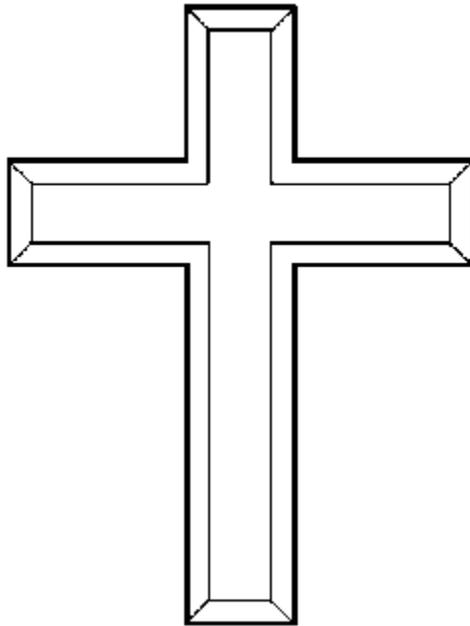


Church of the Holy Cross



First Sunday in Lent Morning Prayer

February 22, 2026
10 a.m.

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

www.holycrossnovi.org
holycrossnovi@gmail.com

Gathering of the People

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Hymn LEVAS 147

Come, ye Disconsolate

1. Come, ye dis - con - so - late, wher - e'er ye lan - guish,
2. Joy of the des - o - late, light of the stray - ing,
3. Here see the bread of life; see wa - ters flow - ing

1. Come to the mer - cy seat, fer - vent - ly kneel:
2. Hope of the pen - i - tent, fade - less and pure!
3. Forth from the throne of God, pure from a - bove:

1. Here bring your wound - ed hearts, here tell your an - guish;
2. Here speaks the com - fort - er, ten - der - ly say - ing,
3. Come to the feast of love; come, ev - er know - ing

1. Earth has no sor - row that heav'n can - not heal.
2. "Earth has no sor - row that heav'n can - not cure."
3. Earth has no sor - row but heav'n can re - move.

Words: Stanzas 1-2, Thomas Moore (1779-1853); Stanza 3, Thomas Hasting (1784-1872). Music: Samuel Webbe (1740-1816).

Opening Acclamation (from BCP and A Celtic Primer)

Celebrant Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People **Glory to God for ever and ever.**

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.**

Collect of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son 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.

A Lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Reader A Reading from the book of Genesis.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 32

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

- 1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, *
and whose sin is put away!
- 2 **Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt, ***
and in whose spirit there is no guile!
- 3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered away, *
because of my groaning all day long.
- 4 **For your hand was heavy upon me day and night; ***
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.

- 5 Then I acknowledged my sin to you, *
and did not conceal my guilt.
- 6 **I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord." ***
Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.
- 7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble; *
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.
- 8 **You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble; ***
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.
- 9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go; *
I will guide you with my eye.
- 10 **Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding; ***
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,
or else they will not stay near you."
- 11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; *
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.
- 12 **Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord; ***
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

A Lesson from the New Testament

Romans 5:12-19

Reader A reading from letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

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

People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

Sequence Hymn WLP 825

Bless the Lord, my soul

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Bless the Lord my soul and bless God's ho - ly name." and "Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me in - to life." The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and moving lines.

Words: Psalm 103. Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994).

The Holy Gospel

Matthew 4:1-11

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

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

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

'One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

'He will command his angels concerning you,'
and 'On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

'Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.'"

