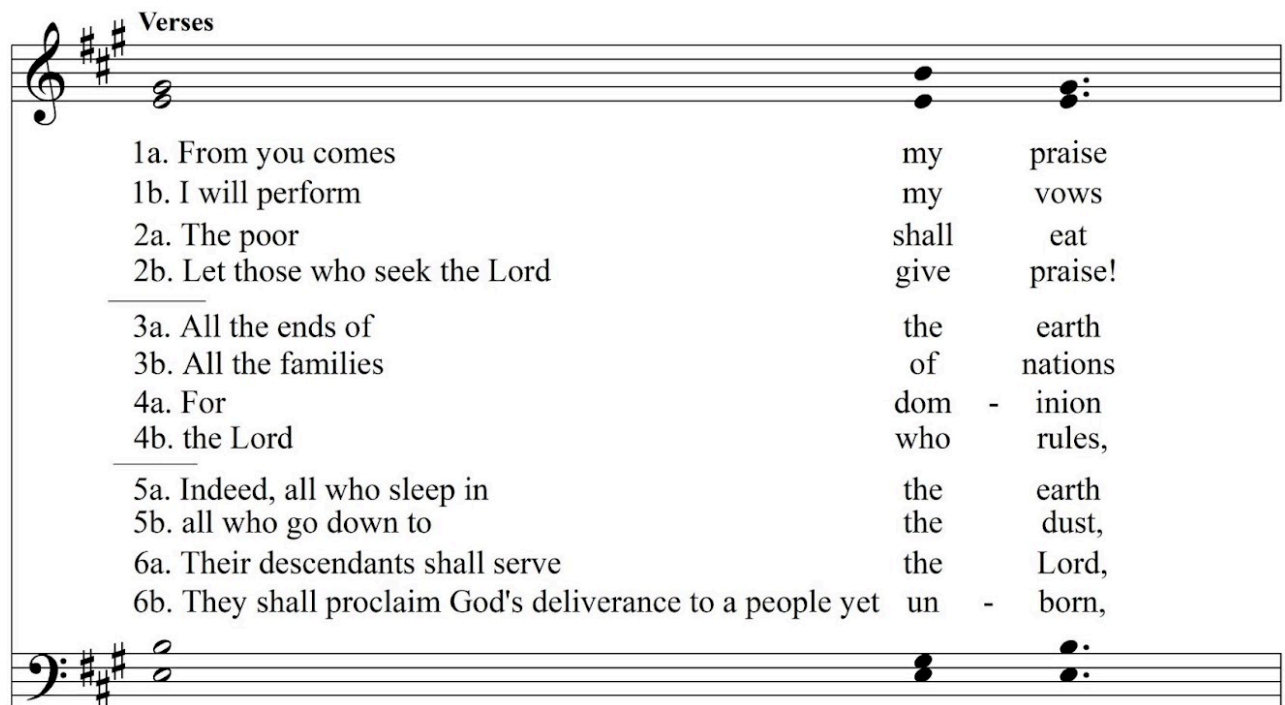
Please join the choir in singing today's psalm. All sing the Refrain. The verses will be sung by the men - Verses 1-2; women - Verses 3-4; and all - Verses 5-6.

**Refrain**



You are my praise when your peo - ple ga - ther;  
 when your peo - ple ga - ther you will be my praise.

**Verses**



1a. From you comes my praise  
 1b. I will perform my vows  
 2a. The poor shall eat  
 2b. Let those who seek the Lord give praise!  
 3a. All the ends of the earth  
 3b. All the families of nations  
 4a. For dom - inion  
 4b. the Lord who rules,  
 5a. Indeed, all who sleep in the earth  
 5b. all who go down to the dust,  
 6a. Their descendants shall serve the Lord,  
 6b. They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet un - born,



1a. in the great as - ssembly.  
 1b. in the sight of those who fear the Lord.  
 2a. and be sat - - - is - fied.  
 2b. May your hearts live for - ever! *Refrain*  
 3a. shall remember and turn to the Lord.  
 3b. shall bow be - fore the Lord.  
 4a. belongs to the Lord,  
 4b. rules over the nations. *Refrain*  
 5a. shall bow down in worship;  
 5b. though they be dead, shall kneel be-fore the Lord.  
 6a. whom they proclaim to generations to come.  
 6b. saying to them, "The Lord has acted!" *Refrain*

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## SECOND READING: 1 John 4:7-21

*We love God and others because God first loved us. We cannot say we love God, whom we have not seen, while hating fellow Christians, whom we regularly see. Love toward God is to be matched by love toward others because the essence of God is love.*

<sup>7</sup>Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. <sup>8</sup>Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. <sup>9</sup>God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. <sup>10</sup>In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. <sup>11</sup>Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. <sup>12</sup>No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

<sup>13</sup>By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. <sup>14</sup>And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. <sup>15</sup>God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. <sup>16</sup>So we have known and believe the love that God has for us.

