

# ***Cross of Christ Lutheran Church***

4500 Rimer Rd, Concord, NC 28025

Church 704-782-8483 Parish Hall 704-795-0445

Parsonage 704-786-3643

***The Rev. Marty Ramey, Interim Pastor***

*A NALC Congregation*



*Welcome to worship at Cross of Christ!*

*In the Cross of Christ I glory †*

***Fourth Sunday After Epiphany  
February 2, 2025***

Piano Interlude

by Susan Caudle.

OUR ACCOMPANIST

MRS. YVONNE YOST

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.  
**Amen**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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 Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for reflection and self-examination.*

Most merciful God,  
**we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen**

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen**

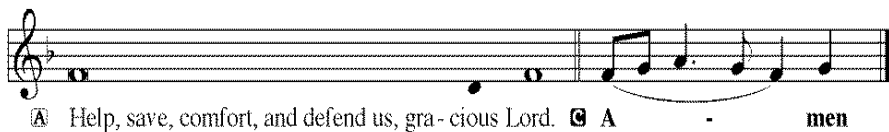
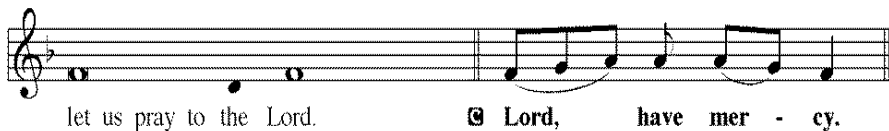
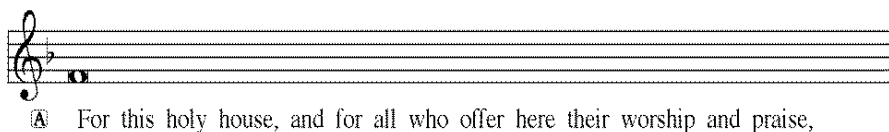
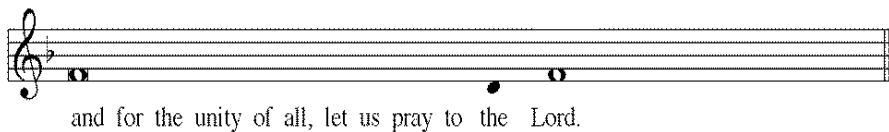
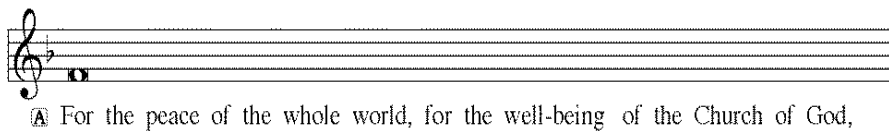
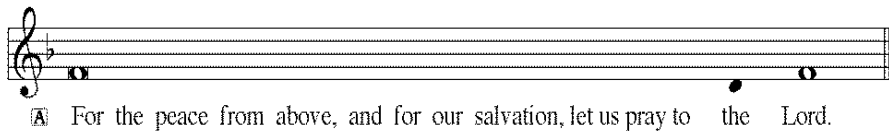
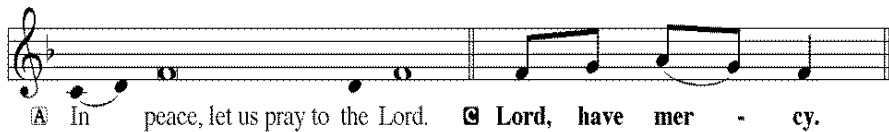
\* OPENING HYMN **“O, That The Lord Would Guide My Ways” LBW 480**

\*APOSTOLIC GREETING

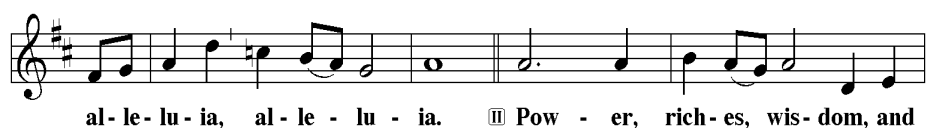
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**And also with you.**

\*KYRIE



\*HYMN OF PRAISE: *"This is the Feast"*



☩ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,  
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. ☩ For the Lamb who was  
 slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.  
 ☩ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.  
 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

