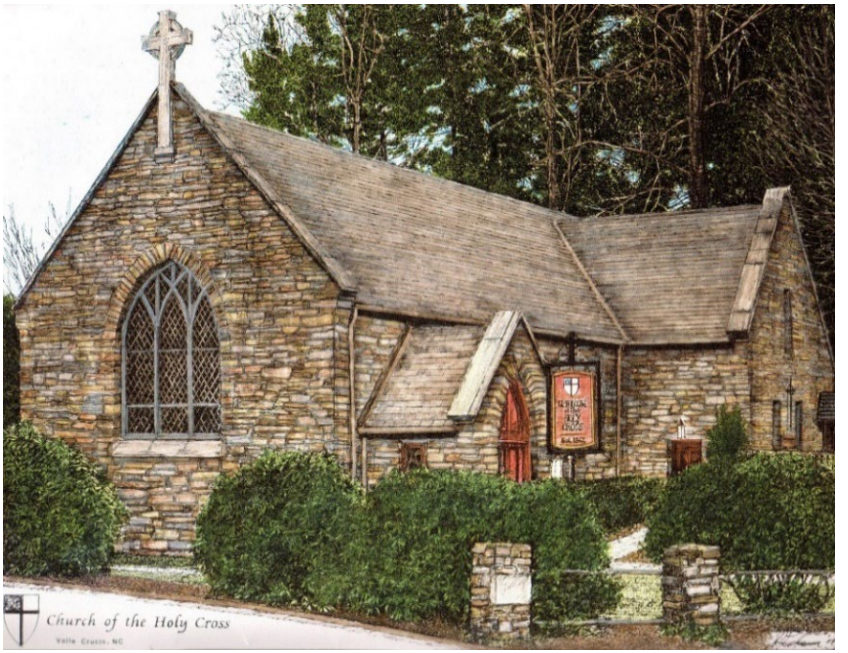
The Church of the Holy Cross
Valle Crucis, North Carolina



The Episcopal Church in the Vale of the Cross Since 1842

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

November 8, 2026

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
8:00 & 11:00 AM

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

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.

All musical selections reprinted with the permission of *ritesong*. All rights reserved. Used with permission. All scripture passages taken from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible,* © 1989, Division of Christian Education in the National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used with permission. All rights reserved.

Presentation Hymn: "Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring" Text © 1990 Augsburg Fortress; Tune © 1995 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted/Podcast/Streamed with permission under OneLicense.net # A-718736. All rights reserved.

Holy Eucharist, Rite II
The Word of God

The Prelude: "Meditation" (Theme from *Organ Sonata No. 3*) Felix Mendelssohn

The Announcements: *(Pages 15-19)*

The Prayer for the Care of Children: *(11:00 service only)* BCP 829

Priest: Let us pray.

People: **Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed us with the joy and care of children: Give us calm strength and patient wisdom as we bring them up, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**

All stand as able.

The Opening Hymn: #596 "Judge Eternal, Throned in Splendor" *Komm, o komm*

The Opening Acclamation: BCP 355

Priest: Blessed be God (†): Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Collect for Purity: BCP 355

Priest: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

The Gloria: *(spoken at 8:00; sung at 11:00 as WLP #900 (Green Hymnal))*

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;

Continued…

you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

The Collect of the Day: BCP 236

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

All are now seated for the readings from Scripture.

The First Lesson: **Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25**

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, "Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors — Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor — lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many.

"Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

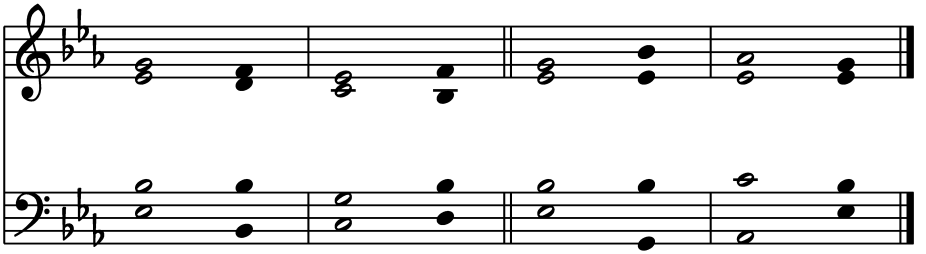
Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

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

A time for silent reflection follows.

