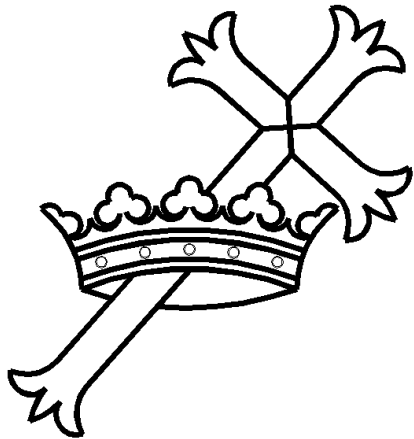


# *Cross of Christ Lutheran Church*

*NALC*

4500 Rimer Rd, Concord, NC 28025  
Church 704-782-8483 Parish Hall 704-795-0445  
Parsonage 704-786-3643

*The Rev. Rafe Allison, Pastor*



*Welcome to worship at Cross of Christ!*

*In the Cross of Christ I glory †*

*Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost  
October 23, 2022*

OUR ACCOMPANIST

MRS. YVONNE YOST

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Gracious God,

**have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

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. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

\*OPENING HYMN    ***“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”***    **WOV 771**

\*APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE: "Glory Be To The Father"

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; As it

was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men.

\*SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

Let us pray. Our Lord Jesus,  
**you have endured the doubts and foolish questions of every generation. Forgive us for trying to be judge over you, and grant us the confident faith to acknowledge you as Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

**FIRST READING: GENESIS 4: 1-15 (ESV)**

**4** Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD."<sup>2</sup> And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground.<sup>3</sup> In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground,<sup>4</sup> and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering,<sup>5</sup> but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell.<sup>6</sup> The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen?<sup>7</sup> If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it."<sup>8</sup> Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him.<sup>9</sup> Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?"<sup>10</sup> And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground.<sup>11</sup> And now you are cursed

from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand.<sup>12</sup> When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth."<sup>13</sup> Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear.<sup>14</sup> Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me."<sup>15</sup> Then the LORD said to him, "Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the LORD put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him.

The Word of God for the people of God!  
**Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM 5**

**READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE**

Give ear to my words, O LORD; consider my groaning.

**<sup>2</sup> Give attention to the sound of my cry,  
my King and my God, for to you do I pray.**

<sup>3</sup> O LORD, in the morning you hear my voice;  
in the morning I prepare a sacrifice for you and watch.

**<sup>4</sup> For you are not a God who delights in wickedness;  
evil may not dwell with you.**

<sup>5</sup> The boastful shall not stand before your eyes;  
you hate all evildoers.

**<sup>6</sup> You destroy those who speak lies;  
the LORD abhors the bloodthirsty and deceitful man.**

<sup>7</sup> But I, through the abundance of your steadfast love, will enter your house. I will bow down toward your holy temple in the fear of you.

**<sup>8</sup> Lead me, O LORD, in your righteousness because of my enemies;  
make your way straight before me.**

<sup>9</sup> For there is no truth in their mouth; their inmost self is destruction;  
their throat is an open grave; they flatter with their tongue.

**<sup>10</sup> Make them bear their guilt, O God; let them fall by their own  
counsels; because of the abundance of their transgressions cast them  
out, for they have rebelled against you.**

<sup>11</sup> But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy,  
and spread your protection over them,  
that those who love your name may exult in you.

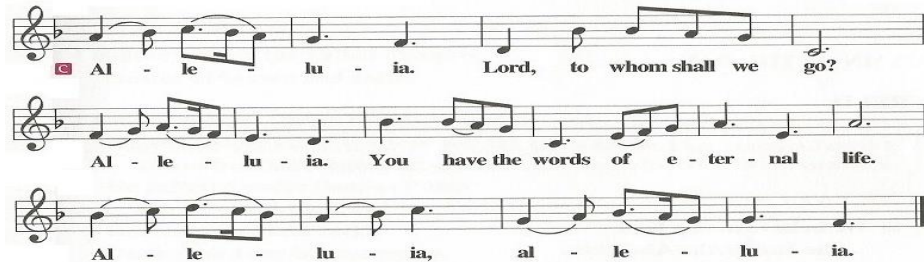
**<sup>12</sup> For you bless the righteous, O LORD;  
you cover him with favor as with a shield.**

**SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 4: 6-8, 16-18 (ESV)**

<sup>6</sup>For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup>I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup>Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing. <sup>16</sup>At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! <sup>17</sup>But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup>The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of God for the people of God!  
**Thanks be to God!**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, 18<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**\*THE HOLY GOSPEL: St. Luke 18: 9-17 (ESV)**

<sup>9</sup>He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and treated others with contempt: <sup>10</sup>“Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee, standing by himself, prayed thus: ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I get.’ <sup>13</sup>But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying,

‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ <sup>14</sup>I tell you, this man went down to his house justified, rather than the other. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted.”<sup>15</sup>Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. <sup>16</sup>But Jesus called them to him, saying, “Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God. <sup>17</sup>Truly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God like a child shall not enter it.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

LARRY BARBEE

\* SERMON HYMN     *“Children Of The Heavenly Father”*     **LBW 474**

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**  
**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 into hell.**  
**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.**  
**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. Amen**

RECEIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\*THE OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of  
bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath - er the hopes and dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we  
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, Lord,  
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

\*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

\*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,  
forever and ever. Amen**

\*BENEDICTION

Let us bless the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

The Lord almighty order our days and our deeds in peace.

