

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 12, 2021

WELCOME TO CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS

*To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
To all who mourn and long for comfort;
To all who struggle and desire hope;
To all who sin and need a Savior;
To all who are strangers and yearn for fellowship;
To all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
And to whoever will come;
This church opens wide her doors and offers welcome
in the name of the risen Lord Jesus Christ.*

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

*Congregational responses are indicated in **boldface**.*

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Words: Georg Weissel (1590–1635); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827–1878)

Music: Truro, melody from Psalmodia Evangelica, Part II, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792–1872), alt.

1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the
3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
*4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to
5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and

1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is
2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
4 thee: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner
5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit

1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.
2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!
3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.
5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

THE ACCLAMATION

The People standing, the Celebrant says

Surely the Lord is coming soon,
Amen. Come Lord Jesus!

REVELATION 22:20

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. Amen.**

THE DECALOGUE

God spoke these words and said:

I am the Lord your God.

You shall have no other gods but me.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

You shall not take the Name of the Lord your God in vain.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

Honor your father and your mother.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

You shall not murder.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

You shall not commit adultery.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

You shall not steal.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,
and incline our hearts to keep this law.**

You shall not covet.

**Lord, have mercy upon us,
and write all these, your laws,
in our hearts, we beseech you.**

EXODUS 20:1-17; DEUTERONOMY 5:6-21

THE CONFESSION

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 KYRIE

The musical score for 'THE KYRIE' is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a unison vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.' The score is divided into two systems, each with a vocal line and a piano line. The first system includes the word 'unison' above the vocal line. The second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

THE ABSOLUTION

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Celebrant says to the People

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR CHILDREN

Children in 2nd grade and younger may attend Children's Chapel at this time and return at The Peace.

Almighty God, heavenly Father, you have blessed our congregation with the joy and care of children: Give us courage, patience, and wisdom, as we bring them up in the faith, that they may never know a day apart from your love and care; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE LESSONS

ZEPHANIAH 3:14-20

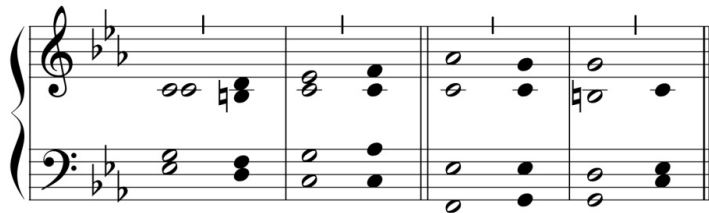
After the Lesson the Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 85

Robert Knox Kennedy (b. 1945)



© 1979. Robert Knox Kennedy

- 1 Lord, you have been gracious to your ¹ land; |
you have turned away the captivity of ¹ Jacob. ||

- 2 You have forgiven the offence of your ¹ people |
and covered all their ¹ sins. ||
- 3 You have taken away all your dis ¹ pleasure |
and turned yourself from your wrathful indig ¹ nation. ||
- 4 Restore us then, O God our ¹ Savior, |
and let your anger cease from ¹ us. ||
- 5 Will you be displeased at us for ever, |
and will you stretch out your wrath from one generation to a ¹ nother? ||
- 6 Will you not turn again and ¹ quicken us, |
that your people may rejoice in ¹ you? ||
- 7 Show us your mercy, O ¹ Lord, |
and grant us your sal ¹ vation. ||
- 8 I will hearken to what the Lord God will ¹ say, |
for he shall speak peace unto his people, ⁹ and to his saints, that they turn not a ¹ gain. ||
- 9 For his salvation is near to those who ¹ fear him, |
that glory may dwell in our ¹ land. ||
- 10 Mercy and truth have met to ¹ gether; |
righteousness and peace have kissed each ¹ other. ||
- 11 Truth shall flourish out of the ¹ earth, |
and righteousness shall look down from ¹ heaven. ||
- 12 Indeed, the Lord shall show ¹ goodness, |
and our land shall give its in ¹ crease. ||
- (repeat second half of chant)*
- 13 Righteousness shall go be ¹ fore him, |
and he shall direct his going in the ¹ way. ||

