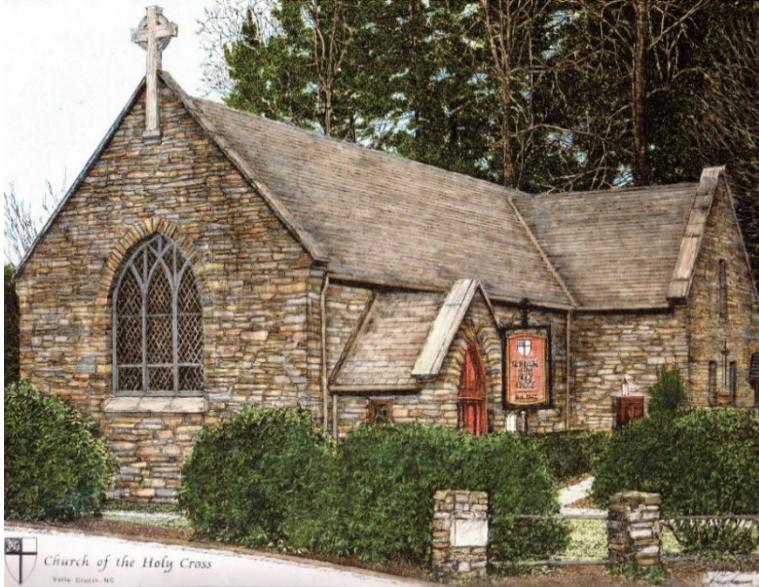


The Church of the Holy Cross

Valle Crucis, North Carolina



The Episcopal Church in the Vale of the Cross Since 1842

The First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2022

Morning Prayer, Rite II

11:00 AM

WELCOME to The Episcopal Church of the Holy Cross.

Rocking chairs have been provided for caregivers with infants.

Masks are recommended for all attendees, especially if unvaccinated.

The Season of Advent

Liturgical Notes

Today marks the start of the *New Liturgical Year* of the Christian Church which begins with the Season of Advent; the four Sundays before Christmas. Throughout this Season our prayers and hymns build upon the dual themes of Christ's return in glory – his 2nd Advent, as well as his 1st Advent at Bethlehem over two thousand years ago. Our scriptures, hymns, and music reflect the themes of Christ's return: a sense of longing, alertness, and watchfulness for the King whom, scripture tells us, will come quickly.

Similarly, our liturgy is markedly different from at other times of the Church year. You will notice the absence of chant at the Eucharistic Prayer and increased periods of silence. Such change is observed not because Advent is a season of repentance per se, but rather, because it is a season of *personal preparation* and preparation involves taking time for silent reflection. Advent calls each of us to prepare our hearts and minds, to embrace once again all of God's ways and values, make amends with God and one's neighbor and, thereby, be fully prepared to greet with joy the Creator of all who is the Author of our Salvation.

Upon the 3rd Sunday in Advent, our prayers, hymns, and scriptures begin to focus more attention on the 1st Advent of our Lord: that first Christmas and the depth of meaning – the life-changing impact – of the child at Bethlehem on the entire course of human history and that which is to come. Again, there is a sense of longing, alertness, and watchfulness for the Christ child born at Christmas and who offers to be born each day in our hearts.

Therefore, we invite you to “Prepare the way of the Lord” with increased devotion and prayer throughout this Season. May our worship services during this Advent Season draw each and every one of us into a deeper relationship with God in Christ.

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

(The “S” before Hymn numbers refers to songs found at the front of the Hymnal.)

*For those visiting this morning please know that it is our custom to gather in reverent silence.
During the Worship Service itself we invite you
to stand for praise, sit for instruction, and, as you are able, kneel for prayer.*

Morning Prayer, Rite II
The Word of God

Prelude: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Curt Oliver

Greetings and Announcements *Pages 12-15*

The Processional Hymn: #57 “Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending” *Helmsley*

Opening Sentence: **BCP 75**

(†) Watch, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning, lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. *Mark 13:35-36*

Confession of Sin: **BCP 79**

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

(All kneel as they are able)

(Silence is kept)

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Absolution:

Almighty God have mercy on us, (†) forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. *People: Amen.*

The Invitatory and Psalter: **BCP 80**

Lord, open our lips:

People: And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

People: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Our King and Savior now draws near:

BCP 80

People: Come let us adore him.

(All stand)

The Venite: Psalm 95:1-7

(Spoken at 8:30; Sung at 11:00 as #S-35)

BCP 82

Come, let us sing to the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving *

and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, *

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, *

and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, *

and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, *

and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

All are seated for the lessons from scripture.

The Lessons

The First Lesson:

Isaiah 2:1-5

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.'

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall

beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

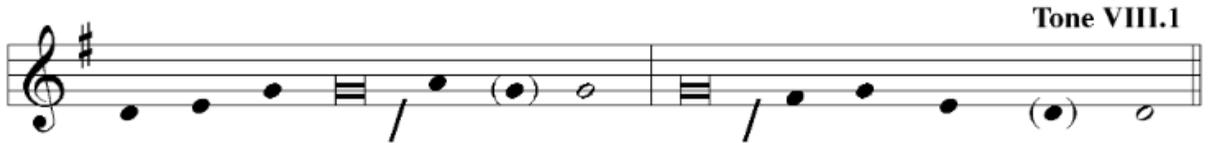
O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

A time for silent reflection follows.

