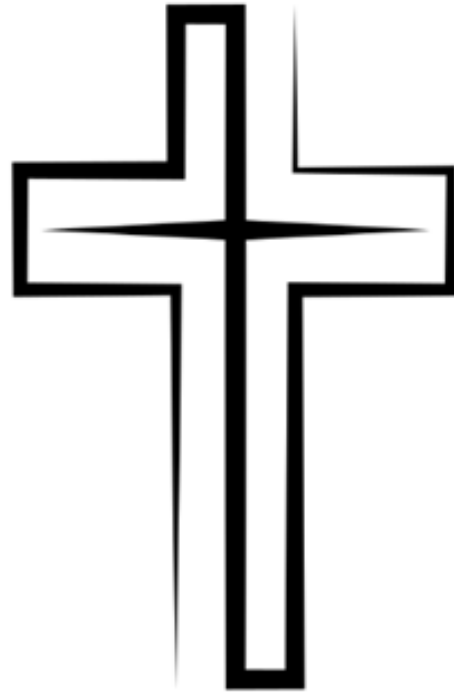


# Church of the Holy Cross



The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 14, 2025

10 a.m.

Morning Prayer

40700 W. Ten Mile Road • Novi, MI 48375  
248-427-1175

[www.holycrossnovi.org](http://www.holycrossnovi.org)  
[holycrossnovi@gmail.com](mailto:holycrossnovi@gmail.com)

# GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE

## Prelude

### Opening Hymn VF 155 *Wisdom freed and holy people*

1 Wis - dom freed a ho - ly peo - ple, blame - less, from op -  
2 Giv - ing them re - ward of la - bors, led the saints a -  
3 Through the Red Sea safe - ly brought them, led a - long the  
4 For sal - va - tion, Lord, the right - eous praised your name with

pres - sor's sword, and with - stood, with signs and won - ders,  
long her way, she was blaze of stars in dark - ness  
wat - ers steep, but their en - e - mies she swal - lowed,  
one ac - cord: song - filled tongues of new - born peo - ple

ru - lers' dread, to serve the Lord.  
and a shel - ter through the day.  
o - ver - whelmed them in the deep.  
ut - tered Wis - dom's migh - ty word.

Words: Patricia B. Clark, adapt. A Song of Wisdom © 1994 Selah Publishing Company, 4143 Brownsville Road, Suite 2, Pittsburgh, PA 15227-3306, www.selahpub.com. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Music: *Hailon Högair*, William Boyce (1711-1779).

**Celebrant** Blessed be our God.  
**People** For ever and ever. Amen.

### Hymn of Praise MHSO 3 *Come into God's presence*

1 Come in - to God's pres - ence sing - ing, "Al - le - lu - ia,  
2 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia."

Words and Music: Anon, arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham (b. 1928) © 1990 Celebration, PO Box 309, Aliquippa, PA 15001 [www.communityofcelebration.com]. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## Collect of the Day

**Celebrant** God be with you.  
**People** And also with you.  
**Celebrant** Let us pray.

O God, because without you we are not able to please you, mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit may in all things direct and rule our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the readings.

## Hebrew Scripture Reading

Exodus 32:7-14

*Reader* A Reading from the Book of Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, `These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, `It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, `I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'" And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

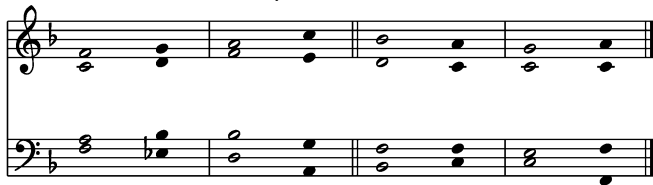
*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**People Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 51:1-11

We chant the psalms using Anglican psalm tones. In each line, the note changes at the "/" mark. Listen until you get the idea and then jump in when ready!

NOTE that verse 11 will repeat the chant tones used in verse 10.



© 1979, Robert Knox Kennedy.

