

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



The Episcopal Church in the Vale of the Cross Since 1842

## *The First Sunday in Lent*

March 9, 2025

**The Great Litany and Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

**11:00 AM**

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**“O Lord, Hear My Prayer”** Tune: Jacques Berthier, © 1982, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent.  
Text: Taizé Community, © 1982, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent.

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## 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*

HCGIFT \$100

*Again, Welcome Home to Holy Cross! And may God's peace enfold you.*

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.

### The Word of God

*Offered by Tyler Young*

**The Prelude:**

**The Opening Procession:** *As the Procession begins, all kneel or stand as they are able and sing,*

**The Great Litany:**

BCP 148 / #S-67

*Officiant* *People*  
O God the Father, Creator of heaven and earth, Have mer - cy up - on us.

*Officiant* *People*  
O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, Have mer - cy up - on us.

*Officiant* *People*  
O God the Holy Ghost, Sanctifier of the faith - ful, Have mer - cy up - on us.

*Officiant* *People*  
O holy, blessed, and glorious Trinity, one God, Have mer - cy up - on us.

*Officiant*

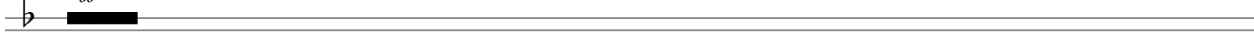


Remember not, Lord Christ, our offenses, nor the offenses of our forefathers; neither reward us according to our sins. Spare us, good Lord, spare thy people, whom thou hast redeemed with thy most precious blood, and by thy mercy

*People*

preserve us for ev - er. Spare us, good Lord.

*Officiant*



From all evil and wickedness; from sin; from the crafts and assaults of the

*People*

devil; and from everlast - ing dam - na - tion, Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

From all blindness of heart; from pride, vainglory, and hypocrisy; from envy, hatred, and malice; and from all want of charity,

*People*

Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

From all inordinate and sinful affections; and from all the deceits of the world, the flesh, and the devil,

*People*

Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

From all false doctrine, heresy, and schism; from hardness of heart, and contempt of thy Word and commandment,

*People*

Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

From lightning and tempest; from earthquake, fire, and flood; from plague, pestilence, and famine,

*People*

Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

From all oppression, conspiracy, and rebellion; from violence, battle, and murder; and from dying suddenly and unprepared,

*People*

Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

By the mystery of thy holy Incarnation; by thy holy Nativity and submission to the Law, by thy Baptism, Fasting, and Temptation,


*People*

Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

*Continued...*

By thine Agony and Bloody Sweat; by thy Cross and Passion; by thy precious Death and Burial;  
by thy glorious Resurrection and Ascension; and by the Coming of the Holy Ghost,


*People*



Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

In all time of our tribulation; in all time of our prosperity; in the hour of death, and in the day of judgment,

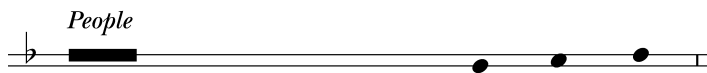
*People*



Good Lord, de - liv - er us.

We sinners do beseech thee to hear us, O Lord God; and that it may please thee to rule and govern thy holy Church Universal in the right way,

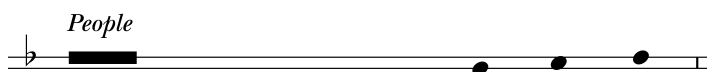
*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to illumine all bishops, priests and deacons, with true knowledge and understanding of thy Word; and that both by their preaching and living, they may set it forth, and show it accordingly,

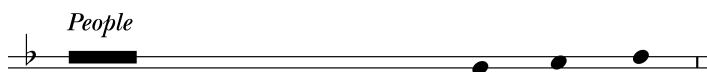
*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bless and keep all thy people,

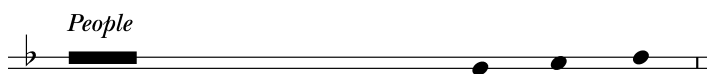
*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to send forth laborers into thy harvest, and to draw all mankind into thy kingdom,

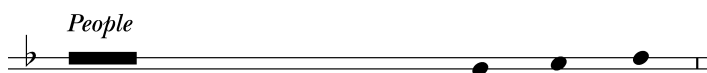
*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give to all people increase of grace to hear and receive thy Word, and to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit,


*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to bring into the way of truth all such as have erred, and are deceived,


*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us a heart to love and fear thee, and diligently to live after thy commandments,

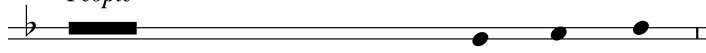
*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee so to rule the hearts of thy servants, the President of this nation, and all others in authority, that they may do justice, and love mercy, and walk in the ways of truth,

