

The Church of the Holy Cross Valle Crucis, North Carolina



The Episcopal Church in the Vale of the Cross Since 1842

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

April 28, 2024

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

The Hymnody and Music noted in this leaflet is offered at the 11 AM service only.

Welcome Home to Holy Cross!

It is our privilege to worship with you this morning! Please know that all baptized Christians regardless of Church denomination, and all who seek a deeper knowledge and love of God in Christ are most welcome to receive the bread and wine of the Holy Eucharist.

Children are most welcome and encouraged to participate in all services at Holy Cross. Rocking chairs have been provided for caregivers with infants.

If this is your first time at Holy Cross, please complete a *Visitor Card* and let us know about your visit, especially if you have a specific need or prayer request. Visitor Cards are found in the pew racks. If you would like additional information about our many ministries and activities, speak to one of our Ushers or Greeters, or stop by Skiles Hall during the fellowship hour that follows each service. We would be happy to speak with you in person.

If you would like to make a financial offering or contribution, you can do so by scanning this QR Code or via our website at www.holycrossvallecrucis.net



It is the custom in The Episcopal Church to prepare for worship by gathering in reverent silence and prayer, and during the worship service, stand for praise, sit for instruction, and, as you are able, kneel for prayer. Please respect the devotional needs of others by turning off cellular telephones and electronic devices, and by speaking with hushed voices.

*Again, Welcome Home to Holy Cross! And may the peace
of the Risen Christ enfold you.*

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Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Word of God

Prelude: “O Sons and Daughters, Let Us Sing!” Rebecca Groom te Velde

Greetings and Announcements *Pages 14-16*

The Processional Hymn: #296 “We Know that Christ is Raised” *Engelberg*

Opening Acclamation: BCP 355

Priest: Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People: The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!

The Collect for Purity: BCP 355

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People: Amen.

The Response: “The Gloria”

(Spoken at 8:30; Sung at 11:00 as #S-280)

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God’s people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect of the Day:

The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

(The people are seated for the readings from Scripture.)

The First Lesson:

Acts 8:26-40

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.) 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 and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over to this chariot and join it.” So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?” He replied, “How can I, unless someone guides me?” And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. 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. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth.”

The eunuch asked Philip, “About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?” Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. 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?” He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. 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. 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Time for silent reflection follows the reading.)

The Response:

Psalm 22:24-30

Deus, Deus meus

*(Prayed responsively at 8:30 as noted in **bold** type; Sung at 11:00)*



- 24 My praise is of him in the great as-/sembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who / worship him.
- 25 **The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the LORD shall / praise him: ***
“May your heart live for / ever!”
- 26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the / LORD, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow be-/fore him.
- 27 **For kingship belongs to the / LORD; ***
he rules over the / nations.
- 28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in / worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall be-/fore him.
- 29 **My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall / serve him; ***
they shall be known as the LORD’s for / ever.
- 30 ******They shall come and make known to a people yet un-/born ***
the saving deeds that he has / done.

(Time for silent reflection follows.)

The Second Lesson:

1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. 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. 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.

Continued...

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. 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. 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. 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. We love because he first loved us. 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. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

(Time for silent reflection follows the reading.)

The Gradual Hymn: #379 "God is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him" *Abbot's Leigh*

The Holy Gospel: John 15:1-8

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said to his disciples, "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. 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. 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. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon:

The Rev. Dr. Scott A. Oxford

A time of silence follows the Sermon. Please remain seated until the Altar Ministers stand.

The Nicene Creed:

BCP 358

**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:

by the power of the Holy Spirit

**he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

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.**

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He 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.

All kneel for the prayers as they are able.

Leader: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Silence is kept.

Leader: For all people in their daily life and work;

People: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Leader: For Joseph, our President; for Roy, our Governor; for all elected officials; for this community, the nation, and the world;

People: For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Leader: For the just and proper use of your creation;

People: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Leader: We pray for those who have asked for prayers, for those in harm's way, for the unemployed, the lonely, for those who are sick, or in need, and those whom we name aloud at this time:

The People speak the names of those on their hearts.

The Leader concludes saying,

Leader: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People: For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Leader: In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Church of Bangladesh.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for St. Philip's Church, Brevard.

Leader: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People: For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Leader: For Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, Michael our Presiding Bishop, José, our Bishop: and for all bishops and other ministers;

People: For all who serve God in his Church.

Leader: For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

We pray for the peace of Jerusalem and for an end to the war and human suffering throughout the Middle East and the Ukraine.

We pray for those who travel this week, especially Pan, _____.

We pray for the grace to demonstrate in our words and deeds the Five Marks of Mission of the Anglican Communion, especially "To strive to safeguard the integrity of creation, and sustain and renew the life of the earth."

I invite your prayers of intercession either silently or aloud.

The People add their own petitions.

Leader: Hear us, Lord;

People: For your mercy is great.

Leader: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Leader: We give thanks for Kathy Canady, Arielle Bokkean, Missy Watson, Rebecca Cairns, and all who celebrate birthdays this week; and for Tom & Babette McAuliffe, Pat & Olee Olsen, and all who celebrate wedding anniversaries.

We give thanks for those who serve as *Acolytes*, and for all the ministries and activities of this parish, and pray God's continued blessing on all who partake of, or serve in them.

I invite your prayers of thanksgiving either silently or aloud.

The People add their own thanksgivings.

Leader: We will exalt you, O God our King;

People: And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Leader: We pray for _____, (and) all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Leader: Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People: Who put their trust in you.

The Priest offers a concluding prayer, saying:

BCP 395

Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you." Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

All stand.

The Peace:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

The people greet one another in the Name of the Lord.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; but chiefly are we bound to praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us, and has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us everlasting life.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

The Sanctus:

#S-129

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

(All remain standing.)

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son.

For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

(All now kneel as they are able.)

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

***Priest and People:* We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Continued...

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit (†) upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified (†) by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Brother Skiles, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By (†) him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

People: AMEN.

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer:

Traditional Version

BCP 364

The Breaking of the Bread: (The Fraction)

The Priest breaks the consecrated bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

The Fraction Anthem:

#S-155

The Priest invites the people to Communion saying,

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them ... by faith, with thanksgiving.

Please come to the Altar to receive Communion. At the Altar Rail move toward either wall so that those in the center will kneel last. Please wait to be dismissed; those in the center depart first.

Hymns during the Communion:

#323 "Bread of Heaven, on Thee We Feed"

#487 "Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life"

An extended time for silent prayer and reflection precedes and follows each communion hymn.

When all have communed, the hymn on the following page is sung.

Kneeling Hymn:

“Laudate Omnes Gentes”

Taizé Song 48

(Sung three times in Language of Choice)

Lau - da - te om - nes gen - tes, lau - da - te Do - mi - num. Lau -
 Sing prais - es, all you peo - ples, sing prais - es to the Lord. Sing
 da - te om - nes gen - tes, lau - da - te Do - mi - num! Lau -
 prais - es, all you peo - ples, sing prais - es to the Lord! Sing

An additional time for silent prayer and reflection precedes the following prayer.

The Post-communion Prayer:

BCP 365

**Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us
 as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
 and you have fed us with spiritual food
 in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
 Send us now into the world in peace,
 and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you
 with gladness and singleness of heart;
 through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

All stand.

The Blessing for Eastertide:

Priest: The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the
 great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant,
 make you perfect in every good work to do his will, working in you that which is
 pleasing in his sight;

And the blessing of God Almighty, (†) the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
 be among you, and remain with you always.

People: Amen.

Continued...

The Dismissal:

Priest: Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth in the Name of the risen Christ!