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. <sup>17</sup>Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. <sup>18</sup>There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. <sup>19</sup>We love because he first loved us. <sup>20</sup>Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. <sup>21</sup>The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*As able, the assembly stands to welcome the Gospel.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - "Celtic Alleluia" - ELW 174**

**Refrain**

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

**Verse**

Now he is liv - ing, the Christ.  
Out of the tomb he is ris - en; he has con - quered death,  
o - pened heav - en to all be - liev - ers. *To Refrain*

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## **GOSPEL: John 15:1-8**

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus taught his disciples about the relationship they would have with him. Those who abide in his word and love bear fruit, for apart from him, they can do nothing.*

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

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

[Jesus said:] <sup>1</sup>“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. <sup>2</sup>He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. <sup>5</sup>I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. <sup>6</sup>Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. <sup>7</sup>If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

**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 - "May This Church Be Like a Tree" - ACS 1042

1. May this church be like a tree, be-hind your house, there in your  
2. May this church be like a tree, there in the street or in the  
3. May this church be like a tree, O God, that thrives where you have

gar - den, meet - ing - place for joy, and feast, and sim - ple  
pla - za, for the birds a nest - ing branch, for pass - ers -  
plant - ed; may it stand to show the way, your way of

prayer be - neath its branch - es. With its roots in earth so  
by a wel - come shel - ter. May it stand as if it's  
lov - ing and self - giv - ing, of - fering shade, and fruit for

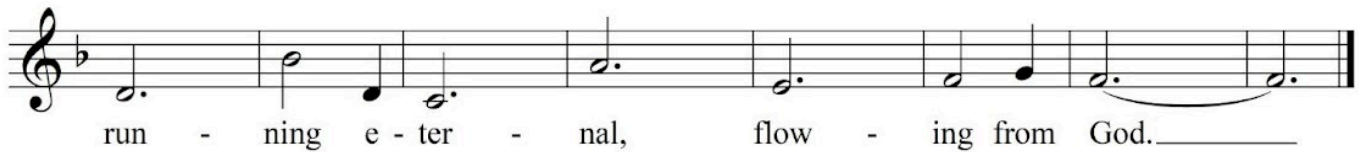
fer - tile, and its arms raised high to heav - en, may this  
watch - ing, near my house, just round the cor - ner, wait - ing  
shar - ing, giv - ing up its wood for burn - ing. May this

church bear fruits of jus - tice, acts of lov - ing and com - pas - sion.  
for this wea - ry pil - grim with its arms wide to em - brace me.  
liv - ing church that names you be a tree of life e - ter - nal.

### Refrain

Tree ev - er grow - ing by liv - ing wa - ter,  
run - ning e - ter - nal, flow - ing from God.

Tree ev - er grow - ing by liv - ing wa - ter,



Music and Spanish Words, Pablo Sosa, © 2011, GIA Publications, Inc. in Australia, Canada, New Zealand, and USA. In all other countries, © 2011, Pablo Sosa.  
English trans., Andrew Donaldson © 2013, GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.

**NICENE CREED** (*During the Easter season, we use the Nicene Creed rather than the Apostle's Creed.*)

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Note: The term "catholic" (lower case "c") does not refer to any specific denomination or group of Christians. The term comes from two Greek words that together mean "throughout the whole." So when the creed states, "I believe in the holy catholic church," it refers to the whole or universal Christian church in all times and places.*

The assembly may be seated.



## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

We pray for the church around the world, for all ministers, and for the mission of the gospel. Bless all those who participate in the study of your Word, especially our Mount Cross Bible Studies, and help them to abide in you always. God of life, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the well-being of the earth and of all created things. Renew the face of the earth and shower us with your goodness. Send relief to areas devastated by tornadoes, storms, or other natural disasters. God of life, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the nations and all those in authority: for local, state, and national leaders, for elected representatives at every level, and for international organizations, that justice and peace may reign. Inspire us to work for an end to violence and bloodshed, especially in our own country, the Middle East, Ukraine, Russia, and Sudan. God of life, **receive our prayer.**

- A We pray for all those in need, especially those who feel disconnected from community, those who feel alone, and all who are ill or suffering in body, mind, or spirit, especially those on our prayer list ...

**PRAYER CONCERNS from MOUNT CROSS**

**We pray for Rachel A. and her family** (friend of Chrissy O'Farrell), **Tom Andino** (friend of Carol Browning), **Barbara Burke, Mike Caceres** (nephew of Becky Gilbertson), **Kris Dawson, Sonja Demeter, Vinse Gilliam** (friend of Becky & Ken Riley), **the family of Norma Harvey, Patrick Heckman** (relative of Marni Engh), **Gordon Henry, Betty Hough, John Hunter** (cousin of Scott Fajnor), **Trevor Jeffrey** (friend of the Phipps family), **Craig Kaihara** (friend of Scott & Nora Fajnor), **Susan Klein, Jerry Kochans, David Ludwig** (friend of Jim & Susan Prosser), **Jack & Penny Luhrsen, Michael McCandless** (relative of Melissa Henry), **Karen Nelson, Aaron Nuñez** (friend of Claire Johnson), **Angie Patscheck** (sister-in-law of Stan Patscheck), **Stan Patscheck, Michael Potts** (friend of Becky & Ken Riley), **Dianne Selbrede, Carol Smith** (friend of Marni Engh), **Fleet Smith** (friend of Mark & Lisa Saner), **Marie Swartz** (sister of Jo Holler), **Waldon Swenson** (brother of Janet Rubin), **Deacon Cecelia Travick-Jackson, Russell Wall** (brother of Nora Fajnor), **Jerry Warren, Nancy Zeph** (niece of Barbara Sletten), **Joan Yabitsu** (friend of Evonne Kuchera).

*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 of life, **receive our prayer.**

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

Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray,  
trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living  
Lord.

