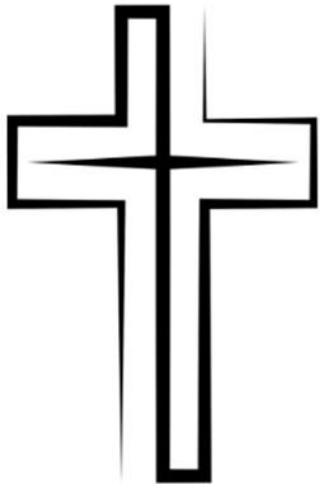


Church of the Holy Cross



Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

February 1, 2026
10 a.m.
Holy Communion

40700 W. Ten Mile Road • Novi, MI 48375
248-427-1175
holycrossnovi@gmail.com
www.holycrossnovi.org

Gathering of the People

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Hymn H 470 (v. 1-3) *There's a wideness in God's mercy*

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy like the wide-ness of the sea;
2 There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than up in heaven;
3 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea - sure of the mind;
there's a kind-ness in his jus - tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.
there is no place where earth's fail - ings have such kind - ly judg - ment given.
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.
There is wel - come for the sin - ner, and more gra - ces for the good;
There is plen - ti - ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed;
If our love were but more faith - ful, we should take him at his word;
there is mer - cy with the Sa - vior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
there is joy for all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the Head.
and our life would be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt. Music: Beecher, John Zundel (1815-1882), alt.

Call to Worship (Words from Sundays and Seasons & WLP 794)

Celebrant The Savior of the nations has come,
People **To light our way and heal our wounds.**
Celebrant Many are the light beams from the one light.
People **Our one light is Jesus.**
Celebrant Many are the branches of the one tree.
People **We are one in Christ.**
Celebrant 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.**

Song of Praise LEVAS 76 (v.1-2) Jesus in the morning

1. Je - sus, 2. Praise Him, 3. Love Him, 4. Serve Him, 5. Je - sus, Je - sus, Je - sus in the morn - ing

1. Je - sus in the noon - time; 2. Praise Him in the noon - time; 3. Love Him in the noon - time; 4. Serve Him in the noon - time; 5. Je - sus in the noon - time; Je - sus, Je - sus, Je - sus, Je - sus

1. Je - sus, 2. Praise Him, 3. Love Him, 4. Serve Him, 5. Je - sus, Je - sus when the sun goes down! Je - sus when the sun goes down!

Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Micah 6:1-8

Reader A reading from book of the prophet Micah.

Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth; for the Lord has a controversy with his people, and he will contend with Israel.

"O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! For I brought you up from the land of Egypt, and redeemed you from the house of slavery; and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord."

"With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt-offerings, with calves a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with tens of thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

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

Psalm 15 *The congregation will read the verses in bold.*

Reader We will read Psalm 15 responsively by whole verse.

1 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? *
 who may abide upon your holy hill?

2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, *
 who speaks the truth from his heart.

3 There is no guile upon his tongue; he does no evil to his friend; *
 he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, *
 but he honors those who fear the Lord.

5 He has sworn to do no wrong *
 and does not take back his word.

6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, *
 nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

7 Whoever does these things *
 shall never be overthrown.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

Reader A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written,

"I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,
 and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God.

He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

Sequence Hymn VF 98 *Lord, speak to me that I might speak*

Sing the v1-2 before the gospel & v3 after.



Words: Frances Ridley Havergal (1836-1879).

Music: *Canterbury*, adapt. Robert A. Schumann (1810-1856), from *Nachtstücke*, 1839; arr. from *Hymnal with Tunes, Old and New*, 1872.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 5:1-12

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

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 (BCP, Form II)

Reader 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*

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

Reader 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*

Reader 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*

Reader 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*

*Please offer your own prayers silently, aloud, or typed into the Zoom chat to be read.
The Celebrant concludes:*

O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution (from Sundays and Seasons)

Deacon Let us name our faults and failings and come to the Lord seeking grace:
All **Holy One, we encounter you in our lives and try to follow faithfully, but so often we get lost or turn away. We try to love our neighbors and ourselves, and even, by your grace, to love our enemies, but we fail. We take the wrong path and stray from the way of your love. forgive us, Lord, and guide us back to you.**
Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