- 1 Have mercy on me, O God, according to your loving- / kindness; \*  
in your great compassion blot out my of- / fenses.
- 2 Wash me through and through from my / wickedness \*  
and cleanse me from my / sin.
- 3 For I know my trans- / gressions, \*  
and my sin is ever be- / fore me.
- 4 Against you only have I / sinned \*  
and done what is evil in your / sight.
- 5 And so you are justified when you / speak \*  
and upright in your / judgment.
- 6 Indeed, I have been wicked from my / birth, \*  
a sinner from my mother's / womb.
- 7 For behold, you look for truth deep with- / in me, \*  
and will make me understand wisdom / secretly.
- 8 Purge me from my sin, and I shall be / pure; \*  
wash me, and I shall be clean in- / deed.
- 9 Make me hear of joy and / gladness, \*  
that the body you have broken may re- / joice.
- 10 Hide your face from my / sins \*

and blot out all my in- / iquities.  
 11 Create in me a clean heart, O / God, \*  
 and renew a right spirit with- / in me.

**New Testament Reading**

1 Timothy 1:12-17

*Reader* A reading from the first letter to Timothy.

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners-- of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

**People** **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Sequence Hymn H 536** *Open your ears, O faithful people*

*We will sing v.1 + refrain before the gospel and v. 2 + refrain after.*



1 O - pen your ears, O faith - ful peo - ple,  
 2 They who have ears to hear the mes - sage,  
 3 Is - ra - el comes to greet the Sa - vior,  
 4 O - pen your ears, O faith - ful peo - ple,



o - pen your ears and hear God's word. O - pen your hearts, O  
 they who have ears, then let them hear. They who would learn the  
 Ju - dah is glad to see his day. From east and west the  
 o - pen your ears and hear God's word. O - pen your hearts, O



roy - al priest - hood, God has come to you.  
 way of wis - dom, let them hear God's word.  
 peo - ples trav - el, he will show the way.  
 roy - al priest - hood, God has come to you.



God has spo - ken to his peo - ple, Hal - le - lu - jah!



And his words are words of wis - dom, Hal - le - lu -



jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! God has spo - ken to his peo - ple,  
 To - rah o - ra, To - rah o - ra,

Hal - le - lu - jah!                      And his words are  
 To - rah o - ra,                      To - rah o - ra, *Da Capo*  
 words of wis - dom, Hal - le - lu - jah!  
 To - rah o - ra, Hal - le - lu - jah!

“Torah ora” is Hebrew for, “The Law is our Light.”

## Holy Gospel

Luke 15:1-10

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

All the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them."

So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, `Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

"Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, `Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

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

## Sermon

The Rev. Deacon Cleda Smartt

**Nicene Creed**            *Please stand as you are able.*

**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** (Form II)

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishops Bonnie and Sean; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the wellbeing of all people. Pray for justice and peace. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison. Pray for those in any need or trouble. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found by God. *Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day. *Silence.*

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions aloud in the room.*

*Celebrant* Almighty God, by your Holy Spirit you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth: Grant that in our earthly pilgrimage we may always be supported by this fellowship of love and prayer, and know ourselves to be surrounded by their witness to your power and mercy. We ask this for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whom all our intercessions are acceptable through the Spirit, and who lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## **Confession and Absolution** *Stand as you are able.*

*Deacon* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**All** **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.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. **Amen.**

## **The Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*God's Peace is exchanged with one another.*

## **Offertory Sentence**

## Offertory Music LEVAS 72 *Just a closer walk with Thee*

The refrain (the bottom line) is sung after each verse.

1. I am weak but thou art strong; \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. Through this world of toil and snares, \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. When my fee - ble life is o'er, \_\_\_\_\_  
 Refrain: Just a clos - er walk with thee, \_\_\_\_\_

1. Je - sus, keep me from all wrong; \_\_\_\_\_ I'll be sat - is - fied as  
 2. If I fal - ter, Lord, who cares? \_\_\_\_\_ Who with me my bur - den  
 3. Time for me will be no more; \_\_\_\_\_ Guide me gent - ly, safe - ly  
 Refrain: Grant it, Je - sus, is my plea, \_\_\_\_\_ Dai - ly walk - ing close to

1. long \_\_\_\_\_ As I walk, let me walk close to thee.  
 2. shares? \_\_\_\_\_ None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.  
 3. o'er \_\_\_\_\_ To Thy king - dom shore, to thy shore.  
 Refrain: thee, \_\_\_\_\_ Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Words: Anonymous. Music: American Folk Song.

## Lord's Prayer (composed by Kate Autry)

As Jesus taught us, we now pray,

Cre - a - tor, Di - vine One ho - ly is your name. May  
 good-ness grow and your love en - fold on earth as hea-ven. Give us to - day the  
 bread of life, for - give us when we fail as we for-give those who hurt or harm us.  
 Give us strength in times of trial, de - li - ver us from e - vil. For won der, and  
 ma-je-sty, and glo - ry are Yours! Now and for - ev - er, A - men!