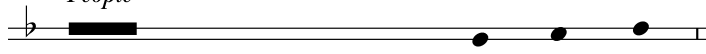
*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to make wars to cease in all the world; to give to all nations unity, peace, and concord; and to bestow freedom upon all peoples,

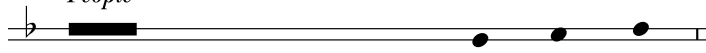
*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to show thy pity upon all prisoners and captives, the homeless and the hungry, and all who are desolate and oppressed,

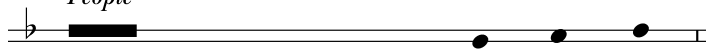
*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give and preserve to our use the bountiful fruits of the earth, so that in due time all may enjoy them,

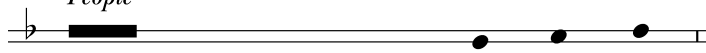
*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to inspire us, in our several callings, to do the work which thou givest us to do with singleness of heart as thy servants, and for the common good,

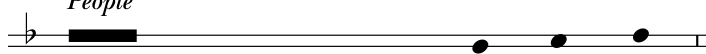
*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve all who are in danger by reason of their labor or their travel,

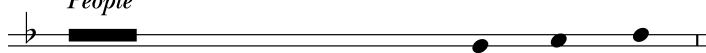
*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to preserve, and provide for, all women in childbirth, young children and orphans, the widowed, and all whose homes are broken or torn by strife,

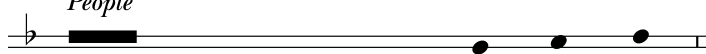
*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to visit the lonely; to strengthen all who suffer in mind, body, and spirit; and to comfort with thy presence those who are failing and infirm,

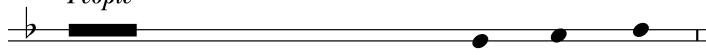
*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to support, help, and comfort all who are in danger, necessity, and tribulation,

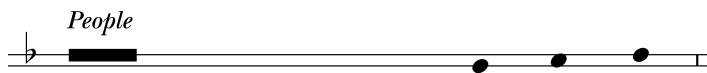
*People*



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

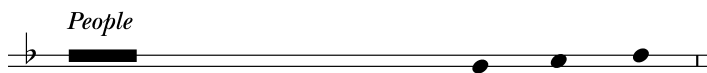
*Continued...*

That it may please thee to have mercy upon all mankind,



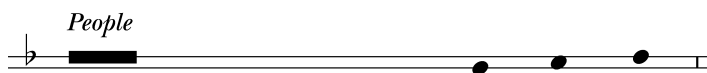
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to give us true repentance; to forgive us all our sins, negligences, and ignorances; and to endue us with the grace of thy Holy Spirit to amend our lives according to thy holy Word,



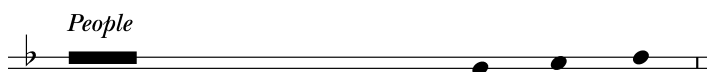
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and to turn their hearts,



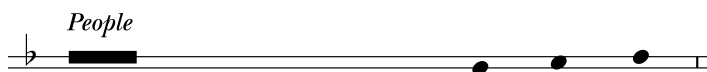
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to strengthen such as do stand; to comfort and help the weak-hearted; to raise up those who fall; and finally to beat Satan down under our feet,



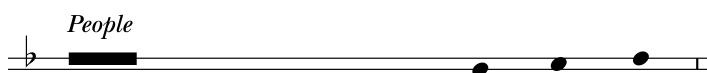
We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant to all the faithful departed eternal life and peace,



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.

That it may please thee to grant that, in the fellowship of the Mother Mary, Brother Skiles, and all the saints, we may attain to thy heavenly kingdom,



We beseech thee to hear us, good Lord.



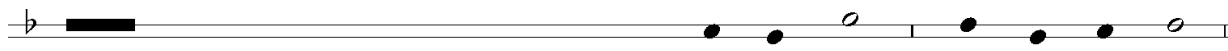
*Officiant* Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

*People* Son of God, we beseech thee to hear us.

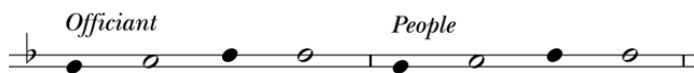


O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, Have mer-cy up-on us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, Have mer-cy up-on us.



O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, Grant us thy peace.



O Christ, hear us. O Christ, hear us.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.

All *stand* as they are able.