- C **Amen.**

**PEACE**

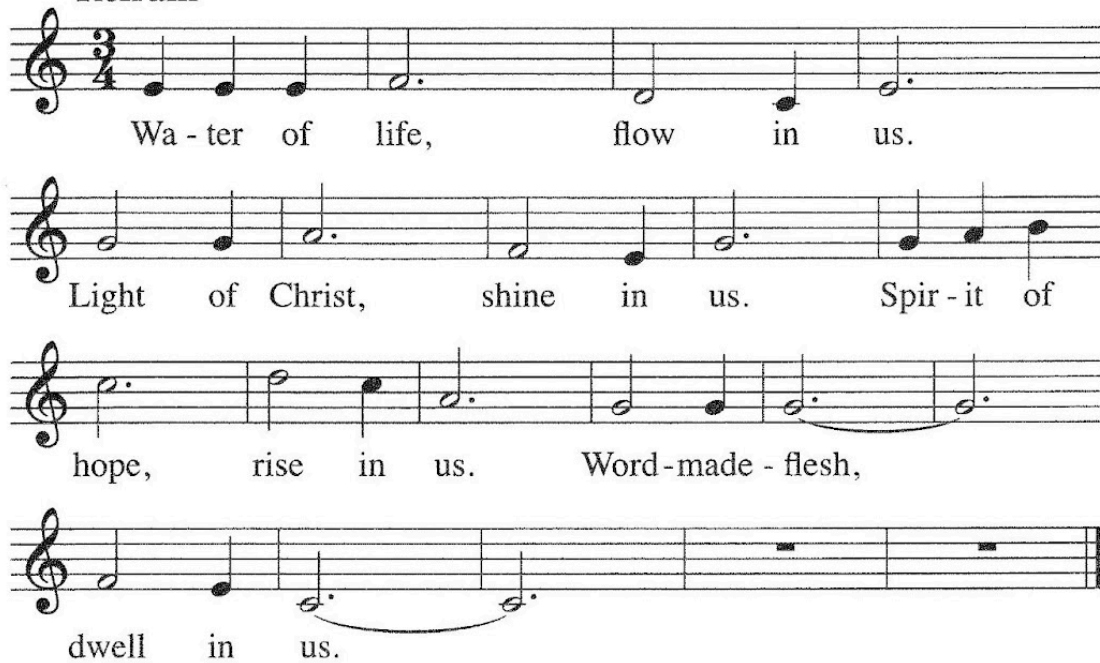
- P The peace of Christ be with you always.

