



CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS

THE FIRST SUNDAY *of* CHRISTMAS

December 26, 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**.*

Joy to the World!

Public Domain. Words: Isaac Watts, 1719. Music: ANTIOCH, George Frederick Handel

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her
2 Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns; let all their songs em
3 No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns in fest the
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na - tions

7 King. Let every heart pre pare him
ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
ground; he comes to make his bless ings
prove the glo - ries of his right - eous -

11 room, and heaven and na ture sing, and heaven and na ture
plains re peat the sound ing joy, re peat the sound ing
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his
and heaven and na - ture sing,

15 sing, and heaven, and heaven and na ture sing.
joy, re peat, re peat the sound ing joy.
found, far as, far as the curse is found.
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.
heaven and na - ture sing,

THE ACCLAMATION

The People standing, the Celebrant says

For unto us a child is born,
Unto us a son is given.

ISAIAH 9:6

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 SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Jesus said: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

MATTHEW 22:37-40

THE TRISAGION

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

THE GLORIA

Glory Be to God on High

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: AMSTERDAM, From Foundery Collection, 1742

The musical score is written for a single voice and a basso continuo. It is in the key of B-flat major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The melody is on a treble clef staff, and the bass line is on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

1. Glo - ry be to God on high, And peace on earth de - scend;
2. Him the an - gels all a - dored, Their Mak - er and their King;
3. See th' e - ter - nal Son of God A mor - tal Son of Man;
4. We, the sons of men, re - joice, The Prince of Peace pro - claim;

God comes down, He bows the sky, And shows Him-self our Friend.
 Tid - ings of their hum-bled Lord They now to mor - tals bring.
 Dwell - ing in an earth - ly clod*, Whom heav'n can - not con - tain.
 With the an - gels lift our voice And shout Im - man - uel's name.

God th'in-vis-i - ble ap - pears; God, the blest, the great I AM,
 Emp-tied of His maj - es - ty, Of His daz - zling glor - ies shorn,
 Stand a-mazed, ye heav'ns, at this; See the Lord of earth and skies;
 Knees and hearts to Him we bow; Of our flesh and of our bone,

So - jurns in this vale of tears, And Je - sus is His name.
 Be - ing's source be - gins to be, And God Him - self is born!
 Hum - bled to the dust He is, And in a man - ger lies.
 Je - sus is our Broth - er now, And God is all our own.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Celebrant says to the People

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, kindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE COLLECT FOR CHILDREN

Children's Chapel is on a short holiday break and will resume January 9th. There are activities that correspond with today's readings on the welcome table. Parents, feel free to get up and move around with your little ones as needed.

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

ISAIAH 61:10–62:5

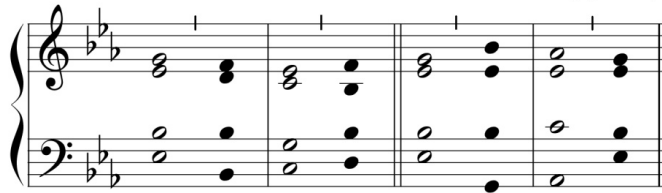
After the Lesson the Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 147:12-20

Robert Knox Kennedy (b. 1945)



© 1979. Robert Knox Kennedy

- 12 Praise the Lord, O Je¹rusalem; |
praise your God, O¹ Zion. ||
- 13 For he has made strong the bars of your¹ gates |
and has blessed your children with¹ in you. ||
- 14 He makes peace in your¹ borders |
and fills you with the finest of¹ wheat. ||
- 15 He sends forth his commandment upon the¹ earth, |
and his word runs very¹ swiftly. ||
- 16 He gives snow like¹ wool |
and scatters the white frost like¹ ashes. ||
- 17 He casts forth his ice like¹ crumbs. |
who is able to abide his¹ frost? ||
- 18 He sends out his word and¹ melts them; |
he blows with his wind, and the waters¹ flow. ||

19 He declares his word unto ¹ Jacob, |
his statutes and ordinances unto ¹ Israel. ||

(repeat second half of chant)

20 He has not dealt so with other ¹ nations; |
neither have they knowledge of his laws. Praise the ¹ Lord. ||

GALATIANS 3:23—4:7

After the Lesson the Reader says

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL



JOHN 1:1-18

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

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

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

Let us pray for the Church and for the world saying, "hear our prayer."

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

The leader will invite us to pray silently and then to pray aloud.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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 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.

All Praise to Thee Eternal Lord

Words: Martin Luther, 1524, tr. in Sabbath Hymn Book, 1858

1. All praise to thee, E - ter - nal Lord, Clothed
2. Once did the skies be - fore thee bow, A

in a garb of flesh and blood; Choos - ing a man - ger
Vir - gin's arms con - tain thee now; An - gels, who did in

for thy throne, While worlds on worlds are thine a - lone.
thee re - joice, Now lis - ten for thine in - fant voice.

3 A little child, thou art our guest,
 That weary ones in thee may rest;
 Forlorn and lowly is thy birth,
 That we may rise to heaven from earth.

4 Thou comest in the darksome night,
 To make us children of the light,
 To make us in the realms divine,
 Like thine own angels, 'round thee shine.

5 All this for us thy love hath done,
 By this to thee our love is won,
 For this we tune our cheerful lays,
 And shout our thanks in ceaseless praise.

Doxology

Composer: Louis Bourgeois (1551); Public Domain

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise
 Him, all crea - tures here be - low; Praise Him a - bove, ye
 heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

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.

