

# Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church



**October 27, 2024**

**Pastor: Rev. Laura O'Brien**  
1701 Fredericks Street  
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405  
[www.mtcarmelslo.org](http://www.mtcarmelslo.org)

## GATHER

### Prelude

“A Mighty Fortress” — J. S. Bach  
Paul Woodring, organist

### Announcements & Good News Minute

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

#### Birthday Blessing

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### Anniversary Blessing

O God, send your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### Confession & Forgiveness

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

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have honored you with our lips,  
but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues.**

**The cravings at war within us  
cause conflicts and disputes.**

**In our desire to be first**

**we make distinctions among ourselves.**

**We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last.**

**In your great mercy, forgive us our sins.**

**Draw near to us with grace in time of need,  
and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ,  
our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

God promises to forgive our iniquity  
and to remember our sin no more.

By grace you have been saved.  
 In the name of † Jesus Christ,  
 the source of eternal healing,  
 your sins are forgiven.  
**Amen.**

**Gathering Hymn**

**"A Mighty Fortress"**

**Hymn #504**



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -  
 2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -  
 3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -  
 4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and  
 ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom  
 your us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they  
 fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe  
 God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?  
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;  
 weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might  
 The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,  
 in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;  
 goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.  
 God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.  
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.  
 they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*  
 Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther  
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## Greeting

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

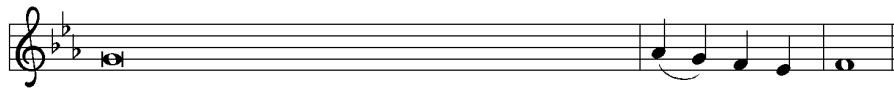
## Kyrie



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



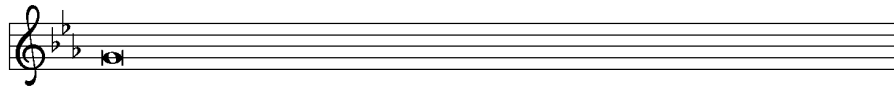
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



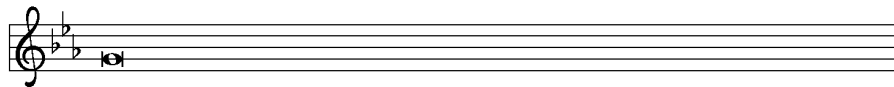
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

## Hymn of Praise

*Refrain*



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



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



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
2 Sing . . with all the peo - ple of God, and



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



Pow - er and rich - es, wis - dom and strength, and  
Bless - ing and hon - or, glo - ry and might be to



hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



3 For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Children's Message

### WORD

#### First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

*The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the LORD means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the LORD will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.*

<sup>31</sup> The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>32</sup> It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. <sup>33</sup> But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. <sup>34</sup> No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God**

#### Psalm: Psalm 46

*The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. (Ps. 46:7)*

<sup>1</sup> God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup> **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

<sup>3</sup> though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

<sup>4</sup> **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.**

<sup>5</sup> God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

<sup>6</sup> **The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

<sup>7</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

<sup>8</sup> **Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

<sup>9</sup> behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

<sup>10</sup> **“Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**

<sup>11</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

### **Second Reading: Romans 3:19-28**

*Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.*

<sup>19</sup> Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. <sup>20</sup> For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

<sup>21</sup> But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, <sup>22</sup> the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, <sup>23</sup> since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; <sup>24</sup> they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, <sup>25</sup> whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; <sup>26</sup> it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

<sup>27</sup> Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. <sup>28</sup> For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Verse**

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.  
*Repeat alleluia*  
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

### **Gospel Reading: John 8:31-36    *Glory to you, O Lord***

*Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.*

<sup>31</sup> Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; <sup>32</sup>and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” <sup>33</sup> They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. <sup>35</sup> The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. <sup>36</sup> So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

## **Praise to You, O Christ**

**Sermon**

Pastor Laura O'Brien

**Song of the Day**

“Roll Away Your Stone”

Verse 1:

**Roll away your stone, I'll roll away mine.**

**Together we can see what we will find.**

**Don't leave me alone at this time, for I'm afraid of what I will discover inside.**

Verse 2:

**'Cause you told me that I would find a hole within the fragile substance of my soul. And I have filled this void with things unreal. And all the while my character it steals.**

Chorus:

**And darkness is a harsh term don't you think? And yet it dominates the things I see.**

Verse 3:

**It seems that all my bridges have been burnt. But you say that's exactly how this grace thing works. It's not the long walk home that will change this heart, but the welcome I receive with the restart.**

Chorus:

**And darkness is a harsh term don't you think? And yet it dominates the things I see.**

**And darkness is a harsh term don't you think? And yet it dominates the things I see.**

**Stars, hide your fires!**

**These here are my desires**

**And I will give them up to you this time around**

**And so, I'll be found**

**With my stake stuck in this ground**

**Marking its territory of this newly impassioned soul**



**Hide your fires!  
These here are my desires  
And I will give them up to you this time around  
And so, I'll be found  
With my stake stuck in this ground  
Marking its territory of this newly impassioned soul**

[Outro]

**But you, you've gone too far this time  
You have neither reason nor rhyme  
With which to take this home that is so rightfully mine.**

### **Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Challenged by God's Word in Christ, let us pray for the church, the world, and the whole creation.

