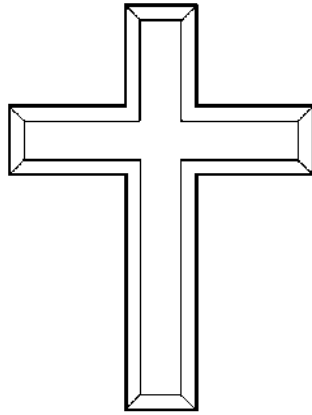


Church of the Holy Cross



The Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020

10 A.M.

Holy Communion

40700 W. Ten Mile Road • Novi, MI 48375

248-427-1175

www.holycrossnovi.org

Gathering of the People

Prelude

M. Toll "Live"

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle

Reader For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. – Isaiah 60:2-3

Two candles are lit.

Reader In this Advent season of hopeful waiting and preparation, we light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope. May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way to salvation.

People **O Come, O Come Emmanuel.**

Presider Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People **You come to your people and set them free.**

Opening Hymn H 76

On Jordan's Bank

1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an -
2 Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; make
3 For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, our
4 To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, and
5 All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, whose

1 noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
2 straight the way for God with - in, and let each heart pre -
3 re - fuge, and our great re - ward; with - out thy grace we
4 bid the fall - en sin - ner stand; shine forth, and let thy
5 ad - vent doth thy peo - ple free; whom with the Fa - ther

1 for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings.
2 pare a home where such a might - y guest may come.
3 waste a - way like flowers that with - er and de - cay.
4 light re - store earth's own true love - li - ness once more.
5 we a - dore and Ho - ly Spi - rit ev - er - more.

Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word

Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 40:1-11

Reader A reading from Isaiah.

Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground shall become level,
and the rough places a plain.
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all people shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

A voice says, "Cry out!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All people are grass,
their constancy is like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower fades,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it;
surely the people are grass.
The grass withers, the flower fades;
but the word of our God will stand for ever.
Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good tidings;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings,
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
"Here is your God!"
See, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.
He will feed his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms,
and carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13

The reader will read each verse to the asterisk. The people will read the rest of each verse (in bold).

- 1 You have been gracious to your land, O LORD, *
you have restored the good fortune of Jacob.
- 2 You have forgiven the iniquity of your people *
and blotted out all their sins.
- 8 I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *
**for he is speaking peace to his faithful people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.**
- 9 Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *
that his glory may dwell in our land.
- 10 Mercy and truth have met together; *
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.
- 11 Truth shall spring up from the earth, *
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.
- 12 The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *
and our land will yield its increase.
- 13 Righteousness shall go before him, *
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

Letters

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Reader A reading from Second Peter.

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed.

Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home.

Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn S95

Lord have mercy

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains three measures: the first measure is marked 'Cantor or Choir' and contains the lyrics 'Lord, have mer - cy.'; the second measure is marked 'All' and contains 'Lord, have mer - cy.'; the third measure is marked 'Cantor or Choir' and contains 'Christ, have mer - cy.' The second staff contains three measures: the first is marked 'All' and contains 'Christ, have mer - cy.'; the second is marked 'Cantor or Choir' and contains 'Lord, have mer - cy.'; the third is marked 'All' and contains 'Lord, have mer - cy.' The melody is simple, using quarter and eighth notes.

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:1-8

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

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.

As it is written in the prophet Isaiah,

“See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way;
the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:
‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,’”

John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, “The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

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

Sermon

The Rev Ian Reed Twiss

Nicene Creed

The people recite this ancient statement of faith together.

**We believe in one God,
the Creator, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Creator,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Creator.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:**

**by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made human.**

**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 God.
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 Creator and the Son,
who with the Creator and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
and who has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy universal 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.**

Prayers of the People (from *Intercessions for the Christian People*)

At the end of the prayers, you are invited to share any prayer requests or thanksgivings into the Zoom Chat.