- C **And also with you.**

# OFFERTORY - "Indwelling Christ" (Browning)

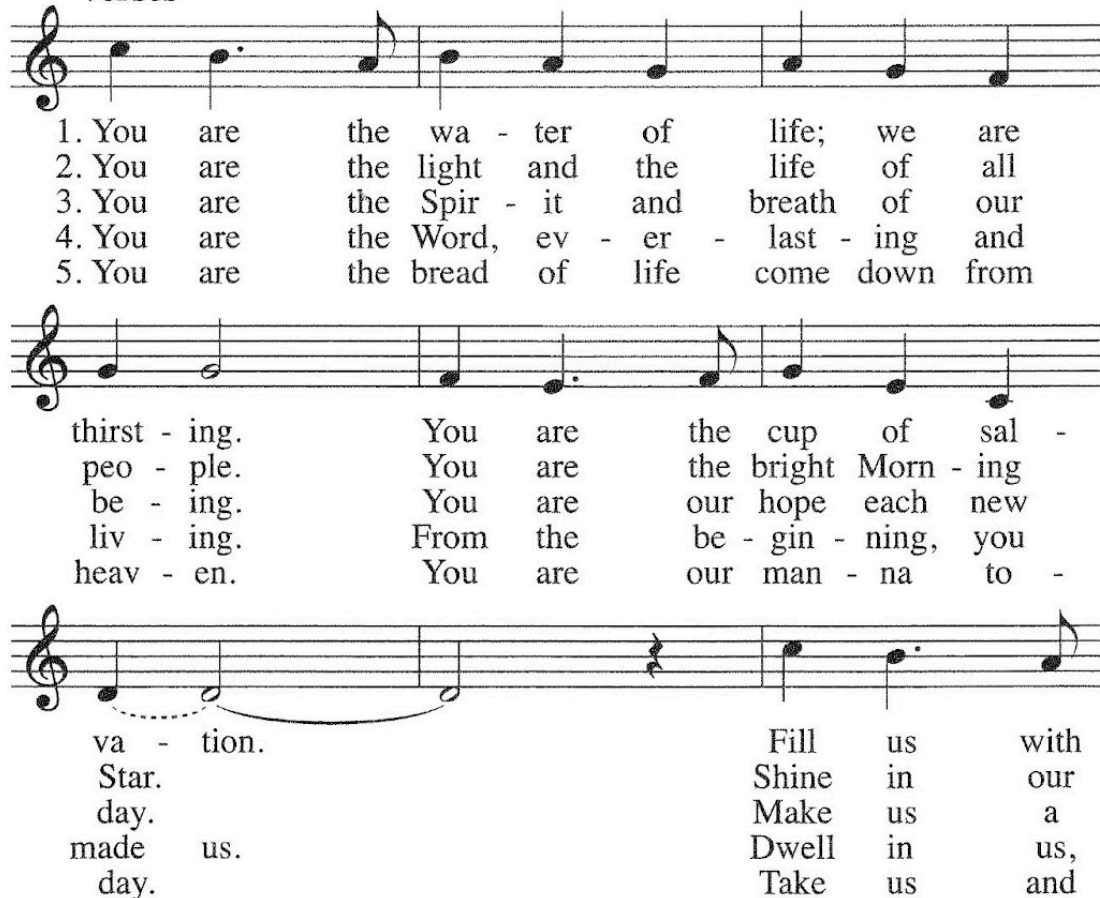
Carol Browning

## Refrain



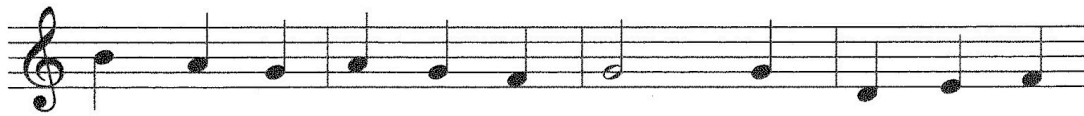
Wa - ter of life, flow in us.  
 Light of Christ, shine in us. Spir - it of  
 hope, rise in us. Word - made - flesh,  
 dwell in us.

## Verses



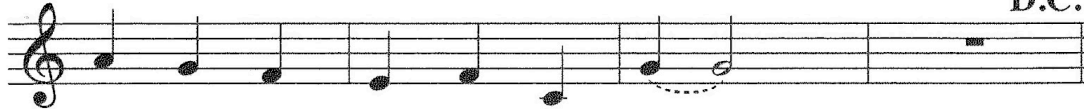
1. You are the wa - ter of life; we are  
 2. You are the light and the life of all  
 3. You are the Spir - it and breath of our  
 4. You are the Word, ev - er - last - ing and  
 5. You are the bread of life come down from  
 thirst - ing. You are the cup of sal -  
 peo - ple. You are the bright Morn - ing  
 be - ing. You are our hope each new  
 liv - ing. From the be - gin - ning, you  
 heav - en. You are our man - na to -  
 va - tion. Star. day. made us. day.  
 Fill us with  
 Shine in our  
 Make us a  
 Dwell in us,  
 Take us and





joy in your pres-ence, O Lord. We come to the  
 hearts, bring-ing light to the dark, and send us to  
 place in your dear Fa-ther's house. Come, live in us,  
 teach us your wis-dom, O Lord, and live in our  
 make of us fish-es and loaves to feed those who

D.C.



ta-ble at your in-vi-ta-tion.  
 show forth the ra-diance you are.  
 you who are truth and the way.  
 hearts ev-er-more: re-cre-ate us.  
 hun-ger and thirst, Lord, we pray.

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## OFFERING PRAYER

- A Risen One,  
 you call us to believe and bear fruit.  
 May the gifts that we offer here  
 be signs of your abiding love.  
 Form us to be your witnesses in the world,  
 through Jesus Christ, our true vine.
- 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,  
 for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ.  
 In dying he has destroyed death,  
 and in rising he has brought us to eternal life.

P And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter  
and all the witnesses of the resurrection,  
with angels and archangels, and all the company of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might.  
Heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Ho - san - na in the high - est heav'n, al - - - le - lu - ia!  
Blest he who comes, who comes in the Lord's name. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text adapt.: CB.

Music (EASTER HYMN, 7 7 7 7 and alleluias), J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

P Blessed are you, O God of the universe.  
Your mercy is everlasting  
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

**C Praise to you for creating the heavens and the earth.**

P Praise to you for bringing the Israelites safely through the sea.

**C Praise to you for the words and deeds of Jesus, your anointed one.**

P Praise to you for the death and resurrection of Christ.

**C Praise to you for your Spirit poured out on all nations.**

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.

P 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.

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

P O God of resurrection and new life:  
Pour out your Holy Spirit on us  
and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Raise us up as the body of Christ for the world.

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

**C Amen.**

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

**C Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
forever and ever.  
Amen.**

## BREAKING OF THE BREAD/INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P The risen Christ is made known to us  
in the breaking of the bread.  
Come and eat at God's table.



*The assembly may be seated.*

### LAMB OF GOD - "Eastertime Lamb of God" (O FILII ET FILIAE, adapt.)

1. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have  
2. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, have  
3. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world, O

mer - cy on us. O Ris - en Lord, O Prince of Peace,  
mer - cy on us. O Ris - en Lord, O Prince of Peace,  
grant us peace. O Ris - en Lord, O Prince of Peace,

Al - le - lu - ia!

Text adaptation: CB. Tune: O FILII ET FILIAE (10 10 with alleluias),  
adapt & harmonized by Marty Haugen, © 1986, GIA Publications, Inc.

**All are welcome at the Lord's Table.** Holy Communion will be distributed in the center aisle. Ushers will dismiss people by rows, beginning from the back of the church.

**Please come forward to receive the bread (gluten-free hosts available), and then walk to the side to dip the bread in the chalice of wine or to receive a small cup of grape juice.** Place your empty cup in the trays provided.

Communion ministers will bring Holy Communion to those with mobility challenges.