**The Opening Acclamation:**

BCP 355

Bless (†) the Lord who forgives all our sins.

**People:** God's mercy endures for ever.

**The Collect of the Day:**

The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**People:** Amen.

All are now *seated* for the readings from Scripture.

**The Lesson from the Old Testament:**

**Deuteronomy 26:1-11**

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, "Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us." When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, you shall make this response before the LORD your God: "A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.

*Continued...*

“So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.” You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

*A time for silent reflection follows.*

**The Children’s Homily: “Faces of Easter I: 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.*

**The Lesson from the New Testament:**

**Romans 10:8b-13**

“The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” -- (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**The Gradual Hymn: #448 (vs. 1-3)**

**“O Love, How Deep, How Broad”**

*Deus tuorum militum*

**The Holy Gospel:**

**Luke 4:1-13**

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

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

After his baptism, Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’”

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”

Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ and, ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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



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

**The Prayers of the People:**

**Priest:** We kneel before the redeeming Christ as we are led into the wilderness of Lent and offer our prayers, with hope and repentance.

**Leader:** We pray for the Church: especially for the Holy Cross Vestry, outreach ministries, discernment team, and all who serve Christ here. We also pray for Sean, our Presiding Bishop; José, our Bishop; and all clergy; that the church be a movement to guide people through deserts, inspiring hope and motivating repentance. God of mercy;

**All:** **Renew your Church.**

*Continued...*

Leader: We pray for the World: may we turn away from violence, exploitation, and alienation. God of mercy;

**All: Turn our hearts.**

Leader: We pray for this Nation: that derision turns to discourse, mistrust turns to relationship, and self-righteousness turns to humility. We pray for Donald, our President, for the Congress, and the Supreme Court. God of mercy;

**All: Make us new.**

Leader: We pray for those in trouble, need, or sickness, especially those whom we name aloud at this time:

**The people speak the names of those on their hearts.**

*When you arrived at the service, you should have received a stick with a name on it. That is the name of someone who has requested our prayers. Please call out the name of the person on that stick as well as anyone else on your heart, and keep them in your daily prayers through the coming week. At the Offertory, simply drop the sticks in the plate. This is a wonderful way for all of us to share in the prayer ministry of our Parish.*

*The Leader concludes saying,*

Leader: God of mercy;

**All: Restore our lives.**

Leader: We pray for our community: that our children learn and play in peace; we pray for laborers, for immigrants, for people who inhabit the inner city and rural places; that our leaders be wise. We pray for Josh, our Governor, and for our local officials. We pray for the concerns that you now name:

*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:*

**All: This is our prayer.**

*The Leader concludes saying,*

Leader: God of mercy;

**All: Give us grace.**

Leader: We pray for the departed: for those who died in the faith and for those whose faith was known to you alone. May they share in your peace. God of mercy;

**All: Resurrect us.**

Priest: God of mercy, make us new, change our hearts, and mend our lives.

**All: Amen.**

**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 14-16)

**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:**

*Offered by Tyler Young*

**The Presentation Hymn: #439**

**“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.**

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.

*Continued...*

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:**

**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.**

#S-164

**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:**

**#338 "Wherefore, O Father, We Thy Humble Servants"**

**#341 "For the Bread Which You Have Broken"**

*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:**

**“O Lord, Hear My Prayer”**

*(Taizé Song #20)*

The image shows a musical score for a kneeling hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "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 score ends with a "fine" marking and a fermata.

*An extended time for silent thanksgiving 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: #143**

**“The Glory of These Forty Days”**

*Erhalt uns, Herr*

**The Dismissal:**

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

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**The Postlude:**

*Offered by Tyler Young*

*We thank Tyler Young for sharing his musical gifts with us today!*

*We also thank those who served this morning*

<i>Organist:</i>	Tyler Young
<i>Greeters/Oblationers:</i>	Stella Barbato & Derek Eggers
<i>Ushers:</i>	Stella Barbato & Derek Eggers
<i>Lector:</i>	Ann Gerber
<i>Prayers of the People:</i>	Alicia Toomey
<i>Chalice:</i>	Dawn Harris & Sis Kinney
<i>Acolytes:</i>	Kai Rabley
<i>Healing Ministers:</i>	Kim Gauss
<i>Linen Fairies:</i>	Edie Tugman

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***TODAY, SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2025***  
***The First Sunday in Lent***

- 9:00 am** Valle Crucis United Methodist Church Service  
**9:45 am** Christian Formation in Skiles Hall  
**11:00 am** **The Great Litany** and 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

***SUNDAY, MARCH 9, 2025***  
***ECW Monthly Meeting***

ECW will have their monthly meeting in Skiles Hall at 12:45 on Sunday, March 9. Please join us!