The Response: Psalm 122 (*Prayed responsively at 8:30 as noted in **bold** type; Sung at 11:00*)



- 1 I was glad when they / said to me, *
“Let us go to the / house of the Lord.”
- 2 **Now our feet are / standing ***
within your gates, / O Jerusalem.
- 3 Jerusalem is built as a / city *
that is at un-/ity with itself;
- 4 **To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the / Lord, ***
the assembly of Israel, to praise the / Name of the Lord.
- 5 For there are the thrones of / judgment, *
the thrones of the / house of David.
- 6 **Pray for the peace of Jer-/usalem: ***
“May they pros-/per who love you.
- 7 Peace be within your / walls *
and quietness with-/in your towers.
- 8 **For my brethren and com-/panions' sake, ***
I pray for / your prosperity.
- 9 Because of the house of the / Lord our God, *
I will / seek to do you good.”

A time for silent reflection follows.

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

A time for silent reflection follows.

(All stand)

Canticle 6: “Glory Be to God” (*Spoken in unison at 8:30; Sung at 11:00 as #S-204*)

Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee,
we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
Thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

(All are seated)

Jesus said to the disciples, “But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord

***People:* Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon:

The Rev. Deacon Mr. Michael Alford

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

The Apostles' Creed:

(Proclaimed by all present in unison)

BCP 96

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.

The Peace:

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: *And also with you.*

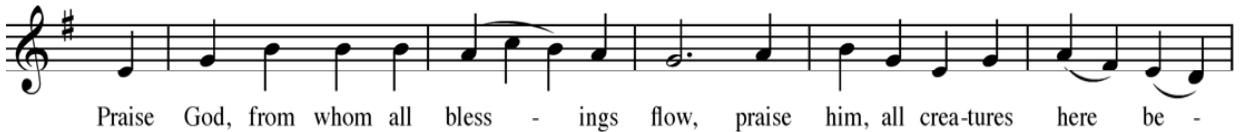
The people greet one another in the Name of the Lord.

The Offertory:

Offertory Sentence: Let us with gladness present the offerings and oblations of our life and labor to the Lord.

The Offertory Anthem: "Call to Advent" J. Jerome Williams

Advent Presentation Hymn: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*



The Prayers

The Lord be with you.

BCP 97

People: *And also with you.*

Let us pray.

(All kneel as they are able.)

The Lord's Prayer:

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 Suffrages: (Suffrage A) *(Spoken in unison at 8:30; Sung at 11:00 as #S-52)* BCP 97

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;
R. And grant us your salvation.
V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;
R. Let your people sing with joy.
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;
R. For only in you can we live in safety.
V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;
R. And guide us in the way of justice and truth.
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;
R. And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.

The following prayers are now offered:

The Collect of the Day:

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

A Collect for Grace:**BCP 100**

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for Mission:**BCP 100**

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you; bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Authorized intercessions and thanksgivings now follow.

BCP 101

We pray for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, for Michael our Presiding Bishop, for José our Bishop, for Allan our Priest, and for all clergy and people.

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Anglican Church in Japan.

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for Christ Church, Sparta; and the Church of the Savior, Newland.

We pray for Joseph, our President, Roy, our Governor, for our elected officials, and all in civil authority, that they may seek justice and mercy in all things and do that which is right for the welfare of all people.

We pray for the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphaned, for those who are alone, for the sick and the suffering, for those who fear for the future, for those in harm's way, for those who have asked for our prayers, and for those whom we name aloud at this time:

(The people speak aloud the names on their hearts. The Leader concludes saying,)

Lord in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

We pray for the grace to demonstrate in our words and lives 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."

We give thanks for Thomas McDonough, Walter Pitts, Sadie Donovan, and all who celebrate birthdays this week; and for all who celebrate wedding anniversaries and ask Almighty God to,

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 heart may your peace which passes understanding abide with them all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We pray for those who travel this week, especially John & Faye, Fr. Allan & Pan, _____.

We pray for those who have died, (especially _____.)

We give thanks for those who serve on the *Vestry*, 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.
Amen.

The General Thanksgiving:

BCP 101

Let us pray.

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages.
Amen.**

(All Stand)

Let us bless the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

The (†) grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us and remain with us all evermore.

People: Amen.

Processional Hymn: #73 “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns” *St. Stephen*

Postlude: “Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending” **Picardy* Kenneth Kosche

Gracious thanks are given to The Rev. Deacon Mr. Michael Alford for serving as our guest preacher and presider today!

