

Monte Vista Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
3501 Campus Blvd. NE Albuquerque, NM 87106

Live-streamed to our VistaStream YouTube channel
(<https://www.montevista.org/vistastream>)

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 2025
10:30am MT

Order of Worship

Welcome Anne Loveless

Prelude *Pastoral Prelude [Three Characteristic Pieces, #1]* Paulette McClellan
by Jean Langlais

*Call to Worship Anne

One: We are called to worship by a longing within our spirits.

All: We come together as we hunger and thirst for God's wisdom, power, and love.

One: We are called to worship as God constantly calls us to be reconciled with God and one another.

All: We come together in response to God's invitation and as we open ourselves to transformation.

*Opening Hymn *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* 67 (vv 1, 4, 5, 6)

*Opening Prayer Anne

Loving God, though you are creating us in your image, and as you constantly call us to be fulfilled in following the ways of Jesus, we confess that we struggle to connect. In this time of worship, in your grace, lead us to new strength to be the Body of Christ. Thank you for the power you give us to make changes in our lives and in the world. Please lead us now in worship and in life. We pray as we try to live in the name of Jesus. AMEN.

Hebrew Scripture Reading Numbers 21:4-9 Anne

They marched from Mount Hor on the Reed Sea road around the land of Edom. The people became impatient on the road. The people spoke against God and Moses: "Why did you bring us up from Egypt to kill us in the desert, where there is no food or water. And we detest this miserable bread!" So the Lord sent poisonous snakes among the people and they bit the people. Many of the Israelites died. The people went to Moses and said, "We've sinned, for we spoke against the Lord and you. Pray to the Lord so that he will send the snakes away from us." So Moses prayed for the people. The Lord said to Moses, "Make a

poisonous snake and place it on a pole. Whoever is bitten can look at it and live.” Moses made a bronze snake and placed it on a pole. If a snake bit someone, that person could look at the bronze snake and live.

One: Hear what the Spirit is Saying to you and to the Church. **All: Thanks be to God!**

Prayer Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

595 (vv 1, 2, 3)

(Please share your prayer concerns & joys with us at office@montevista.org.)

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Anne

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer (in unison)

Rev. Dr. Stephen J. Miller

Blessed One, our Father and our Mother. Holy is your name. May your love be embodied in the world. May your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Protect us in the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For all that we do in your love, and all that your love brings to birth, and the fullness of love that will be, are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Special Music

Lift High the Cross
by Lani Smith

Vista Voices

The Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:18-24

Rev. Steve

The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are being destroyed. But it is the power of God for those of us who are being saved. It is written in scripture: I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and I will reject the intelligence of the intelligent. Where are the wise? Where are the legal experts? Where are today's debaters? Hasn't God made the wisdom of the world foolish? In God's wisdom, he determined that the world wouldn't come to know him through its wisdom. Instead, God was pleased to save those who believe through the foolishness of preaching. Jews ask for signs, and Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, which is a scandal to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles. But to those who are called—both Jews and Greeks—Christ is God's power and God's wisdom.

One: Hear what the Spirit is Saying to you and to the Church. **All: Thanks be to God!**

The Gospel

John 3:13-17

Rev. Steve

No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Human One. Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so must the Human One be lifted up so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life. God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life. God didn't send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

One: Hear what the Spirit is Saying to you and to the Church. **All: Thanks be to God!**

Sermon

Power

Rev. Steve

Special Music	<i>Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing</i> arr. by Kevin McChesney	Vista Bells
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Sharing in Communion and Stewardship

Invitation to the Table	Gregg Rothrock
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(Your tithes & offerings can be given via online donations on [our website](#),
on the [Givelify app](#), or by mailing your check to the church office. Thank you.)

*Communion Hymn	<i>Beneath the Forms of Outward Rite</i>	406 (vv 1, 2, 4)
Words of Institution		Rev. Steve
Prayers for the Bread and Cup		Gregg
Receiving Communion		

Prayer of Thanksgiving	Rev. Steve
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Invitation to the Community of MVCC	Anne
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*Closing Hymn	<i>To Us All, to Every Nation</i>	634
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*Announcements	Anne
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*Benediction	Rev. Steve
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Postlude	<i>Hyfrydol</i> by Rowland Prichard, arr. by Gordon Young	Paulette
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Anne Loveless, Worship Leader  
Wally Miller, Sound

Paulette McClellan, Organist/Pianist  
Rev. Dr. Stephen J. Miller, Preaching



## 67

## O God, Our Help in Ages Past

*Descant*

6. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,

1. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
 2. Un - der the shad - ow of thy throne still may we dwell se - cure;  
 3. Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, or earth re - ceived its frame,  
 4. A thou - sand a - ges, in thy sight, are like an eve - ning gone;  
 5. Time, like an e - ver - roll - ing stream, soon bears us all a - way;  
 6. O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,

be thou our guide while life shall last, and our e - ter - nal home.

1. our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home!  
 2. suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
 3. from ev - er - last - ing, thou art God, to end - less years the same.  
 4. short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.  
 5. we fly for - got - ten, as a dream dies at the o - pening day.  
 6. be thou our guide while life shall last, and our e - ter - nal home.

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.

MUSIC: Attr. William Croft, 1708; desc. Donald P. Hustad, 1989

ST. ANNE  
CM

Desc. © 1990 Hope Publishing Co.

