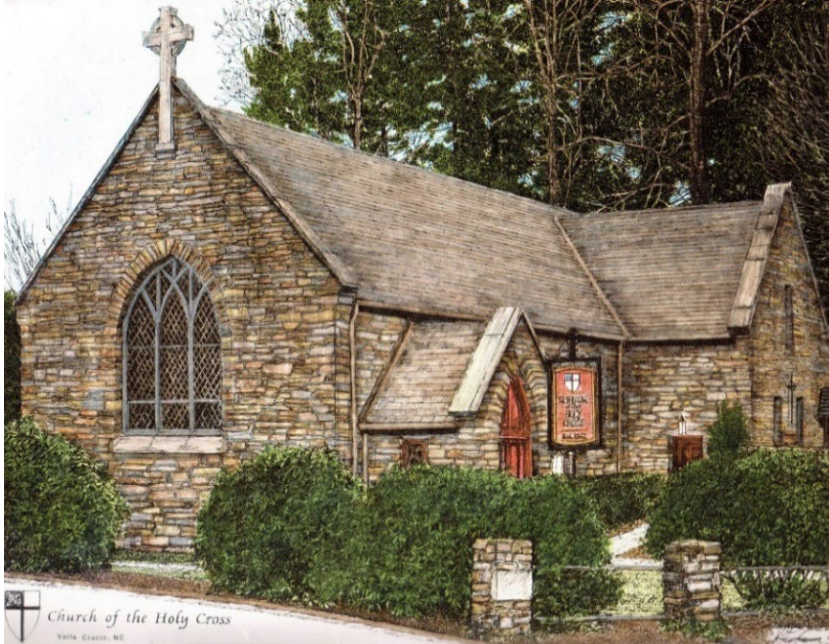


The Church of the Holy Cross Valle Crucis, North Carolina



The Episcopal Church in the Vale of the Cross Since 1842

The Third Sunday in Lent

March 23, 2025

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.

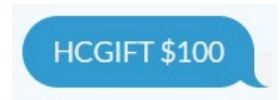
Children are most welcome and encouraged to participate in all services at Holy Cross. Rocking chairs have been provided for caregivers with infants.

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



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

The Prelude:

Offered by Shane Watson

All kneel or stand at the sound of the bell as they are able.

A Penitential Order for Lent:

Iona Community

Priest: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins;

All: God's mercy endures forever.

Priest: The world belongs to God;

All: The earth and all its people.

Priest: How good it is, how wonderful;

All: To live together in unity.

Priest: Love and justice come together;

All: Justice and peace join hands.

Priest: Open our lips, O God;

All: And our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

Priest: Holy God, maker of all,

All: Have mercy on us.

Priest: Jesus Christ, servant of the poor,

All: Have mercy on us.

Priest: Holy Spirit, breath of life,

All: Have mercy on us.

Priest: Let us in silence confess our faults and admit our frailty.

A time of silence is now observed.

Priest: Before God and with the people of God I confess to my brokenness:
to the ways I wound my life, the lives of others, and the life of the world;

**All: May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you
to grow in love.**

Priest: Amen.

**All: Before God, with the people of God, we confess to our brokenness:
to the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the
world.**

Continued...

Priest: May God forgive you, Christ renew you, and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

All: Amen.

All stand as they are able.

The Collect of the Day:

The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities which may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: Amen.

All are now seated for the Children's Homily.

The Children's Homily: "Faces of Easter III: Vignettes in the Life of Jesus"

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.*

Walking in the Way of Sorrows

**A Presentation on the Stations of the Cross
by Noyes Capehart Long and Katerina Whitley**

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 and Announcements: (Pages 9-12)

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:

“Heavenly Light”

arr: Peter J. Wilhousky

The Presentation Hymn:

“What Wondrous Love is This”

Wondrous Love

**When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
when I was sinking down, O my soul!**

**When I was sinking down beneath God’s righteous frown,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul, for my soul,
Christ laid aside His crown for my soul.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP 361

The Sursum Corda:

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

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

Continued...

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; you bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

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 kneel or stand as they are able.

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify (†) them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify (†) us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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

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:

#345 “Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise”

#508 “Breathe on Me, Breath of God”

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:

“O Lord, Hear My Prayer”

(Taizé Song #20)

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. When I call an - swer me. O
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: All my hope comes from God. The

Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me. O
Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well - spring of life. The

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The second system also has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The score ends with a 'fine' marking.

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:

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: #470 “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” *Beecher*

The Dismissal:

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

People: Thanks be to God.