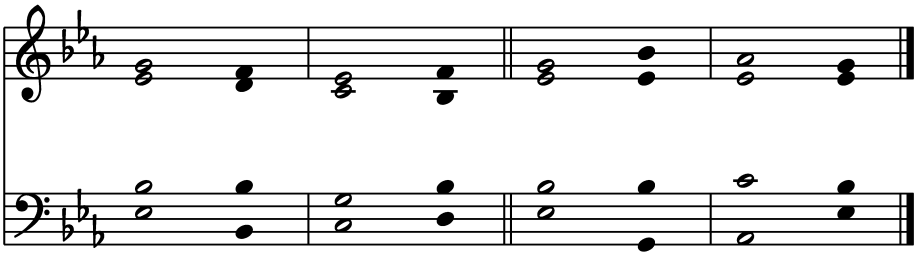
The Response: **Psalm 78:1-7**

(Prayed responsively ***by half verse*** *as indicated by an asterisk* at 8:00; sung at 11:00)*

1 Hear my teaching, O my | people; *
incline your ears to the words of my | mouth.

2 I will open my mouth in a | parable; *
I will declare the mysteries of ancient | times.

Continued…

The Response: *(continued…)* **Psalm 78:1-7**



3 That which we have heard and known,
and what our forefathers have | told us, *
we will not hide from their | children.

4 We will recount to generations to come
the praiseworthy deeds and the power of the | LORD, *
and the wonderful works he has | done.

5 He gave his decrees to Jacob
and established a law for | Israel, *
which he commanded them to teach their | children;

6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet un- | born; *
that they in their turn might tell it to their | children;

† *final two measures* 7 † So that they might put their trust in | God, *
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his com- | mandments.

A time for silent reflection follows.

The Second Lesson: **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

All stand as able.

The Gradual Hymn: #68 **"Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers"** *Llangloffan*

The Holy Gospel: **Matthew 25:1-13**

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

Jesus said, "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon: **The Rev. Jonathan C. Chesney**

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

The Nicene Creed: ***BCP 358***

All kneel or stand as able.

The Prayers of the People follow as printed on the next page.

The Prayers of the People **Form III** BCP 387

The Leader and People pray responsively.

Leader: Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;
People: **That we all may be one.**

Leader: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
People: **That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

Leader: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;
People: **That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

Leader: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;
People: **That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Leader: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;
People: **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Leader: Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
People: **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Leader: Give to the departed eternal rest, especially Dayton Cole (and _____.)
People: **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

Leader: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;
People: **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Leader: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. We pray for those who are in harm's way, for those who have asked for prayers, for those who are sick, in sorrow, need, or any adversity, and those whom we name aloud at this time:

The people speak the names of those on their prayer sticks, and may add their own petitions silently or aloud.

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 offering plate. This is a wonderful way for all of us to share in the prayer ministry of our Parish.

The Priest offers a concluding Collect.

Priest: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The Confession of Sin: BCP 360

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 you, forgive (†) you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit, keep you in eternal life.

People: **Amen.**

All stand as able.

The Peace:

Priest: 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 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.

