



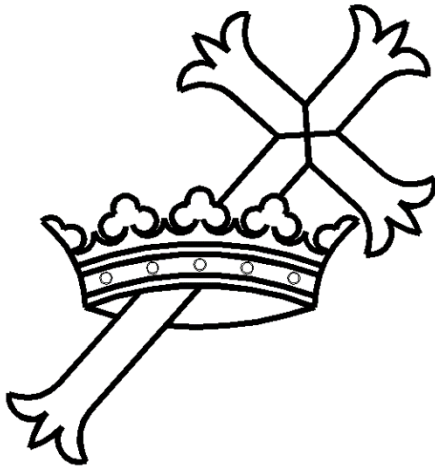
# *Cross of Christ Lutheran Church*

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*  
*January 28, 2024*

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 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      *“Give To Our God Immortal Praise”*      **LBW 520**

\*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.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, and the second system covers the second line. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the melody.

\*SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray Holy God,

**you know that we cannot withstand the dangers which surround us.**

**Strengthen us in body and spirit so that, with your help, we may be**

**able to overcome the weakness that our sin has brought upon us;**

**through Jesus Christ, your son our Lord. Amen**

CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

**FIRST READING: DEUTERONOMY 18: 15-20 (ESV)**

<sup>15</sup>“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen—<sup>16</sup>just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’<sup>17</sup> And the LORD said to me, ‘They are right in what they have spoken.’<sup>18</sup> I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him.<sup>19</sup> And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will

require it of him. <sup>20</sup> But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die.’

The Word of God for the people of God!

**Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM 111**

**READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE**

Praise the LORD!

I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**<sup>2</sup> Great are the works of the LORD,  
studied by all who delight in them.**

<sup>3</sup> Full of splendor and majesty is his work,  
and his righteousness endures forever.

**<sup>4</sup> He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;  
the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

<sup>5</sup> He provides food for those who fear him;  
he remembers his covenant forever.

**<sup>6</sup> He has shown his people the power of his works,  
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.**

<sup>7</sup> The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy;

**<sup>8</sup> they are established forever and ever,  
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

<sup>9</sup> He sent redemption to his people;  
he has commanded his covenant forever.

Holy and awesome is his name!

**<sup>10</sup> The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good understanding.**

**His praise endures forever!**

## **SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 8: 1-13 (ESV)**

Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” This “knowledge” puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup> If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. <sup>3</sup> But if anyone loves God, he is known by God. <sup>4</sup> Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “an idol has no real existence,” and that “there is no God but one.” <sup>5</sup> For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”—<sup>6</sup> yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist. <sup>7</sup> However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup> Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup> But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup> For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol’s temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? <sup>11</sup> And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. <sup>12</sup> Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup> Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

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. Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: St. Mark 1: 21-28 (ESV)**

<sup>21</sup> And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and was teaching. <sup>22</sup> And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup> And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, <sup>24</sup> “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>25</sup> But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” <sup>26</sup> And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup> And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” <sup>28</sup> And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

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

\*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**

Anthem      *“So Much God”* - Soldiers of Cross of Christ Group

RECEIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

\*THE OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bles - sing. 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      *“What A Friend”*      **LBW 439**

\*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.

Prayer List updates to Belinda Campbell ([belindaccl@gmail.com](mailto:belindaccl@gmail.com)) and **ALL** Bulletin announcements to the Clerical team ([ClericalTeam@gmail.com](mailto:ClericalTeam@gmail.com)) are due no later than **Wednesday**.

Deposit of \$75 for the Winter Retreat is due **TODAY**. See Gail or Kristi

On Sunday, **February 4th**, Pastor Ramey will be installed during the worship service as Interim Pastor at Cross of Christ. The Reverend Bill White, Eastern Area Assistant to the Bishop, will be with us for the installation. There will be light refreshments following the service. Please plan to be here for this important event.

Sunday, February 11th at 12:45 pm please plan to gather in the Parish Hall for the PCAT (Pastoral Care and Transition Team) "Congregational Workshop in Preparation for the Call Process." Childcare is available, so please let a Call Committee member (Betty Archer, Chris Bost, Belinda Campbell, Kelly Caudle, Tracy Drye, or Sharon Duncan) know if you would like to utilize that service. Snacks will be available during the approximately 3-hour session. Grab your lunch after service and meet back at church for this very important session.

As most of you already know, we have started a project called "**CCLC History in Pictures**" Phase 1 in our Parish Hall. This is created by our Historical Committee in memory of Iris Bratton. Approved by her family and Council in 2023. There are 3 phases. **Phase 2** will be dates and historical wording with **Phase 3** enhancing fill in smaller pictures to complete the layouts. We are asking everyone to check their pictures from the past. If you have any pictures of historical value of our Church history or Rimer history. Examples: fire department, Cress Lake, cattle barn, old and last ball field, cotton gin, old stores or our Rimer Post Office. Even pictures of the farm life, hay fields, cotton fields, logging, corn shucking. Please contact Rhonda Drye to arrange how we can scan your pictures or take a picture of your picture(s) and text it to Rhonda 980-521-9165. Help us build a wonderful pictorial history.

<b>Weekly Offering Report For: <u>Week No: 3</u>      <u>Date: January 21, 2024</u></b>			
2024 Weekly Needs:	\$3,758.54	YTD Budget Needs:	\$11,275.62
<b><u>Last Week</u></b>			
General Tithes Received	\$3,106.00	YTD Gen. Tithes Received	\$11,590.00
Last week (Deficit)	(\$652.54)	YTD Above needs	\$314.38



**January 28, 2024**

*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 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**

Family of Frances Pless

Stephanie Blackburn; John Faggart; Joyce Harkins; Tom Harkins;  
Doris Kluttz; Frank Kluttz; John & Linda Trull; Dot Weast;  
Megan Youngblood

Call Process prayer requests: 1) Cross of Christ Church; 2) Call Committee 3) Congregational Workshop preparation; 4) Gathering materials for the Congregational Profile

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

Pastor Gene Bost; LeaAnn Buckwell; Jane Faggart; Marvin Fincher;  
Wanda Floyd; Joyce Furr; David Gandy; David Goforth; Annette Heller;  
Candice Horton; Melissa Krumbien; Brandon Lewis;  
Kaye and Gerry Litzinger; Karen Morgan; George Pless, Jr;  
Ronnie Procter; Lettie Reid (Elkin Hospital – had a TIA on 1/19 followed by difficulty breathing leading to the need to be intubated on 1/20); Susan Starling; Sally and Phillip Teeter; Stephanie Vincent; Candace Yates; Vickey Belk Young.

### **Serving in the Military**

Eaven Allison; Jonathan Preston

### **Praise List**

- Scott Barringer – prayers have been appreciated.

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

**Today – January 28, 2024**

Sunday Church School 9:00 AM

Family Worship Service 10:00 AM

**NEXT SUNDAY**

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

**Next Sunday's Readings**

*Fifth Sunday After Epiphany*

Isaiah 40: 21-31

Psalm 147: 1-11

1 Corinthians 9: 16-27

St. Mark 1: 29-39

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

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