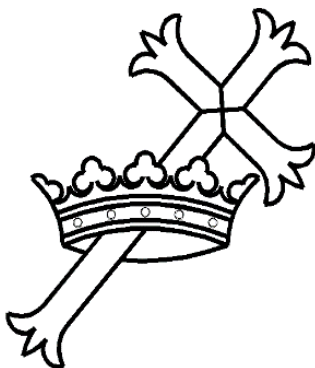


Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

4500 Rimer Rd, Concord, NC 28025
Church 704-782-8483

The Rev. Marty Ramey, Interim Pastor
A NALC Congregation



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

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost
October 19, 2025

(* *Please stand as you are able*)

PRELUDE

OUR ACCOMPANIST MRS. YVONNE YOST

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: 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.

C: Amen

P: 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.

P: Most merciful God,

C: 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

P: 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.

C: Amen

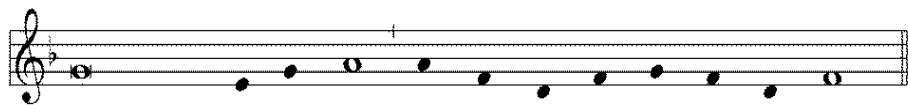
* OPENING HYMN “*God Of Grace And God Of Glory* ” LBW 415

*APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C: And also with you.

*HYMN OF PRAISE: "*Glory to God*"



♩ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



♩ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



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.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



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

***SALUTATION**



***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: O God, our refuge and strength, since you yourself are the author of our devotion, graciously consider the devout prayers of your Church. May those things which we ask in faith effectively follow by your grace; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE FROM PASTOR RAMEY

CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

FIRST READING: Genesis 32: 22-30 (ESV)

²² The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. ²⁴ And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." ²⁷ And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered."

The Word of God for the people of God!

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM 121: 1-8 (ESV)

READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE

I lift up my eyes to the hills.

From where does my help come?

**² My help comes from the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.**

**³ He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.**

**⁴ Behold, he who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

**⁵ The LORD is your keeper;
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.**

**⁶ The sun shall not strike you by day,
nor the moon by night.**

**⁷ The LORD will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.**

**⁸ The LORD will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time forth and forevermore.**

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 3: 14-4:5 (ESV)

¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. ⁴ I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingdom: ² preach the word; be ready in season and out of season; reprove, rebuke, and exhort, with complete patience and teaching. ³ For the time is coming when people will not endure sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions, ⁴ and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander off into myths. ⁵ But as for you, always be sober-

minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

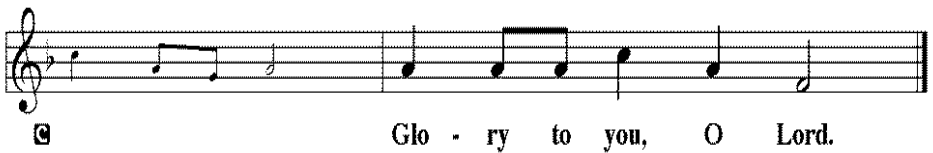
The Word of God for the people of God!

C: Thanks be to God!

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



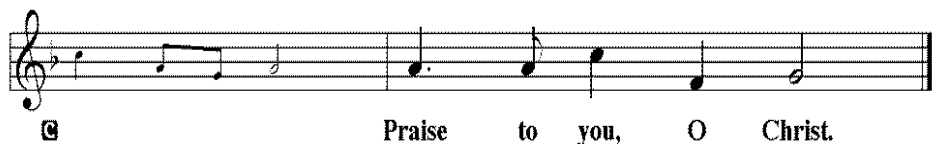
P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 18th chapter.



***THE HOLY GOSPEL: ST. LUKE 18: 1-8 (ESV)**

And he told them a parable to the effect that they ought always to pray and not lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor respected man. ³And there was a widow in that city who kept coming to him and saying, 'Give me justice against my adversary.' ⁴For a while he refused, but afterward he said to himself, 'Though I neither fear God nor respect man, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will give her justice, so that she will not beat me down by her continual coming.'" ⁶And the Lord said, "Hear what the unrighteous judge says. ⁷And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? ⁸I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

P: This is Gospel of our Lord.