A Stewardship Reflection

Concerning The Holy Communion

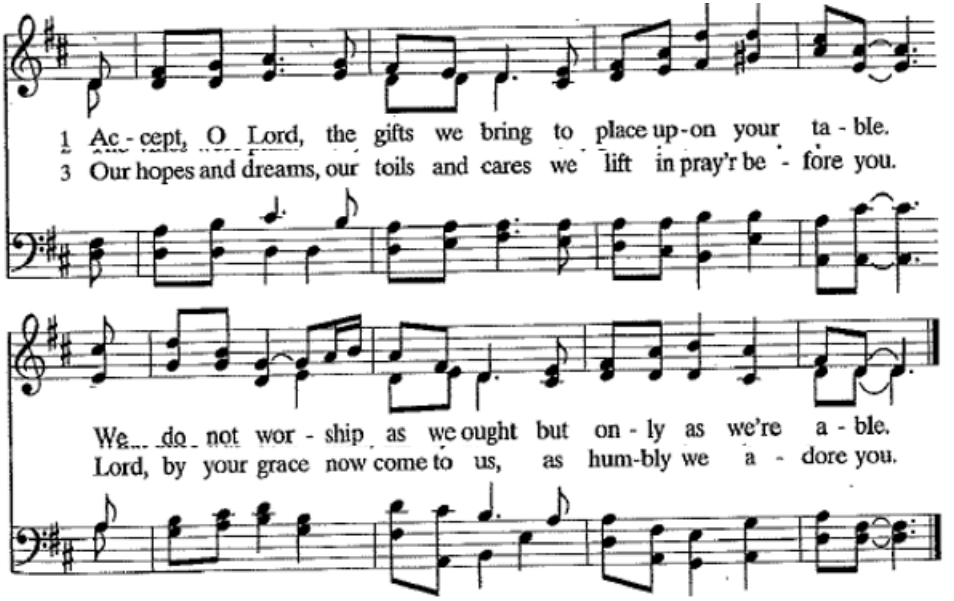
A reminder that all present are welcome to the Communion regardless of Christian denomination. We consider it an honor and privilege to commune with all present as one united body of Christ.

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, retain the bread in your hands. 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.

When 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.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory Anthem: "A Thanksgiving Prayer" Don Besig & Nancy Price

The Presentation Hymn: "Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring" *Barbara Allen*

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B BCP 367

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; for you are the source of light and life, you made us in your image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 able.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Priest and People: **We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection,**
We await his coming in glory; *Continued…*

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit (†) upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified (†) by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Brother Skiles, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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-154*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The Invitation:

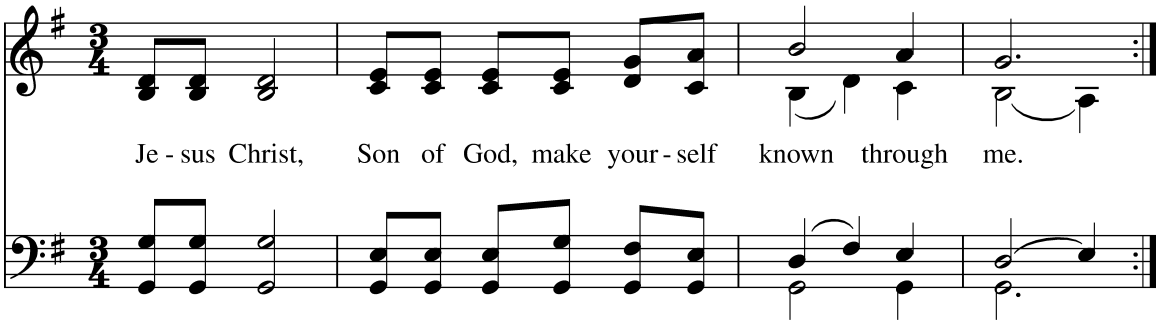
The Priest invites the people to Communion saying,

The Gifts of God for the People of God. *(And may add:)* Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Hymns during the Communion:

#324 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"
#61 "Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Astounds Us"

The Kneeling Hymn: WLP #814 "Jesus Christ, Son of God" *Celebration*

(Green Hymnal) *(sung two times)*

A time for silent prayer and reflection precedes the following prayer.

All kneel or stand as able.

The Post-communion Prayer: BCP 366

Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

Continued…

And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

All stand as able.

The Blessing:

The Priest offers a blessing concluding with,

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

People: **Amen.**

The Closing Hymn: #436 "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" *Truro*

The Dismissal:

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

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Postlude: "Fanfare on an Original Theme" Gilbert Martin

We thank those who served this morning

	8:00 am	*11:00 am*
Musician:		Emma Pullium
Greeters & Ushers:	Angela Williams	Tav Gauss & Karla Prudhomme
Lectors:	Angela Williams	Walter Browning
Prayers of the People:	Angela Williams	Walter Browning
Chalice Bearers:	Sis Kinney	John Goodrich & Randy McDonough
Acolytes:	Sis Kinney	Wilson Harris & Randy McDonough
Healing Minister:		Doris Boulton
Linen Fairy:		Sis Kinney

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 Emma Pullium via email at pulliumec.holycross@gmail.com for more information.

