



Episcopal Church of the Cross  
2nd Sunday in Lent 9:30 AM;  
March 1st, 2026  
ecclaketraavis.org

*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.*

### **Church of the Cross Welcomes You!**

If you're with Church of the Cross for the first time today, or close to the first time, please feel free to scan the code below so our clergy can welcome you personally.

Thank you!



Welcome

Opening Song

Simple Gifts, Lord of the Dance

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,  
'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,  
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,  
'twill be in the valley of love and delight.

When true simplicity is gained  
To bow and to bend we shan't be ashamed,

To turn, turn, will be our delight  
till by turning, turning we come round right.

'Tis the gift to be simple, 'tis the gift to be free,  
'tis the gift to come down where we ought to be,  
And when we find ourselves in the place just right,  
'twill be in the valley of love and delight.

Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the Dance, said He.  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said He.

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.  
*People* **His mercy endures forever.**

*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.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.  
*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*The people sit.*

### **Children's Message and Prayer**

*Then, one or two Lessons, as appointed, are read, the Reader first saying*

**A Reading from Genesis 12:1-4a**

The Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

The Word of the Lord.

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

**Song**                           **When I Survey the Wond’rous Cross**

When I survey the wond'rous Cross  
On which the Prince of Glory dy'd,  
My richest Gain I count but Loss,  
And pour Contempt on all my Pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
Save in the Death 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 a Present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my Soul, my Life, my All.

*Then, all standing, the Deacon or Priest reads the Gospel, first saying*

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John 3:1-17**

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

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.”

Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**The Sermon**

The Rev. Christine Brunson

*On Sundays and other Major Feasts, there follows, all standing*

### **The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,  
the Father, 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 Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
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 man.  
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 the Father.  
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 Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic 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.

## The Prayers of the People

*Celebrant*

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

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.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy

*Hear our prayer.*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

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.

*Silence*

Lord, in your mercy  
*Hear our prayer.*

*The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.*

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

*People* **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 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.

*Celebrant*     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...*

## **Announcements**

### **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.*

### **Offering Song**

### **I Come with Joy**

I come with joy to meet my Lord, forgiven, loved, and free,  
In awe and wonder to recall his life laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near to find, as all are fed,  
The new community of love in Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud division ends.  
That love that made us makes us one, and strangers now are friends.

And thus with joy we meet our Lord. His presence, always near,  
Is in such friendship better known: We see and praise him here.

Together met, together bound, we'll go our different ways,  
And as his people in the world we'll live and speak his praise.

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

*Celebrant*     The Lord be with you.

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

*Celebrant*     Lift up your hearts.

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

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People* **It is right give God thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is a right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. 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:

*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.**

*Celebrant* Holy and gracious Father: 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 Father 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

*Celebrant*    We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, 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 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.**

*Celebrant*    And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

*Celebrant*    Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us!

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

*Celebrant*    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.*

**Songs during Communion**

## **Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God**

Holy Spirit, living breath of God,  
breathe new life into my willing soul.  
Let the presence of the risen Lord,  
come renew my heart and make me whole.  
Cause your Word to come alive in me;  
give me faith for what I cannot see,  
Give me passion for Your purity;  
Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within,  
may your joy be seen in all I do.  
Love enough to cover every sin,  
in each thought and deed and attitude.  
Kindness to the greatest and the least,  
gentleness that sows the path of peace.  
Turn my strivings into works of grace;  
breath of God show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit, from creation's birth,  
giving life to all that God has made,  
Show your power once again on earth,  
cause your Church to hunger for your ways.  
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise;  
lead us on the road of sacrifice,  
That in unity the face of Christ  
may be clear for all the world to see.

## **Abide With Me**

Abide with me: fast falls the eventide;  
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;  
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away.  
Change and decay in all around I see.  
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour.  
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who like thyself my guide and strength can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

I fear no foe with thee at hand to bless,  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes.  
Shine through the gloom and point me to the skies.  
Heaven's morning breaks and earth's vain shadows flee;  
in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

#### Post-Communion Prayer

Eternal God, Heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### 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.

#### The Blessing

## Closing Song

### Shine On Me

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.

## Dismissal

*Celebrant*     Worship is over, but our service has just begun. Let us go in peace to  
love and serve the Lord!

*People*        **Thanks be to God!**

## Small Groups

**Common Threads- Tuesday, March 3, 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM** Common Threads is a group at the ECCLT who meet weekly to knit and do other kinds of handwork. The group meets Tuesday evenings at the church from 6-8pm. Gatherings begin with sharing a meal. Please bring something to share! All are welcome and you don't have to know how to knit or crochet! We have lefties and righties who can teach you. If you are new to knitting, we have supplies to share to get you started. Contact person Judy Cariker <mailto:jhcariker@gmail.com>

**Men's Morning Fellowship- Friday, March 6 at Rosie's Tamale House 13436 W Highway 71, Bee Cave 7:30 AM to 8:30 AM** Gather for fellowship, to share a meal, and dwell in the scriptures. Anyone wanting an update can reach out to Leigh Cariker at 817-313-8290 Men's Group (meeting information and summary and contact person)

### Save the Dates

Saturday March 7th and Saturday March 28th 9-12:00

Clean up and prep on the land for an outdoor chapel and Stations of the Cross.

Contact Judy Cariker [jhcariker@gmail.com](mailto:jhcariker@gmail.com)

### Foster Village

Keeping Lent—Ministry, Generosity, and Service

Partnering with Foster Village

For our Lenten in-gathering this year, we are collecting supplies for parents and their young children that are being served by our ministry partner, Foster Village. All the kits we assembled last year were dispersed so it is time to make more!

We are asked to provide toiletries and supplies to people going through the Parenting in Recovery/Family Drug Treatment Court process of attending rehab, moving into a sober living facility and then transitioning back to independent living.

- Parents are not allowed to work during this process, so they need help with these necessities.
- Mothers are allowed to keep their young children with them, reducing the trauma of separation.
  - By providing community support for struggling parents, we can help stabilize families and prevent the young children from needing to be removed from their families which is traumatic for them.
- We hope to work upstream to improve the odds of better outcomes for these children who have encountered the child welfare system.

HOW YOU CAN HELP: Like last year, you are being provided an Amazon link to order suggested supplies.

<https://a.co/51uXG8Z>

Or you can use the QR code to see the list:



**\*\*Prayer requests and requests for lay pastoral care may be sent to [churchofthecrosslaketravis@gmail.com](mailto:churchofthecrosslaketravis@gmail.com). Please specify if you would like your request to be confidential.**

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**The Episcopal Church of the Cross**

[www.ecclakettravis.org](http://www.ecclakettravis.org); [www.facebook.com/ecclakettravis](https://www.facebook.com/ecclakettravis)

The People of Church of the Cross, Ministers of the Gospel

The Rt. Rev. Andy Doyle, Bishop; Rt. Rev. Jeff Fisher and the Rt. Rev. Kai Ryan,

Bishops Suffragan; The Rt. Rev. Hector Monterroso, Bishop Assistant

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