### **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>**

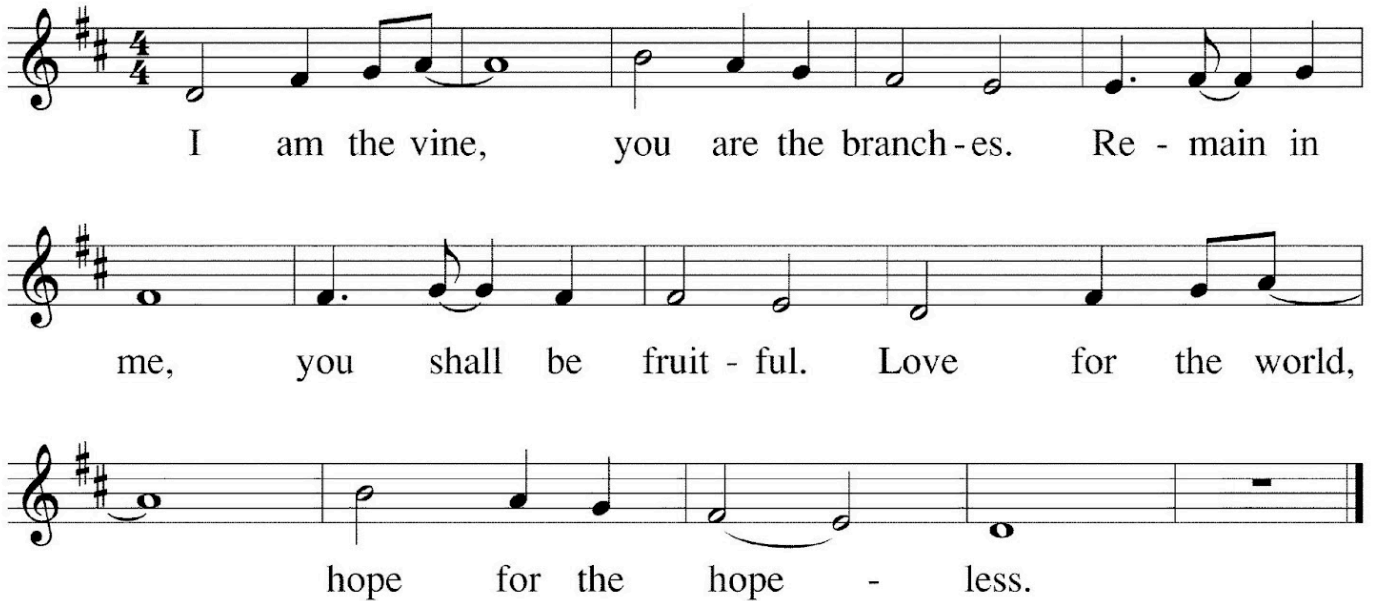


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<sup>1</sup> Adapted by Pastor Julie from a prayer written by the Anglican Diocese of Niagara.

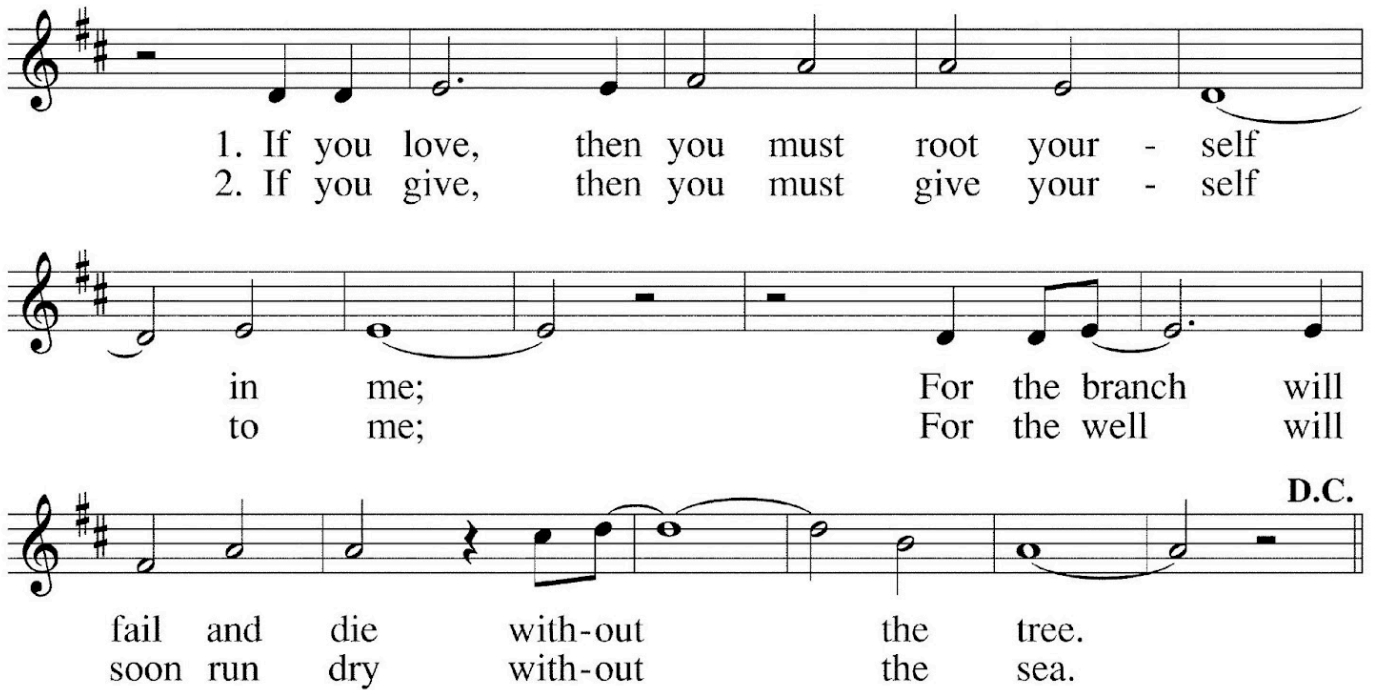
# COMMUNION SONGS - "I Am the Vine" (Hurd)

## Refrain



I am the vine, you are the branch-es. Re - main in  
me, you shall be fruit - ful. Love for the world,  
hope for the hope - less.