## Be Thou My Vision

595

*Unison*

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
 2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
 3. Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,  
 4. Great God of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art  
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:  
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

thou my best thought by day or by night,  
 thou my re - deem - er, my love thou hast won,  
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,  
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

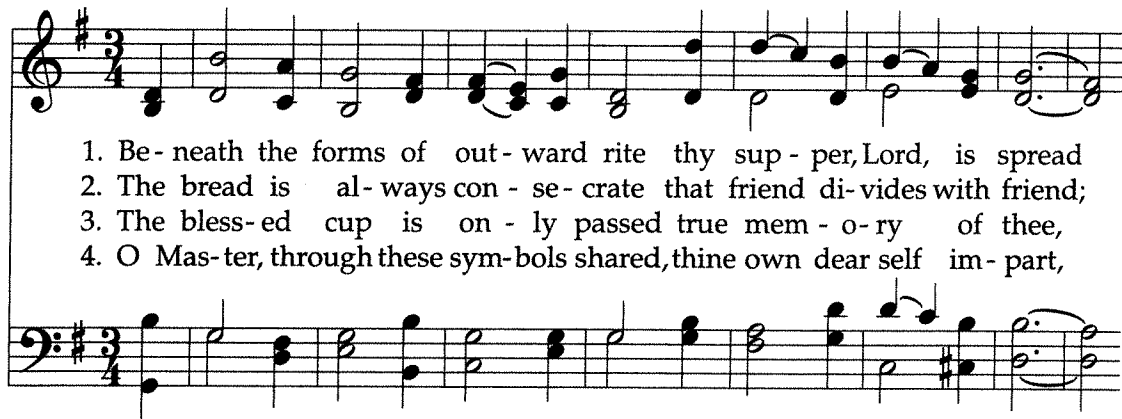
wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.  
 Great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.  
 still be my vi - sion, O Ru - ler of all.

WORDS: Irish song (8th century); tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; versed by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912, alt.

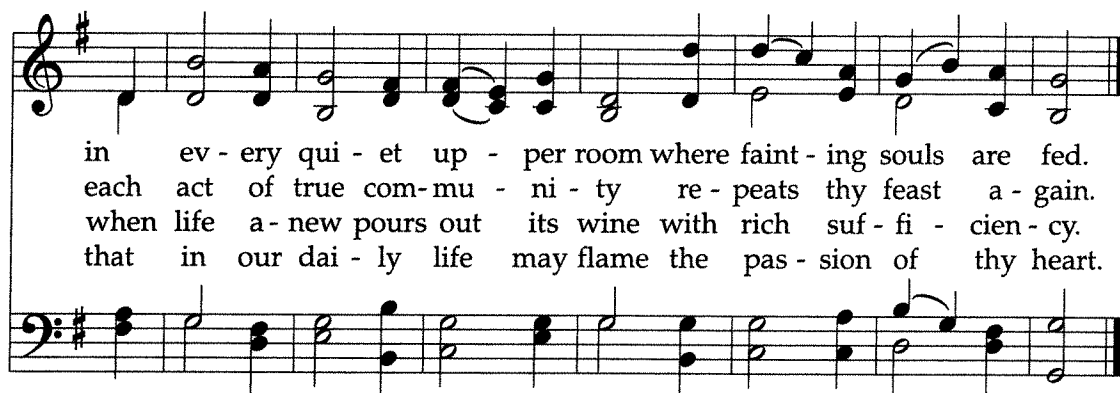
MUSIC: Traditional Irish melody; harm. Carlton R. Young, 1963

SLANE  
10 10.9 10

## Beneath the Forms of Outward Rite 406



1. Be - neath the forms of out - ward rite thy sup - per, Lord, is spread  
 2. The bread is al - ways con - se - crate that friend di - vides with friend;  
 3. The bless - ed cup is on - ly passed true mem - o - ry of thee,  
 4. O Mas - ter, through these sym - bols shared, thine own dear self im - part,



in ev - ery qui - et up - per room where faint - ing souls are fed.  
 each act of true com - mu - ni - ty re - peats thy feast a - gain.  
 when life a - new pours out its wine with rich suf - fi - cien - cy.  
 that in our dai - ly life may flame the pas - sion of thy heart.

WORDS: James A. Blaisdell, 1837, alt.  
 MUSIC: William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

BELMONT  
 CM

## 634

## To Us All, to Every Nation

1. To us all, to ev - ery na - tion comes the mo - ment  
 2. By the light of burn - ing mar - tyrs, Je - sus' bleed - ing  
 3. Though the cause of e - vil pros - per, yet 'tis truth a -

to de - cide, in the strife of truth with false - hood,  
 feet I track, toil - ing up new Cal - varies ev - er  
 lone is strong, truth for - ev - er on the scaf - fold,

for the good or e - vil side;  
 with the cross that turns not back;  
 wrong for - ev - er on the throne.

# CONFLICT AND PERSEVERANCE

some great cause, God's new en - dea-vor, of - fering each the  
 new oc - ca - sions teach new du - ties, time makes an - cient  
 Yet that scaf - fold sways the fu - ture, and, be - hind the

The first system of the musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is a treble clef with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat) and a common time signature. It features a melody with three triplet markings. The middle staff is an alto clef, and the bottom staff is a bass clef. Both the middle and bottom staves provide harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

bloom or blight, and the choice goes by for - ev - er  
 good un - couth; they must up - ward still and on - ward,  
 dim un - known, God is stand - ing in the shad - ow

The second system of the musical score continues the melody and accompaniment. It also consists of three staves (treble, alto, and bass clefs) with the same key signature and time signature. The melody in the top staff includes three triplet markings. The accompaniment in the middle and bottom staves continues with harmonic support.

'twixt that dark - ness and that light.  
 who would keep a - breast of truth.  
 keep - ing watch be - side God's own.

The third system of the musical score concludes the piece. It follows the same three-staff format (treble, alto, and bass clefs) with the established key signature and time signature. The melody in the top staff features three triplet markings. The accompaniment in the middle and bottom staves provides the final harmonic support, ending with a double bar line.