SERMON *“Persistence”* Pastor Marty Ramey

*SERMON HYMN *“Take My Life That I May Be”* LBW 406

***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**

*RECEIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*THE OFFERTORY



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va-tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir-it.

*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

P: 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.

C: Amen

***SENDING HYMN “All Hail The Power Of Jesus Name” LBW 328**
Vs 1-4

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***POSTLUDE**

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The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Roy and Tamara Gray’s 45th wedding anniversary by Dylan, Ashliegh and Corbin Ennis.

The **Flowers** on the stand, given to the glory of God, have been lovingly placed by Leonard and Belinda Campbell in celebration of the joyful union of Caleb and Clare Campbell. May God bless their marriage with enduring love, grace, and faithfulness on this journey together.

Reformation Sunday is next Sunday. Please wear Red.

The **PbnJ youth group** meeting is **TODAY** at 3:30 pm.

A **FREE** spaghetti supper being sponsored by the outreach committee for the community **THIS Wednesday October 22 at 6:30 PM**. Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread and dessert.

Trunk or Treat is happening again this year on **October 31st, 6 PM till 8 pm**. Please let Meredith know if you will be setting up a "trunk" or would like to help with games and/or food. Also, we are in need of small prizes and candy for the games. Thank you, Meredith

The **Annual Youth BBQ** is **November 8th, 3-7PM**. Preorders will be due soon. Volunteers for homemade desserts signup sheet in the mailroom.

Outreach Committee is sponsoring a **food drive** for Mt Pleasant Food Bank through **November 16**. Non-perishable food items. Boxes will be down front on pulpit side for collection. Thank you.

The **Annual Congregational** meeting will be held **November 2nd and November 9th**.

All Sexton bids are due **before November 2nd** council meeting. Give to council president Cayle Drye in a sealed envelope. This includes outdoor sexton, main church building sexton, parish hall and Fisher Administration building sexton.

The **Church Refresh Task** force is proud to announce the three "major refresh" rooms are ready to be used. Parlor, Library and Chapel. But please note, there are still some things to be repaired, tagged, and new items placed in them. For these three rooms going forward, their purpose is not to be used for collection of fund raisers items, projects or just storage. The utility and supply closet are available for storage purposes. More information will be in the November Newsletter and future bulletins. We want you to know, not one dollar has been used from the Church treasury for this refresh. It *has* been paid for by memorials and donations. And those donations have been over and above the donors weekly tithing. The December newsletter will have a full listing of the additions and upgrades with one dedication for a item in a designated Sunday Service.



October 19, 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 prayercclc@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

Wayne Furr; Roy Gray; Chris Goodman; Dorothy Goodman; Harry Goodman; Norman Goodman; Amy Preston; 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 Odessa Archer (Mother-in-law of Betty Archer)
Pastor Charles Barrier; Deena Bost; Pastor Gene Bost;
LeaAnn Buckwell; Pastor Randall Cauble; Pastor Tom Corbell;
Luke Cranford; Vicky Floyd; David Gandy; Marty Gandy;
David Goforth; Lee Goforth; Barbara Hamilton; Annette Heller;
Candice Horton; Greg Houston; Melissa Krumbien; Gerry Litzinger;
Susie Moore; Karen Morgan; Hank Morris; Lori Pittard; Daniel Pless;
Lettie Reid; Blake Rogers; Jacob Rodgers; Nick Smith; Susan Starling;
Veronica Williams; Candace Yates; Vickey Belk Young.

Serving in the Military

Eaven Allison (Fairbanks, Alaska)

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

Today October 19, 2025

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

This Week

MON: 7 – 8:30 PM Soldiers of the Cross of Christ Practice

WED: 6:30 PM Free Spaghetti Meal

NEXT SUNDAY

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

Next Sunday's Readings

Reformation Sunday

Revelation 14: 6-7

Psalm 46: 1-11

Romans 3: 19-28

St John 8: 31-36

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