## Verses



1. If you love, then you must root your - self  
2. If you give, then you must give your - self  
in me; For the branch will  
to me; For the well will  
fail and die with-out the tree.  
soon run dry with-out the sea.

**D.C.**

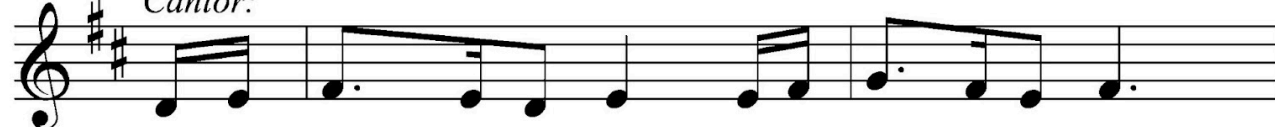
Text: John 15:1-10; Bob Hurd, b.1950, © 1979  
Tune: Bob Hurd, b.1950, © 1979; acc. by Craig Kingsbury, b.1952  
Published by OCP Publications.



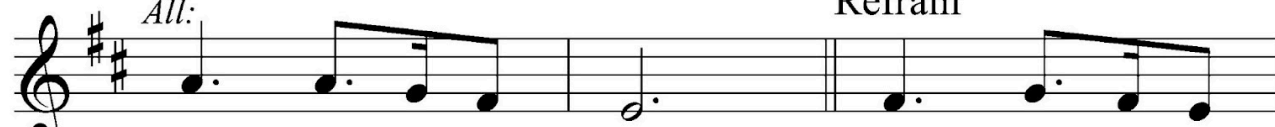
## “Live On in My Love” (Psallite)

Verses


*Cantor:*



*All:* Refrain



Live on in my love. Live on in my



love, live on in my love.

Music and text from *Psallite*, © 2005, The Collegeville Composers Group. All rights reserved.  
Published and administered by the Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN 56321. Used with permission.

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A Shepherd God,  
you have prepared a table before us  
and nourished us with your love.  
Send us forth from this banquet  
to proclaim your goodness  
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,  
our redeemer and friend.

C **Amen.**

### FAREWELL AND GODSPEED TO THE MONTOURS

*As able, the assembly stands for the Final Blessing.*

#### FINAL BLESSING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

P The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope  
✠ bless you now and always.

C **Amen.**

SENDING SONG - "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" - ELW 631 - Verses 1, 3 & 4



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!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887



## DISMISSAL

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

## POSTLUDE - Guy Ervin III

*Thank you to Today's Worship Assistants, especially the members of our  
Men's Bible Study (current as of printing date)*

*Acolytes -*

*Altar Guild - Gayle Johnson, Gail Baird*

*Assisting Minister - Herb Holler*

*Children, Family, Youth Ministry Director - Joe Zimmerly*

*Clergy - Pastor Julie Morris*

*Communion Assistants - Dan Nelson, Gordon Henry, Bryan & William Honda,  
Henry & Twila Moraga, LaJean Wenzel*

*Greeter - Randy Churchill*

*Music Ministers -*

*Songleaders - Gayle Johnson, Barbara Recker*

*Accompanist - Guy Ervin III*

*Percussion - Jeffrey Saner*

*Mount Cross Choir -*

*Fred Antrim, Mary Goodenough, Melissa Henry, Gayle Johnson, Evonne Kuchera,  
Dan Nelson, Susan Prosser, Barbara Recker, Keith Selbrede*

*Readers - Rick Gardner*

*Technical Crew - Bill Dawson, Justin Thai, Cy Johnson*

*Ushers - Fred Antrim, Peter Johnson*

*Deacon Dr. Cecelia Travick-Jackson is away for a few weeks due to medical reasons.*

*Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE  
License #A-706290 and CCLI License #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\*\*](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 **11:00-11:15 a.m.**

# The Week at a Glance

## **TODAY, April 28**

Civics Study, 11:00 a.m.

See the announcement below about an ELCA Civics Study led by Pastor Julie at 11:00 a.m. in the Parish Life Center.

Care Team Presentation, 1:00 p.m.

See the announcement below for details about the Caregiver presentation by the Care Team at 1:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

## **Monday, April 29**

Men's Al-Anon, 7:00 p.m.

A Men's Al-Anon group meets in the Parish Life Center at 7:00 p.m.

## **Tuesday, April 30**

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

The Women's Bible Study meets at 9:00 a.m. in the sanctuary. Questions, contact Pastor Julie.

Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6:15 p.m.

This week, the Bell Choir rehearses on Tuesday instead of Wednesday, in the sanctuary loft from 6:15-7:15 p.m.

## **Wednesday, May 1**

Meditation, 10:00 a.m.

The Meditation group meets on Zoom at 10:00 a.m. Questions, contact LaJean Wenzel.

ROOTED, 5:00 p.m.

This program for Faith Formation parents and others is on Wednesdays, 5:00-5:45 p.m. Questions, please contact Pastor Julie, [pastorjulie@mountcross.com](mailto:pastorjulie@mountcross.com).

Fun with Faith, 5:00 p.m.

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

Community Dinner, 5:45 p.m.

All are invited to join us for dinner each Wednesday in the pavilion and Parish Life Center. Suggested donation: \$7/adult; \$5/children 10 & under. Questions, contact Joe ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)).

Confirmation, 6:30 p.m.

Confirmation for our Middle School youth meets at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. Questions, contact Joe ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)).

Choir Rehearsal, 7:00 p.m.

