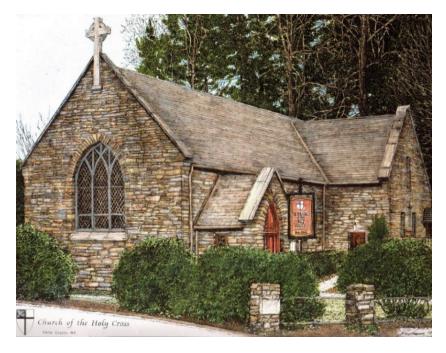
# The Church of the Holy Cross Valle Crucis, North Carolina



The Episcopal Church in the Vale of the Cross Since 1842

# The Fourth Sunday of Easter

# May 11, 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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Kneeling Hymn: "Jesus, Remember Me" Text & Tune: Jacques Berthier, © 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, North America. Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under OneLicense.net # A-718736. All rights reserved.

#### Holy Eucharist, Rite II The Word of God

The Prelude:

Offered by Shane Watson

All stand at the sound of the bell.

# The Processional Hymn #400 "All Creatures of Our God and King" Lasst uns erfreuen (verses 1-5 only)

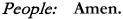
#### The Opening Acclamation:

Priest: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

#### People: The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

#### The Collect for Purity:

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.





The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Let us pray.

Continued...

**BCP 355** 

BCP 355

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

#### People: Amen.

All are now seated for the readings from Scripture.

#### The First Lesson:

#### Acts 9:36-43

Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

Reader:The Word of the Lord.*People:*Thanks be to God.

A time for silent reflection follows.

#### The Children's Homily: "Knowing Jesus in a New Way, Part III" 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 Second Lesson:

# I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

**Revelation 7:9-17** 

And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Reader: The Word of the Lord. *People:* Thanks be to God.

The Gradual Hymn: #664 "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

The Holy Gospel:

# The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. *People:* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly." Jesus answered, "I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one."

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.

#### John 10:22-30

Resignation

#### The Nicene Creed:

We believe in God almighty, Author of all things that be, Maker of the earth and heavens, Keeper of the sky and sea. We believe in God's Son, Jesus, now for us both Lord and Christ, of the Spirit and of Mary born to bring abundant life.

We believe that Jesus suffered, scourged and scorned and crucified; taken from the cross, was buried, True Life there had truly died. We believe that on the third day Christ was raised up from the grave, then ascended to God's right hand. He will come to judge and save.

We believe in God's own Spirit, bonding all the saints within one church catholic, one church holy, where forgiveness frees from sin; in the body resurrection, for the breaking of death's chain gives the life that's everlasting. This the faith that we have claimed.

#### The Prayers of the People:

Priest: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

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

Leader: God of rebirth, the good news of your resurrection brings refreshment to a weary world. Following the women at the tomb, empower us and your whole church to boldly share your radical love through our words and our work.

Hear us, O God.

#### All: For your mercy is great.

- Leader: Your resurrected Christ showed his wounds to the disciples and breathed your Spirit into them, breathe your spirit of healing upon all creation. Help us to breathe your spirit of hope to war torn places, your spirit of abundance to those in need, and your spirit of resurrection to those who have endured grief and loss. Hear us, O God.
- All: For your mercy is great.
- Leader: You prepared the disciples for the work of ministry by calming their fears and granting them your peace. Equip our communities' leaders. Give them a spirit of peace and hearts that burn for justice, that their leadership and work reflects your love. Hear us, O God.
- All: For your mercy is great.

Leader: You revealed yourself to Mary Magdalene in the garden. Help us to see your face in those we encounter. Send us to those who hide in fear or question your love. Be a healing presence for any isolated by addiction, incarceration, mental illness, chronic pain, sickness, or grief especially those we now name out loud:

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

When you arrived at the service, you 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: Hear us, O God.

#### All: For your mercy is great.

Leader: As you met the disciples on the road to Emmaus, show us your presence along our journeys. Bless our doubts and questions. Bless us with new companions for the journey, nurture our connection to you and one another. Bless the joys and concerns now raised by this congregation:

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: Hear us, O God.

All: For your mercy is great.

Leader: Resurrecting God, you bring us to new life every day. Thank you for blessing us with companions on our faith journey, especially those who now rest in your love. Strengthen us with the eternal peace of your promises. Hear us, O God.

