Welcome to our Zoom Worship!

*In the event of a Zoom-bombing* (i.e. weird and offensive things being done or said) we will shut down this event and send an email to our members with a new link to restart the worship. If you are not on our email list, simply email holycrossnovi@gmail.com to receive the link.

Please "Mute" yourself (microphone icon in lower left corner of screen) when you are not speaking to avoid broadcasting distracting noise.

Feel free to interact with others by using the Chat function. (Click on "Chat" on the bottom of your screen, then type your messages into the chat bar at the bottom of the window that opens on your right. Chat texts are seen by all participants.)
Gathering of the People

Prelude

Call to Worship  (A Celtic Primer, pg. 241)

Presider  Blessed be God the Holy Trinity.
People  And blessed be God’s realm, now and for ever. Amen.
Presider  Let us pray.
All  Kindle in our hearts, O God, the flame of love that never ceases, that it may burn in us, giving light to others. May we shine for ever in your temple, set on fire with your eternal light, even your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Redeemer. Amen.

Opening Hymn  Rejoice, rejoice, believers  Hymnal 68

Collect of the Day

Presider  God be with you.
People  And also with you.
Presider  Let us pray.

Lord, we pray that your grace may always precede and follow us, that we may continually be given to good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

First Reading  Isaiah 25:1-9

Reader  A Reading from Isaiah

O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,  
    plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

For you have made the city a heap,  
    the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more,  
    it will never be rebuilt.

Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;  
    cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
For you have been a refuge to the poor,  
    a refuge to the needy in their distress,  
    a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,  
    the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;  
    the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the L ORD of hosts will make for all peoples  
    a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
    of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
And he will destroy on this mountain  
    the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
    the sheet that is spread over all nations;  
    he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
    and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,  
    for the L ORD has spoken.

It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he  
    might save us.  
    This is the L ORD for whom we have waited;  
    let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
People Thanks be to God

Psalm 23
Recited responsively by whole verse. The reader leads off, and congregation responds with the bold verses.

1 The L ORD is my shepherd; *  
    I shall not be in want.

2 He makes me lie down in green pastures *  
    and leads me beside still waters.

3 He revives my soul *  
    and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

4 Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
    I shall fear no evil; *  
    for you are with me;  
    your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

5 You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; *  
    you have anointed my head with oil,  
    and my cup is running over.

6 Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *  
    and I will dwell in the house of the L ORD for ever.
A Reading from the Letters

Philippians 4:1-9

Reader  A Reading from Philippians

My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Reader  Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.
People  Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn  Celtic Alleluia  (3 times)  MHSO 20

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Holy Gospel

Matthew 22:1-14

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

Once more Jesus spoke to the people in parables, saying: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.
“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

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

Sermon The Rev Ian Reed Twiss

Affirmation of Faith (EDOMI Convention Eucharist, 2015)
Said in unison.

We believe in God
whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives,
whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth,
whose love was crucified by the evil that wants to enslave us all
and whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom.

Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and doubting, we trust in God;
and, in the Name of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves,
in the service of others, to seek justice and to live in peace,
to care for the earth and to share the common wealth of God’s goodness,
to live in the freedom of forgiveness
and the power of the Spirit of love;

And in the company of the faithful, to be the Church,
for the glory of God. Amen.

Prayers of the People (BCP, Form IV)
During the prayers, please share any prayer requests or thanksgivings into the Zoom Chat to be read aloud.

Leader 1 Let us pray for the Church and for the world.
Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

Silence

Leader 1 Lord, in your mercy
People Hear our prayer.

Leader 2 Guide the people of this land, and of all nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Silence

Leader 2 Lord, in your mercy
People Hear our prayer.

Leader 1 Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Silence

Leader 1 Lord, in your mercy
People Hear our prayer.
Leader 2 Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Silence

Leader 2 Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Leader 1 Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Silence

Leader 1 Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Leader 2 We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

Leader 2 Lord, in your mercy

People Hear our prayer.

Presider Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The Presider reads the Prayer requests or thanksgivings aloud, then concludes,

Presider Merciful God, we ask you to grant our petitions. Help us to seek and to love you more every day of our lives. Teach us to reach out to our neighbor, that we may follow the example of Jesus, the Christ, your Son our Lord. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (from CREDO worship)

Presider Let us in silence confess our sins and failings.

