



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 †*

***First Sunday In Advent***  
***November 30, 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**

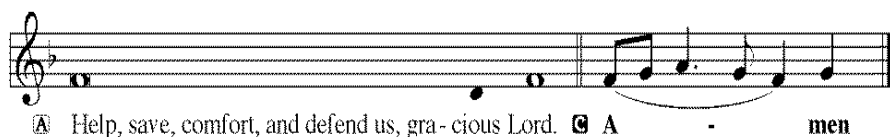
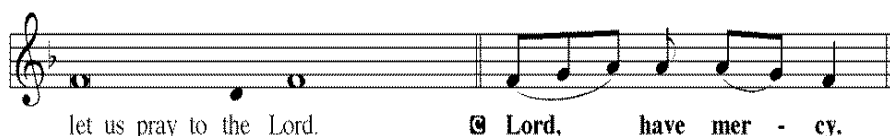
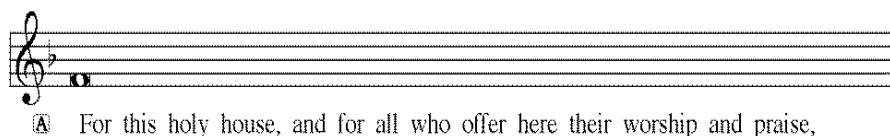
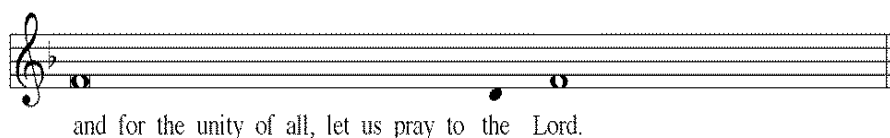
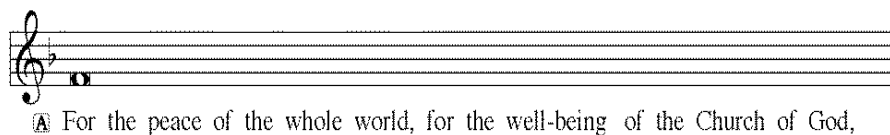
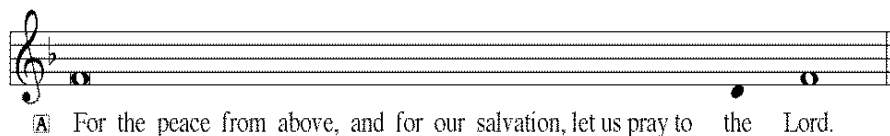
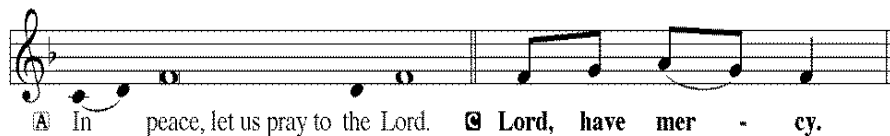
\* OPENING HYMN ***“Oh Come, Oh Come, Emmanuel ”*** LBW 34

\*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.**

\*KYRIE



**\*SALUTATION**



**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Stir up your power, O Lord, and come, that by your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by your mighty deliverance; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen**

**\*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**

**WOV 630**

*"Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah"* (vs 1)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE FROM PASTOR RAMEY

CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 2: 1-5 (ESV)**

The word that Isaiah the son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.<sup>2</sup> It shall come to pass in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be lifted up above the hills; and all the nations shall flow to it, <sup>3</sup>and many peoples shall come, and say: "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth the law, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.<sup>4</sup> He shall judge between the nations, and shall decide disputes for many peoples; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. <sup>5</sup>O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

The Word of God for the people of God!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM 122: 1-9 (ESV)**

**READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE**

I was glad when they said to me,

“Let us go to the house of the LORD!”

**<sup>2</sup> Our feet have been standing  
within your gates, O Jerusalem!**

<sup>3</sup> Jerusalem—built as a city  
that is bound firmly together,

**<sup>4</sup> to which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,  
as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD.**

<sup>5</sup> There thrones for judgment were set,  
the thrones of the house of David.

**<sup>6</sup> Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!  
“May they be secure who love you!**

<sup>7</sup> Peace be within your walls  
and security within your towers!”

**<sup>8</sup> For my brothers and companions' sake  
I will say, “Peace be within you!”**

<sup>9</sup> For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,  
I will seek your good.

**SECOND READING: Romans 13: 8-14 (ESV)**

<sup>8</sup> Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup> For the commandments, “You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>10</sup> Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law. <sup>11</sup> Besides this you know the time, that the hour has come for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup> The night is far gone; the day is at hand. So then let us cast off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup> Let us walk properly as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and sensuality, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup> But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

The Word of God for the people of God!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

## \*Gospel Acclamation



P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, 24<sup>th</sup> chapter.



## \*THE HOLY GOSPEL: ST. MATTHEW 24: 36-44 (ESV)

<sup>36</sup>“But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. <sup>37</sup>For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they were unaware until the flood came and swept them all away, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two men will be in the field; one will be taken and one left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding at the mill; one will be taken and one left. <sup>42</sup>Therefore, stay awake, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But know this, that if the master of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

P: This is Gospel of our Lord.



