



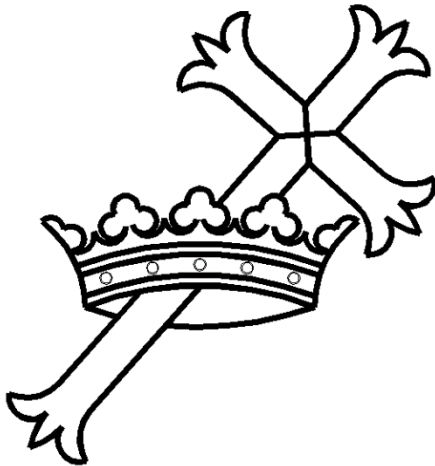
# *Cross of Christ Lutheran Church*

4500 Rimer Rd, Concord, NC 28025

Church 704-782-8483 Parish Hall 704-795-0445

Parsonage 704-786-3643

***The Rev. Marty Ramey, Interim Pastor***  
*A NALC Congregation*



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

***Third Sunday After Epiphany***  
***January 21, 2024***

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      *“Songs of Thankfulness and Praise”*      **LBW 90**

\*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 ends with a double bar line, and the second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

\*SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty God,  
**you sent your Son to proclaim your kingdom and to teach with authority. Anoint us with the power of your Spirit, that we, too, may bring good news to the afflicted, bind up the brokenhearted, and proclaim liberty to the captive; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

**FIRST READING: JONAH 3: 1-5, 10 (ESV)**

Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah the second time, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it the message that I tell you.” <sup>3</sup>So Jonah arose and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly great city, three days' journey in breadth. <sup>4</sup>Jonah began to go into the city, going a day's journey. And he called out, “Yet forty days, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” <sup>5</sup>And the people of Nineveh believed God. They called for a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest of

them to the least of them. <sup>10</sup> When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil way, God relented of the disaster that he had said he would do to them, and he did not do it.

The Word of God for the people of God!

**Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM 62**

**READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE**

For God alone my soul waits in silence;

from him comes my salvation.

**<sup>2</sup> He alone is my rock and my salvation,  
my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.**

**<sup>3</sup> How long will all of you attack a man  
to batter him,  
like a leaning wall, a tottering fence?**

**<sup>4</sup> They only plan to thrust him down from his high position.  
They take pleasure in falsehood.**

**They bless with their mouths,  
but inwardly they curse.**

**<sup>5</sup> For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence,  
for my hope is from him.**

**<sup>6</sup> He only is my rock and my salvation,  
my fortress; I shall not be shaken.**

**<sup>7</sup> On God rests my salvation and my glory;  
my mighty rock, my refuge is God.**

**<sup>8</sup> Trust in him at all times, O people;  
pour out your heart before him;  
God is a refuge for us.**

**<sup>9</sup> Those of low estate are but a breath;  
those of high estate are a delusion;  
in the balances they go up;  
they are together lighter than a breath.**

**<sup>10</sup> Put no trust in extortion;**

**set no vain hopes on robbery;  
if riches increase, set not your heart on them.**

<sup>11</sup> Once God has spoken;  
twice have I heard this:

that power belongs to God,

<sup>12</sup> **and that to you, O Lord, belongs steadfast love.**

**For you will render to a man  
according to his work.**

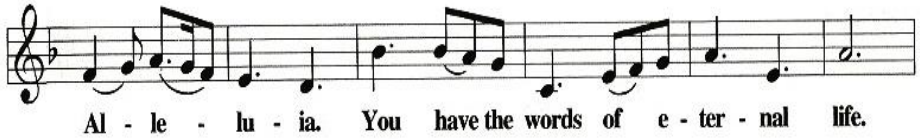
**SECOND READING: 1 CORINTHIANS 7: 29-35 (ESV)**

<sup>29</sup> This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, <sup>30</sup> and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, <sup>31</sup> and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away. <sup>32</sup> I want you to be free from anxieties. The unmarried man is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to please the Lord. <sup>33</sup> But the married man is anxious about worldly things, how to please his wife, <sup>34</sup> and his interests are divided. And the unmarried or betrothed woman is anxious about the things of the Lord, how to be holy in body and spirit. But the married woman is anxious about worldly things, how to please her husband. <sup>35</sup> I say this for your own benefit, not to lay any restraint upon you, but to promote good order and to secure your undivided devotion to the Lord.

The Word of God for the people of God!

**Thanks be to God!**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: St. Mark 1: 14-20 (ESV)**

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God,<sup>15</sup> and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”<sup>16</sup> Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen.<sup>17</sup> And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men.”<sup>18</sup> And immediately they left their nets and followed him.<sup>19</sup> And going on a little farther, he saw James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, who were in their boat mending the nets.<sup>20</sup> And immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants and followed him.