#### All: For your mercy is great.

Leader: And on this Mother's Day, we give thanks and pray for all mothers, and those who have mothered us: who cared for us when we were helpless; who comforted us when we were hurt; and whose love and care we often took for granted.

Continued...

Leader: We pray for those who are grieving the loss of their mother; for those who have never known their biological mother and now yearn for her; for those who have experienced the wonder of an adopted mother's love; and for those who feel separated from or neglected by their mothers. Lord God, give us grace to follow the good example of the Mother Mary and lead our children, and those entrusted to our care, to know and do what is honorable and good in your sight, living and loving not for ourselves alone, but for you and others.

All: Amen.

#### <u>All stand</u>.

#### 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 13-15) 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:"The 23rd Psalm"Bobby McFerrinThe Presentation Hymn:#380 (vs. 3)"The Doxology"Old 100thPraise God from whom all blessings flow.<br/>Praise Him all creatures here below.<br/>Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.<br/>Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.Old 100th

#### The Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer 2

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 our thanks and praise.

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

#### The Sanctus:

Santo, santo, santo, mi corazón te adora! Mi corazón te sabe decir: santo eres Señor. Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you! My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, Lord.

All stand or kneel as they are able.

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God.

Continued...

WLP #785

EOW 60

To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with the Mother Mary, Brother Skiles, and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and 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 hea	ven, as we forgive the	ose
hallowed be thy Name,	who trespass a	gainst us.
thy kingdom come,	And lead us not in	to temptation,
thy will be done,	but deliver us fro	om evil.
on earth as it is in heave	en. For thine is the ki	ngdom,
Give us this day our daily b	pread. and the power, a	and the glory,
And forgive us our trespass	ses, for ever and even	r. Amen.

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

The Priest breaks the consecrated bread.

A period of silence is kept.

#### The Fraction Anthem:

#### The Invitation:

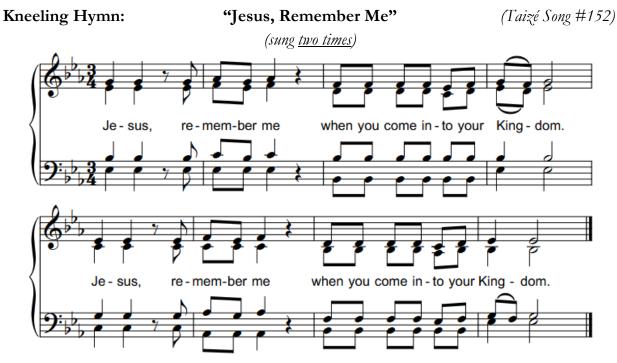
The Priest invites the people to Communion.

Please come to the Altar to receive Communion. As you come forward, make one line to receive the host from the priest, then turn left or right to receive the chalice.

#### Hymns during the Communion:

# #339 "Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness"#656 "Blest Are the Pure in Heart"

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



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

#<u>S-169</u>

#### The Post-communion Prayer:

God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation; you have united us with Christ and one another; and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

All <u>stand</u>.

#### 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: #493 "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

#### The Dismissal:

Priest: Alleluia, alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*People:* Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia!

#### The Postlude:

Offered by Shane Watson

#### We thank those who served this morning

Organist:	Shane Watson
Greeters/Oblationers:	Randy McDonough & Karla Prudhomme
Ushers:	Randy McDonough & Karla Prudhomme
Lector:	Kim Gauss
Prayers of the People:	Kim Gauss
Chalice:	John Goodrich & Nina-Jo Moore
Acolytes:	Nina-Jo Moore & Kai Rabley
Healing Ministers:	Scott Oxford
Linen Fairies:	Edie Tugman

Azmon

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Holy Cross Website Update

In the coming days you'll notice our Holy Cross website has been refreshed with a brandnew look and feel! The updated design is more user-friendly, easier to navigate, and filled with helpful features to keep you connected with everything happening at Holy Cross. You'll find quick access to service times, upcoming events, online giving, and more – all in a fresh, modern layout.

We hope this new online experience makes it easier for you to stay connected, grow in faith, and share the love of Christ with others.

## Holy Cross Handbell Choir

Discover the joy of music and fellowship by joining the Holy Cross Handbell Choir! Whether you're a seasoned musician or a curious beginner, our welcoming community offers a fun, occasionally challenging, and uplifting way to praise God. No prior experience is needed! Just a willing spirit. Come be part of a unique ministry that brings people together and enhances our worship. Join us and let your hands ring out joy!

