

Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church

Celebrating God's grace through worship, learning and service.



November 16, 2025

Pastor: Rev. Laura O'Brien
1701 Fredericks Street
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405
www.mtcarmelslo.org

GATHER

Prelude

Paul Woodring, organist

Announcements & Good News Minute

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

**you have shown us the ways of your heart,
yet we stray from your paths.**

**We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression
and do not embrace the freedom
of your faithful promises.**

We ignore our neighbors.

We exploit the earth.

**We reject your abundance,
trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.**

**Repair our relationships,
restore what we have broken,
renew our hearts,
and bring us to new life.**

Amen.

Hear the good news:

God the Faithful One loves you,

† in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,

and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

Amen.



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



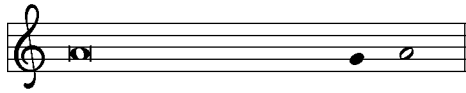
who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.
Music: FOUNDATION, Early American

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 a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



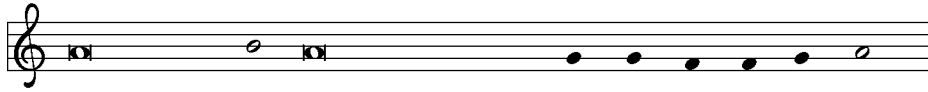
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



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

Hymn of Praise

"This is the Feast"

Refrain
Assisting minister



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

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



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



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

Refrain



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

Prayer of the Day

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Time

Deanna Schultze

WORD

First Reading: Malachi 4:1-2a

Malachi, whose name means "my messenger," warns that "the day is coming." On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the "sun of righteousness" will shine on those who honor God.

¹ See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a} But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God**

Psalm: Psalm 98

In righteousness will the LORD judge the world. (Ps. 98:9)

¹ Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

² **O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

³ You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴ **Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

⁵ Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶ **With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

⁷ Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸ **Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

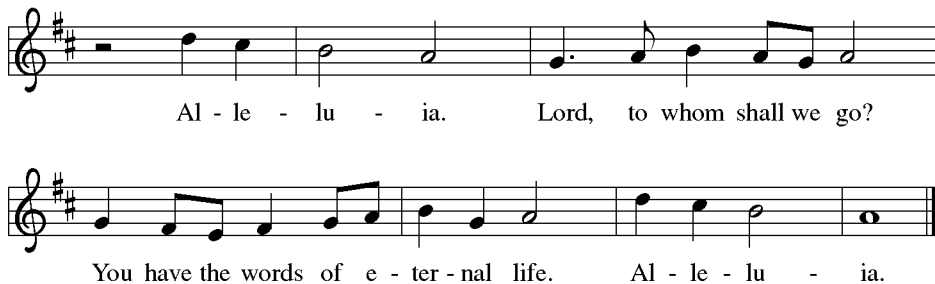
⁹ The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Some members of the Thessalonian community, because of their belief in the nearness of Christ's return, had ceased to work, living off the generosity of other members of the community. The writer of this letter warns them bluntly that if they want to eat, they need to work.

⁶ Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸ and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right. Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation



Holy Gospel: Luke 21:5-19

Glory to you, O Lord

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶ "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

⁷ They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" ⁸ And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

⁹ "When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these

things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” ¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹² “But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

Praise to You, O Christ

Sermon

Pastor Laura O'Brien

Song of the Day

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:
2 Christ is a - ble to make us one, at the ta - ble he sets the tone,
3 Je - sus calls us in, sends us out bear - ing fruit in a world of doubt,



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.
teach - ing peo - ple to live to bless, love in word and in deed ex - press.
gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Im - man - u - el) ev - 'ry - where!

Refrain



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

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: LINSTED, Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925–1980

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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

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

God of roots and branches, defend the leaders of your church as they proclaim the gospel using discernment, wisdom, and brave testimony. Keep all the baptized on righteous paths in response to Christ's call. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of roaring seas, in a world of earthquake, famine, and plague, use your mighty power to nurture the land and all that lives upon it. Restore peoples and places experiencing natural disasters (*especially*). Strengthen organizations who provide aid to any in crisis. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of victory, among quests for power, guide those in government, courts, law enforcement agencies, and the military. Turn them from war and violence to actions of care that build up the common good. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of healing, where injustice and exploitation result in populations that are marginalized or underserved, accompany those abandoned by friends, hurt by family, and harmed by violence or oppression. Care for all who are ill, anxious, or in pain of any kind (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of new songs, in a congregation of faithful believers, energize us for compassionate service and delight us through worship and inspired prayer. Encourage your people in building equitable community where all are valued. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Prayer requests: For the health of Dorothy Cunningham; Sally Reck; Beryl Bennett; Carolyn Voss; Dave Lonsway; Steve Bennett; Betty Johnson; Nancy Priddy; Wolfie Vogel & family; Pat Bathke; Jeanie Schultz and family at the passing of her husband, Gary.

