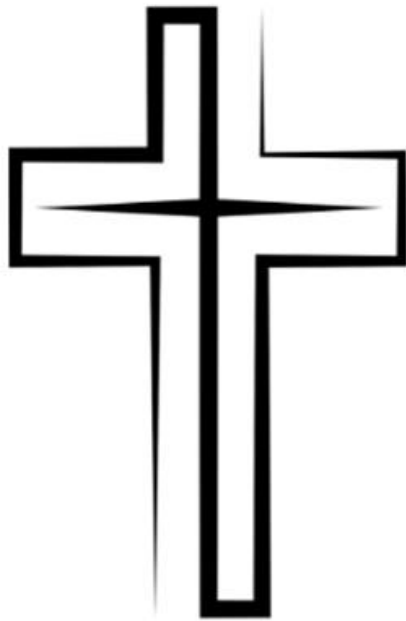


Church of the Holy Cross

Alleluia, the Lord is risen indeed!



Second Sunday of Easter  
Holy Communion

May 10, 2026  
10 a.m.

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

## Welcome

### Prelude

#### Opening Hymn H 488

*Be thou my vision*



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;  
2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;  
3 High King of hea - ven, when vic - tory is won,



all else be nought to me, save that thou art—  
I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;  
may I reach hea - ven's joys, bright hea - ven's Sun!



thou my best thought, — by day or by night,  
thou my great Fa - ther; thine own may I be;  
Heart of my heart, — what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.  
thou in me dwell - ing, and I one with thee.  
still be my vis - ion, O Ru - ler of all.

Words: Irish, ca. 700; versified Mary Elizabeth Byrne (1880-1931); tr. Eleanor H. Hull (1860-1935), alt. Music: *Slane*, Irish ballad melody; adapt. *The Church Hymnary*, 1927; harm. David Evans (1874-1948). By permission of Oxford University Press.

## Opening Acclamation (A New Zealand Prayer Book)

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ is risen!

*People* **The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks for the coming of God's reign of justice and love.

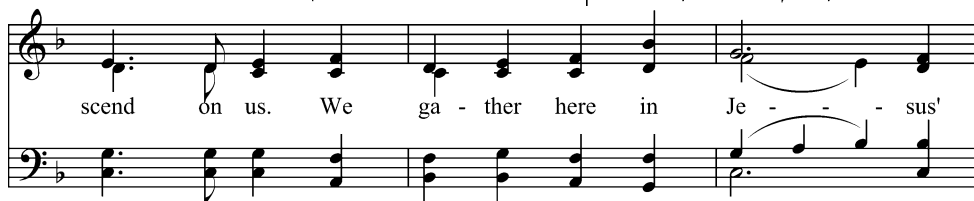
*People* **Jesus Christ is good news for the poor, release for the captives, recovery of sight to the blind and liberty for those who are oppressed.**

*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.**

## Hymn of Praise MHSO 108 (v 1,3) *Come, Holy Spirit, descend on us*



Come, Ho - ly Spi - rit, de - scend on us, de -



scend on us. We ga - ther here in Je - - - sus'

(Cantor, except last time)  
Come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit.\*

(last time)  
name. (hum —) \*Come, Ho - ly

The musical score consists of three staves. The top staff is for the Cantor, with a melodic line and lyrics. The middle staff is for the congregation, with a lower melodic line and lyrics. The bottom staff is the bass line. The lyrics are: "Come, — Ho - ly Spi - rit.\*" and "name. (hum —) \*Come, Ho - ly".

- \* Congregation repeats words sung by Cantor(s).  
 1 Come, Holy Spirit.  
 2 Come, Breath of Heaven,  
 3 Come, Word of Mercy,

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## Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* God be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

*Please be seated for the readings.*

## First Reading

Acts 17:22-31

*Reader* A Reading from the book of Acts

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we too are his offspring.'

Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

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

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

## Psalm 66:7-18

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

7 Bless our God, you peoples; \*

make the voice of his praise to be heard;

**8 Who holds our souls in life, \***

**and will not allow our feet to slip.**

9 For you, O God, have proved us; \*

you have tried us just as silver is tried.

