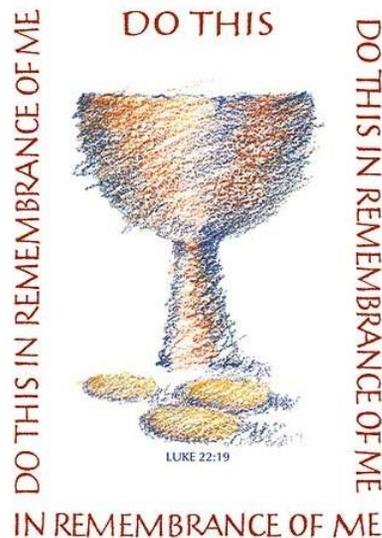


# Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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 †*

*Thirteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
September 4, 2022*

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

*“The Church’s One Foundation”* LBW 369

\*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 to God"

C Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;  
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.  
I Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al - migh - ty God and Fa - ther, we  
 wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.  
C Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;  
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.  
II Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,  
 Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
 world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the  
 right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

C Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;  
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.  
I For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,  
II you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
 in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.  
C Glo-ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God in the high - est;  
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth,  
 and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

\*SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God,  
**you have given great and precious promises to those who believe. Grant us the perfect faith which overcomes all doubts, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

**FIRST READING: DEUTERONOMY 30: 15-20** (ESV)

<sup>15</sup>“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. <sup>16</sup>If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. <sup>17</sup>But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, <sup>18</sup>I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. <sup>19</sup>I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, <sup>20</sup>loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

The Word of God for the people of God!

**Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM 66: 1-7**

**READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE**

Blessed is the man

who walks not in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor stands in the way of sinners,  
nor sits in the seat of scoffers;

<sup>2</sup>**but his delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and on his law he meditates day and night.**

<sup>3</sup>He is like a tree

planted by streams of water  
that yields its fruit in its season,  
and its leaf does not wither.

In all that he does, he prospers.

<sup>4</sup>**The wicked are not so,**

**but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

<sup>5</sup>Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;

<sup>6</sup>**for the LORD knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

**SECOND READING: PHILEMON 1-21** (ESV)

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our beloved fellow worker <sup>2</sup>and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house: <sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup>because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, <sup>6</sup>and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. <sup>7</sup>For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you. <sup>8</sup>Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, <sup>9</sup>yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus—<sup>10</sup>I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup>(Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) <sup>12</sup>I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. <sup>13</sup>I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, <sup>14</sup>but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. <sup>15</sup>For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, <sup>16</sup>no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. <sup>17</sup>So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. <sup>18</sup>If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. <sup>19</sup>I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup>Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup>Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

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. Luke, 14<sup>th</sup> chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

\*THE HOLY GOSPEL: St Luke 14: 25-35 (ESV)

<sup>25</sup>Now great crowds accompanied him, and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup>“If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup>Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup>For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup>Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, <sup>30</sup>saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup>Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup>And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. <sup>33</sup>So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple. <sup>34</sup>“Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? <sup>35</sup>It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear.”

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

SERMON

PASTOR RAFE ALLISON

\*SERMON HYMN

*“Dear Lord And Father of Mankind”* LBW 506

\*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**

\*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 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.

**\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray. Merciful Father,

**we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given 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**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

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



**\*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER & 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, 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: “*Thank the Lord*”

Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -  
 one what God has done. Let all who seek the  
 Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.  
 Send us with your prom - is - es, O God,  
 and lead us forth in joy with shouts  
 of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.

\*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

*“Sent Forth By God’s Blessing”*

**LBW 221**

\*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 honor of Larry, Susan and Alexis Barbee’s birthdays by their family.

**Church Council** meeting **NEXT Sunday** after service.

This month, September, along with our monthly **BREAKFAST Fundraiser** on **September 17<sup>th</sup>**, we are having our **3<sup>rd</sup> CAR SHOW**. We will have our normal delicious breakfast from **7 – 10 a.m.** and lunch from **11am – 1 p.m.** Lunch will be Hamburgers, Cheeseburgers and Hot Dogs with all the trimmings, with tea and desserts. We are accepting donations to purchase pre-packaged desserts. There will be donation plates at the doors as you leave the Church for 2 weeks. If you would like to help by volunteering to help with this event, please contact Belinda or Earlene. Donations of door prizes are needed also. Come out and enjoy some delicious food and while you are there, browse some old, new, classic cars, trucks and hopefully some motorcycles. This will be a fund raiser for the Facilities Improvement Fund. Thank you, in advance, for your help.

**Women’s Retreat! September 30-October 2. Due TODAY. Cost is \$50 for church members, \$150 for nonmembers.**

The **PBJ Youth Group** will be assembling **Cancer Care Packs** at our September meeting. If you would like to make a donation, we need: small hand lotions, soft socks, ink pens, small hand sanitizers, word searches, chapstick and hard candy. Thank you!



**September 4, 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... 1Timothy 2:1*

**In the Fellowship of Cross of Christ**

Marilyn Barringer; Kevin Blackburn; John Faggart;  
Geneva Gray (Atrium Northeast – Recovery from an infection and COVID);  
Joyce Harkins; Candice Horton; Doris & Frank Kluttz; Sylvia Loggan;  
John & Linda Trull; Dot Weast

**Serving in the Military**

Eaven Allison (Okinawa, Japan)

**Friends of Cross of Christ**

Ronnie Boger (Roy Gray's Manager – Approval received to be placed on the Liver Transplant List); Mary Cox (Grandmother of Kenly Strube – 8/26/2022 Ovarian cancer surgery); Steve & Angie Dixon; Jane Faggart; Wanda Floyd;  
Joyce Furr; Ralph Furr; Brady Krimminger;  
Kaye and Gerry Litzinger (Aunt and Uncle of Susan Caudle);  
Doris McCarn; Sharon Blackwelder Measmer; Gabby Monty;  
Ensley Morgan; Dianne and Steve Parker; Ronnie Procter; Brian Seagraves;  
Susan Starling; Baby Geneva Amanda Sverko and Mom Chyna;  
Connie Walters; Vickey Belk Young

**General Prayer Concerns**

The People of Ukraine

**Cross of Christ Shut-In**

Sylvia Loggans (Post surgery she will return to Best of Care)  
Best of Care 234 North Dale Ave. Kannapolis NC

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

**Today – September 4, 2022**

Sunday Church School 9:00 AM  
Holy Communion Service 10:00 AM

**NEXT SUNDAY**

8:30 AM Executive Council  
9:00 AM Sunday Church School Classes  
10:00 AM Family Worship Service  
11:00 AM Council Meeting

**Next Sunday's Readings**

*Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost*  
Ezekiel 34: 11-24  
Psalm 119: 5-17  
1 Timothy 1: 5-17  
St. Luke 15: 1-10

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