Contact Shane Watson (shanewatson1539@gmail.com) if you're interested in joining!

#### TODAY, SUNDAY, MAY 11, 2025 The Fourth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am	Valle Crucis United Methodist Church Service
9:45 am	May Christian Formation – Discussions on Faith (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

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

We will continue our inquirers series this coming Sunday, meeting at 9:45 am in upper Skiles Hall. Our topic this coming Sunday May 11 will be the theological doctrine of God. May 11: Theology: Classical vs Process models for the doctrine of God May 18: Theology: Competing ideas of Atonement

#### NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025 The Fifth Sunday of Easter

9:00 am	Valle Crucis United Methodist Church Service
9:45 am	May Christian Formation – Discussions on Faith (Upper Skiles)
11:00 am	A Service of Morning Prayer and Holy Communion, at Holy Cross (from the 1892 BCP – with sacred music and hymnody)
	(This service is Live-Streamed via our YouTube Channel)
12:30 pm	Fellowship time in Skiles Hall

#### SUNDAY, MAY 18, 2025 Spring Fling Community Dinner at VCCC Dining Hall Doors open at 5:30 pm; dinner served at 6:00 pm

Join your friends and neighbors for an evening of delicious food and fellowship - no reason, just because. Doors open at 5:30, with dinner served at 6. BYO if you'd like beer or wine. Pre-registration is strongly encouraged so we will have enough food on hand, but you can just show up on the day, as well. The dinner is sponsored by the Valle Crucis Community Council. Please contact the Valle Crucis Conference Center to register, or follow this link to sign up: <u>https://form.jotform.com/251123874166154</u>

#### TUESDAY, MAY 20, 2025 THIRD ANNUAL MNO BEACH PARTY!

**Men's Night Out** is getting a head start on the Memorial Day festivities by gathering at the beach (pavilion) of Grandfather Golf and Country Club (near the home of host Paul Kroening) from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20, 2025. The address is 2120 NC-105, Linville, NC 28646, That's on the left just south of Highway 184 on Highway 105, on the way to Linville from Valle Crucis. Please check in at the entrance gate and the guards will direct you to the beach. While there is ample room for parking, carpooling is encouraged.

The menu includes smoked pork tenderloin and smoked salmon with appropriate side dishes at a suggested contribution of \$10 per person. So that Paul may provide enough for everyone in attendance, please RSVP **no later than** <u>5:30 p.m on Sunday, May 18</u> to <u>KeithTMartin@gmail.com</u> and let him know of any food allergies or preferences. As always, remember to bring your favorite beverage to enjoy... and share.

#### Coffee Hour Update

The first quarter of the year was covered admirably each Sunday with coffee and snacks. Thanks for that! Now, summer is upon us and 12:15 calls for a simple repast for May through September. Please sign up in the book at the kitchen pass-through for cheese, crackers, fruit and/or a sweet. Just enough to tide folks over as they chat and head out for lunch somewhere. Store-bought is fine!

#### Summer Worship Services

We are blessed to have two sites for summer worship. Holy Cross will still have services on Sundays at 11:00 and St. John's will open on May 25 with 9:00 services each week. There will be a sign up spreadsheet at St. John's for acolytes, ushers, flowers and refreshments, among other roles. Please plan to participate in the worship at St. John's by signing up for one of these on the spreadsheet there. Patty Dilley has a clipboard with sign up opportunities and you can make your interests known with her. Check your calendars for vacation and summer visitor dates!

#### Flower Fairies for St. John's Needed!

This is an all-inclusive guild so men are welcomed. We begin May 25th, with Radie Armstrong providing the flowers that Sunday. Please email Faye Cooper at <u>jfcoop47@icloud.com</u> if you are interested in participating. Faye would like to have volunteers for the first and second Sundays of June immediately. (June 1st and June 8th.) Eleven Sundays follow. We will work on those by volunteers from this announcement or speaking directly at St. John's. Our last Sunday will be August 31st.

## The Parish Prayer List: May 11, 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., Laura B., Carol S.,

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

PO Box 645, Hwy 194, Valle Crucis, NC 28691 Phone: (828) 963-4609 Email: holy\_cross@skybest.com Website: www.holycrossvallecrucis.net

#### **Diocese of Western North Carolina**

The Rt. Rev. José McLoughlin, Bishop

#### Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Robert G. Hartmans, Interim Rector Shane Watson, Director of Music Ahren Koenig, Parish Administrator