Today, Sunday, November 8, 2026
The Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

8:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross *spoken service with no music*

8:45 am Fellowship in Skiles Hall

9:00 am Valle Crucis United Methodist Church Service

9:30 am **Christian Formation** – The Early Church in the First Century
Presented by Katerina Whitley in Skiles Hall

11:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross *with sacred music*
Sunday School is available during this service
This service is Live-Streamed via our YouTube Channel

12:15 pm Fellowship in Skiles Hall

November Christian Formation
The Early Church in the First Century

Join acclaimed author and beloved Holy Cross member Katerina Whitley on Sunday mornings in November as she leads our Christian Formation classes on the Early Church and the growth of our faith.

November 8: Beyond Pentecost – Against the Culture of the Empire; St. Paul and his revolutionary letters

November 22: The First Ekklesia – Its dynamic nature, and the threat to the Roman Empire; persecution

Regular Compline Services
Mondays & Thursdays – 8:00 pm via Zoom

Compline is offered via Zoom at 8:00 p.m. every Monday & Thursday – please follow the link on the Church website to join the Zoom meeting. The "Virtual Waiting Room" opens 15 minutes before each service begins.

Contact Angela Williams or Mary Pietan if you have any issues signing on for Compline.

Holy Eucharist and Healing Service

A reflective evening service of Holy Eucharist with healing prayers will be offered at Holy Cross **at 4:00 pm every Wednesday** unless otherwise announced. All are welcome.

Saturday, November 14, 2026
Birthing Love in a Waiting Time: Soul Tending with Mother Mary
St. Mary of the Hills, Blowing Rock

Join us for a pre-Advent Quiet Day at St. Mary of the Hills in Blowing Rock from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on Saturday, November 14 with Mother-to-be Mary as we explore creatively what help, comfort, and wisdom she has to offer today in our life and times. "Divina" reflection (lectio/visio/audio), conversation, prayers, and a closing Eucharist will shape our time together. Lunch is provided. Owene Courtney and the Rev. Torrence Harman will guide the retreat.

Please RSVP by Tuesday, November 10 to Owene Courtney by cell at 904-553-7338 or email at owene_courtney@yahoo.com.

Next Sunday, November 15, 2026
The Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost
One Service Only

9:00 am Valle Crucis United Methodist Church Service

11:00 am Holy Eucharist, Rite II, at Holy Cross *with sacred music*

Sunday School is available during this service

This service is Live-Streamed via our YouTube Channel

12:15 pm **Parish Annual Meeting**

Dedication of 2027 Pledges

On Sunday, November 15, at our one service before the annual meeting, we will dedicate, give thanks for all pledges and gifts set aside for the next year, and ask God's blessing upon the ministry those gifts will make possible. If you haven't made your pledge or gift yet, this is a great Sunday to bring it and drop it in the offering plate! Of course, we'll also be glad to continue to receive them afterwards; this will help your vestry leadership make wise decisions in their stewardship of the parish's resources in the year ahead.

Sunday, November 15, 2026
Parish Annual Meeting and Lunch
One Service Only at 11:00 am

Come and celebrate the grace of God that has continued to abound through the ongoing mission and ministry of Holy Cross. At the meeting, we will hear reports from our leadership, and elect 3 new Vestry Members. Vestry Nominee information is posted in Skiles Hall. Entrée and dessert will be provided, and we ask those attending to bring a side to share.

Sunday, November 15, 2026
Bishop Search Committee is Coming to St. Luke's

St. Luke's will be hosting an information session for the Bishop Search Committee on Sunday, November 15th at 3:00 p.m. This meeting will be facilitated by Carolyn Burhans and Peter Purcell and will focus on the progress of the search for the new Bishop. Please plan to join us and bring your questions.

Tuesday, November 17, 2026
MNO to Enjoy Hot Chili on a Chilly Night!