The choir meets in the sanctuary at 7:00 p.m. (a half-hour early this week) to rehearse music for Sundays and learn anthems and special music.

## **Thursday, May 2**

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

The Men's Bible Study meets at Marie Callender's (185 E. Daily Drive, Camarillo). A \$15 donation covers breakfast and a tip, No RSVP necessary. Contact Randy Churchill ([hrenchurchill@verizon.net](mailto:hrenchurchill@verizon.net)) with any questions.

Executive Committee Zoom, 7:00 p.m.

The Executive Committee meets at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom.

Property Committee, 7:00 p.m.

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

## **Friday, May 3**

Senior Adult Ministry Committee, 2:00 p.m.

The Senior Adult Ministry Committee meets at 2:00 p.m.

## **Saturday, May 4**

Al-Anon, 10:00 a.m.

Al-Anon meets at 10:00 a.m. in the Parish Life Center.

Miracle League Game, 11:00 a.m.

The Miracle League, a baseball league for kids and adults with special needs, has a game at Freedom Park, next to the Co-Op Preschool (275 E. Pleasant Valley Rd., Camarillo, 93010). Questions, contact Joe Zimmerly ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)).

World Labyrinth Day Walk at St. Columba's, 1:00 p.m.

See the announcement below about the World Labyrinth Day celebration at St. Columba's Episcopal at 1:00 p.m.

# Announcements

## Sunday Worship

We always need worship assistants. We will train you. Contact Vicky Edell at [vickyedell5@gmail.com](mailto:vickyedell5@gmail.com), 818-395-7674, or sign-up online at <https://signup.com/Group/7769976983269200115/>. Thank you for serving at Mount Cross!

## Children, Youth, and Family Ministry

For information on our programs, email Joe ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)).

## Altar Flowers

To request flowers for our worship: <https://bit.ly/AltarFlowers2023>. The cost is \$40.00; you can take the arrangement home with you after worship, or pick it up at Communion following worship. If you aren't here but would still like flowers, let us know; we'll deliver the arrangement to another member to enjoy. If you ordered flowers, please remember to pay for them - online or in the offering, marked for "Flowers."

## Financial Statements

Thank you, Mount Cross congregation, for all the generosity you show your church family! Please email any questions about giving and/or statements to Financial Secretary Joan Brundage at [jbrundage@mountcross.com](mailto:jbrundage@mountcross.com).

## 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** (tuna or chicken) are always a good choice. They could also use **cereal, oatmeal, pasta sauce, pasta, canned soup, mac & cheese, fresh bread, toilet paper, paper towels, and Kleenex**. Please **do not donate food that is expired**. Thanks for your support.

## Civic Life and Faith Study Group - Begins TODAY

The ELCA is developing a social statement on civic life and faith, the relationship of church and state, and related matters, as called for by the 2019 ELCA Churchwide Assembly. Social statements are the ELCA's primary documents to address significant social issues. They are intended to aid reflection, shape conscience, and set forth the ELCA's teaching and policy on the major social issues and questions of contemporary life. Social statements are developed by task forces, using an established process of study and widespread participation across the church to guide theological and moral deliberation.

Church members are encouraged to study and give feedback on a draft version of the social statement. You can read a draft of the statement at <https://bit.ly/CivicLifeFaithDraft>. The feedback period will be open until September 30, 2024. Pastor Julie invites you to join her in studying the draft document using a 6-session study guide prepared by the ELCA Task Force on Civic Life and Faith. **We will meet Sundays, April 28, May 5, May 26, June 2, June 9, and June 30 from 11:00 a.m. - Noon in the PLC.**

Contact her at [pastorjulie@mountcross.com](mailto:pastorjulie@mountcross.com) for more information.

## Mother's Day Fundraiser for Youth Trip - ORDER TODAY

Mother's Day is just around the corner! Show Mom some love with our handcrafted charcuterie boards lovingly prepared by our church's teens. Join us in supporting our church's New Orleans trip! Every bite brings us closer to our goal. All orders will be available for pick up at Mount Cross on Saturday, May 11, anytime after 3:00 p.m. or Sunday, May 12, anytime after 10:30 a.m. If you're interested in placing an order, make sure to fill out our Google form; deadline is Saturday, May 4.

Thank you for your support! [Click Here - Mothers Day Order Form](#)

**“Caring for the Home Caregiver”**  
**Health Education Program in the Sanctuary**  
**TODAY, April 28, 1:00-2:30 p.m.**

Refreshments, resources, and conversations will follow in the Patio Pavilion.

Topics include:

- Support for those providing home care – yourself or another.
- Accessing outside care services – knowing what’s available and when and how to ask for help.
  - When and how to evaluate and select out-of-home care placement.

Speakers are professionals associated with caregiving and a trained family member caregiver. An opportunity for your questions will be provided. You are encouraged to attend and invite others!

If you have questions, contact Evonne Kuchera, Mount Cross Care Team Health Ministry Nurse, at 805-377-0808 or [evonnemk@aol.com](mailto:evonnemk@aol.com).

**World Labyrinth Day - This Saturday, May 4**

Every year on the first Saturday in May, thousands of people around the globe participate in **World Labyrinth Day** as a moving meditation for world peace and celebration of the labyrinth experience (<https://www.worldlabyrinthday.org/>).

