



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 †

Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

August 13, 2023

OUR ACCOMPANIST

MRS. YVONNE YOST

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 you, forgive you all your sins, through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

* OPENING HYMN

“Beautiful Savior”

LBW 518

*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.

*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.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature is one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, and the second system covers the second line. The piano accompaniment features chords and some melodic lines.

*SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Holy God,
your ears are open always to the prayers of your servants. Open our hearts and minds to you, that we may live in harmony with your will and receive the gifts of your Spirit; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

FIRST READING: Job 38: 4-18 (ESV)

- ⁴ “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth?
Tell me, if you have understanding.
⁵ Who determined its measurements—surely you know!
Or who stretched the line upon it?
⁶ On what were its bases sunk,
or who laid its cornerstone,
⁷ when the morning stars sang together
and all the sons of God shouted for joy?”

8 “Or who shut in the sea with doors
when it burst out from the womb,
9 when I made clouds its garment
and thick darkness its swaddling band,
10 and prescribed limits for it
and set bars and doors,
11 and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther,
and here shall your proud waves be stayed’?
12 “Have you commanded the morning since your days began,
and caused the dawn to know its place,
13 that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth,
and the wicked be shaken out of it?
14 It is changed like clay under the seal,
and its features stand out like a garment.
15 From the wicked their light is withheld,
and their uplifted arm is broken.
16 “Have you entered into the springs of the sea,
or walked in the recesses of the deep?
17 Have the gates of death been revealed to you,
or have you seen the gates of deep darkness?
18 Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth?
Declare, if you know all this.

The Word of God for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

PSALM 18: 1-6 (ESV)

READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE

I love you, O LORD, my strength.

2 The LORD is my rock and my fortress and my deliverer,
my God, my rock, in whom I take refuge,
my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

3 I call upon the LORD, who is worthy to be praised,
and I am saved from my enemies.

4 The cords of death encompassed me;
the torrents of destruction assailed me;

⁵ the cords of Sheol entangled me;
the snares of death confronted me.

⁶ In my distress I called upon the LORD;
to my God I cried for help.

From his temple he heard my voice,
and my cry to him reached his ears.

SECOND READING: ROMANS 10: 5-17 (ESV)

⁵ For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶ But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹ For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” ¹⁴ How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵ And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” ¹⁶ But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from

us?"¹⁷ So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

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. Matthew, the 14 th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

***THE HOLY GOSPEL: ST. MATTHEW 14: 22-33 (ESV)**

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."²⁸ And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on

the water.”²⁹ He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus.³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, “Lord, save me.”³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, “O you of little faith, why did you doubt?”³² And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased.³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

This is Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

PASTOR RAFE ALLISON

*SERMON HYMN

“O Living Bread”

LBW 197

***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



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

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.

Amen

*SENDING HYMN

“Jesus Shall Reign”

LBW 530

*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 in honor of the birthday of Corbin Ennis by Dylan and Ashleigh Ennis.

Congregation Meeting is today immediately following worship. The sole agenda item for this meeting will be to consider a council-approved plan to make much-needed repairs/improvements to our sound and video systems.

Blessing of our **Sunday School** students and Sunday School promotion will be **NEXT** Sunday, August 20 at the beginning of service.

HELP WANTED!

We are gearing up for a new year of Children's Church at Cross of Christ beginning in October and are in need of leaders and assistants. The obligations of leaders and assistants are easy to fulfill. The information and planned lessons are provided for you and a quick browse the night before will be more than enough to prepare you for the next day. Each teacher and assistant will be assigned a Sunday approximately ever 6 to 8 weeks depending on the number of volunteers. Please prayerfully consider these volunteer opportunities to help lead the spiritual growth of our youngest members and if you would like to participate or have questions, please contact Heather Bell. If you are a current leader or teacher and wish to no longer be involved with the program, please contact Heather as well. Thank you!

Weekly Offering Report For: Week No: 32 Date: August 6, 2023
2023 Weekly Needs: \$3,674.98 YTD Budget Needs: \$117,599.36
Last Week
Gen. Tithes Received \$4,369.00 YTD Gen. Tithes Received \$114,961.00
Last week Above Needs \$694.02 YTD (Deficit) (\$2,638.36)



August 13, 2023

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; Tom Harkins, Candice Horton; Doris & Frank Kluttz; Carl Pless; Joyce W. Pless (Heart procedure for CardioMEMS implant 8/17/23); John & Linda Trull; Dot Weast; Rand Yost.

Serving in the Military

Eaven Allison (Okinawa, Japan)

Friends of Cross of Christ

Family of Ric Perry (Brother-In-Law of Karen Faggart)
Veronica Barber and family and fiancée Jeff; David Buckland;
LeaAnne Buckwell; Delores Carpenter; Mary Cox;
Steve & Angie Dixon; Alisa Erts; Jane Faggart; Pastor Jeff Faggart;
Wanda Floyd; Joyce Furr; Ralph Furr; Alley Handy; Brandon Lewis;
Kaye and Gerry Litzinger; Ensley Morgan; Karen Morgan; Steve Parker;
Ronnie Procter; Lettie Reid; Susan Starling; Stephanie Vincent (Niece of Gail Leonard – Preparing for back surgery); Connie Walters;
Candace Yates; Vickey Belk Young

Serving in the Military

Jonathan Preston

General Prayer Concerns:

Praise List:

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

Today - August 13, 2023

Sunday Church School	9:00 AM
Family Worship Service	10:00 AM
Congregational Meeting	11:00 AM

NEXT SUNDAY

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

Next Sunday's Readings

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8

Psalm 67

Romans 11: 1-2a, 13-15, 28-32

St. Matthew 15: 21-28