The **Men's Night Ou**t (MNO) group will gather for brethren fellowship **from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 17** in the Party Barn at the home of Joyce and Jim Zellner, located at 3664 Winkler's Creek Road in Blowing Rock, NC 28605. Parking is available, but carpooling is strongly encouraged. The menu will be chili (your choice of beef, chicken, or vegetarian) with cornbread and an apple cobbler with ice cream for dessert.

Continued…

Tuesday, November 17, 2026
MNO to Enjoy Hot Chili on a Chilly Night! (cont.)

As always, bring your favorite beverage to enjoy and share with water, iced tea and lemonade provided. The suggested donation is **$10** per person and your RSVP is due **no later than** 5 p.m on Sunday, November 15 to KeithTMartin@gmail.com.

MNO is a monthly opportunity for men from within the parish and in our community to enjoy having an evening of fellowship together. We're very flexible and inclusive, so feel free to bring a friend... or three! If you do not drive at night, need a ride to and/or from MNO, or are without reliable transportation for whatever reason, simply let us know. We have participants from all over the High Country who would welcome your company and be happy to pick you up and deliver you safely home. ***Come join us!***

Sunday, November 22, 2026
6th Annual Pre-Thanksgiving Bake Sale

Do you have family coming in for the holidays but don't have time to bake? A selection of goodies will be in Skiles Hall after the 11:00 service on Sunday, November 22nd to help you prepare for your Thanksgiving holiday.

Please bring your favorite Thanksgiving desserts to Skiles Hall on Saturday, November 21 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm to be labeled and priced. The proceeds will be used to benefit the children's ministries of Holy Cross.

Lay Eucharistic Visitors Needed

To all Parishioners who have completed the study to be a Lay Eucharistic Visitor and have not yet been commissioned by Father Jonathan, there will be a follow-up meeting on Sunday, November 22, following the 11:00 service, in the Choir Room.

To all Parishioners who have ever wondered what a Lay Eucharistic Visitor is or thought about visiting our home, nursing home, rehab facility or hospital bound members, please consider joining us after church on November 22. This is a vital ministry of our church and one much needed and appreciated by our home or facility bound members and their families. Please consider joining the team.

It's Angel Tree Time!

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

Here is the timeline for our 2026 Angel Tree:

- Sign-up for gift(s) donations via this SignUpGenius portal: https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508084FADAC23A2FB6-holy1
- The Christmas tree will be in place in Skiles Hall **after November 27, 2026**.
    - Please bring wrapped and tagged gift(s) to Skiles Hall starting on **Sunday, November 29, 2026**.
    - All gifts and teacher gift cards need to be delivered to Skiles Hall no later than **Sunday, December 13, 2026**.
    - For those buying gifts for Life Care Persons please add a few nice toiletries (lotions, creams, body washes, etc.)

Questions? Contact Tracey Heiss by cell at 703-919-9767 or email at heisstj@gmail.com. **THANK YOU** so much for your help!

A Celebration for Katerina Whitley

Please join us following the 11:00 worship service on Sunday, December 6 for a celebration of Katerina's 90th birthday in Skiles Hall.

The Parish Prayer List: November 8, 2026

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 Wendell S., Noyes L., Gerry P., Rebecca M., Sam, Bill B., Randy M., Shane B., Tav G., Andrea M., Charles III, Kate M., Floyd T., Leslie S., Suzie L., Pam C., Ann G., Rosalie G., Stuart T., Michael H., Laura B., Linda B., Mike M., Susan M., Jacquie M., Arthur L., Coleman B., Michael T., Wayne W., Sally, Ann I., Beth B., Daryl M., Angie N., Derek D., Mary S., Eric G., Radie A., Warren S., Carol J., Ella F., Terry S., Grace S., George S., Susan D., Norm L., Bill R., Jan 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, Highway 194, Valle Crucis, NC 28691
Phone: (828) 963-4609
Email: holy_cross@skybest.com
Website: www.holycrossvallecrucis.net

Diocese of Western North Carolina

The Standing Committee of the Diocese of Western North Carolina, Ecclesiastical Authority

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Jonathan C. Chesney, Rector
Emma Pullium, Director of Music
Ahren Koenig, Parish Administrator