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-9

After the Lesson the Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL

LUKE 3:7-20

All stand for the Gospel as the Priest reads, first saying

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

After the Gospel, the Priest says

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

THE NICENE CREED

All stand to recite the Nicene Creed, the Celebrant first saying

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.**

**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,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Watchful at all times, let us pray for strength to stand with confidence before our Maker and Redeemer saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

That God may bring in his kingdom with justice and mercy,
Let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

That God may establish among the nations his scepter of righteousness,
Let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

That we may seek Christ in the Scriptures and recognize him in the breaking of the bread,
Let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

That God may bind up the brokenhearted, restore the sick, and raise up all who have fallen,
Let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

That the light of God’s coming may dawn on all who live in darkness and the shadow of death,
Let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

That, with all the saints in light, we may shine forth as lights for the world,
Let us pray to the Lord:
Lord, have mercy.

We commend ourselves and all for whom we pray to the mercy and protection of our heavenly Father.

Silence is kept. The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

Almighty God, as your blessed Son Jesus Christ first came to seek and to save the lost; so may he come again to find in us the completion of his redeeming work; for he is now alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And with your spirit.

THE OFFERTORY

You may place an offering in the basket, give online at holycrossva.org/give, text "Give" to 434-277-4975, or mail a check to PO Box 614, Crozet, VA 22932.

O Day of Peace

by Carl P. Daw; © 1982 Hope Publishing Company

O day of peace that dimly shines
Through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,
Guide us to justice, truth, and love,
Delivered from our selfish schemes.

May swords of hate fall from our hands,
Our hearts from envy find release,
Till by God's grace our warring world
Shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.

Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb,
Nor shall the fierce devour the small;
As beasts and cattle calmly graze,
A little child shall lead them all.

Then enemies shall learn to love,
All creatures find their true accord;
The hope of peace shall be fulfilled,
For all the earth shall know the Lord.

Doxology

Composer: Louis Bourgeois (1551); Public Domain

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise

Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye

heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

The People stand while the offerings are presented.

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty:
for everything in heaven and on earth is yours; yours is the Kingdom, O Lord, and you are
exalted as Head above all. All things come from you, O Lord,
And of your own have we given you.

I CHRONICLES 29:11, 14^T

THE SURSUM CORDA

The Celebrant says to the People

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

THE SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
5 heav - en and earth are full of your glor - y.
8 Ho - san - na, ho - san - a in the high - est.
16 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

The Celebrant and the People say together

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 forever and ever. Amen.

THE FRACTION

Alleluia. Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed, once for all upon the Cross.
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

THE MINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

The celebrant will, as always, wash and sanitize his hands before the service and again right before communion.

To receive communion, come forward as directed by the usher. "Cross" the palms of your hands to receive bread from the priest. Gluten-free bread is available upon request.

If you desire to receive wine, please bring a chalice or cup from home. The chalice bearer will pour a small amount of wine into your cup for you (and your family).

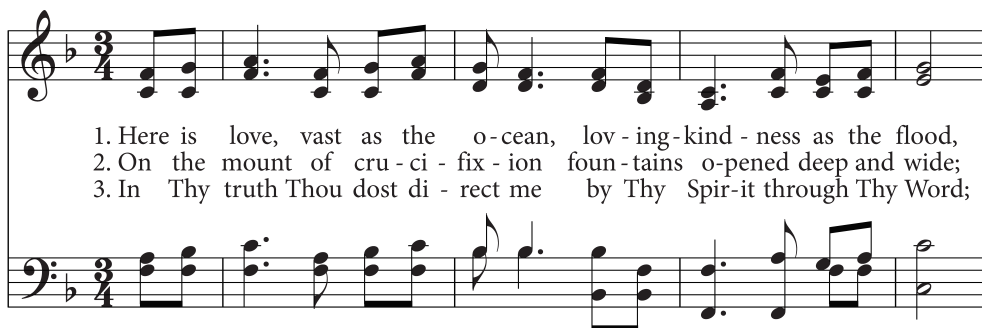
If you do not desire to commune, but would like to receive prayer, cross your arms over your chest as you come forward, and the pastor will pray for you.