Prayer 1 Let us pray: That our gracious Savior may rouse us from sleep and make us attentive to the nearness of his presence, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, open our hearts.**

Prayer 2 That we may discover God's word in every sound of this world, God's touch in every human embrace, and God's love in every gesture of self-sacrifice among us, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, open our ears.**

Prayer 1 That divine energy and holy grace may bring our hearts to vigilance and make us see with uncovered eyes the Christ who suffers in his people's agonies, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, open our eyes.**

Prayer 2 That we may come to recognize in our holy assembly gathered for prayer that Jesus the Christ is with us here to make our songs of praise and pleading his own, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Holy God, be present here.**

Prayer 1 That God's coming into the days and years of our human history may be always new, always brimming with light to drive all darkness away, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

Silence. The Presider reads prayers from the chat aloud, then concludes:

Presider Make ready our hearts for your coming, O Lord, and receive our prayers in the name of the one who comes, our gracious Savior, Jesus, the Christ.
Amen.

Confession of Sin

Presider The Lord comes, bringing to light things now hidden in darkness, and disclosing the purposes of the heart. Let us open our hearts and prepare for his coming, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence is kept.

People **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.**

Presider May God forgive you, Christ befriend you, and the Spirit renew and change your life. **Amen.**

Peace

We offer one another a wish of peace before coming to the Communion table together.

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

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 Music *Night of silence*

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

(BCP Prayer A)

Presider The Lord 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.**

The Presider continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing.

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:

Song of the Angels S124 *Holy, holy, holy*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
 earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
 Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Presider continues

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

The Presider continues

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.

AMEN!

Lord's Prayer

As Jesus Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - low - ed be your
 name, your king - dom come, your will be done on

earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our
dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins as
we for-give those who sin a-gainst us.
Save us from the time of trial and de-
liv-er us from e-vil, for the king-dom, the pow'r and the
glo-ry are yours, now and for ev-er.

Music: David Haas, © 1986, GIA Publications, Inc.

Amen.

Breaking of Bread

The Presider breaks the consecrated bread.

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God. Holy Gifts for Holy People.

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.

Communion Hymn

LEVAS 19

I'm just a poor wayfaring stranger

1. I'm just a poor way-far-ing stran-ger, I'm trav'-ling through this world be -
2. I know dark clouds will gath-er o'er me, I know my path - way's rough and
3. I want to sing sal - va-tions sto-ry, In con-cert with the blood-washed
4. I'll soon be free from ev-ery tri-al, This form will rest be - neath the

1. low; There is no sick - ness, toil, nor dan-ger, In that bright
2. steep; But gold-en fields lie out be - fore me, Where wea - ry
3. band; I want to wear a crown of glo-ry, When I get
4. sod; I'll drop the cross of self - de - ni - al, And en - ter

1. world to which I go, I'm go-ing there to see my
2. eyes no more shall weep, I'm go-ing there to see my
3. home to that good land, I'm go-ing there to see my
4. in my home with God, I'm go-ing there to see my

1. fa - ther, I'm go - ing there no more to roam;
 2. mo - ther, She said she'd meet me when I come; I'm just a
 3. bro - thers, They passed be - fore me one by one;
 4. Sav - ior, Who shed for me His pre - cious blood;

go - ing o - ver Jor - dan, I'm just a go - ing o - ver home.

Post Communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

People **In deep and holy gratitude
 for this moment, this meal, this community,
 we give ourselves to you.
 Take us out to live as changed people
 because we have shared the Living Word
 and cannot remain the same.
 Ask much of us, expect more from us,
 encourage many through us.
 So, Lord, may we live to your glory,
 both as inhabitants of earth
 and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven. Amen.**

Sending into the World

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!

Blessing

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you
 and scatter the darkness from before your path;
 and the blessing of God Almighty,
 the Mother, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
 be upon you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn H 67 Comfort, comfort ye my people

1 Com - fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus
 2 Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert
 3 Make ye straight what long was crook - ed, make the rough - er

saith our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness
 far and near, call - ing us to new re - pent - ance
 pla - ces plain; let your hearts be true and hum - ble,

mourn - ing 'neath their sor - rows' load. Speak ye to Je -
since the king - dom now is here. Oh, that warn - ing
as be - fits his ho - ly reign. For the glo - ry

ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way;
of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;

tell her that her sins I cov - er,
let the val - leys rise to meet him
and all flesh shall see the to - ken

and her war - fare now is o - ver.
and the hills bow down to greet him.
that the word is nev - er bro - ken.