**\*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 Earth Is Hopeful”    WOV 629**

**\*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 honor of Belinda Campbell's birthday by the Larry Barbee family.

We would like to thank all those that helped get our church decorated for Advent. And we also thank the Strube family for donating our tree this year.

Next **Sunday 12.7.25, 2026 Council Members Installation** will be during the morning service. **All 2026 serving council members please be present.**

**Family pictures** in front of the Christmas tree will begin today. If you'd like to have your photo taken, please meet at the front of the sanctuary immediately after worship. Photos will also be taken on **December 7th and December 14th.**



Please see **Suzanne Bost** for all **new** and **reoccurring** parish hall rentals/events for **2026**. Thank you!

The **Outreach Committee** is sponsoring **Toys for Tots**. Our church will collect toys through **Dec. 7th**. The Collection Boxes are in the back of the sanctuary. New, unwrapped toys for all ages are needed. Thank you for your generosity.

The **2026 Flower Calendar** has been placed in the mail room. Please mark any dates that you would like for flowers. The cost is still **\$64** for both vases. If a date you would like is already taken, talk with the person who signed up and split that Sunday. **One vase is \$32.**

If you have any changes to addresses, phone numbers, or email address for the **CCLC 2025 / 2026 Annual Yearbook**, please get those changes to the Historical Comm, Rhonda Drye or Jodie Strube. Committee chairs, event leaders, group leaders please start preparing your year-end summaries. If you have any questions, please contact us.

We will be placing **Poinsettias** in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 21<sup>st</sup> If you would like to place one or several in honor or in memory of a loved one, please let Meredith know by Sunday, December 7th. The cost this year is \$10. Money should be placed in the offering plate and information about plants should be given to Meredith. Thank you!

**Sharing Sheppard's** gifts should be brought to church by Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>.

### **November Stewardship Awareness**

Consider the following three questions. Choose which one you should be asking in regards to money and possessions.

- What do I want to do with my money and possessions?
- What do I want to do with God's money and possessions?
- What does God want me to do with His money and possessions?

Each of these questions represents a different attitude toward money and things. Where are you? At some point in our spiritual walk, we shift our thinking about money and possessions and begin to see them all as gifts from God. We begin to see ourselves as managers of a trust God has given us. Through Baptism, we are given this role and assignment: to manage, with help from the Holy Spirit, all that God has entrusted to us in this life and the life of His Church. God first loved us and His creation. God first stooped down to His creation. He then gave the world a gift — His Son's life to pay the debt for our sin. Then God gives us the faith to accept the gift. And by faith we receive His gift of eternal life. This is all grace. God gives the world. God gave us His Son. God gives us faith. God saves. God gives eternal life. Giving and generosity are the visible sign of God's grace. Through Jesus, God initiates a new relationship, a new covenant with His creation, and reconciles the world to Himself. Powerful! God is first Giver.

### ***Advent Week 1 - Prayer for Hope***

*Father God, every word in scripture points to the gift of hope that we have because of Christ Jesus. The Christmas story wasn't the beginning of that message of hope because the old testament is full of glimpses of your plan to redeem your people and restore them into a relationship with you, but we are able to truly begin to see and understand just how great your love for us is when we read the story of Jesus' birth in scripture. Help us to see that you are with us. Nothing is too difficult, too messy, or too dirty for you. Jesus came to give us the gift of eternal life through the salvation that only you, our Heavenly Father, can give when we believe on your Son, repent of our sins, and confess Jesus as our Lord and Savior. That first Christmas, you gave us the gift of hope wrapped in swaddling clothes and laid in a manger. Thank you, Father, for your immeasurable gift. In Jesus' precious name, we pray. Amen.*



**November 30, 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](mailto:prayercclc@gmail.com) by Tuesday 5PM.***

*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**

Tim Aldridge (Hip surgery recovery); Walker Drye (Recovery from left leg injury); Roy Gray; 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 Arnold Cranford (Grandfather of Dylan Ennis)

J.D. Almond; Pastor Charles Barrier; Kathryn Blick (Neighbor's daughter of Susan Caudle – diagnosed with Cancer); Deena Bost; Pastor Gene Bost;

Myra Bost; LeaAnn Buckwell; Pastor Randall Cauble; Pastor Tom Corbell; Luke Cranford; Ed Duncan; Vicky Floyd; April Funderburke (Friend of Susan Caudle – diagnosed with cancer); David Gandy; Marty Gandy; David Goforth;

Lee Goforth; Barbara Hamilton; Annette Heller; Candice Horton;

Greg Houston; Jimmy Howard; Melissa Krumbien; Gerry Litzinger;

Susie Moore; Karen Morgan; Hank Morris; 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)

**General Prayer Concerns:**

Rimer Fire Department

All those traveling for Thanksgiving

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

**Today November 30, 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

**NEXT SUNDAY**

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

**Next Sunday's Readings**

*Second Sunday In Advent*

Isaiah 11: 1-10

Psalm 72: 1-7

Romans 15: 4-13

St. Matthew 3: 1-12

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