All baptized Christians who trust in the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, seek to lead a new life by God's mercies, and strive to walk in love and charity with their neighbors are welcome at this table.

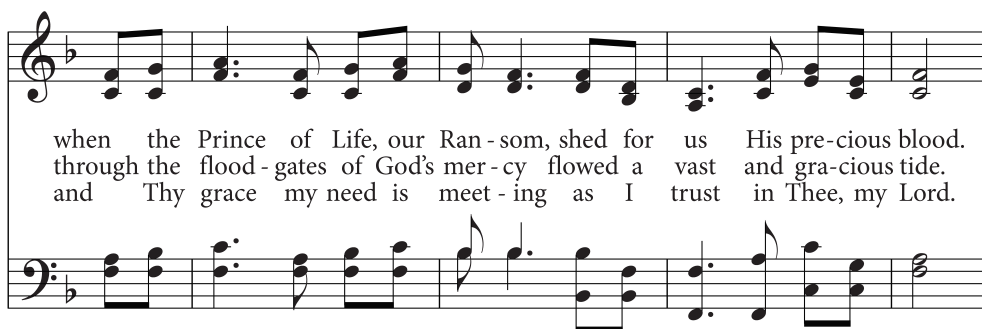
During communion there are prayer ministers near the stairs who'd love to pray with you for any need, great or small.

Here Is Love

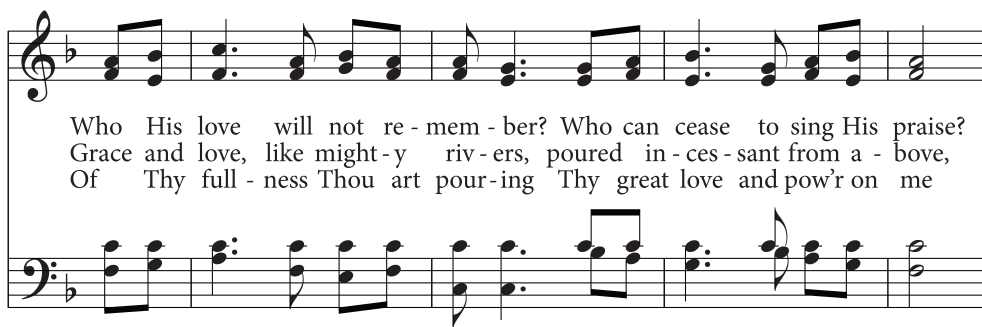
Words: William Rees, st. 1-2, 1855; tr. William Edwards, 1915; st. 3 attr. William Williams, 1744; Music: Robert Lowry, 1876



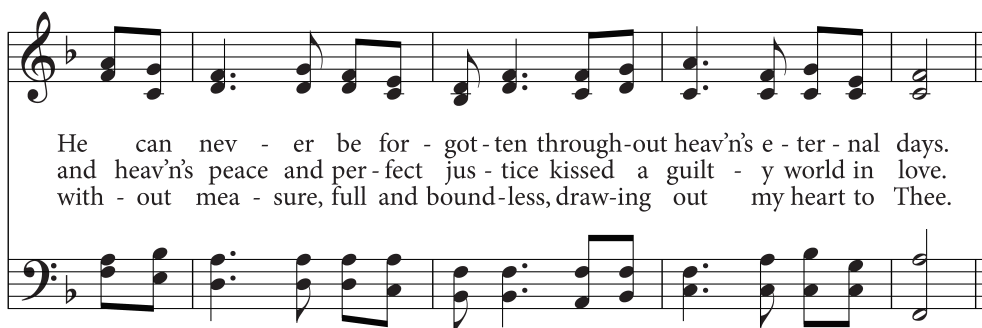
1. Here is love, vast as the o-cean, lov-ing-kind-ness as the flood,
 2. On the mount of cru-ci-fix-ion foun-tains o-pened deep and wide;
 3. In Thy truth Thou dost di-rect me by Thy Spir-it through Thy Word;



when the Prince of Life, our Ran-som, shed for us His pre-cious blood.
 through the flood-gates of God's mer-cy flowed a vast and gra-cious tide.
 and Thy grace my need is meet-ing as I trust in Thee, my Lord.