Silence

All Before God, with the people of God, we confess to our brokenness: To the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others, and the life of the world.

Presider May God forgive us, Christ renew us, and the Spirit enable us to grow.

All Amen.

The Peace

Presider May the peace of God be always with you.

People And also with you.

God’s Peace is exchanged with one another.

Announcements & Celebration of Anniversaries, Birthdays, etc.

If you have an Announcement, Birthday, etc., please:

- Type it into the Chat  OR
- use the "Raise my hand" button (found by clicking the "Participants" icon at the bottom of your screen) and you will be called on  OR
- Press the "Unmute" button (microphone icon in lower left) and speak up!
The Liturgy of the Table

About Communion
All who wish to partake of bread and/or wine are invited to:

• Set your own table or desk at home with a piece of bread and a small cup of wine for each worshipper in your household. Just bread OR wine is sufficient as well.
• Elevate your bread and/or wine as the Presider does.
• Take the bread and/or wine, saying the words written, during the distribution of bread and wine.

Is this "real" Communion? Does the blessing of the elements on the altar extend to the bread and wine of those gathered virtually? Who knows? Communion is a mystery. We are operating on the faith that "with God all things are possible" (Matthew 19:26) and leaving the rest up to the Holy Spirit.

If you don’t have bread and wine, or you’d rather not participate in this way, just be in worship with your siblings in Christ. Sing or hum along with the communion hymn as you feel moved. Pray.

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Hymn   Amazing Grace
The hymn is played while the Presider sets the table. If you are able to, please

• Make a paypal or credit card donation at edomi.org/give: designated to Holy Cross, Novi, or
• write the church a check: Holy Cross Episcopal Church, 40700 W. Ten Mile Road, Novi, MI 48375
   ~ Thank you!

Communion Prayer   (EDOMI Convention Eucharist, 2017)

Presider       God be with you.
People        And also with you.
Presider       Lift up your hearts.
People        We lift them to the Lord.
Presider        Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People       It is right to give our thanks and praise.
Presider       Renewing God, you called forth the cosmos in all its beauty and fashioned stars and moons, galaxies, and planets to reflect the vastness of your love. In time Your Spirit hovered over the face of the earth and breathed the breath of life into us mortals, formed of the dust to mirror your image. In Abraham and Sarah, you number your people with the stars and summon us to be a holy people, a royal priesthood. But time and time again we have broken your heart and wandered away from your love.
People        Bless and sanctify your people in faith.
Presider       Then in Jesus the Anointed One you made yourself fully known to us, and in his death, resurrection and ascension you healed our past and reconciled us to you and to one another. In the power of the Holy Spirit you called us to be your church, never closer to you than when we gather at this table of blessing.
People        Bless and sanctify your people in joy.
Presider       Therefore we praise you, joining our voices in praise and song with angels and archangels, matriarchs and patriarchs, prophets and healers and the whole company of heaven, in endless songs of praise:
Sanctus  Holy, holy, holy Lord

Hosanna is our cry, Transforming God, for in Jesus you show us that whoever wishes to be great must be a servant and whoever wishes to be first must serve others in your name. Strengthen your people that we may continue your good work of transforming struggle into strength, rejection into rejoicing, and persecution into praise.

Presider  Bless and sanctify your people in hope.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us now, that we may become holy, even as you are holy. Sanctify this bread and wine, that they may transform our hearts and minds and souls and voices as they become the body and blood of your blessed Son our Lord.

Jesus, on the night before he died, at supper with his disciples, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them saying “Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper he took the cup of wine. Again he gave you thanks, and gave it to his disciples, saying, “Drink this all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Presider  Great is the mystery of faith.

All  Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

God our Deliverer, in Jesus you show the extent of your eternal love. Embolden your church in this sacred meal to be a voice for the voiceless and a hope for the hopeless, that with Blessed Mary the Godbearer and the countless women and men who have pioneered and persisted we may serve humbly in your name. Show your glory through agents of healing and learning, and shower your people with your love until the day comes when every eye beholds you full of grace and we turn again to Christ.

People  Bless and sanctify your people in love.

All this we ask in your most holy name. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

All  AMEN!
The Presider continues
As Jesus taught us, we now pray,

Breaking of the Bread  (Presider takes and breaks the bread.)

