



**Episcopal Church of the Cross
9:30 AM; September 15, 2024
Feast of the Holy Cross
18101 W. Highway 71, Suite 120
Ecclaketravis.org
512-695-2803**

The mission of the Episcopal Church of the Cross is to love the Lord our God with all our heart, and soul, and strength, and mind, and our neighbors as ourselves. We are the ECC: Loving God and our Neighbors.

Welcome to Church of the Cross!

If you would like to learn more about the life and future of Church of the Cross, please scan the code below and we'll be in touch later this week. Thank you!



Opening Song:

See, What a Morning

See, what a morning, gloriously bright, with the dawning of hope in Jerusalem;
Folded the grave-clothes, tomb filled with light, as the angels announce, "Christ is risen!"
See God's salvation plan, wrought in love, borne in pain, paid in sacrifice,
Fulfilled in Christ, the man,
For he lives: Christ is risen from the dead!

See Mary weeping, "Where is he laid?" As in sorrow she turns from the empty tomb;
Hears a voice speaking, calling her name; it's the Master, the Lord raised to life again!
The voice that spans the years, speaking life, stirring hope, bringing peace to us,
Will sound till he appears,
For he lives: Christ is risen from the dead!

One with the Father, Ancient of Days, through the Spirit who clothes faith with certainty.
Honor and blessing, glory and praise to the King crowned with pow'r and authority!
And we are raised with him, death is dead, love has won, Christ has conquered;
And we shall reign with him,
For he lives: Christ is risen from the dead!

Presider: Lord, have mercy;
People: **Christ, have mercy;**
Presider: Lord, have mercy.

Let us pray: Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross so that all might be received into your healing embrace. Clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may share the greatness of your love, and be sent forth into the world in peace; for the honor of your Name. Amen.

The First Reading: I Corinthians 12:12-27

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot were to say, ‘Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body’, that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear were to say, ‘Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body’, that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, ‘I have no need of you’, nor again the head to the feet, ‘I have no need of you.’ On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it.

Reader: The word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual: Gather Us In

Here in this place, new light is streaming, now is the darkness, vanished away,
see, in this space, our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken; gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery; we are the old, who yearn for your face,
we have been sung throughout all of history, called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty; gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat, the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven light years away,
but here in this space, the new light is shining, now is the kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in, and hold us forever; gather us in, and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

The Gospel: John 12:31-36

Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Jesus said, "Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die. The crowd answered him, "We have heard from the law that the Messiah remains for ever. How can you say that the Son of Man must be lifted up? Who is this Son of Man?" Jesus said to them, "The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light."

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Message

The Baptismal Covenant

Presider: Let us join with our brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world, and renew the promises and vows of our baptism, by which we once renounced the powers of evil, and promised to serve God faithfully. Do you reaffirm your renunciation of evil and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ?

People: **I do.**

Presider: Do you believe in God the Father?

People: **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

Presider: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

People: **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

Presider: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

People: **I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Presider: Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

People: **I will, with God's help.**

Presider: May Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who grants new birth by water and the Holy Spirit, keep us in eternal life by his grace, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

The Prayers of the Community

Prayer Leader: Good morning, Lord. We are your people, gathered in prayer; and we love you. We pray for your Church, near and far. We pray for the people and bishops of the Episcopal Diocese of Texas; for all the local congregations and the ministries to which you call us; for those who can worship you this day only in secret, and those whose faith is known to you alone. Increase in us, we pray, love of you and our neighbor. Make us your hands and feet on earth, and we thank you for equipping us with every good gift to fulfill your purposes. Hear us, Lord;

People: **For your mercy is great.**

Prayer Leader: Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, that we may honor one another and serve the common good. We pray for all elected and appointed officials, and all standing for public office in this land. We pray for our friends in Ukraine and the Middle East. Gather us in, we pray; and bring us your peace. Hear us, Lord;

People: **For your mercy is great.**

Prayer Leader: Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may steward its resources wisely to your honor and in relief of the world's sorrows. Hear us, Lord;

People: **For your mercy is great.**

Prayer Leader: Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Hear us, Lord;

People: **For your mercy is great.**

Prayer Leader: Comfort and strengthen all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles. Bring us, we pray, your healing. And now, either silently or aloud, we place before you those for whom you have called us to pray...

An open space for people to offer their own prayers.

Hear us, Lord;

People: **For your mercy is great.**

Prayer Leader: We commend to your mercy all who have died that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Hear us, Lord;

People: For your mercy is great

Prayer Leader: Now we confess to you, Merciful Lord, our sins and offenses:

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 our Savior 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: Almighty God has mercy on you, forgives you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthens you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keeps you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace:

Presider: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And also with you.

The people greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

The Offering:

Offerings made by check or in cash may be placed in the offering basket near the back of the worship service. Offerings can also be made by texting ECCLAKETRAVIS with your amount to 73256.

Song of Offering: **Shall We Gather at the River**

Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod;
With its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

On the margin of the river, washing up its silver spray,
We will walk and worship ever, all the happy golden day.
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God

Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease,
Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful, the beautiful river;
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

The Great Thanksgiving

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

Presider: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was lifted high upon the cross, that he might draw the whole world to himself; and, by his suffering and death, he became the source of salvation for all the world. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever offer this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All: **Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest**

Presider: We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

People: **We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

Presider: And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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.

All: AMEN!

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Presider: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!

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

Presider: The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Please come forward to receive communion as you are led to do so.

Songs during Communion: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross where the young Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the cross of Christ, my God:
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and love flow mingled down!
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were an offering far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.

When I survey the wondrous cross where the young Prince of Glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

Amazing Grace/Shine on Me

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a soul like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, his Word my hope secures;
He will my Shield and Portion be, as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

Shine on me; Shine on me
Let the light from the lighthouse shine on me
Oh, shine on me; shine on me
Let the light from the lighthouse shine on me.

I heard the voice of Jesus say "Come unto me and rest.
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down thy head upon my breast."

Shine on me; Shine on me
Let the light from the lighthouse shine on me
Oh, shine on me; shine on me
Let the light from the lighthouse shine on me.

With pitying eyes the Prince of Peace beheld our helpless grief
He saw...and oh...amazing love; he came to our relief.

Shine on me; Shine on me
Let the light from the lighthouse shine on me
Oh, shine on me; shine on me
Let the light from the lighthouse shine on me.

Prayer of Sending:

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Closing Song:

Jesus Christ is Risen Today!

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia!
Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

But the pains which he endured, Alleluia! Our salvation have procured, Alleluia!
Now above the sky he's King, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as his love, Alleluia!
Praise him, all ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!