## Prayer for Guidance

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being:  
We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit,  
that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you,  
but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## Announcements & Blessings of Life Events

### Blessing

Life is short, and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So be swift to love. Make haste to be kind.  
And as you go may the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,  
be in your hearts and among you, this day and always. **Amen.**

### Sending Hymn

H 410

*Praise, my soul, the King of heaven*

*Unison or harmony*

1 Praise, my soul, the King of hea - ven; to his feet thy tri - bute bring;  
2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor to his peo - ple in dis - tress;  
3 Fa - ther - like he tends and spares us; well our fee - ble frame he knows;  
4 An - gels, help us to a - dore him; ye be - hold his face to face;

ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en, ev - er - more his prais - es sing:  
praise him still the same as ev - er, slow to chide, and swift to bless:  
in his hand he gen - tly bears us, res - cues us from all our foes.  
sun and moon, bow down be - fore him, dwell - ers all in time and space.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet his mer - cy flows.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Words: Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847). Music: *Lauda anima*, John Goss (1800-1880); desc. Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971).  
Descant by permission of Novello and Company, Limited.

## Going into the World

*Deacon*

Alleluia, alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the Lord!

*People*

Thanks be to God. **Alleluia, alleluia, ALLELUIA!**



## Postlude

*This brings the worship to a close.*

*All are invited for Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall following the service.*

### Ministers of Today's Service

Reader 1: Larry Jansen  
Reader 2: Rebecca McCormick  
Prayer: Jane Foote  
Greeter/Usher: Cathie Peterson & Anita Stromberg  
Zoom Host: Minerva Melville  
Counters: Rebecca McCormick & Pam Hinkle

### Altar Guild

**Joanne Quinlan**, Carole Abshier, Gael Grossman,  
Anne Hamilton, Katherine Housman, Cathi Peterson

### Sunday School Teachers

**Teri Landreth**, Renee Brennan, Pimam Manzi,  
Ashlie Price

### Clergy

Bishop of Michigan: The Rt. Rev. Bonnie Perry  
Rector: The Rev. Ian Reed Twiss  
Deacon: The Rev. Dcn. Cleda Smartt

### Staff

Administrator: Teri Landreth  
Music Director: Kate Autry  
Sexton: Katie Forbing

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Words: Willard F. Jabusch (b. 1930), alt. Copyright © 1966, 1984 by Willard F. Jabusch. Music: *Torah song [Yisrael V'oraita]*,  
Hasidic melody; arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Arrangement Copyright © 1985, G.I.A. Publications, Inc.

IN-PERSON SERVICES  
**Sunday 8am & 10am**

WEEKLY ZOOM SERVICES  
**Sunday Service**  
@ 10 AM

**Wednesday Night Compline**  
@ 7:45pm

Information and Zoom links  
at [www.holycrossnovi.org](http://www.holycrossnovi.org)



The flowers this Sunday are given  
to the Glory of God  
by Kip Voss  
in memory of Jerry Voss.

**Pet Blessing**

**Sunday October 5th** at 8:00 or 10:00 am,  
you are invited to bring your pet, or a photo  
of your pet, to be blessed. We will bless pets  
during communion this year but will also  
offer an outdoor blessing after the service for  
those whose furry friend can't take an indoor  
crowd!

**Buy Nothing Event**

Environmental Justice Ministry  
**Saturday Sept. 27**

*Give. Ask. Gratitude.*

The Buy Nothing Project has created an  
exchange system/gift economy which cares  
for creation by keeping useful items out of  
the landfill.

We are using Holy Cross' building to host a  
large event for the Novi Group, and  
parishioners are welcome to participate. Not  
only does this answer a call to care for  
creation, it is an invitation to the greater  
community to come and see Holy Cross.

**If you would like to volunteer** for an hour  
or so during the event, to be a presence for  
Holy Cross, see Teri. *More information in the  
Parish Hall.*

**PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY**

All knitters & crocheters welcome to join on  
the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month @ 10 am in the  
sanctuary.

Prayer shawls are always  
available on request to  
Tryn Hinkle –

[thcatcrazy101@gmail.com](mailto:thcatcrazy101@gmail.com)



**OFFICE SCHEDULE**

**Ian's Hours**

In-office  
Wednesdays 9am-5pm  
& Fridays 9am-3pm

From home  
Thursdays 9am-5pm

**Teri's Hours**

In-office  
Tues & Friday 9am-3pm

From home  
Wed 9am-3pm

**Pastor Ian will be out for the last time**

On Sunday, September 14<sup>th</sup>. We will hold  
Morning Prayer for both services.