**Amen**

\*SENDING HYMN **"How Great Thou Art"** **LBW 532**

\*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

\*POSTLUDE **(\* Please stand as you are able)**

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The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Ole Moe by Ed and Niki Sverko.

We would like to thank Larry Barbee for leading our service today.

**November** newsletter articles are due **TODAY**.

All sexton bids are due **before November 6<sup>th</sup>** council meeting. Give to council president Rusty Drye in a sealed envelope. This includes outdoor maintenance, main church building, parish hall and Fisher Administration building.

**Trunk or Treat is October 29th, 6:00 PM till 7:30 PM** in Parish Hall parking lot while games and food are inside. If you want to participate in prizes for BEST decorated trunk and BEST costume judging will be at 6:30 PM. Come out and enjoy a night of fun, food and games. The Outreach Committee thanks you.

**Cross of Christ Lutheran Church Annual Congregation Meetings**

The **First** congregational nominating meeting to be held on **Nov. 6, 2022** before service. The **Second** Congregational meeting to be held on **Nov.13, 2022** following service. If you have questions, please visit with a member of the Church Council. May God continue to bless us at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church! -Your Church Council

**CSI Youth 22nd Annual BBQ** will be **November 12th** from 3-7pm. Please check your mailbox for pre-order forms. We will be cooking Boston butts over hickory coals and we will have Joey Barriers famous Brunswick Stew. Dine in or Carry Out. We need your help! Sign up in the mailroom to make a homemade dessert for our BBQ! Best sellers: brownies, whole iced cakes, cookies, and pies!

**BLOOD DRIVE: November 20, 2022 11AM till 3:30 PM with One Blood.**

All donations will be on the Big Red Bus. Masks are required. Please eat lots of iron enriched foods. See Jodie Strube to schedule your appointment.



**October 23, 2022**

*A little reminder about our prayer list.*

*We ask that you always have an individual's permission before requesting their name be added to our Prayer List.*

*Contact Pastor Allison or Prayer List Coordinator Belinda Campbell to request additions or changes.*

*First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people... 1 Timothy 2:1*

**In the Fellowship of Cross of Christ**

Family of Geneva Gray

Family of Sylvia Loggans

Joanne Barrier (recovering from leg blood clots); Ronnie Barrier (recovering from abdominal surgery); Marilyn Barringer; Coy Edgison; John Faggart;

Joyce Harkins; Candice Horton; Doris & Frank Kluttz;

Joyce W. Pless (Heart Cath on 10/24);

Richard Strube (recovery from surgery for retina repair);

John & Linda Trull; Dot Weast

**Serving in the Military**

Eaven Allison (Okinawa, Japan)

**Friends of Cross of Christ**

Veronica Barber and family and fiancée Jeff – Family concerns and challenges;

Bettie Bean (Knee replacement surgery scheduled for 1/31/2023);

Ronnie Boger; LeaAnne Buckwell (additional testing confirmed cancer is back on chest, hipbone & liver); Mary Cox; Steve & Angie Dixon; Jane Faggart;

Wanda Floyd; Joyce Furr; Ralph Furr; Brady Krimminger;

Mary Kunze (Friend of Niki Sveko – Breast cancer radiation treatments daily);

Brandon Lewis (Death of wife Sara and financial difficulties);

Kaye and Gerry Litzinger; Doris McCarn; Sharon Blackwelder Measmer;

Gabby Monty; Ensley Morgan; Dianne and Steve Parker; Ronnie Procter;

Jeff Sampson (Co-worker of Belinda Campbell – Stage 4 pancreatic cancer with other organ impacts); Brian Seagraves; Susan Starling;

Baby Geneva Amanda Sverko and Mom Chyna; Connie Walters;

Vickey Belk Young

**General Prayer Concerns**

The People of Ukraine

All impacted by Hurricane Ian

**Cross of Christ Shut-In**

**Praise List**

Stephanie and Kevin Blackburn – Prayers by the church family have been truly appreciated.

**\*\* Please remember our shut-ins with a visit, phone call, cards, or email along with your prayers**

[www.crossofchristlutheranchurch.org](http://www.crossofchristlutheranchurch.org)

<http://www.facebook.com/CrossofChristLutheranChurchConcord>

[ClericalTeam@Gmail.com](mailto:ClericalTeam@Gmail.com)

**Today – October 23, 2022**

9:00 AM Sunday Church School Classes

10:00 AM Family Worship Service

**NEXT SUNDAY**

9:00 AM

Sunday Church School Classes

10:00 AM

Holy Communion Service

**Next Sunday's Readings**

*Reformation Sunday*

Revelation 14: 6-7

Psalm 46

Romans 3: 19-28

St. John 8: 31-36