Sending

Presider Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude *All who hunger, gather gladly*

W. Moore, arr. J.Tartaglia

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: Ann Maher
Candle Reader: Violet McCormick
Reader 1: Pam Janson
Reader 2: Silvia Huth
Prayers: Katherine Housman
Carole Abshier

Vocalists: Jenny Darrah, Jane Foote,
Dean Gidlof, Larry Jansen,
Matt Johnson, Ann Maher,
Katie McLaughlin, Jason
Paradowski, Carol Schoch,
Ian Reed Twiss

Instrumentalist: John Tartaglia - Woodwinds
Yvonne Toll - Flugelhorn

Zoom Host: Teri Landreth

Clergy

Bishop of Michigan: The Rt. Rev. Bonnie Perry
Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Ian Reed Twiss

Staff

Administrator & Sexton: Teri Landreth
Music Minister: Marvin Toll

Music printed under OneLicense #717971-A

**Information and Zoom links at
holycrossnovi.org**

Sunday Services

- **10:00 am worship** on Zoom with communion and music.

HOLY CROSS PLEDGE DRIVE

HOLY MOLY Holy Cross family!!!
With **51 pledging families**, we have met **\$131,220** of our \$136,000 pledge goal!



This is the closest our pledged budget has come to meeting our actual operating expenses, in years!!!

First time pledgers; long-time pledgers; those who pledged the same, pledged more or pledged less; those who give when they can; those who give in service and give in prayer, sincerely,
~ THANK YOU ~

SACRED GROUND ANTI-RACISM STUDY

We plan to join Saint Luke's, Ferndale in an intensive, Episcopalian education program about racism called **Sacred Ground**. Starting in January, it will likely meet by Zoom once every 2-3 weeks, for a number of months, and there will be assigned reading. Although the program is geared towards White Americans, anyone may join. We expect this to be high-commitment and powerful work, deepening our spirituality and our ethics. **Contact Pastor Ian if you are interested.**

CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE

2:30-3:00 PM: Family Service 30-minutes on Zoom, with a Christmas Story play performed by kids, some prayers and a carol or two led by our choir. BYO Christingles.

4:30-5:00 PM: Carpark Communion, *weather permitting*. Just pull into the church lot by 4:30. Our Masked Pastor will perform the communion blessing on the bed of a pickup, and then bring the Body of Christ to your car window in his Covid-free, gloved hands. We want to safely share in-person communion on this holy festival of Christ's birth.

9:00-10:00 PM: Traditional Service on Zoom. This service will be the most like our Sunday 10 am worship, with choir-led carols, a sermon, celebration over bread and wine at the table, and candlelit "Silent Night" at the end (BYO candles!). For our traditionalists who prefer a midnight service, we will make a recording available online for later viewing.

WEEKDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

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

Note: We are now back to Thursday morning gathering (10 am Healing Prayer, 10:30 Adult Forum) on Zoom only.

**Wednesday Pajama Church (8 pm)
Zoom Schedule**

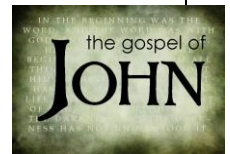
Join [Zoom Link](#)
Meeting ID: 858 7507 6012
Passcode: 672069

12/9 - John 14-17,
12/16 - John 18-21

Adult Forum (9 am) Thursday Healing Prayer (10 am) & Schedule

Join [Zoom Link](#)
Meeting ID: 814 5343 2459
Passcode: 843976

12/10 - John 14-17,
12/17 - John 18-21



NEW DEACON

We have wonderful news! Bishop Bonnie will be assigning our church a deacon. In Episcopal polity, the deacon is an ordained, unpaid member of the clergy tasked with leading the church in outreach-oriented servant ministry to the world. *(In worship, deacons typically process with and read the gospel, set and clear the table, preach occasionally, and send worshippers back into the world at the end.)*

Our deacon, Clea Smartt, is a wonderful person who has been through several years of schooling and training. We will have a chance to get to know her once she starts with us in January, but in the meantime, you are invited to virtually attend her ordination service:

Saturday, December 19th at 12:00 noon
Live streamed from our Cathedral Church of Saint Paul: [On Facebook](#) and [On YouTube](#)

CHRISTINGLE KIT Sign-up

CHRISTMAS PLAY Sign-up