*A brief silence.*

Lord of all, we give thanks for the whole church throughout the world. Open wide the paths toward unity between denominations so that all followers of Christ may join in shared worship and mission. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Renewing God, as the dying leaves display their beauty, we are reminded that nature's cycle of life includes and requires both life and death. Instill in your people a mission of preservation and appreciation for trees, animals, and waterways threatened by climate collapse. God of grace,

**hear our prayer.**

Gracious God, in the spirit of reformation we pray for all who cry out for relief from systemic oppression. May the hearts of those who occupy seats of power be reformed so that peace becomes the center of our life together. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Comforting God, be with all who are sick, suffering, or grieving in our own community and beyond (*especially*). Surround them with the promise of your love, comfort, and grace that never ends. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Divine Guide, continue to challenge this community to be ever reforming in our ministries and outreach efforts. Inspire creative ideas among us so that the communal, grace-filled word of God remains at the heart of our ministry. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

*Prayer requests:* Elsa Brody; Dorothy Cunningham; Sally Reck; Beryl Bennett; Carolyn Voss; Sandra Schick; Jim Schick; Jeannie Ledford; Lalo Jimenez; Julia Bobkof; Jake Kinsey; Aidan Walls; Tristian Yeager; The Dresp Family;

*Prayers for our church family:* Laura, Bernie & Katie O'Brien; Dave & Sherri Parkinson; Joan Pedersen

Almighty God, in Christ's resurrection you ensure that though life be wrenched away, death cannot win the day. May the truth of your saving grace through faith sustain our hope for life in you. God of grace,  
**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, O God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in the saving grace you freely give, both now and forever. **Amen.**

## **The Peace**

### **Offering/Offertory**

"Because of Your Love"

Intro

**Yeah yeah  
Yeah yeah**

Verse

**As we come into Your presence  
We remember ev'ry blessing  
That You've poured out so freely from above  
Lifting gratitude and praises  
For compassion so amazing  
Lord we've come to give You thanks  
For all You've done**

Chorus

**Because of Your love we're forgiven  
Because of Your love our hearts are clean  
We lift You up with songs of freedom  
Forever we're changed because of Your love**

Interlude

**Yeah Yeah**

Ending

**Yeah  
Yeah Yeah (3X)**

Brenton Brown, Paul Baloche

CCLI Song #4662501

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**Prayer over the Gifts**

Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**MEAL**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

**Preface**

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:

## Sanctus

“This Is the Gift of God”

### Verse 1

**Because of His love rich in mercy  
He made us alive in Him  
Saved us from death rescued the sinners  
This is the gift of God**

### Chorus

**Holy is the Lamb of God  
Holy is the One who loved  
Not by works but by His blood  
This is the gift of God**

Carl Cartee, Jon Abel

CCLI Song #5360280

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Benson Songs

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## Eucharistic Prayer

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

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

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

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

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

**Amen.**

## The Lord's Prayer

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.

## Communion Song

### "One Bread, One Body"

*Refrain*



One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all; one cup of  
bless-ing which we bless, and we, though man-y  
through-out the earth, we are one bod - y in this one Lord.  
1 Gen - tile or Jew, ser - vant or free,  
2 Man - y the gifts, man - y the works,  
3 Grain for the fields, scat-tered and grown,  
*Refrain*  
wom - an or man, no more.  
one in the Lord of all.  
gath - ered to one for all.

Text: John Foley, SJ, b. 1939

Music: ONE BREAD, ONE BODY, John Foley, SJ

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## Prayer after Communion

Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

# SENDING

## Benediction

### Sending Song

### “Here I Am Lord”



1 “I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry.  
2 “I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple’s pain.  
3 “I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.



All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn a - way.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.



I, who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.



Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?”  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?”  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?”



Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you



call-ing in the night. I will go, Lord, if you



lead me. I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte

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## Dismissal

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Thanks to:**

Ushers:

Lector: Chuck Kilstrom

Communion Servers: Diane Mansell

Coffee Service: Carol Harvey

Altar Guild: Jan Uder

Audio/Visual: Caleb Holman / Donley Winger

Musicians, Singers: Paul Woodring / Dave Becker / Joan Pedersen / Matt  
Schultze / Ryan Reck / Talia Ortega / Janis Sexton / Katie O'Brien / William  
Hartman / Aiden Dellinger

The flowers on the altar are sponsored by John & Janis Sexton in honor of Janis' mother who loved Halloween.

*Flowers are arranged by the students at Cal Poly Plant Shop*