Who His love will not re-mem-ber? Who can cease to sing His praise?
 Grace and love, like might-y riv-ers, poured in-ces-sant from a - bove,
 Of Thy full-ness Thou art pour-ing Thy great love and pow'r on me



He can nev-er be for-got-ten through-out heav'n's e-ter-nal days.
 and heav'n's peace and per-fect jus-tice kissed a guilt-y world in love.
 with-out mea-sure, full and bound-less, draw-ing out my heart to Thee.

PERSONAL PRAYERS FOR USE DURING COMMUNION

For those who Desire to Commit to the Christian Faith

Lord Jesus Christ, I am broken by sin and unable to save myself. I believe that you died for me, bearing my punishment on the cross, and that you offer me forgiveness and new life in you. I turn from my sins and trust in you as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

For those in Search of Truth

God, I am uncertain whether you exist and whether you are listening to me now. I want to know the truth, and I am willing to live according to it. If you are there, please reveal yourself to me and give me faith that leads to the abundant life promised by Jesus Christ. Amen.

For those who Desire a Deeper Faith

Almighty and eternal God, so draw my heart to you, so guide my mind, so fill my imagination, so control my will, that I may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use me according to your will, for your glory and the welfare of your people. Amen.

How Can I Keep From Singing?

Words and Music by Robert Lowry; Public Domain



1 My life flows on in end less song; a bove earth's la men ta tion,
2 Through all the tu mult and the strife, I hear the mu sic ring ing.
3 What though my joys and com forts die? The Lord my Sa vior liv eth.
4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun- tain e - ver spring-ing!—



I catch the sweet, though far off hymn that hails a new cre a tion.
It finds an ech o in my soul. How can I keep from sing ing?
What though the dark ness gath er round? Songs in the night he giv eth.
All things are mine since I am his!— How can I, keep from sing - ing?

Refrain



No storm can shake my in-most calm— while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.—



Since Christ is Lord of— hea-ven and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Heavenly Father, 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.

And now Father, send us out into the world 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 forever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

THE RECESSIONAL

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Text: Charles Wesley, 1744; Music: Witt's Psalmodia Sacra, 1715, alt.

1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus,
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion,

3
born to set thy peo - ple free; from our fears and
hope of all the earth thou art; dear de - sire of

6
sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.

The musical score is written for two voices (Soprano and Bass) in 4/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of music. The first system contains the first two lines of the hymn. The second system contains the next two lines. The third system contains the final two lines. The music is a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady bass line.

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Advent Morning Prayer Join us on Tuesday and Thursday mornings during Advent for Morning Prayer from 7:15-7:45 AM. We'll meet in the Choir Room at Crozet Baptist. All are welcome!

Christmas Eve Services We will offer two services on December 24 at 3:30 PM and 5:00 PM at the Barn at Fidelis Farm (6577 Jarmans Gap Road). Please RSVP online so that we ensure there are enough seats for everyone.

Youth Sunday School Youth Sunday School will begin on Sunday, January 9, at 8:45 AM. This 5 week study will focus on basic Christian theology. There will be room for discussion each week. Teenagers can submit questions or discussion topics here: <https://tinyurl.com/HCyouthdiscussion>. See Josh Waldron, Michelle Peck, or Sam Parks with questions.

Holy Cross Prayer Ministry A team of parishioners is available to pray daily for needs within the parish. Send prayer requests to Tom Harrison at thar65@gmail.com, and he will forward them to team members. All requests are held in strict confidence.

Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany Prayer Booklets New Holy Cross prayer booklets for Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany can be found on the welcome table.

Communion Cup Reminder If you'd like to receive wine at communion, please bring a chalice or cup from home. Families are encouraged to share one cup.

Children We love the presence of a growing number of children at Holy Cross! Parents, please be sure not to leave your children unattended while on the premises at Pro Re Nata.

COVID Precautions When the temperature is above 50 degrees, we will worship with the large garage doors open to allow for maximum outdoor ventilation. Please consider the weather and dress comfortably. Outdoor, physically-distanced seating is available for those who desire it. Face coverings remain optional under current Virginia law.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS CLERGY AND STAFF

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