\*SALUTATION

☩ The Lord be with you. ☩ And al-so with you.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray. O God, you know the perilous choices we are prone to make that fall short of your desire for human faithfulness and obedience. Without you, our fragile nature cannot survive. Support us with your Word of truth, that we may grow in faith in the midst of our trials. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE FROM PASTOR RAMEY

CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 1: 4-19 (ESV)**

<sup>4</sup> Now the word of the LORD came to me, saying, <sup>5</sup> "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." <sup>6</sup> Then I said, "Ah, Lord GOD! Behold, I do not know how to speak, for I am only a youth." <sup>7</sup> But

the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a youth’; for to all to whom I send you, you shall go, and whatever I command you, you shall speak. <sup>8</sup>Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, declares the LORD.” <sup>9</sup>Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth. And the LORD said to me, “Behold, I have put my words in your mouth. <sup>10</sup>See, I have set you this day over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to break down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.” <sup>11</sup>And the word of the LORD came to me, saying, “Jeremiah, what do you see?” And I said, “I see an almond branch.” <sup>12</sup>Then the LORD said to me, “You have seen well, for I am watching over my word to perform it.” <sup>13</sup>The word of the LORD came to me a second time, saying, “What do you see?” And I said, “I see a boiling pot, facing away from the north.” <sup>14</sup>Then the LORD said to me, “Out of the north disaster shall be let loose upon all the inhabitants of the land. <sup>15</sup>For behold, I am calling all the tribes of the kingdoms of the north, declares the LORD, and they shall come, and every one shall set his throne at the entrance of the gates of Jerusalem, against all its walls all around and against all the cities of Judah. <sup>16</sup>And I will declare my judgments against them, for all their evil in forsaking me. They have made offerings to other gods and worshiped the works of their own hands. <sup>17</sup>But you, dress yourself for work; arise, and say to them everything that I command you. Do not be dismayed by them, lest I dismay you before them. <sup>18</sup>And I, behold, I make you this day a fortified city, an iron pillar, and bronze walls, against the whole land, against the kings of Judah, its officials, its priests, and the people of the land. <sup>19</sup>They will fight against you, but they shall not prevail against you, for I am with you, declares the LORD, to deliver you.”

The Word of God for the people of God!

**Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM 71: 1-11 (ESV) READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE**

In you, O LORD, do I take refuge;

let me never be put to shame!

**<sup>2</sup>In your righteousness deliver me and rescue me;**

**incline your ear to me, and save me!**

<sup>3</sup>Be to me a rock of refuge, to which I may continually come;

you have given the command to save me, for you are my rock and my fortress.

**<sup>4</sup>Rescue me, O my God, from the hand of the wicked,  
from the grasp of the unjust and cruel man.**

<sup>5</sup> For you, O Lord, are my hope,  
my trust, O LORD, from my youth.

<sup>6</sup> **Upon you I have leaned from before my birth; you are he who took me from my mother's womb. My praise is continually of you.**

<sup>7</sup> I have been as a portent to many,  
but you are my strong refuge.

<sup>8</sup> **My mouth is filled with your praise,  
and with your glory all the day.**

<sup>9</sup> Do not cast me off in the time of old age;  
forsake me not when my strength is spent.

<sup>10</sup> **For my enemies speak concerning me;  
those who watch for my life consult together**

<sup>11</sup> and say, "God has forsaken him; pursue and seize him,  
for there is none to deliver him."

## **SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12: 31- 13: 13 (ESV)**

<sup>31</sup> But earnestly desire the higher gifts. <sup>13</sup> If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing. <sup>4</sup> Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup> Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. <sup>8</sup> Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. <sup>9</sup> For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup> but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. <sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. <sup>12</sup> For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known. <sup>13</sup> So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

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

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 4th chapter.



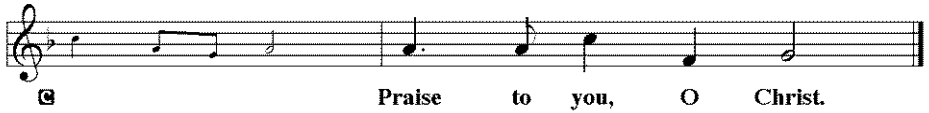
## \*THE HOLY GOSPEL: ST. LUKE 4: 31-44 (ESV)