All are invited to the Larkin Labyrinth at **St. Columba's Episcopal Church** (1251 Las Posas Rd., Camarillo; behind the church) **this Saturday, May 4, at 1:00 p.m.** as we celebrate World Labyrinth Day. We will be joining with people around the world to “**Walk as One at 1.**” This global event will create a rolling wave of peaceful energy passing from one time zone to another. Light refreshments will be provided. Questions, contact St. Columba’s ([office.manager@stcolumbaca.com](mailto:office.manager@stcolumbaca.com), 805-482-8831).

**Legacy Giving/Endowment Requests**

The Legacy Giving Team is currently soliciting requests for distributions from the Endowment Fund. Requests may be made in the areas of Missions, Education, Children & Young Adult Ministry, Worship & Music, as well as Capital Projects. All applications must include the simple one-page form, available in the office or at this link:

<https://bit.ly/2024EndowmentApplication>. College scholarship applicants should work with Joe on an appropriate essay and materials to submit.

The Legacy Giving Team will consider all requests and submit recommendations to the Church Council for funding approval. Provide funding requests to the Church Office ([office@mountcross.com](mailto:office@mountcross.com)) by **May 10, 2024**. Please contact Brian Fisher with any questions.

**May 13 Pick Up Stix Fundraiser**

Help raise funds for our Youth Trip this summer. Get a flyer from the narthex or the office and purchase food at the Camarillo **Pick Up Stix** (660 Ventura Blvd., 93010), on **Monday, May 13, from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.**, and Pick Up Stix will donate 25% of the day’s sales – dine in or take out. Thanks for supporting our youth!

## **Reconciling in Christ (RIC) Fundraiser - May 17**

Give your night a Twist! The RIC team would like to invite you to join others and represent Mount Cross at "Paint with a Twist." This is a fundraiser for Camarillo Pride 2024. All participants must be 21+. Sip, Socialize and Create! Friday, May 17, 5:45-8:00 p.m. Details and/or to register, see the following link (Painting with a Purpose-May 17th):

<https://www.paintingwithatwist.com/studio/Camarillo/calendar>

## **Help Feed People in Need**

The second Monday of every month, Mount Cross joins with Camarillo United Methodist Church to cook for Many Meals, the dinner served at St. Mary Magdalen Church to people in need. The recipes are provided. All you need to do is sign up, cook, and drop off the food at 4:00 p.m. at St. Mary's. If you can help, please let Karin Grennan know. Her email address is [grennan4@verizon.net](mailto:grennan4@verizon.net).

## **Vacation Bible School - August 5-9**



Mount Cross is hosting **Vacation Bible School** on **August 5-9, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon** each day. Our theme this year is "On Earth as in Heaven" written by ELCA World Hunger. Each day, our kids will be learning parts of the Lord's Prayer through stories, crafts, games, and music. Make sure to click the link below in order to register your child. Children of VBS volunteers attend for FREE this year! If you would like help, please contact Joe ([joe@mountcross.com](mailto:joe@mountcross.com)).

We hope to see your children there! [Click Here - VBS Registration Form](#)

## **LRCC Fundraiser for Electric Vehicle**

Give to **Lutheran Retreats Camps and Conference's** 4th Annual Earth Day Fundraiser. This year, we're setting our sights on a greener tomorrow and launching our **Electric Vehicle Fleet project!** This year, as a staff, we are celebrating from both our camps. Part of the challenge of running two sites with one staff, is the driving. El Camino Pines and Luther Glen Farm sit 160 miles apart. This 3 to 5 hour drive through LA traffic is a mainstay for our staff.

The other big drive we frequently make is to and from churches and schools for animal visits. At these visits, we bring Luther Glen Farm to you and set up a farm stand and petting zoo.

These trips take us in a gas-guzzling SUV towing a horse trailer as far as San Diego or San Fernando. Due to the price of gas and the inefficiency of our tow car, we have recently added a gas fee to help with the costs of transportation. You can donate online:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-Z8C1/campaign/C-14TQR>

## **ELCA National Youth Gathering - July 15-20, 2024**

Every three years, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America hosts the National Youth Gathering in various cities around the country for over 30,000 high-school-aged youth. The Gathering's goal is to create environments and opportunities for faith formation through worship, interactive learning, Bible study, service, and fellowship. While some of the experiences can be replicated at home, some are unique and special to the Gathering because of the size and scope of this ministry. As we worship in the Superdome (home of the New Orleans Saints), walk through Jackson Square, listen to the community, pray for one another, I encourage you to follow our journey and I also invite you to find ways to support our youth from Mount Cross. Whether that be financially, or by prayer, we want the entire Mount Cross community to remember that we are all on this journey together. —Joe Zimmerly

### **Giving to Mount Cross!**

If you would like to give to Mount Cross, in addition to adding your offering to the collection plate on Sundays, you can do so via [our online giving page](#), through mail (102 Camino Esplendido, Camarillo, CA 93010), or via our Venmo account (@MountCross-LutheranChurch, or scan the QR code) 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 be sure to indicate what your payment / donation is designated for. Thank you!



### **Mount Cross Lutheran Church Welcome Statement**

*Mount Cross Lutheran Church welcomes, embraces, and affirms all individuals, regardless of race, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, faith background, physical or mental ability or anything else that may set us apart from each other. We are a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) congregation, one of over 1000 Lutheran communities that intentionally welcome and affirm LGBTQIA+ people and families. We are committed to racial equity and the work of anti-racism, celebrating the beautiful tapestry of humanity and fostering an inclusive community that recognizes the inherent worth and dignity of every person. We strive to follow Jesus' way of love, compassion, and justice and invite you to walk this path alongside us. With open hearts and open arms, we welcome you.*