Presider  Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People  Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Communion of the People

No one who comes to the bread and wine seeking Christ is turned away. The words of distribution are:

The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven. Amen.
The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation. Amen.
Post Communion Prayer

Presider

Let us pray.

All

Eternal God, heavenly Creator,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

(A Celtic Primer, pg 249)

Presider

May you return to the world in the goodness of God
who is Mother and Father to us all,
in the gentleness of our brother, Jesus,
in the radiance of the Holy Spirit,
in the faith of Jesus’ followers,
in the joyful praise of the angels,
in the holiness of the saints,
in the courage of God’s witnesses.
Recessional Hymn

Ev’ry time I feel the spirit

1. Ev’ry time I feel the spirit, moving in my heart, I will pray.
2. Ev’ry time I feel the spirit, moving in my heart, I will pray.

Postlude

Fairest Lord Jesus

arr. M. Toll

Going into the World

Presider  Alleluia, alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
People  Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

This brings the worship to a close.
All are invited to stay on Zoom for some social time in “break-out rooms” of 5-7 people following the service.

Ministers of Today’s Service

Presider:  The Rev. Ian Reed Twiss
Responses:  Pat Nielsen
Lector 1:  Bill Naughtin
Lector 2:  Bev Siirila
Prayers:  Silvia Huth & Bruce Hinkle
Virtual Choir:  Jenny Darrah; Ann Maher
                Jason Paradowski; Jane Foote
                Ian Twiss
Tech Team:  Mike Stutso; Tim Bailey
            Jason Paradowski

Clergy
Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Ian Reed Twiss

Staff
Administrator & Sexton: Teri Landreth
Music Minister: Marvin Toll
Music printed under OneLicense #717971-A
Sunday Services
- 8:00 am worship with communion (wafers only) masks required
- 10:00 am worship on Zoom with communion and music. Note: we have added the virtual “waiting room”. Teri will be alerted to add you to the meeting.

HOLY CROSS PLEDGE DRIVE
It is time to prayerfully make your pledge to Holy Cross for our 2021 budget. We will have a series of brief talks over the coming weeks. Material will also be emailed (or postal mailed if you are not on email). This year we hope to have a pledge form that you can fill out online, as well as the usual hard-copy version. We ask that all pledges be sent in by Nov 12. Thank you for your faithfulness!

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY
November 1
Please email (or mail/bring) a photo of loved ones who have died and we will create a virtual display. Please include each person’s name and date of death.
These materials are due to the church by Friday, Oct 23.

WEEKDAY MORNING SCHEDULE
- Morning Prayer on Zoom - Wednesdays and Fridays @ 7:30 am
- Thursday Healing Prayer and Book Study Hybrid @ 10:30 am

Note: We are now doing our Thursday morning gathering (10 am Healing Prayer, 10:30 Adult Forum) as a hybrid: in-person and on Zoom simultaneously. If you want to join in-person, all the rules apply--masks, distancing, no touching, no food/coffee, etc.

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These materials are due to the church by Friday, Oct 23.

PASTOR IAN TIME OFF
Ian will be taking a week off from Oct 12-19, with Jenny Darrah preaching and presiding over Morning Prayer on the 18th Thank you, Jenny!

SOCIAL JUSTICE WORK
Vote Forward volunteers send heartfelt handwritten letters to unregistered and low-propensity voters encouraging them to participate in our democracy. The letters have been shown to significantly boost voter turnout. Letter writers are given a template, names, and addresses but provide the paper, envelope and postage: votefwd.org Until Oct. 17th

Help feed our community
The Social Justice Ministry is collecting funds to help Zelphia’s Community Kitchen provide a good Thanksgiving dinner to local families, now through November 15th. If you would like to help, please send a check payable to Holy Cross with “Zelphia’s” in the subject line, or put “Zelphia’s” in the restrictions line if you pay through edomi.org/give. (Visit zelphies.com to learn more about them and how they help the community!)

Work the polls
The State of Michigan needs help on Election Day. If you are part of a group that’s less vulnerable to COVID-19, please consider signing up to be a poll worker to assist voters and count ballots. These are paid positions with training provided. Check out michigan.gov/DemocracyMVP for more details.