<sup>31</sup> And he went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the Sabbath, <sup>32</sup> and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word possessed authority. <sup>33</sup> And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, <sup>34</sup> “Ha! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God.” <sup>35</sup> But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent and come out of him!” And when the demon had thrown him down in their midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. <sup>36</sup> And they were all amazed and said to one another, “What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out!” <sup>37</sup> And reports about him went out into every place in the surrounding region. <sup>38</sup> And he arose and left the synagogue and entered Simon's house. Now Simon's mother-in-law was ill with a high fever, and they appealed to him on her behalf. <sup>39</sup> And he stood over her and rebuked the fever, and it left her, and immediately she rose and began to serve them. <sup>40</sup> Now when the sun was setting, all those who had any who were sick with various diseases brought them to him, and he laid his hands on every one of them and healed them. <sup>41</sup> And demons also came out of many, crying, “You are the Son of God!” But he rebuked them and would not allow them to speak, because they knew that he was the Christ. <sup>42</sup> And when it was day, he departed and went into a desolate place. And the people sought him and came to him, and would have kept him from leaving them, <sup>43</sup> but he said to them, “I must preach the good news of the kingdom of God to the other towns as well; for I was



sent for this purpose.”<sup>44</sup> And he was preaching in the synagogues of Judea.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.



SERMON                    *“Head Thump Healing”*                    Pastor Marty Ramey

\*SERMON HYMN    *“Beautiful Savior”*                    LBW 518

\*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.

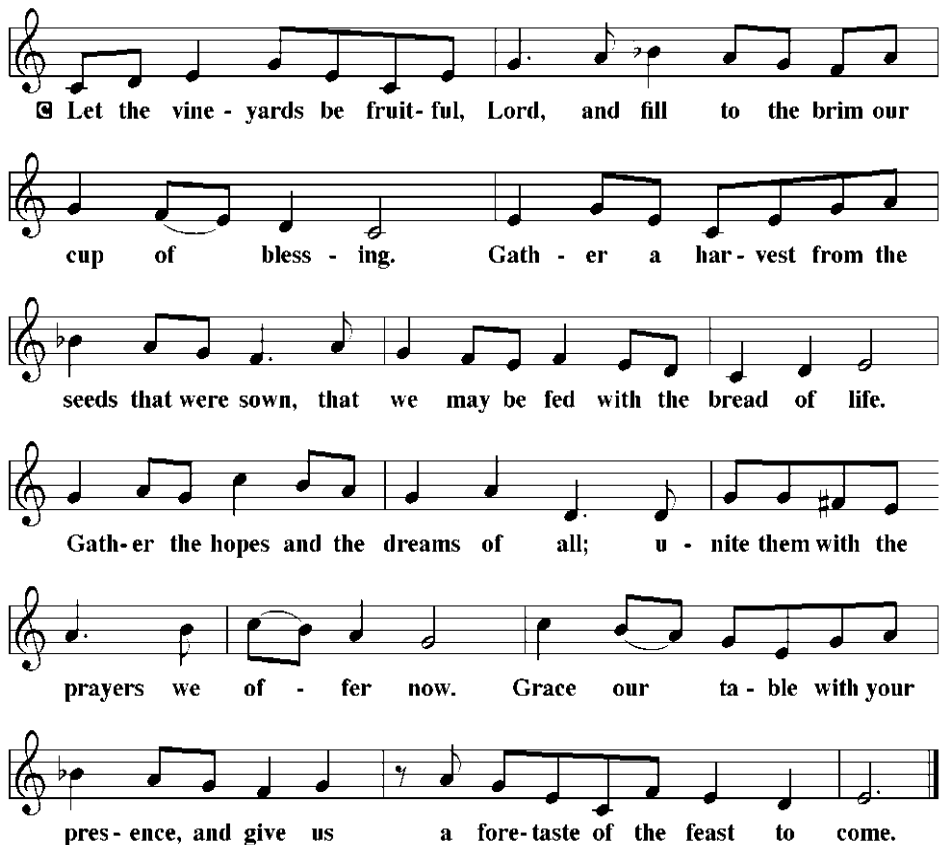
**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,**  
    who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
    With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

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

\*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

RECEIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\*THE OFFERTORY

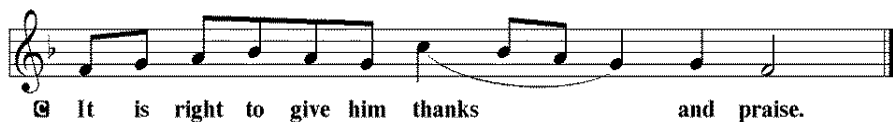
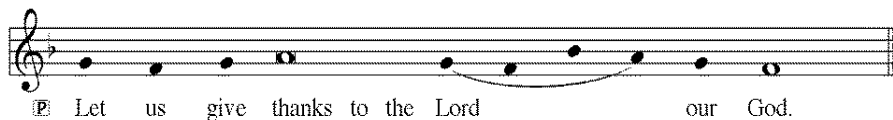


Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our  
 cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the  
 seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.  
 Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the  
 prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta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

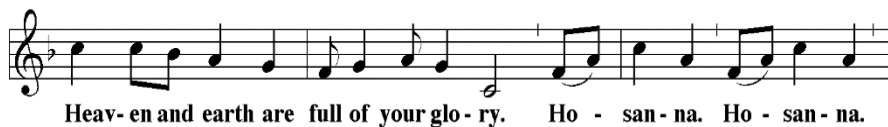
\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. Merciful Father,  
 we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first give  
 us ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love.  
 Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ  
 our Lord. Amen

# \*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



**\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,  
that all those who believe in him  
should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you  
for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.  
Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,  
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith  
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

**\*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**

**ADMINISTRATION OF THE HOLY SACRAMENT**

☐ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

## COMMUNION HYMNS

WOV 740 & 709

### \*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ  
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen**

### \*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE: *"Lord, now let your servant"*

☐ Lord, now you let your ser-vant go in peace; your word has been ful-filled.  
 My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which you have pre-pared in the  
 sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-veal you to the  
 na - tions and the glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

\*BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor, and give you peace.  
**Amen**

\*SENDING HYMN            *“Love Divine ”*            **LBW 315**

\*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 Elmer Bost Birthday by the Bost family.

**Council Meeting** today after service at 11:00 AM.

<b>Weekly Offering Report For:    <u>Week No: 4</u>            <u>Date: January 26, 2025</u></b>			
2025 Weekly Needs:	\$3,989.43	YTD Budget Needs:	\$15,957.72
<b><u>Last Week</u></b>			
General Tithes Received	\$3,225.00	YTD Gen. Tithes Received	\$14,001.00
Last week            (Deficit)	(\$764.43)	YTD    (Deficit)	(\$1,956.72)



**February 2, 2025**

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

***Please send prayer list request additions or changes to prayerccle@gmail.com by Tuesday 5PM.***

*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 Phyllis Campbell

Kay Barbee; Chuck Drye; Robin Drye; Dorothy Goodman;  
Harry Goodman; Tom Harkins; Doris Kluttz; Frank Kluttz;  
John Trull; Linda Trull

Call Process prayer requests: 1) Cross of Christ Church;  
2) Call Committee; 3) Prospective pastors see our profile/video and consider a call here.

### **Friends of Cross of Christ**

Family of Faye Huneycutt (Friend of Sharon Duncan)

Family of Chae Ramey (Sister-in-law of Pastor Ramey)

Pastor Charles Barrier (Completed 2 months of chemo and radiation and asks for continued prayers for healing and no cancer); Atlas Baucom;

Pastor Gene Bost; LeaAnn Buckwell; Jerry Cain; Pastor Randall Cauble;

Luke Cranford; Brynn Fesler; Wanda Floyd; David Gandy;  
David Goforth; Lee Goforth; Annette Heller; Candice Horton;  
Greg Houston; Melanie Hudson; Jane Jansen; Natalie Justice;

Melissa Krumbien; Kaye and Gerry Litzinger; Susie Moore;

Karen Morgan; Hank Morris; Lettie Reid; Blake Rogers;  
Nick Smith; Susan Starling; Phillip Teeter; Candace Yates;  
Vickey Belk Young.

### **Serving in the Military**

Even Allison (Fairbanks, Alaska)

### **General Prayer Concerns:**

All impacted by Hurricane Helene and Hurricane Milton

All impacted by the California wildfires

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

**Today February 2, 2025**

Executive Council Meeting	8:30 AM
Sunday Church School	9:00 AM
Holy Communion Service	10:00 AM
Council Meeting	11:00 AM

**This Week**

**MON - 7 – 8:30 PM Soldiers of Christ Practice**

**NEXT SUNDAY**

9:00 AM    Sunday Church School Classes  
10:00 AM    Worship Service

**Next Sunday's Readings**

*Fifth Sunday After Epiphany*

Isaiah 6: 1-13

Psalm 138

1 Corinthians 14: 12-20

St. Luke 5: 1-11