



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 †

Second Sunday Of Christmas

January 1, 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

“O Come All Ye Faithfull”

LBW 45

*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. Almighty God,
you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING: 1 KINGS 3: 4-15 (ESV)

⁴ And the king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. ⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I shall give you." ⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day." ⁷ And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. ⁹ Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?" ¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ And God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. ¹³ I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. ¹⁴ And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days." ¹⁵ And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the Lord, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

The Word of God for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

PSALM 119: 97-104

READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE

⁹⁷ Oh how I love your law!

It is my meditation all the day.

⁹⁸ **Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies,
for it is ever with me.**

⁹⁹ I have more understanding than all my teachers,
for your testimonies are my meditation.

¹⁰⁰ **I understand more than the aged,**

for I keep your precepts.

¹⁰¹ I hold back my feet from every evil way,
in order to keep your word.

¹⁰² **I do not turn aside from your rules,
for you have taught me.**

¹⁰³ How sweet are your words to my taste,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

¹⁰⁴ **Through your precepts I get understanding;
therefore I hate every false way.**

SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 1: 3-14 (ESV)

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

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 2nd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: St. Luke 2: 40-52 (ESV)

⁴⁰ And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him. ⁴¹ Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³ And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴ but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵ and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹ And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹ And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

This is Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

*SERMON HYMN

HYMN SING

“ <i>INFANT HOLY</i> ”	LBW 44
“ <i>GOOD CHRISTIAN MEN REJOICE</i> ”	LBW 55
“ <i>GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTIAN</i> ”	LBW 70
“ <i>AS WITH GLADNESS</i> ”	LBW 82
“ <i>WE THREE KINGS</i> ”	WOV 645

*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**

*SENDING HYMN *“Angels From The Realms ”* **LBW 50**

*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 memory of Elmer Bost birthday by Nell Hatley.

We would like to thank Melvin Bost and Leonard Campbell for leading our service today.

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

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.

If you have any changes or updates to the **Annual Yearbook** for names, addresses, phone numbers or emails please let **Rhonda Drye** know.

The **2023 Altar flower calendar** has been placed in the mailroom. Please add the person's name and in memory or honor of and reason ei: birthday, anniversary, etc.

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 1, 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 Klutz; Gail Leonard (Surgery recovery); Carl Pless (Fall resulting in hip pain); Richard Strube (Prostate procedure on 1/3/2023); John & Linda Trull; Dot Weast; John Weast (Knee replacement surgery recovery); Bob Yost

Serving in the Military

Eaven Allison (Okinawa, Japan)

Friends of Cross of Christ

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 1, 2023
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

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

Baptism Of Our Lord

Isaiah 43: 1-7
Psalm 29
St Luke 3: 15-222

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