

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. Rafe Allison, Pastor

A NALC Congregation



Welcome to worship at Cross of Christ!

In the Cross of Christ I glory †

Seventh Sunday Of Easter

March 21, 2023

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

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

Amen

* OPENING HYMN

“Come Thou Fount”

LBW 499

*APOSTOLIC GREETING

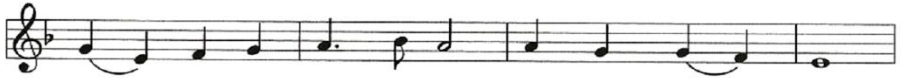
The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

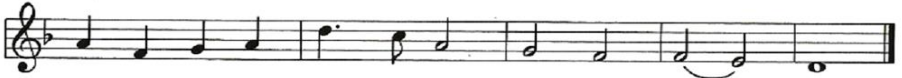
*KYRIE



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

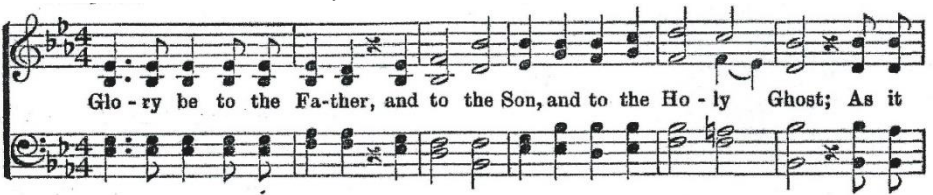


A Chri - ste e - le - i - son: **C** Christ, have mer - cy.
Christ, have mer - cy:



A Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.
Lord, have mer - cy:

*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. Holy God, our creator and redeemer:

Your Son Jesus prayed that his followers might be one. Make all Christians one with him as he is one with you, so that in peace and concord we may carry to the world the message of your love; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

FIRST READING: Acts 1: 12-26 (ESV)

¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. ¹³ And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. ¹⁴ All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers. ¹⁵ In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, ¹⁶ “Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. ¹⁷ For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry.” ¹⁸ (Now this man acquired a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. ¹⁹ And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) ²⁰ “For it is written in the Book of Psalms, “‘May his camp become desolate, and let there be no one to dwell in it’; and “‘Let another take his office.’” ²¹ So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, ²² beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” ²³ And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. ²⁴ And they prayed and said, “You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen ²⁵ to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” ²⁶ And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

The Word of God for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

PSALM 68: 8-10 (ESV)

READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE

⁸ the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain,
before God, the One of Sinai,
before God, the God of Israel.

⁹ **Rain in abundance, O God, you shed abroad;
you restored your inheritance as it languished;**

¹⁰ your flock found a dwelling in it;
in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.

SECOND READING: 1 PETER 4: 12-19; 5: 6-11 (ESV)

¹² Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. ¹³ But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴ If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. ¹⁵ But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. ¹⁶ Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. ¹⁷ For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? ¹⁸ And "If the righteous is scarcely saved, what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?" ¹⁹ Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good. ⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, ⁷ casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. ⁸ Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. ¹⁰ And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. ¹¹ To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of God for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel according to **St. John**, the 17th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

*THE HOLY GOSPEL: ST. JOHN 17: 1-11 (ESV)

17 When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you,² since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him.³ And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.⁴ I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do.⁵ And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.⁶ "I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word.⁷ Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you.⁸ For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me.⁹ I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours.¹⁰ All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them.¹¹ And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.

This is Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*SERMON HYMN

“God Of Grace, God Of Glory”

LBW 415

*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 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

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

“Here I Am”

WOV 752

*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 by the congregation.

THANK YOU to everyone that worked the Breakfast, Lunch, Car Show and to the congregation for your attendance and support.

-- The Car Show Committee.

June Newsletter Articles are due **TODAY**.

Please wear **RED** next Sunday for Pentecost Sunday.

The Rite of Confirmation will be celebrated on **Pentecost Sunday, May 28**. Our confirmands are **Kaylee Barbee** and **Caydee Holder**. We pray God's continued blessing and guidance be with them! We will have a meal after service to welcome them and our New Members, **Connie Bailey** and **Randall Shaffer** this year. Please join us for the meal.

Graduates in the congregation will be recognized and congratulated on Sunday of the Holy Trinity, **June 4**. Congratulations to all our graduates!

Weekly Offering Report For: <u>Week No: 20</u> <u>Date: May 14, 2023</u>			
2023 Weekly Needs: \$3,674.98		YTD Budget Needs: \$73,499.60	
<u>Last Week</u>			
General Tithes Received \$3,040.00		YTD Gen. Tithes Received \$71,203.00	
Last week (Deficit) (\$634.98)		YTD (Deficit) (\$2,296.60)	



May 21, 2023

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... 1Timothy 2:1

In the Fellowship of Cross of Christ

John Faggart; Joyce Harkins; Candice Horton; Doris & Frank Kluttz; Carl Pless; John & Linda Trull; Dot Weast; Bob Yost

Serving in the Military

Eaven Allison (Okinawa, Japan)

Friends of Cross of Christ

Veronica Barber and family and fiancée Jeff; David Buckland; LeaAnne Buckwell; Judy Coble; Mary Cox; Steve & Angie Dixon; Alisa Erts (Friend of Kristi Drye – Pancreatic cancer diagnosis received); Jane Faggart; Pastor Jeff Faggart; Wanda Floyd; Joyce Furr; Ralph Furr; Alley Handy (Family friend of Kristi Drye – Suffering from severe postpartum depression); Brandon Lewis; Kaye and Gerry Litzinger; Ensley Morgan; Karen Morgan; Steve Parker; Ronnie Procter; Susan Starling; Connie Walters; Candace Yates; Vickey Belk Young

General Prayer Concerns

Praise List:

- Betty Miller - I want to thank everyone for your support through prayers and cards. I can now continue my recovery from bypass surgery at home. Thanks be to God.

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

Today is May 21, 2023

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

NEXT SUNDAY

9:00 AM	Sunday Church School Classes
10:00 AM	Family Worship Service
11:00 AM	Pentecost/Confirmand Meal

Next Sunday's Readings

Day Of Pentecost
Numbers 11: 24-30
Psalm 25: 1-15
Acts 2: 1-21
St John 7: 37-39