We also thank those who served this morning:

8:30 am

11:00 am

Greeters/Oblationers:

Bob & Judy Bondi

Chuck & Kathy Canady

Ushers:

Bob & Judy Bondi

Chuck & Kathy Canady

Lector:

Nancy McInnes

Sibyl Pressly

Acolyte:

Nina-Jo Moore

Randy McDonough

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022

The First Sunday of Advent

We welcome The Rev. Deacon Mr. Michael Alford, presiding today

8:30 am Morning Prayer, Rite II, at Holy Cross (*quiet service with no music*)

9:30 am Fellowship time in Skiles Hall

9:45 am **Adult Christian Education** with Ron McInnes (*Upper Skiles*)

11:00 am Morning Prayer, 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

DAUGHTERS OF THE KING QUIET DAY
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2022 – 9am-3pm

Led by Katerina Whitley, the Daughters of the King will host a quiet day on **Saturday, December 3, 2022, 9:00 am-3:00 pm in Skiles Hall**. Coffee and light refreshments will be served. A program of prayer and quiet reflection will be presented, followed by lunch. All are welcome to attend. For questions or to RSVP, please contact Sis Kinney at **828-260-0485**, or by email at kinivan06@gmail.com.

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2022
The Second Sunday of Advent

- 8:30 am** *Principal Worship Service of Holy Eucharist, Rite II*
- 9:30 am** Fellowship time in Skiles Hall
- 9:45 am** **Adult Christian Education** with Katerina Whitley (*Upper Skiles*)
- 11:00 am** *“A Service of Nine Lessons & Carols for Advent”*
Hear the scriptures which foretell Christ’s coming, along with carols, vocal anthems, and the chimes of handbells!
(*This service is Live-Streamed via our YouTube Channel*)
- 12:00 pm** Fellowship time in Skiles Hall

December Adult Christian Ed Classes
Sundays at 9:45 am – Upper Skiles Hall

Gather in Skiles Hall on **Sunday December 4, 11, and 18** as Katerina Whitley provides an overview and group discussion on the Advent Season:

1. We will begin by looking at the tradition of Lessons and Carols. Is it effective beyond the gift of listening? Are there alternative ways to tell the story so that it becomes new for us and understandable to those who don’t live with the biblical stories?
2. We will examine the great gift of our Creator—that of imagination. How do we read the biblical stories so that we can visualize them? How do they come alive for us? What difference does it make that we practice this gift of imagining?
3. We will examine the role of music through the centuries in the telling the Advent/Christmas story.
4. Above all, throughout the three Sundays, we will focus on the wonder and mystery of the Incarnation.

Please come for an experience that honors tradition but brings newness to habit.

LOOKING AHEAD...

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8, 2022

Episcopal Church Women (ECW)

The Episcopal Church Women (ECW) will meet on **December 8 at 4:00 pm** in Skiles Hall. This meeting will be a **potluck dinner**, so please bring a dish to share! There will be no gift exchange.

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 5:00 pm Sunday, December 18, 2022* in order to be included in all Christmas Service Leaflets.

Thank you!

CHRISTMAS AT HOLY CROSS:

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

CHRISTMAS EVE: *Saturday, December 24*

5:00 pm Holy Eucharist, Rite II

7:30 pm Special Music and Carol Singing

8:00 pm Holy Eucharist in celebration of Christmas

CHRISTMAS DAY: *Sunday, December 25*

10:00 am – “*Come just as you Are*” Holy Eucharist celebration of prayer and scripture.

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

The Parish Prayer List: November 27, 2022

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 Jett, Stuart, Philip, Dayton, Luke, Bernie & Joan, Lindsay, Keely, Mary S., Smut S., Scotty, Ray G., Lisa, Laura B., Gini H., Wendell, Ted N., Brianna M., Gretchen M., Noyes L., Marilyn W., Rick & Pat L., Pam C., Gerry P., Shirley N., Kathryn M., Rebecca M., Barbara L., Judy & Phil B., Bill R., Babette M., Anita, Sam Y., Jim P., Al & Susan T., Emily, Dave L., Frances S., Bill B., Greg M., Laura S., Laura B., Roberta T., Rossi T., Barbara A., Cindy M., Elizabeth B., Claire M., Fred K., Mason S., Parry L., Gail T., Carrington T., Shelly T., John & Catherine R., Elizabeth Y., Lenny H., Tom & Jenise S., Christine Z., Ben C., Antonia, John S., Walt B., Doris B., Randy M., Sandy J., Elizabeth L., Dakota, Paula H. & family, Betty R., Kim & Tav G., Karen L.,

For those in Harm's Way: Hayley, Nathan, Brittany, Harrison, Ian, Galena, Ruslan, all Peace Corps workers & volunteers, all who serve in the armed forces, and all health & relief workers at home and abroad.

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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

Terry Fulton (2022), Senior Warden
Jeff Williams (2023), Junior Warden
David Johnston (2022)
John Pendergast (2022)
Robin Byerly (2023)
Ann Gerber (2023)
Walter Browning (2024)
Patty Dilley (2024)
Andrea McDonough (2024)

Officers

Larry Byerly, Treasurer
Dedy Traver, Clerk

Financial contributions can be made via our website at
www.holycrossvallecrucis.net or by following this QR Code:

