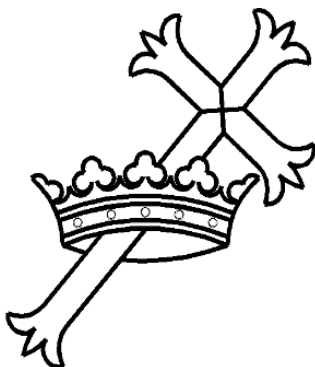




4500 Rimer Rd, Concord, NC 28025
Church 704-782-8483

A NALC Congregation



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

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 13, 2026

(* *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

“My Hope Is Built ”

(Green) LBW 293

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.

 A 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: Let us pray. O Lord, help your people to avoid the infection of the evil one, and with pure hearts to follow you, our only Lord. Grant this, we pray, 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 DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

FIRST READING: Genesis 50: 15-21 (ESV)

¹⁵ When Joseph's brothers saw that their father was dead, they said, "It may be that Joseph will hate us and pay us back for all the evil that we did to him." ¹⁶ So they sent a message to Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this command before he died: ¹⁷ 'Say to Joseph, "Please forgive the transgression of your brothers and their sin, because they did evil to you."' And now, please forgive the transgression of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. ¹⁸ His brothers also came and fell down before him and said, "Behold, we are your servants." ¹⁹ But Joseph said to them, "Do not fear, for am I in the place of God? ²⁰ As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today. ²¹ So do not fear; I will provide for you and your little ones." Thus he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

The Word of God for the people of God!

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM 103: 1-12 (ESV)

READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!

- ² **Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,**
- ³ who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
- ⁴ **who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,**
- ⁵ who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- ⁶ **The LORD works righteousness
and justice for all who are oppressed.**
- ⁷ He made known his ways to Moses,
his acts to the people of Israel.
- ⁸ **The LORD is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**
- ⁹ He will not always chide,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
- ¹⁰ **He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.**
- ¹¹ For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- ¹² **as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**

SECOND READING: Romans 14: 1-12 (ESV)

As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. ² One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. ³ Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand. ⁵ One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. ⁶ The one who observes the day, observes it in honor of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honor of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who

abstains, abstains in honor of the Lord and gives thanks to God. ⁷ For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. ⁸ For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. ¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹ for it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God." ¹² So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.

The Word of God for the people of God!

C: Thanks be to God!

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

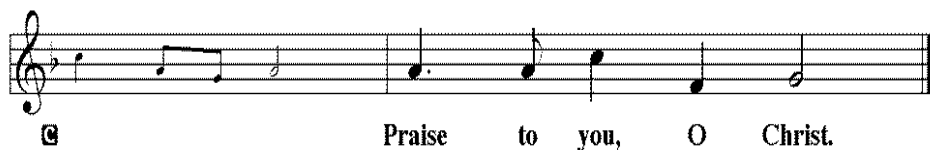
Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

***THE HOLY GOSPEL: ST. MATTHEW 18: 21-35 (ESV)**

²¹ Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" ²² Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times. ²³ "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who

wished to settle accounts with his servants.²⁴ When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents.²⁵ And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made.²⁶ So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’²⁷ And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt.²⁸ But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, ‘Pay what you owe.’²⁹ So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’³⁰ He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt.³¹ When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place.³² Then his master summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me.³³ And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?’³⁴ And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt.³⁵ So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.”

P: This is Gospel of our Lord.



SERMON

Pastor Will Dulin

*SERMON HYMN *“Oh, That The Lord Would Guide My Ways”* (Green)LBW 480

***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**

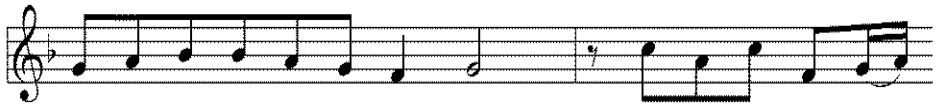
***THE OFFERTORY**



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 “*Praise To The Lord, The Almighty*” (Green) LBW 543**

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

***POSTLUDE**

****** After worship, Pastor Dulin will go directly to the Parish Hall for the get-to-know-you meal.

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The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Alexis, Susan and Larry Barbee's birthdays by the family.

We would like to thank Pastor Will Dulin for leading our service today.

Please join us after the service for a complimentary meal in the fellowship hall. This will be a wonderful opportunity to break bread, converse, and get to know Pastor Will Dulin and his wife, Constance, as we discern the future of our ministry together. We look forward to worshiping and fellowshiping with you!

Homecoming is Sunday, **September 20th**. Bonnie McDonald will be the guest speaker during the Sunday School hour. Following the service there will be a meal in the Parish Hall. **Please plan on bringing a dessert you can share.**

Registration is now **closed** for the women's retreat. Thank you to those planning to attend, we look forward to a great weekend soon!



September 13, 2026

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... 1Timothy 2:1

In the Fellowship of Cross of Christ

Chris Goodman (recovering from a hospital stay for multiple blood clots in his lung, gout, and a possible torn meniscus); Wayne Peck; Carl Pless, Jr.; Jasper Tidd (Recovery from mouth surgery); Rand Yost
Call Process prayer requests: 1) Cross of Christ Church; 2) Call Committee; 3) Prospective pastors see our profile/video and consider a call here.

Shut-Ins

Bob and Joann Barrier; Brenda Barrier; Norman Goodman; Nell Hatley; John Trull.

Friends of Cross of Christ

Carolyn Campbell; Josh Fabricius; April Funderburke; Lee Gorforth; Candice Horton; Cynthia Horton; Gloria Mann; Alicia McQueen; Hayden Polakowski; Eric Starling; Susan Starling; Andrew Stirewalt (foot pain & testing); Ruthie O'Brien; Daniel Pless; Jacob Rodgers; Nick Smith; Bob Wilson; Candace Yates
Carolina Mission Region Seminarians: Melanie Corn, Robert Dernbach, Lucas Safrit

Serving in the Military

Eaven Allison (Fairbanks, Alaska)

General Prayer Concerns:

- Ongoing Iran war impacts
- Hurricane Lowell impacts

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

Today September 13, 2026

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

This Week

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

SAT: 7 - 1:00 PM Breakfast/Car show

NEXT SUNDAY

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

Next Sunday's Readings

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 55: 6-9

Psalm 27: 1-9

Philippians 1: 12-14, 19-30

St. Matthew 20: 1-16

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