**10 You brought us into the snare; \***

**you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.**

11 You let enemies ride over our heads;

we went through fire and water; \*

but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

**12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings**

**and will pay you my vows, \***

**which I promised with my lips**

**and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.**

13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; \*

I will give you oxen and goats.

**14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, \***

**and I will tell you what he has done for me.**

15 I called out to him with my mouth, \*

and his praise was on my tongue.

**16 If I had found evil in my heart, \***

**the Lord would not have heard me;**

17 But in truth God has heard me; \*

he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

**18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, \***

**nor withheld his love from me.**

## Second Reading

1 Peter 3:13-22

*Reader* A reading from the first letter of Peter.

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you-- not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

*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 628 Help us, O Lord to learn

We will sing v1-2 before the gospel and v. 3 after

1 Help us, O Lord, to learn the truths your word im - parts: to  
 2 Help us, O Lord, to live the faith which we pro - claim, that  
 3 Help us, O Lord, to teach the beau - ty of your ways, that

stu - dy, that your laws may be in - scribed up - on our hearts.  
 all our thoughts and words and deeds may glo - ri - fy your Name.  
 yearn - ing souls may find the Christ and live a life of praise.

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## Holy Gospel

John 14:15-21

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

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

Jesus said, "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

*Deacon* The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Sermon

The Rev Jonathan Sams

**Creed** (by Susan Bock)

**We believe in God, the Creator,  
who made the heavens and the earth.  
We believe in Jesus Christ,  
God's beloved Son, our brother and savior,  
who was born of the Holy Spirit and the woman Mary.  
He was crucified, died, and was buried,  
but, on the third day, he rose from death  
and returned to the heart of God  
from where he reigns in eternal love.**

**He will come again to gather  
the whole world home to that love.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
in one healed and united Church,  
in the forgiveness of all sins,  
and in eternal life for us all. Amen.**

### **Prayers of the People** (Form III)

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for our search committee.  
**Grant them wisdom, discernment and patience as they move through this process.**

We also pray for the pastor who will be joining us.  
**Lead the right priest to our Church and guide us as we move forward together.**

We pray for our church. **Send us a tenant for the daycare space who will bless us and who we will bless and guide our vestry as we move through this process.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;  
**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest.  
**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;  
**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

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

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions aloud in the room, or typed in the chat on Zoom.*

*Celebrant* God of new life, we give praise for the Resurrection of your Son, Jesus, and for the moments of abundant grace we have experienced which take part in your divine story. Give us mindful hearts to perceive the blessings of your love at all times and in all places. **Amen.**

### **The Peace**

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

The Peace is exchanged with one another.

## The Liturgy of the Table

### Offertory Sentence

**Offertory Hymn** Holy Cross Choir *Blest be the tie*

*The hymn is sung while the Deacon sets the table.*

### Communion Prayer (from Enriching Our Worship 3)

*Celebrant* God be with you.

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

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

**People** **We lift them to the Lord.**

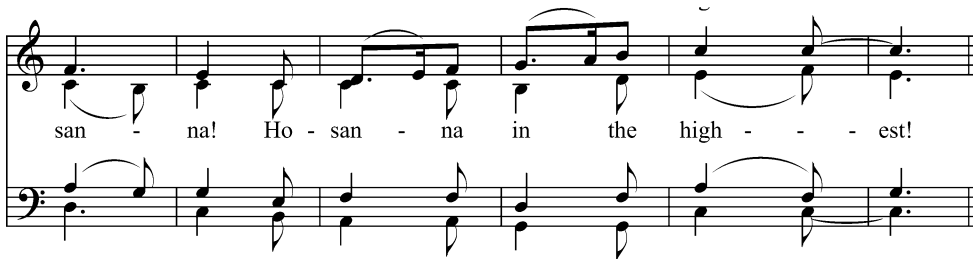
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word, the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey; And so as the morning stars sing your praises we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

### Sanctus MHSO 38 *Holy, holy, holy*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - - - ly, God of power and  
power and might, — heaven and earth and full, — are full  
of your glo - ry. — Ho - san - na! Ho - san - na! Ho -  
san - na in the high - - - est! Ho - san - na! Ho -



Words: from The Book of Common Prayer (1979) of the Episcopal Church USA.  
 Music: John L. Bell (b. 1949) © WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland) (admin. GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 [www.giamusic.com].) All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent. You called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering.

Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said:  
 "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said:  
 "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the New Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so remembering all that was done in love: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

**Dying you destroyed our death.**

**Rising, you restored our life.**

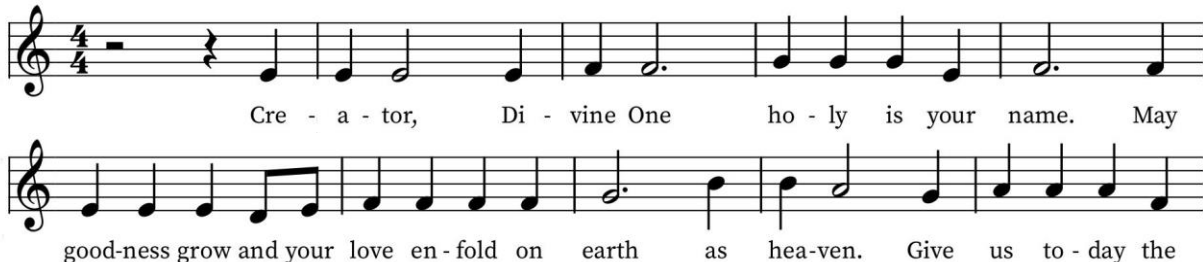
**Christ Jesus, come in glory!**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise. Blessed are you now and for ever. **AMEN.**

**Lord's Prayer** by Kate Autry

*Celebrant* As Jesus has taught us, we now pray,



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!

## Breaking of the Bread

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

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

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

## The Communion of the People

*No one who comes to the table seeking Christ is turned away. You may take the bread and/or the wine. If you do not wish to take either, cross your arms over your chest to signal you prefer a blessing. Our bread is gluten-free. If you are unable to get to the altar, let the usher know and the priest will come to those who need at the end.*

*The words of distribution are:*

The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven.

The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation.

## Communion Music LEVAS 35 *O how he loves you and me*

1. O how He loves you and me.

2. Je - sus to Cal - vary did go,

1. O how He loves you and me;

2. His love for the worlds to show;

1. He gave His life, what more could He give;

2. What He did there brought hope from de - spair;

1. O how He loves you, O how He loves me,  
 2. O how He loves you, O how He loves me,  
 1. O how He loves you and me.  
 2. O how He loves you and me.

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## Announcements & Blessing of Life Events

### Mother's Day Prayer

### Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

*The Celebrant and People together say*

**God of abundance,  
 you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of salvation;  
 you have united us with Christ and one another;  
 and you have made us one with all your people in heaven and on earth.  
 Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit,  
 that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
 and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### The Easter Blessing

May the God who shakes heaven and earth, Whom death could not contain, who lives to disturb and heal us, Strengthen you to be Christ's hands and heart in this world. May the wisdom of God, the Love of God, and the Grace of God, Bless you and those you love and pray for this day and always. **Amen.**

### Sending Hymn MHSO 83 *If you love me*

1 If you love me, tru - ly love me, keep my com-mand - ments  
 2 If you love me, tru - ly love me, come now and my dis -  
 4 If you love me, tru - ly love me, in - to the world a -  
 day by day. If you love me, tru - ly love me,  
 ci - ple be. If you love me, tru - ly love me,  
 rise and go. If you love me, tru - ly love me,

*Fine*

fol - low for - ev - er in my way. \_\_\_\_\_  
 fol - low and so re - mem - ber me. \_\_\_\_\_ *to verse three*  
 there ev - 'ry - where my wit - ness show. \_\_\_\_\_

3 Through the land my peo - ple feed, al - le - lu - ia, *...c.*  
 in their sor - row, in their need, al - le - lu - ia.

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## Going into the World

*Deacon* Let us go forth in the power of the Resurrection. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
*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: Cathi Peterson  
 Zoom Host: Minerva Melville

Altar Guild  
**Joanne Quinlan**, Carole Abshier, Gael Grossman,  
 Anne Hamilton, Katherine Housman, Kathie Kirby,  
 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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