



# *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*



*“He will baptize you...”*

*Welcome to worship at Cross of Christ!*  
*In the Cross of Christ I glory †*

*Baptism Of Our Lord*  
*January 8, 2023*

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

*“Come Gracious Spirit”*

**LBW 475**

\*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:

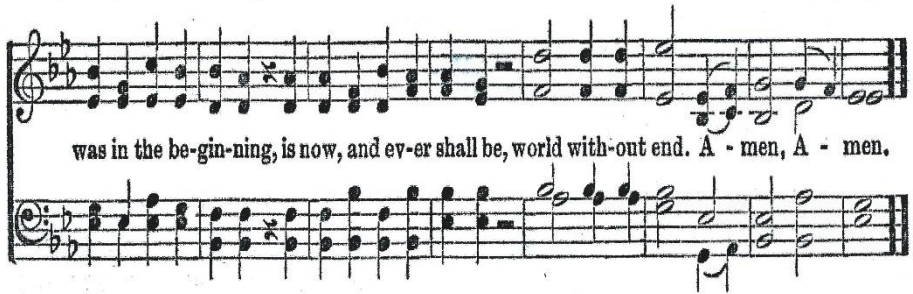


**A** Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son: **C** Lord, have mer - cy.  
Lord, . . . . have mer - cy:

\*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. Father in heaven,  
at the baptism of Jesus in the River Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful in their calling to be your children and inheritors with him of everlasting life; 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: ISAIAH 43: 1-7 (ESV)**

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. <sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. <sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. <sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my eyes, and honored, and I love you, I give men in return for you, peoples in exchange for your life. <sup>5</sup>Fear not, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you. <sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, Give up, and to the south, Do not withhold; bring my sons from afar and my daughters from the end of the earth, <sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

The Word of God for the people of God!

**Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM 29**

**READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE**

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,

ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

<sup>2</sup> **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;**

**worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is over the waters;

the God of glory thunders,

the LORD, over many waters.

<sup>4</sup> **The voice of the LORD is powerful;**

**the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

<sup>5</sup> The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;

the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

**6 He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,  
and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup>The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.

**8 The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth  
and strips the forests bare,  
and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"

**10 The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.**


<sup>11</sup>May the LORD give strength to his people!  
May the LORD bless<sup>[d]</sup> his people with peace!

## **SECOND READING: ROMANS 6: 1-11 (ESV)**

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? <sup>2</sup>By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? <sup>3</sup>Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life. <sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. <sup>7</sup>For one who has died has been set free from sin. <sup>8</sup>Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. <sup>10</sup>For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. <sup>11</sup>So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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, the 3<sup>rd</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: St. Luke 3: 15-22 (ESV)**

<sup>15</sup>As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, <sup>16</sup>John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." <sup>18</sup>So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. <sup>19</sup>But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, <sup>20</sup>added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison. <sup>21</sup>Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, <sup>22</sup>and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

This is Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

LARRY BARBEE

\*SERMON HYMN

*"Spirit Of God"*

LBW 486

**\*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**

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     *“On Jordan’s Bank”*     **LBW 36**

\*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.

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

Don't forget – **SAVE** your tubes from gift wrapping, paper towels, and Toilet paper and give to Sharon Duncan for crafting needs.

Let Rhonda Drye know if are interested in group crafting, getting ideas to take home to complete. Group Crafting times will be a few Friday nights in Jan and Feb. Thank you for those of you who have already replied of interest.

The **PbnJ** youth group will meet **TODAY** at 3:30 pm.

Join us for a Baby Shower honoring Courtney Allman Johnson on Saturday, January 21, 2023 at 2:00 PM at Victory Temple 3101 Cline School Rd. Registered at Amazon and Target.

**Parish Hall Calendar** for 2023 is open. If you have a date you need to secure, please contact Phyllis Campbell - 704-782-9654. Weddings and Funerals will cancel any booked dates



**January 8, 2023**

*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**

John Faggart; Joyce Harkins; Candice Horton; Doris & Frank Kluttz;  
Gail Leonard; Carl Pless (Fall resulting in hip pain);  
Richard Strube (Recovering from Prostate procedure);  
John & Linda Trull; Dot Weast; John Weast; Bob Yost

### **Serving in the Military**

Eaven Allison (Okinawa, Japan)

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

Family of Don Faggart

Veronica Barber and family and fiancée Jeff; Ronnie Boger;  
LeaAnne Buckwell; Mary Cox; Steve & Angie Dixon; Jane Faggart;  
Pastor Jeff Faggart; Wanda Floyd; Joyce Furr; Ralph Furr;  
Brady Krimminger; Mary Kunze; Brandon Lewis;  
Kaye and Gerry Litzinger; Doris McCarn; Gabby Monty;  
Ensley Morgan; Steve Parker; Ronnie Procter; Jeff Sampson;  
Susan Starling; Connie Walters; Vickey Belk Young

### **General Prayer Concerns**

The People of Ukraine

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

**Today – January 8, 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

**Next Sunday's Readings**

*Second Sunday After Epiphany*

Isaiah 62: 1-5

Psalm 128

St John 1: 1-11

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