***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. Here is an outline of the next several sessions:

**Sunday, March 9 – Opening the Gospels:** We will take an overview of the four canonical Gospels, their major themes, how they are structured, their similarities and their contradictions.

**Sunday, March 16 – Paul’s Letters:** We will look at the Letters attributed to Paul and think about how the themes and theology attributed to Paul have evolved.

**Sunday, March 23 – Pastoral Letters and Hebrews**

**Sunday, March 30 – The Book of Revelation and Apocalypticism**

***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 1<sup>st</sup>, 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!

*SATURDAY, MARCH 15, 2025*  
*St. Patrick's Day Dinner & Auction*  
*Skiles Hall – 6:00 pm*

The Clan McDonough invite the good people of Holy Cross to a St. Patrick's Day celebration on Saturday, March 15 at 6:00 pm in Skiles Hall. A full Irish dinner will be served with plenteous drink and mischief. Reservations are \$40.00 per person. Proceeds go to the ECW in honor of our beloved St. Patrick & St. Tom. For reservations, **please call Claire McDonough** at 828-266-3542.

ECW are asking for donations of small items that might be appropriate for a Silent/Live auction during the dinner. We could take items that could be combined together to make a gift basket like gift cards, or that stand alone. Call or text Patty Dilley at (508) 450-1604 or email at [hatch108@charter.net](mailto:hatch108@charter.net) and reference St. Patrick's Day Dinner.

*NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025*  
*The Second 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** **Parish Forum** in Skiles Hall

*SUNDAY, MARCH 16, 2025*  
*Parish Forum – Skiles Hall*

Please plan to join the parish forum after the 11:00 am service on Sunday March 16. We will gather in Skiles Hall for food, an update on the Rector search, a hosted conversation with the Vestry, and information on opportunities to join ministry engagements at Holy Cross. The forum will end by 2:00 pm. Childcare will be provided.

*TUESDAY, MARCH 18, 2025*  
*Men's Night Out – 5:30-7:30 pm*

After a two-month mid-winter hiatus, the **Men's Night Out** (MNO) group begins its NINTH year of fellowship **from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, March 18** at the home of Jim Zellner, 127 Saddle Way Drive, Blowing Rock, NC 28605. Limited parking is available at the house with overflow space down the hill near the Zellner Party Barn, but carpooling is strongly encouraged. The meal will consist of Southern fried chicken, ham biscuits, mashed potatoes with gravy, green beans, and coleslaw with baked cinnamon apples and ice cream for dessert. The suggested donation is \$10 per person and your RSVP is due **no later than 5:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 16** to [KeithTMartin@gmail.com](mailto:KeithTMartin@gmail.com). **ALSO, WE NEED HOSTS FOR OUR FUTURE MNO GATHERINGS... PLEASE HELP!**

*Centennial Celebration Announcement*

This year marks one hundred years since our community set the cornerstone of the sanctuary that would house our growing closer to God, each other, and our salvation. A small team has been working since last year to plan how we will commemorate this centennial year. We are hoping to provide historical tours, worship events, artistic engagements, storytelling, food, dancing, and celebrating with each other and with the greater community. ***We need your help.*** The fun work of planning and executing this event will require many hands. If you would like to help, please reach out to Rev. Robert via phone at 423-400-0826 or email at [hartmansrobert@gmail.com](mailto:hartmansrobert@gmail.com).

*THURSDAY – SATURDAY, MARCH 20-22, 2025*  
*Women Writers March Workshop with Katerina Whitley*  
*Valle Crucis Conference Center*

Join master author Katerina Whitley as we explore ways to express ourselves in writing. This is a full two-day retreat, with options for commuter and one-day pricing. The program will be held in Crab Orchard Hall, with lodging in the Mission House.

Writing is often a lonely pursuit. You may find that it's much easier to write in the company of like-minded people and with the guidance of a professional who loves to encourage others in the craft of writing. Join this group of women writers to capture memories, define thoughts, express emotions, and bring order out of chaos. New writers are most welcome, for one or more workshops.

A native of Thessaloniki, Greece, Katerina Whitley has worked as a church journalist on the diocesan and national levels, taught at universities, and is the author of eight books and hundreds of articles, including a stunning new memoir, *Myth and Memory: My Childhood in WWII Greece*.

Please contact the Valle Crucis Conference Center to register for this workshop, or follow this link to sign up: <https://form.jotform.com/250345829238159>.

*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.

**The Parish Prayer List: March 9, 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., \_\_\_\_\_.

**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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