Denny Connolly, Paul Thomas, Julia Bobkoff; Sean Cannoles (Vicky's nephew); Dorothy Adams & family; Ingrid Frokjer & Family; Rory Moody (MaryAnn's granddaughter)

Prayers for our church family: Sharon Haupt; Margot Hemmersbach; Jean Hohenstein

God of every generation, we remember the saints with steadfast love and faithfulness (*especially*). Confident in Christ's victory over death, may we be inspired by the example of the faithful. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

The Peace

Offering/Offertory

"Because of Your Love"

**As we come into Your presence
We remember every 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**

**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**

Yeah yeah

**As we come into Your presence
We remember every 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**

**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**

**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**

**Yeah yeah
yeah yeah**

Brenton Brown, Paul Baloche

CCLI Song #4662501

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Prayer over the Gifts

God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever.

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. 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"

**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**

**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**

**Before the creation we were chosen
Adopted into His love
Glorious grace lavished upon us
This is the gift of God**

Eucharistic Prayer

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup
we remember your Word dwelling among us,
full of grace and truth.
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, 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

"Draw Me Close/Breathe"

Verse

Draw me close to You never let me go

I lay it all down again

To hear You say that I'm Your friend

You are my desire no one else will do

'Cause nothing else could take Your place

To feel the warmth of Your embrace

Help me find the way bring me back to You

Chorus

You're all I want

You're all I've ever needed

You're all I want

Help me know You are near

Verse

This is the air I breathe

This is the air I breathe

Your holy presence living in me

**This is my daily bread
This is my daily bread
Your very word spoken to me**

**Chorus
And I I'm desperate for You
And I I'm lost without You**

**Chorus
You're all I want
You're all I've ever needed
You're all I want
Help me know You are near**

Kelly Carpenter
CCLI Song #1459484 & 1874117
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Prayer after Communion

God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.

Amen.

SENDING

Benediction

Sending Song

"Break Dividing Walls"

Verse 1

**(For) There is a place of commanded blessing
Where brethren in unity dwell
A place where anointing oil is flowing
Where we live as one**

Verse 2

**You have called us to be a body
You have called us as friends
Joined together in the bond of the Spirit
Unto the end**

Verse 3

**Father we join with the prayer of Jesus
As You are so let us be one
Joined together in unity and purpose
All for the love of Your Son**

Chorus

**We will break dividing walls
We will break dividing walls
We will break dividing walls
In the name of Your Son
We will break dividing walls
We will break dividing walls
And we will be one**

Ending

**We will be one
We will be one**

David Ruis

CCLI Song #1229573

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Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

Thanks to:

Ushers: Sheryl Huffaker / Jackie Kinsey

Lector: John Cook

Communion Servers: John Cook

Coffee Service: Kathy & Burke Towle

Altar Guild: Jenice Twomey

Audio/Visual: Katie O'Brien / Donley Winger / Belen Sanchez

Musicians, Singers: Paul Woodring / Dave Becker / Joan Pedersen / Matt

Schultze / Ryan Reck / Talia Ortega / Janis Sexton / Aiden Dellinger / Darrell

Voss

The flowers on the altar are sponsored by Diane Mansell.

Arrangement prepared by students at Cal Poly Plant Shop.



SAVE THE DATE

JOIN US FOR THESE
COMING EVENTS

Details will be provided later

Saturday, November 22 - SLO Jazz Concert / 7:00pm

Thursday & Friday, November 26 & 27 - Thanksgiving holiday (closed)

Sunday, November 30, First Sunday of Advent

December 19-21 - Christmas Play

Wednesday, December 24 - Christmas Eve Worship

Monday, December 29 - Birthday party for Mary Christensen (at Mt. Carmel)

Cookie Jar Fundraiser

ALL proceeds to benefit the
Confirmation Students

\$10 / jar

**White Chocolate Chip Cranberry
Oatmeal Cookie**

Chocolate Chip Oatmeal Cookie

**PRESALES ON SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 9TH AND 16TH**

The youth will distribute the jars on
Sunday December 14th

Cash or Check

Please make your check out to:

MCLC and put cookie jar in the memo.





The San Luis Obispo Ministerial Association
invites you to share in the annual Thanksgiving Service

“Hope as a Prayer”

**An Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration
Through Music, Spoken Word, and Reflection**

Sunday, November 16th at 4pm

(Arrive at 3pm for a service project)

**In-person at Congregation Beth David
10180 Los Osos Valley Road, SLO**



Or you can join Via Zoom:

<https://tinyurl.com/slomaGrateful>

Meeting ID 875 4025 9121 | Passcode: grateful

**An offering will be received for
40 Prado, Restorative Partners,
Lumina Alliance, and The Noor Clinic**

The Ministerial Association of San Luis Obispo PayPal: bit.ly/3ADrikY

Or please make a check out to SLOMA and mail to:

Mt. Carmel Lutheran Church, 1701 Fredericks St., San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

Additional Information: Jason Sisk-Provencio ~ jason@sloucc.org