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Reflection

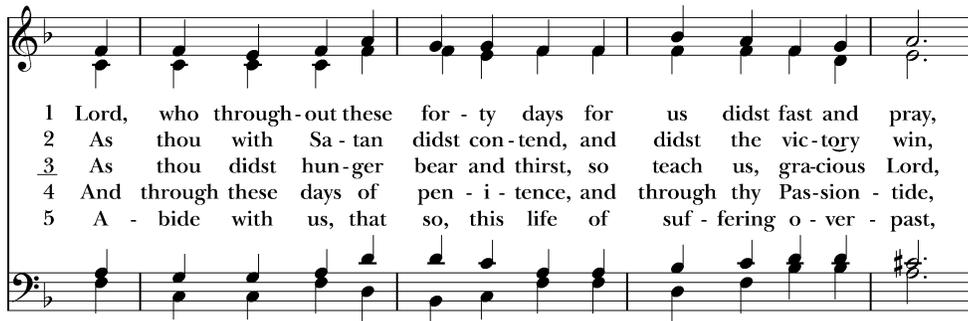
Gael Grossman

Offertory Sentence

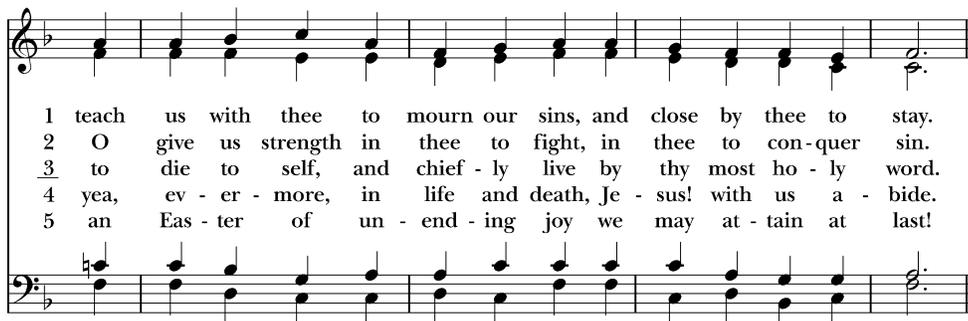
Walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Offertory Hymn H 142 (v1-3,5) *Lord, who throughout these forty days*

The hymn is played while the plate is passed.



1 Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us didst fast and pray,
2 As thou with Sa - tan didst con - tend, and didst the vic - tory win,
3 As thou didst hun - ger bear and thirst, so teach us, gra - cious Lord,
4 And through these days of pen - i - tence, and through thy Pas - sion - tide,
5 A - bide with us, that so, this life of suf - fering o - ver - past,



1 teach us with thee to mourn our sins, and close by thee to stay.
2 O give us strength in thee to fight, in thee to con - quer sin.
3 to die to self, and chief - ly live by thy most ho - ly word.
4 yea, ev - er - more, in life and death, Je - sus! with us a - bide.
5 an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at - tain at last!

Words: Claudia Frances Hernaman (1838-1898). Music: *St. Flavian*, melody from *Day's Psalter*, 1562; adapt, and harm. Richard Redhead (1820-1901).

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 (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 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 in the chat on Zoom.

Celebrant 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,
Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution *Stand or kneel as you prefer.*

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.**

The Peace is exchanged with one another.

Announcements & Celebration of Life Events

Lord's Prayer

As Jesus 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,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Final Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth,
and sent your blessed Son to preach peace
to those who are far off and to those who are near:
Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you;
bring the nations into your fold; pour out your Spirit upon all flesh;
and hasten the coming of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Prayer of Blessing

Celebrant 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 LEVAS 188 *It is well with my soul*

1. When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my
 2. Though sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should
 3. My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous
 4. And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be

1. way, When sor - rows like sea - bil - lows roll;
 2. come, Let this blest as - sur - ance con - trol,
 3. thought— My sin— not in part, but the whole—
 4. sight, The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,

1. What - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to
 2. That Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es -
 3. Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no
 4. The trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de -

1. say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
 2. tate, And has shed His own blood for my soul.
 3. more, Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
 4. scend, "E - ven so"— it is well with my soul.

It is well with my soul,
 It is well with my

— It is well, it is well with my soul.
 soul,

Words: Horatio Spafford (1828-1888). Music: Philip P. Bliss (1838-1876).

Going into the World

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

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: Ed Happ
Reader 2: Bev Siirilla
Prayer: Anita Stromberg
Greeter/Usher: Zean Smartt
Zoom Host: Shirley Chen
Counters: Pam Hinkle & Bev Siirila

Altar Guild

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

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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