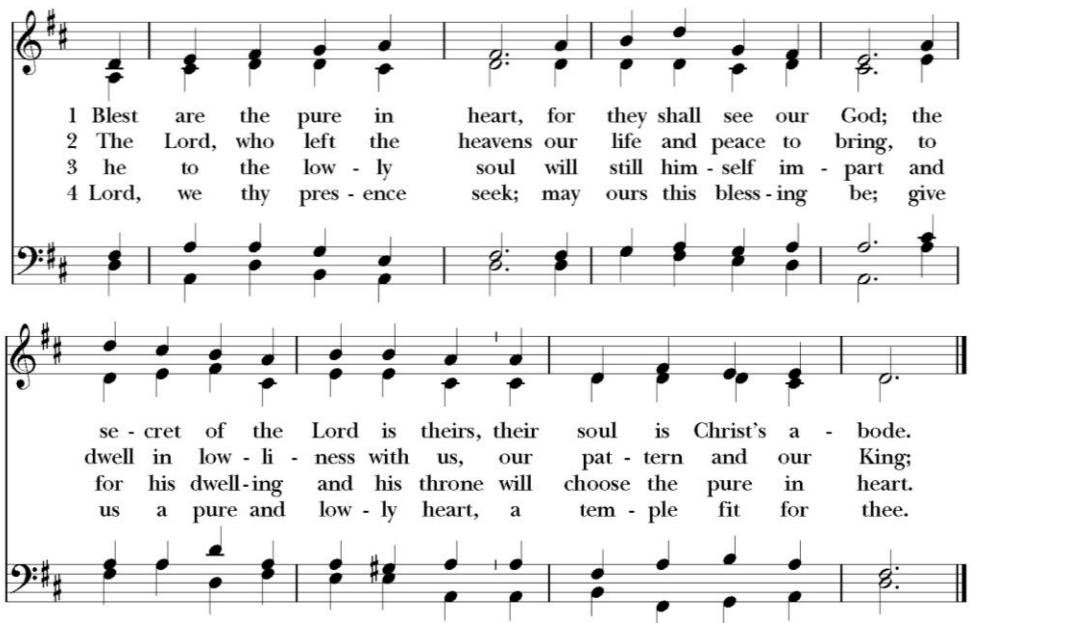
The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Hymn v.1-4 *Blest are the pure in heart*

All sing the Offertory while the Deacon sets the table and the offering plate is passed.



1 Blest are the pure in heart, for they shall see our God; the
2 The Lord, who left the heavens our life and peace to bring, to
3 he to the low - ly soul will still him - self im - part and
4 Lord, we thy pres - ence seek; may ours this bless - ing be; give

se - cret of the Lord is theirs, their soul is Christ's a - bode.
dwell in low - li - ness with us, our pat - tern and our King;
for his dwell-ing and his throne will choose the pure in heart.
us a pure and low - ly heart, a tem - ple fit for thee.

Communion Prayer (BCP Prayer A)

Celebrant God be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them to the Lord.**
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. 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:

Sanctus S 130 *Holy, holy, holy*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and might,

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might,

heav - en and earth are full,

full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef, and the bottom staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in common time (indicated by a 'C'). The music is in B-flat major (indicated by a 'B-flat' symbol). The lyrics 'in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.' are written below the notes. The notes are primarily quarter notes and eighth notes, with some rests.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

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 only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Creator 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:

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

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, 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 Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

AMEN.

Lord's Prayer

As Jesus Christ has taught us, we now pray:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial, a
nd deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Breaking of Bread – *Celebrant takes and breaks the bread.*

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

Fraction Anthem S 164 *Jesus Lamb of God*

Je-sus, Lamb of God: have mer-cy on us.

Je-sus, bear-er of our sins: have mer-cy on us.

Je-sus, re-deem-er, re-deem-er of the world:
give us your peace, give us your peace.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God. Holy gifts for Holy people. **Amen.**

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.

Communion Music**MHSO 153 What does the Lord require of you?**

1 What does the Lord re - quire of you?
 2 Jus - - - tice, kind - - - ness,
 3 To seek jus - tice, and love kind - ness,
 (C) last time
 what does the Lord re - quire of you?
 walk hum - bly with your God.
 and walk hum - bly with your God.

Words and Music: Jim Strathdee © 1986 Desert Flower Music, PO Box 1476, Carmichael, CA 95809 [www.strathdee_music.com]. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Announcements & Blessings of Life Events**Concluding Prayer**

Celebrant Let us pray together.

People **O God of our ancestors, God of all people, before whose face the human generations pass away: We give thanks that in you we are forever at home, and that the broken fragments of our history are gathered up in the redeeming act of your dear Son remembered in this holy sacrament of his body and blood. Now send us out in the power of your Holy Spirit to live and work for your praise and glory, now and forever. Amen.**

The Blessing**Sending Hymn H 593 (v.1-3) Lord, make us servants of your peace**

1 Lord, make us ser - vants of your peace: where there is
 2 Where all is doubt, may we sow faith; where all is
 3 Je - sus, our Lord, may we not seek to be con -
 1. hate, may we sow love; where there is hurt, may we for -
 2. gloom, may we sow hope; where all is night, may we sow
 3. soled, but to con - sole, nor look to un - der - stand - ing

1 give; where there is strife, may we make one.
 2 light; where all is tears, may we sow joy.
 3 hearts, but look for hearts to un - der - stand.

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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: Pam Janson
 Reader 2: Silvia Huth
 Prayer: Ann Maher
 Greeter/Usher: Leon Collins
 Zoom Host: Bekah Schulze
 Counters: Silvia Huth & Leon Collins

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
 Deacon: The Rev. Dcn. Cleda Smartt

Staff

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

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