**Teri will be out of the office** the week of  
September 15-19.

**Faith & Advocacy Ministry**  
**ACTION of the WEEK**

This week, F&A encourages you to scan  
through the **55 Active Topics** and call on one  
that speaks to you.

<https://5calls.org/all/>

Remember to leave a message with your  
home address to have your voice counted.

It's easy:

1. Go to [the 5calls website](https://5calls.org/all/)
2. Fill out your address in the upper left
3. Scroll down to find the phone number  
and a script
4. Make the calls

The Faith & Advocacy team next meets on  
**Wednesday, Sept 24, 6:00 pm on Zoom.**

Meeting ID: 848 6050 5294

Passcode: 225176

All Holy Cross members are welcome!

**Thursday Morning Book Group is back!!**

Our first book this fall will be a Pastor's  
Choice :-) The book is: *Begin Again: James  
Baldwin's America and Its Urgent Lessons for  
Our Own* by Eddie S. Glaude Jr.

As always, we meet at 9 am on zoom with  
Healing Prayer at 10 am.

Meeting ID: 893 3748 7355

Passcode: 256394

Reading Schedule

9/18/25 Intro and Chapter 1

9/25/25 Chapter 2

10/2/25 Chapter 3



**Please pray for:**

Peace in the world, especially in Gaza, Ukraine, Latin America, Ethiopia, the Republic of Congo and Syria. For people affected by gun violence in America.

In the Diocesan cycle of prayer, Trinity Church, Monroe; St. Philip's, Rochester; Divine Providence, Guerra, DR

In the Anglican cycle of prayer, The Anglican Church of South America

In our Holy Cross community, Kumiko; Art; Shiela; Dawn; Sarah, Brooke, Cecelia, Evelyn, Danielle, Samantha, and Alexandra; Mark, Chris; Rich, Paulette & Hank; Richard P; Kati & Kim; Randy; Susan and her family; Marsaya & Sayrah; Malcolm; Wanda, Tasha, Rhondda, Ronald, Kathy, Shirley; Lee; Matt & Rodger, Denise; Maria; Cheryl & Raul; Veronica.

*Do you have something or someone you would like us to pray for? Contact the church office or fill out the prayer request form on our Ministries page at [www.holycrossnovi.org](http://www.holycrossnovi.org).*

**Hospitality House Food Pantry Outreach**

Our Holy Cross Family has donated **300 personal and household items** for Hospitality House since February.

The number of families in need supported by Hospitality House has grown immensely. Thank you for your continued support to help our community!

**Examples:** Shampoo/Conditioner; Body Wash/Bar Soap; Deodorant; Feminine Products; Laundry or Cleaning Supplies, etc.

Learn about Holy Cross here



Give to Holy Cross here



**MUSIC MINISTRY**

All are welcome to warm up before the service from 9:20-9:35 when Kate will run through that day's music.

**Choir Rehearsal time:**  
11:30am - 12:15pm



**CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

Sunday School **at 10am**. Children of all ages are invited to meet in the Preschool Room (*down the hall from the Sanctuary*).

Families worship together in the sanctuary on the 5th Sunday of the month.



Next **Vestry** meeting:  
**6:00pm Wednesday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>**  
- On Zoom.

Meeting minutes on our resource page at [www.holycrossnovi.org](http://www.holycrossnovi.org) Financials are always available on request from the church office.

**Hospitality Ministry**

Introducing themed 10am coffee hour.

Each week we'll have something new to celebrate. See the sign-ups in the parish hall for more information.

- Sept 14<sup>th</sup> - National Celiac Awareness Day**  
- Gluten Free Snack
- Sept 21<sup>st</sup> - Autumn Equinox**  
- Cider and Donuts

As always, volunteers are needed to make and serve coffee and for light clean up.

**Sign up in the parish hall.**

**EXTRA PLATE**

Save up those "Extra Plates". Freeze a portion of your healthy home cooked meals (label & date) and bring them to coffee hour on **Sept 14<sup>th</sup>** to share.

All are welcome to participate. You do not need to give food to receive food.

Questions & interest to Shirley Chen - [surelychen@gmail.com](mailto:surelychen@gmail.com)