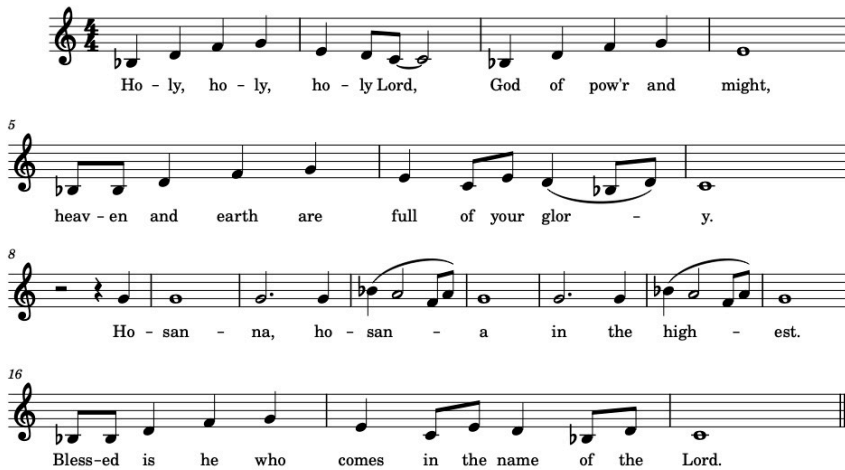
Lift up your hearts.

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 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.

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

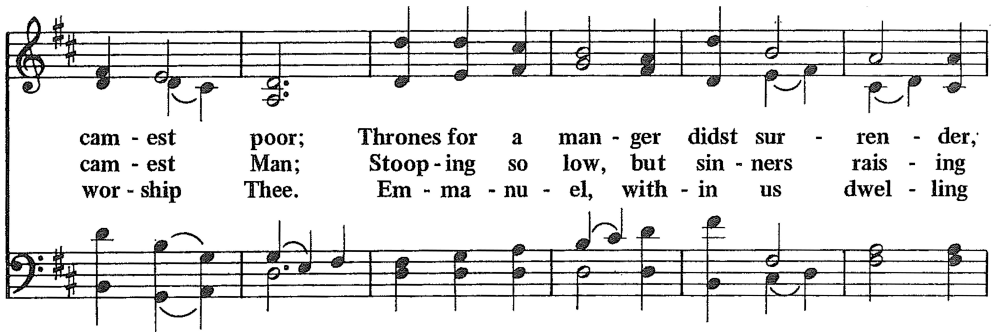
Almighty and eternal God, so draw my heart to you, so guide my mind, so fill my imagination, so control my will, that I may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use me according to your will, for your glory and the welfare of your people. Amen.

Thou Who Wast Rich

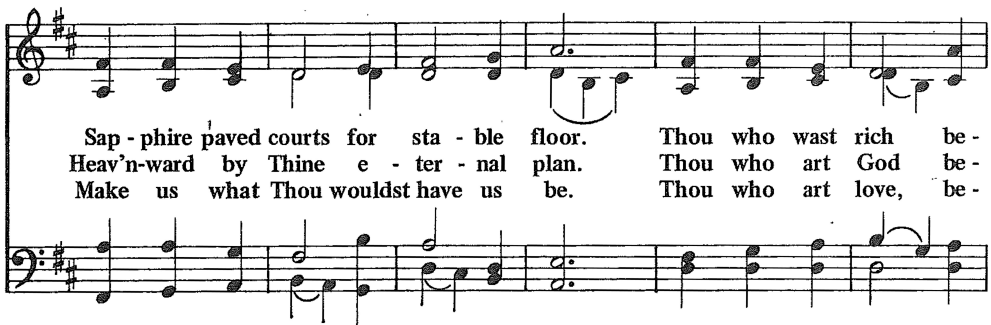
Words: Frank Houghton (1894-1792); Music: French Carol Melody, arr. Charles H. Kitson (1874-1944)



1. Thou who wast rich be - yond all splen - dor, All for love's sake be -
2. Thou who art God be - yond all prais - ing, All for love's sake be -
3. Thou who art love be - yond all tel - ling, Sa - vior and King, we



cam - est poor; Thrones for a man - ger didst sur - ren - der;
cam - est Man; Stoop - ing so low, but sin - ners rais - ing
wor - ship Thee. Em - ma - nu - el, with - in us dwel - ling



Sap - phire paved courts for sta - ble floor. Thou who wast rich be -
Heav'n - ward by Thine e - ter - nal plan. Thou who art God be -
Make us what Thou wouldst have us be. Thou who art love, be -



yond all splen - dor, All for love's sake be - cam - est poor.
yond all prais - ing, All for love's sake be - cam - est Man.
yond all tel - ling, Sa - vior and King, we wor - ship Thee.

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Words: Charles Wesley, 1708-1788; Music: Felix Mendelssohn, 1809-1847; Public Domain

1 Hark! the he - rald an - gels sing, — "Glo - ry to the new - born King:
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, — Christ, the e - ver - las - ting Lord,
3 Hail the heaven - born Prince of Peace! — Hail the Sun of Right - eous - ness!

5

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, — God and sin - ners re - con - ciled!"
late in time be - hold him come, — off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb:
Light and life to all he brings, — risen with heal - ing in his wings.

9

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, — join the tri - umph of the skies; —
veiled in flesh the Go - dhead see; — hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty, —
Mild he lays his glo - ry by, — born that we no more may die, —

13

with th'an - ge - lic hosts pro - claim, "Christ is — born in Beth - le - hem!"
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Je - sus, — our Im - ma - nu - el.
born to raise us from the earth, born to — give us se - cond birth.

1:

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry — to the new - born King."

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

Joy to the World!

Public Domain. Words: Isaac Watts, 1719. Music: ANTIOCH, George Frederick Handel

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns; let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the Name of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Holy Cross Prayer Booklets Holy Cross prayer booklets with readings for 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

The Rev. Blake Johnson • *Rector* • blake@holycrossva.org

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Kate Waldron • *Parish Administrator* • kate@holycrossva.org

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