

# The Church of the Holy Cross Valle Crucis, North Carolina



The Episcopal Church in the Vale of the Cross Since 1842

## *The Third Sunday of Advent*

**December 15, 2024**

Holy Eucharist, Rite II  
11:00 AM



## *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.

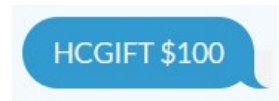
Children are most welcome and encouraged to participate in all services at Holy Cross. Rocking chairs have been provided for caregivers with infants.

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](http://www.holycrossvallecrucis.net)



You can also give through online text by sending **HCGIFT** to **73256**, followed by the gift amount  
*Messages and data rates may apply*



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 God's peace enfold you.*

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## Holy Eucharist, Rite II The Word of God

**Prelude:**

*Offered by Shane Watson*

***Parish Announcements***

*Pages 15-18*

**The Processional Hymn: #59 “Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding”**

*Merton*

**Opening Acclamation:**

EOW I 50

**Priest:** Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

***People:*** **Glory to God for ever and ever. Amen.**

**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.**

**Hymn of Praise: #56 (vs. 5) “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”**

*Veni, veni, Emmanuel*

**O come, thou Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**The Collect of the Day:**

The Lord be with you.

***People:*** **And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever.

***People:*** **Amen.**

*All are now seated for the Lighting of the Advent Wreath and the readings from Scripture.*

## The Lighting of the Advent Wreath:

*Compiled by The Rev. Matthew Kozłowski*

### The Third Sunday of Advent:

Priest: Today we light the first, second and third candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. This first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, and the third candle is JOY.

*The candles are lit by representatives of the Vestry.*

Vestry: Isaiah 55:12 – You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.

**People: Gracious God, you came to us in human flesh and you abide with us in the Holy Spirit. Fill us with your joy, and help us shine as a light to the world. Through Jesus Christ, who makes our joy complete. Amen.**

### The Lesson from the Old Testament:

**Zephaniah 3:14-20**

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more.

On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*A time for silent reflection follows.*

### The Children's Homily: "John the Baptizer"

**The Rev. Robert G. Hartmans**

*All children are most welcome to come forward for the children's homily.*

*After the story all are invited to rejoin their parents or to join Patty and Mary for activities in Skiles Hall.  
Children will return at the Passing of the Peace.*

## The Lesson from the New Testament:

**Philippians 4:4-7**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say: Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

## The Gradual Hymn: LEVAS #12 "We're Marching to Zion"

Watts/Lowry



1. Come, we that love\_\_ the Lord, And let our joys\_\_ be known;\_\_ Join
2. Let those re - fuse\_\_ to sing Who nev - er knew\_ our God;\_\_ But
3. The hill of Zi - on yields A thou-sand sa - cred sweets\_\_ Be -
4. Then let our songs\_\_ a - bound, And ev - 'ry tear\_\_ be dry;\_\_ We're



1. in a song with sweet ac - cord, Join in a song with sweet ac -
2. chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, But chil - dren of the heav'n - ly
3. fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, Be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly
4. march - ing through Im - man - uel's ground, We're march - ing thro' Im - man - uel's



1. cord, And thus sur - round the throne, And thus sur - round the throne.\_\_
2. King, May speak their joys a - broad, May speak their joys a - broad.\_\_
3. fields, Or walk the gold - en streets, Or walk the gold - en streets.\_\_
4. ground, To fair - er worlds on high, To fair - er worlds on high.\_\_

# The Gradual Hymn: LEVAS #12 “We’re Marching to Zion”

Watts/Lowry

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are: "We're march - ing to Zi - on, Beau - ti - ful, beau - ti - ful Zi - on; We're march - ing up - ward to Zi - on, The beau - ti - ful cit - y of God." The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and a steady rhythm.

## The Holy Gospel:

Luke 3:7-18

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

*People:* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals.

*Continued...*

He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon:**

**The Rev. Robert G. Hartmans**

*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 stand or kneel for the prayers as they are able.*

### **The Prayers of the People:**

*The Prayers of the People are a combination of Form II (BCP 385)  
and Advent Prayers from "Liturgy for the Whole Church"*

Leader: I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishop José;  
for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

**People: God of the prophets, give your church courage to speak truth,  
and to tell of your love.**

Leader: I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being  
of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

**People: God of the angels, give your church voice to sing about your presence  
into the world, give the world a freedom song, and help us to declare  
the promise of peace.**

Leader: I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed,  
and those in prison. Pray for those in need or trouble.