The Postlude: *Offered by Shane Watson*

We thank those who served this morning

<i>Organist:</i>	Shane Watson
<i>Greeters/Oblationers:</i>	Ed & Beth Beck
<i>Ushers:</i>	Ed & Beth Beck
<i>Chalice:</i>	Tav & Kim Gauss
<i>Acolytes:</i>	Kim Gauss
<i>Healing Ministers:</i>	Ron McInnes
<i>Linen Fairies:</i>	Radie Armstrong

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY, SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025

The Third Sunday in Lent

- 9:00 am** Valle Crucis United Methodist Church Service
- 9:45 am** Christian Formation in Skiles Hall
- 11:00 am** Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross *with sacred music and hymnody*
(This service is Live-Streamed via our YouTube Channel)
- 12:30 pm** Fellowship time in Skiles Hall
- 12:45 pm** **Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting** in the Sanctuary
- 12:45 pm** **First Meeting for 2025 VCF** in VCCC Dining Room

*March Christian Formation – Discussions on Faith
Sundays at 9:45 am in Skiles Hall*

We will continue our inquirers series on Sunday Mornings in March, meeting at 9:45 am in upper Skiles Hall. Our format is discussion style, and we are focused on how the hallmarks of our tradition: Bible, theology, liturgy... is relevant to our lives. Each session is standalone and all are welcome.

*SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025
The Third Sunday in Lent*

The 11:00 service on Sunday, March 23 will include a presentation on the Stations of the Cross by Noyes Capehart Long and Katerina Whitley. Noyes will also offer a presentation on the wood cut printing process during the fellowship time in Skiles Hall following the service.

*SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 2025
Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting*

The Building and Grounds Committee will meet in the Sanctuary following the 11:00 am service this Sunday, March 23. Our goal is to continue our assessment of the needs and maintenance schedules of Holy Cross and the St. John's campuses.

*THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 2025
Women Writers One-Day Workshop with Katerina Whitley
Valle Crucis Conference Center*

Can't make it to the Thursday-Saturday workshop the previous week? Join Katerina for a short and sweet but intensive one-day workshop. \$60 covers a marvelous facilitator, lunch, snacks, materials, and a delightful crowd of like-minded writers.

Please contact the Valle Crucis Conference Center to register for this workshop, or follow this link to sign up: <https://form.jotform.com/250544877243159>.

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025
The Fourth Sunday in Lent

- 9:00 am** Valle Crucis United Methodist Church Service
9:45 am Christian Formation in Skiles Hall
11:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross *with sacred music and hymnody*
(*This service is Live-Streamed via our YouTube Channel*)
12:30 pm Fellowship time in Skiles Hall

It's Time Again! ECW's "MARCH" for Diapers

We will be collecting all sizes of new, unopened packages of diapers the entire month of March. Beginning March 1st, you can bring your donations to the labeled box in Skiles Hall, and we'll make sure we get them to the Children's Council. Last year we collected over 1,600 diapers, this year let's make it 2,000! THANKS!

"A Simple Gesture" Green Bags

Dear Generous and Concerned Parish Community,

As you are aware, federal funding for charities is in jeopardy. It is our habit at Holy Cross to get a green Simple Gesture bag from the welcome room off Skiles main room and fill it with nourishing shelf stable food for the Hunger and Health Coalition. This is a hedge against hunger for those out of work, homeless or just scraping by. MOC refers folks to a few agencies for food since we do not supply food or food gift cards. Hunger and Health Coalition is our first source we send people to get help. If you are able, please pick up a bag and check out the Bogo options at your grocery store, sales, coupons etc. to fill a bag and place it in the same area where you got the bag. Judy Bondi or Kip Kingree will deliver your bounty to the Coalition.

Thank you in advance for your caring for our Watauga neighbors. In a world of not-so-great, this is an action that is great. God Sees.

--Your Mission and Outreach Committee

Requesting Candy and Eggs for Easter

Holy Cross will host two egg hunts this year. One will take place on Saturday April 19 in the Valle Crucis Park and the other on Easter Morning between the services. We are requesting donations of candy and plastic eggs. Please leave these donations in the box marked Easter Hunt in Skiles Hall.

The Parish Prayer List: March 23, 2025

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., Wendell S., Noyes L., Marilyn W., Gerry P., Rebecca M., Sam Y., Bill B., Gail T., Julia M., Walter B., Randy M., Shane B., Claire M., Sara P., Tav G., Andrea M., Charles III, Kate M., John N., Floyd T., Ray L., Leslie S., Terry & Jean M., Suzie L., Pam C., Ann G., Jan H., Joe U., Rosalie G., Stuart T., Joe V., Jocelyn, Edie T., Gini H., Michael H., Bob C., Mary B., Caroline F., _____.

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.

The Church of the Holy Cross

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Diocese of Western North Carolina

The Rt. Rev. José McLoughlin, Bishop

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Robert G. Hartmans, Interim Rector

Shane Watson, Interim Organist

Ahren Koenig, Parish Administrator