This is Gospel of our Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*SERMON “The Eight Word Sermon” Pastor Marty Ramey*

\*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

***“My Hope Is Built”***

**LBW 294**

\*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

\*POSTLUDE

***(\* Please stand as you are able)***

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<b>Weekly Offering Report For: <u>Week No: 1</u>      <u>Date: January 7, 2024</u></b>			
2024 Weekly Needs:	\$3,758.54	YTD Budget Needs:	\$3,758.54
<b><u>Last Week</u></b>			
General Tithes Received	\$4,847.00	YTD Gen. Tithes Received	\$4,847.00
Last week Above needs	\$1,088.46	YTD Above needs	\$1,088.46

The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God in honor of the Congregation.

Everyone is invited to a **Welcome Lunch** for Pastor Ramey in the Parish Hall following service **today**.

February newsletter articles are due **TODAY**

**Rimer Fire Department Community Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm**

If you live in the Rimer Fire district, you are encouraged to attend to learn about what is happening inside your fire department.

Please send Prayer List updates to Belinda Campbell ([belindacclc@gmail.com](mailto:belindacclc@gmail.com)) and **ALL** Bulletin announcements to the Clerical Team ([ClericalTeam@gmail.com](mailto:ClericalTeam@gmail.com)) are due no later than **Wednesday** each week.

**Save the Date** - Sunday afternoon **February 11th** the **PCAT (Pastoral Care and Transition Team)** will be onsite for the "Congregational Workshop in Preparation for the Call Process." Please mark this afternoon on your calendar and specifics will be shared as soon as they are confirmed. Check out the January newsletter **Call Process section** for more information.

Our youth has expressed an increased interest in a Winter Retreat again! February 23<sup>th</sup>-25<sup>th</sup> Winter Retreat - Please submit your \$75 deposit no later than **January 28<sup>th</sup>**. If you have any questions, please contact Kristi Drye or Gail Leonard. Below are the rentals prices: Snow Tubing Estimate: \$38-\$45/ticket (1 hr 45min session)-Lift Tickets Estimate: \$62-\$70/Ticket (depending on resort)-Ski Rentals: \$29-Snowboard Rentals: \$40

Mark your calendar for the upcoming **One Blood** drives: **March 17th, July 14th and Nov 17<sup>th</sup>** all directly after Sunday service on the Big Red Bus. If you need help signing up contact Jodie Strube.

<b>Weekly Offering Report For: <u>Week No: 2</u>      <u>Date: January 14, 2024</u></b>			
2024 Weekly Needs:	\$3,758.54	YTD Budget Needs:	\$7,517.08
<b><u>Last Week</u></b>			
General Tithes Received	\$3,637.00	YTD Gen. Tithes Received	\$8,484.00
Last week (Deficit)	(\$121.54)	YTD Above needs	\$966.92



**January 21, 2024**

*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 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**

Family of Frances Pless

Scott Barringer; Stephanie Blackburn; John Faggart; Joyce Harkins; Tom Harkins; Doris Kluttz; Frank Kluttz; John & Linda Trull; Dot Weast; Megan Youngblood

Call Process prayer requests: 1) Cross of Christ Church; 2) Call Committee 3) Congregational Workshop preparation; 4) Gathering materials for the Congregational Profile

**Friends of Cross of Christ**

Pastor Gene Bost; LeaAnn Buckwell; Jane Faggart; Marvin Fincher (Knee surgery on 1/18/2024); Wanda Floyd; Joyce Furr; David Gandy; David Goforth; Annette Heller; Candice Horton; Melissa Krumbien; Brandon Lewis; Kaye and Gerry Litzinger; Karen Morgan; George Pless, Jr; Ronnie Procter; Lettie Reid; Susan Starling; Sally and Phillip Teeter (Gail Leonard's Father-in-laws Sister and Husband – several medical issues); Stephanie Vincent; Candace Yates; Vickey Belk Young.

**Serving in the Military**

Eaven Allison; Jonathon Preston

**Praise List**

Alisa Ertz, Alley Handy – Thank you for the prayers

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

**Today – January 21, 2024**

Sunday Church School	9:00 AM
Family Worship Service	10:00 AM
Welcome Lunch for Pastor Ramey	11:00 AM

**NEXT SUNDAY**

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

**Next Sunday's Readings**

*Fourth Sunday After Epiphany*

Deuteronomy 18: 15-20

Psalm 111

1 Corinthians 8: 1-13

St. Mark 1: 21-28

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