**People: God of the magi, give your church gifts, and the will to leave home  
to find you among the poor.**

Leader: I invite prayers for those who are dear to you.

*The people are invited to offer prayers and hopes either in their heart or by saying out loud:  
"My prayer is: \_\_\_\_\_. This is my prayer."*

*The people will respond:*

**People: This is our prayer.**

*Continued...*

Leader: God of the shepherds, give your church humility, and to all who sit in darkness, alone, and afraid, the inspiration from heaven to go find you born afresh into the world. We pray especially for those whom we name aloud at this time:  
*The People speak the names of those on their hearts.*

*The Leader concludes saying,*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God.

**People: God of Mary and Elizabeth, give your church grace to be pregnant with hope and to bring forth new life for a barren world.**

Leader: I ask your prayers for the departed, (especially \_\_\_\_\_.)  
Pray for those who have died.

*The people are invited to offer names either in their heart or out loud. Afterwards, silence is kept.*

### **The Collect for the Commemoration of Brother Skiles:**

O God, whose blessed Son became poor that we through his poverty might be rich: Deliver us from an inordinate love of this world, that we, inspired by the devotion of your servant William West Skiles, may serve you with singleness of heart, and attain to the riches of the age to come; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**Response:**

### **“Brother Skiles Hymn”**

*Tune: King’s Lynn*

For Bro - ther Skiles your ser - vant, Our gra - ti - tude we bring.  
Then let us praise the Fa - ther and wor - ship God the Son

For the ho - ly man of the moun - tains, Our prai - ses now we sing.  
And sing to God the - Spi - rit, e - ter - nal Three in One,

For that hum - ble monk who - offer - ed His life to do your will  
Till all the ran - somed num - ber who stand be - fore the throne

we pray that his ex - am - ple May streng - then our hearts still.  
a - scribe all pow'r and glo - ry and praise to God a - lone.

*All stand.*

**The Peace:**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** And also with you.

*All greet one another in the Name of the Lord.*

**The Welcome:**

**The Rev. Robert G. Hartmans**

**The Birthday and Anniversary Prayer:**

Watch over your child(ren) 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* heart(s) may your peace  
which passes understanding,  
abide with *them* all the days of *their* lives;  
through Jesus Christ, Our Lord, Amen.

***Concerning The Holy Communion***

*A reminder that all present are welcome to the Communion regardless of Christian denomination.*

*We consider it an honor and privilege to commune with all present as one united body of Christ.*

*To receive the bread, extend your hands towards the priest. To receive the wine, guide the bottom of the chalice with both hands. To receive the bread and wine together via intinction, place your right hand over your left shoulder. To receive a blessing instead of the bread and wine, cross your arms across your chest.*

*If you have a gluten allergy, simply inform the priest when you come to the rail.*

**The Holy Communion**

**The Offertory Anthem:**

“Sweet Little Jesus Boy”

**Katerina Whitley**

**Presentation Hymn: #380 vs. 3 “The Doxology”**

*Old 100<sup>th</sup>*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise Him all creatures here below.  
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**The Great Thanksgiving**  
*Adapted from liturgy of the Iona Community*

Priest: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

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

It is indeed right, for you made us, most holy God. And before us, you made the world we inhabit, and before the world, you made the eternal home in which, through Christ, we have a place.

We praise you, O God, whom eternity cannot contain, for coming to earth and entering time in Jesus.

We praise you for his life which informs our living, for his compassion which changes our hearts, for his clear speaking which contradicts our harmless generalities, for his disturbing presence, his innocent suffering, his fearless dying, his rising to life breathing forgiveness and restoring us forever to you. For these gifts we praise and worship you.

All that is spectacular, all that is plain have their origin in you. All that is lovely, all who are loving, point to you as their fulfillment. Therefore we gladly join our voices to the song of the Church on earth and in heaven:

**The Sanctus:**

*#S-130*

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

*All kneel or stand as they are able.*

Jesus was always the guest. In the homes of Peter and Jairus, Martha and Mary, Joanna and Susanna, he was always the guest. At the meal tables of the wealthy where he pled the case of the poor, he was always the guest. Upsetting polite company, befriending isolated people, welcoming the stranger, he was always the guest.

But here, at this table, he is the host. Those who wish to serve him must first be served by him. Those who want to follow him must first be fed by him. For this is the table where God intends us to be nourished. This is the time when Christ can make us new.

So come, you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world. Jesus Christ, who has sat at our tables, now invites us to be guests at his.

On 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.

So now we do as Jesus did. We take this bread and this wine, the produce of the earth and the fruit of human labor. In these, Jesus has promised to be present; through these, Christ can make us whole.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

***People:* Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We ask, merciful God, that you send, in kindness, your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and wine and fill them with the fullness of Jesus. Let that same Spirit rest on us, converting us from the patterns of this passing world, until we conform to the shape of him whose food we now share. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ.

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, gathered as one in the Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**The Lord's Prayer:**

***Traditional Version***

**BCP 364**

**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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## The Breaking of the Bread: (The Fraction)

*The Priest breaks the consecrated bread.*

*A period of silence is kept.*

## The Fraction Anthem:

**#S-164**

**Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.  
Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:  
give us your peace, give us your peace.**

## The Invitation:

*The Priest invites the people to Communion.*

*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:

**#67 “Comfort, Comfort, Ye My People”  
#339 “Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness”**

*An extended time for silent prayer and reflection precedes and follows each communion hymn.  
When all have communed, the following hymn is sung.*

## Kneeling Hymn: “Wait for the Lord” (*sung four times*)

*Taizé*

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

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

**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:**

*The Priest offers a blessing concluding with,*

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

**People: Amen.**

**The Processional Hymn: #539 “O Zion, Haste”**

*Tidings*

**The Dismissal:**

**Priest:** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**Postlude:**

*Offered by Shane Watson*

***We thank Niki Craig and Shane Watson for sharing their musical gifts  
with us today!***

***We also thank those who served this morning***

<i>Greeters/Oblationers:</i>	Jim & Darby Logan
<i>Ushers:</i>	Jim & Darby Logan
<i>Lector:</i>	Katerina Whitley
<i>Prayers of the People:</i>	Katerina Whitley
<i>Chalice:</i>	Karla Prudhomme & Edie Tugman
<i>Acolytes:</i>	Edie Tugman
<i>Healing Ministers:</i>	The Rev. Dr. Scott Oxford
<i>Linen Fairies:</i>	Jennifer Browning

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

*TODAY, SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2024*  
*The Third Sunday of Advent*

- 9:00 am** Valle Crucis United Methodist Church Service  
**10:00 am** Joint Christian Formation (*Upper Skiles*)  
**11:00 am** Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross (*with music and hymnody*)  
(*This service is Live-Streamed via our YouTube Channel*)  
**12:30 pm** Fellowship time in Skiles Hall

### *Donations for Christmas Flowers and Greenery*

The Altar Guild relies upon donations in order to decorate the Church for Christmas.  
Please give generously using the envelopes provided.

**REMEMBER: Completed forms *must be submitted by 4:00 pm TODAY Sunday, December 15, 2024* in order to be included in all Christmas Service Leaflets.**

*Thank you!*

*TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2024*

*Men's Night Out*

*Valle Crucis Conference Center Dining Hall*

The final *Men's Night Out* gathering for 2024 -- and the conclusion of our eighth year of fellowship -- is a festive holiday gathering and "roast beast feast" beginning with BYO cocktails **at 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, December 17** in the dining room at the historic Valle Crucis Conference Center with dinner served promptly at 6:15 p.m. The cost is a suggested **\$22** contribution per person. In light of the holiday spirit, and in honor of VCCC providing such heroic hurricane relief assistance and a welcoming home to Valle Crucis School, MNO participants are asked to prayerfully consider a contribution above and beyond that amount in support of VCCC's unparalleled "Ministry of Hospitality."

Remember that after this meeting, we'll be taking a two-month hiatus over the winter season, resuming in March 2025.



## *IT'S ANGEL TREE TIME!!*

This year our community needs us more than ever! There are several children at Valle Crucis school and several residents of The Life Care Center in Banner Elk for whom Holy Cross Church is their only Santa Claus. We also are helping our Valle Crucis Teachers with gift cards this year as well. Thank you all in advance for your generosity!

Please follow this link for this year's "Virtual Angel Tree" registry and sign-up for gift donations: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084FADAC23A2FB6-holy1#/>

Here is how the Angel Tree gift donations will work this year:

- Sign-up for gift(s) donations via Sign-Up Genius
- Bring your wrapped and tagged gift(s) to the Christmas tree in Skiles Hall.
  - Please continue to bring wrapped and tagged gifts.
  - All gifts and teacher gift cards need to be delivered to Skiles Hall **no later than this Wednesday December 18th.**
  - For those buying gifts Life Care Persons please add a few nice toiletries (lotions, creams, body washes, etc.)
  - If you need help shopping, please let Tracey Heiss or Susan Howard know. You can reach us on our cell phones (see numbers below). Since our local Walmart is not open, and if you do not want to shop online, we want to offer our help with personal shopping if needed.
    - Tracey cell: 703-919-9767 • Susan cell: 828-260-4740

THANK YOU so much for your help!

***NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024***

***The Fourth Sunday of Advent***

- |                 |  |
|-----------------|--|
| <b>9:00 am</b>  | Valle Crucis United Methodist Church Service   |
| <b>10:00 am</b> | Joint Christian Formation ( <i>Upper Skiles</i> )  |
| <b>11:00 am</b> | Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross ( <i>with music and hymnody</i> )<br>( <i>This service is Live-Streamed via our YouTube Channel</i> ) |
| <b>12:15 pm</b> | Fellowship time in Skiles Hall   |
| <b>12:30 pm</b> | <u><i>The 105th Annual Hanging of the Greens</i></u>   |

***SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 2024***  
***The 105th Annual Hanging of the Greens***

Just as they have for the past 104 years, all parishioners and friends are invited to gather for the annual Hanging of the Greens in advance of Christmas. We need as many people as possible to help transform the décor of our beloved church from the somber tones of Advent to the glorious brightness of Christmas. We plan to green the church ***on Sunday, December 22 at 12:30pm*** following the 11am worship service. We will need to put up the pew candle holders, window candle holders, fill the candles with oil, and hang the wreaths. There are jobs for everyone. So, bring your clippers and a lot of enthusiasm! The garlands and wreaths are purchased, but we need folks to find greenery such as fir, white pine, Galax leaves, boxwood, etc. and bring it to the church ***by Saturday, December 21st.***

Please let Dedy Traver know if you can help. She may be reached at 828-898-5771 or email at [traverarms@yahoo.com](mailto:traverarms@yahoo.com). We will provide soup and sandwiches in Skiles Hall. If you can bring a pot of soup or make a tray of sandwiches, please let Dedy know.

***2025 CALENDARS AVAILABLE***

A limited supply of 2025 Churchman's Ordo Calendars are available for purchase for \$5 in the Parish Office. This calendar offers a full listing of the traditional feasts and devotional days which are frequently celebrated throughout the Anglican Communion.

***CHRISTMAS AT HOLY CROSS***

Gather for the joyous celebration of *The Nativity of our Lord Jesus Christ* amid the quiet beauty of The Church of the Holy Cross.

**Christmas Eve: *Tuesday, December 24***

**5:00 pm:** Holy Communion and celebration of Christmas

**7:30 pm:** Holy Eucharist and celebration of Christmas  
with Special Music and Carol Singing

***O Come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord!***

## The Parish Prayer List: December 15, 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., Rebecca M., Sam Y., Bill B., Roberta T., Gail T., Julia M., Walter B., Randy M., Shane B., Claire M., Sara P., Tav G., Andrea M., Charles III, Mack G., Janis B., Steve S., Nick H., Pat & Linda H., Kate M., John N., Floyd T., Ray L., Leslie S., Hope L., David S., Terry & Jean M., Suzie L., Pam C., Mary M., Cornelia S., Ann G., Mary Jane M., Dave & Pat P., Jan H., Kelly C., Jesse H., Joe U., Rosalie G., Stuart T., Joe V., Jocelyn,

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

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## **The Church of the Holy Cross**

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Email: holy\_cross@skybest.com  
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### **Diocese of Western North Carolina**

The Rt. Rev. José McLoughlin, Bishop

#### **Clergy & Staff**

The Rev. Robert G. Hartmans, Interim Rector  
Ahren Koenig, Parish Administrator

#### **Vestry**

Andrea McDonough (2024), Co-Senior Warden  
Terry Fulton (2026), Co-Senior Warden  
Walter Browning (2024)  
Patty Dilley (2024)  
Tav Gauss (2025)  
Darby Logan (2025)  
Nina-Jo Moore (completing vacant term) – 2025  
Doris Boulton (2026)  
Angela Williams (2026)

#### **Officers**

Jan Skopecek, Treasurer  
Dedy Traver, Clerk

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