People: Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Processional Hymn: #344 “Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing” *Sicilian Mariners*

Postlude: “When, in Our Music, God is Glorified” Anna Laura Page

We thank those who served this morning

8:30 am

11:00 am

<i>Greeters/Oblationers:</i>	Stella Barbato	Randy McDonough & Karla Prudhomme
<i>Ushers:</i>	Stella Barbato	Randy McDonough & Karla Prudhomme
<i>Lector:</i>	Jane Blackburn	John Goodrich
<i>Prayers of the People:</i>	Jane Blackburn	Ann Gerber
<i>Chalice:</i>	Ted Ponko	Andrea McDonough
<i>Acolytes:</i>	Ted Ponko	Kim Gauss

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY, SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

with The Rev. Dr. Scott Oxford Presiding and Preaching

- 8:30 am** Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross (*quiet service with no music*)
- 9:30 am** Fellowship time in Skiles Hall
- 11:00 am** Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross (*with music and hymnody*)
(*This service is Live-Streamed via our YouTube Channel*)
- 12:00 pm** Fellowship time in Skiles Hall

TUESDAY, MAY 2, 2023

Contemplative Taizé Service – 6pm

The May Contemplative Service will be held May 2 at 6pm in the Chancel. A time for sitting in God’s presence, sharing prayer, music, and silence as we listen for and discern God’s call to each of us. Please join us in the Chancel and invite a friend.

NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 5, 2024
The Sixth Sunday of Easter
Rogation Sunday
(Bring plants and seedlings for blessing)

- 8:30 am** Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross (*quiet service with no music*)
- 9:30 am** **All Parish Breakfast** in Skiles Hall
- 11:00 am** Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross (*with music and hymnody*)
(*This service is Live-Streamed via our YouTube Channel*)
- 12:00 pm** Fellowship time in Skiles Hall

COFFEE HOUR HOSTS NEEDED

Coffee hour is an important time of not only fellowship but also a time to get to know our visitors and newcomers. This time after each worship is most successful when we have a little more than just coffee to serve. People tend to stay longer and interact more when there is food. Hosting coffee hour means providing *light* refreshments (cookies, cheese and crackers, nuts) and a non-coffee beverage like lemonade. It also means cleaning up afterwards and removing the trash bags. Teams of two volunteers work best. The sign-up sheet can be found on the coffee ledge in Skiles Hall. Please consider hosting!

The Parish Prayer List: April 28, 2024

Please keep the following in your prayers this week:

For Healing: Our injured and disabled military personnel, our veterans, all civilians harmed in conflict, and for Dayton C., Laura B., Wendell S., Noyes L., Marilyn W., Gerry P., Shirley N., Rebecca M., Sam Y., Bill B., Roberta T., Gail T., Julia M., Walter B., Randy M., John M., Shane B., Terry S., Claire M., Sara P., Tav G., Patty D., Bill M., Lynn V., Andrea M., Bonnie R., Sheila W., Betty H., Charles III, Mack G., Janis B., Anna Jane R., Joe H., Tony W., Rebecca H., Steve S., Nick H., Pat & Linda H., Peggy F., Kate M., John N., Dawn A., Floyd T., Kimberly M., Catherine R., Molly H., Ray L., _____.

For those in Harm's Way: All who serve with the armed forces at home & abroad, all who serve in the Peace Corps, for Chris B., and all health & relief workers throughout the world.

The Church of the Holy Cross

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Diocese of Western North Carolina

The Rt. Rev. José McLoughlin, Bishop

Clergy and Staff

The Rev. R. Allan McCaslin, Rector
Elaine Kallestad, Choir Director/Organist
Ahren Koenig, Parish Administrator

Vestry

Andrea McDonough (2024), Senior Warden
Walter Browning (2024)
Patty Dilley (2024)
Craig Adams (2025)
Tav Gauss (2025)
Darby Logan (2025)
Doris Boulton (2026)
Terry Fulton (2026)
Angela Williams (2026)

Officers

Jan Skopecek, Treasurer
Dedy Traver, Clerk
