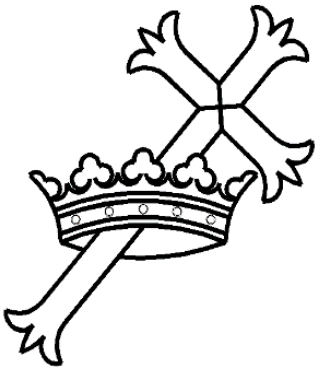
CROSS OF CHRIST
LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

The Rev. Will Dulin, Pastor
A NALC Congregation



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

Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost
November 8, 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
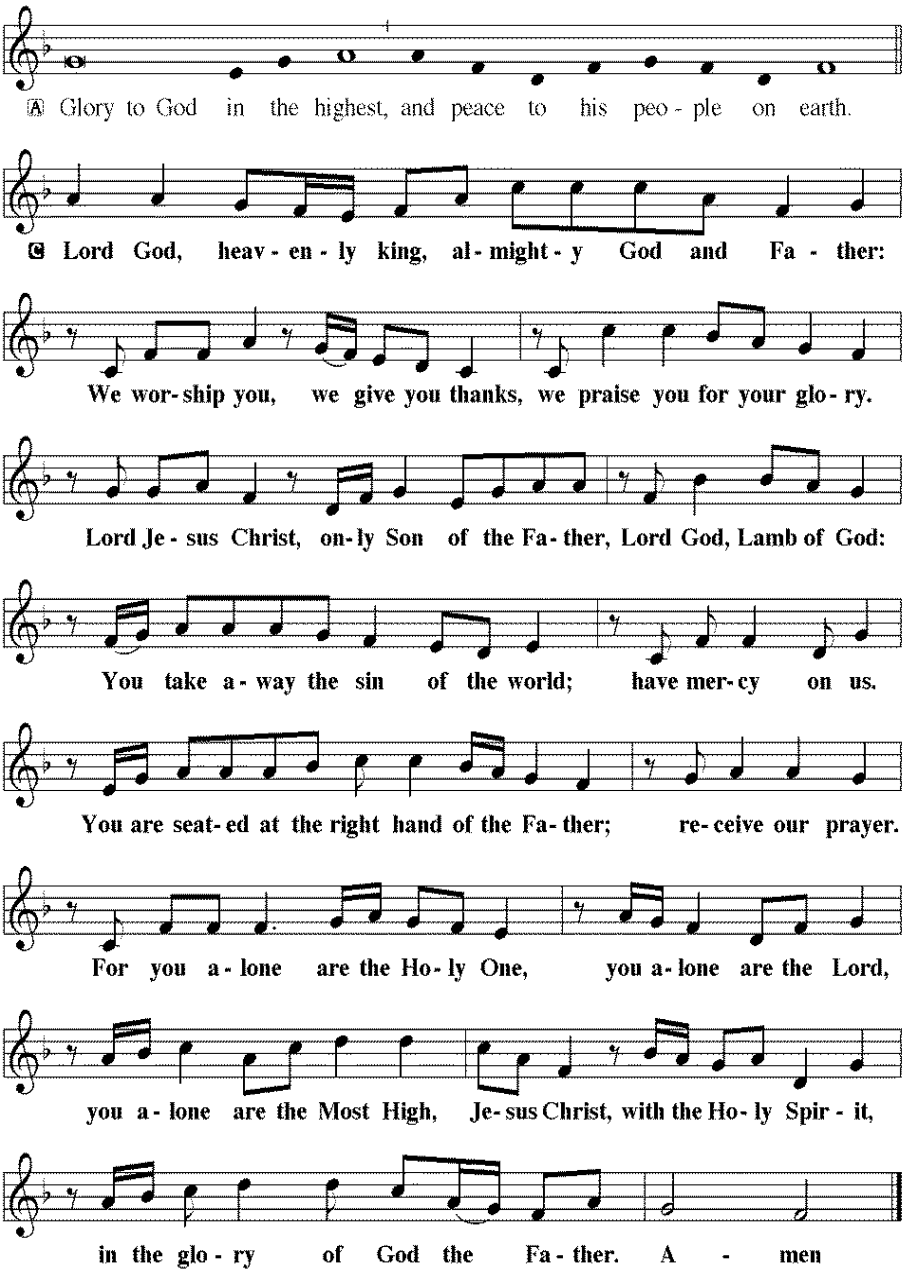
***** OPENING HYMN ***"Eternal Father, Strong To Save"*** **(Green) LBW 467**

*APOSTOLIC GREETING
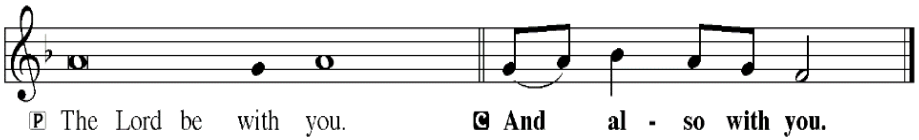
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

*HYMN OF PRAISE: *"Glory to God"*



*SALUTATION



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. Almighty, eternal God, show mercy to your children who humbly pray, that we who have no confidence in our worth may not be judged but tenderly received. 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'S MESSAGE FROM PASTOR DULIN

CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

FIRST READING: Amos 5: 18-24 (ESV)

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why would you have the
day of the Lord? It is darkness, and not light,
19 as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him,
or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,
and a serpent bit him.
20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
21 "I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I
will not look upon them.
23 Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.
24 But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

The Word of God for the people of God!
C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM 70: 1-5 (ESV) READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE
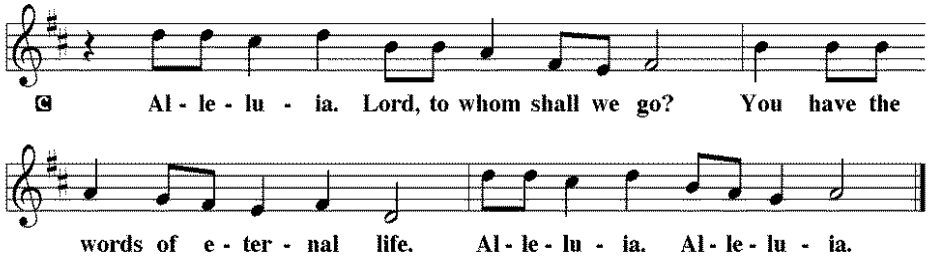
Make haste, O God, to deliver me!
O Lord, make haste to help me!
[2] Let them be put to shame and confusion
who seek my life!
Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor
who delight in my hurt!
[3] Let them turn back because of their shame
who say, "Aha, Aha!"
[4] May all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you!
May those who love your salvation
say evermore, "God is great!"
[5] But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer;
O Lord, do not delay!

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4: 13-18 (ESV)

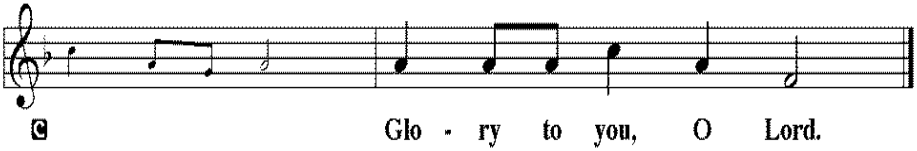
[13] But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. **[14]** For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. **[15]** For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. **[16]** For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. **[17]** Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. **[18]** Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of God for the people of God!
C: Thanks be to God!

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



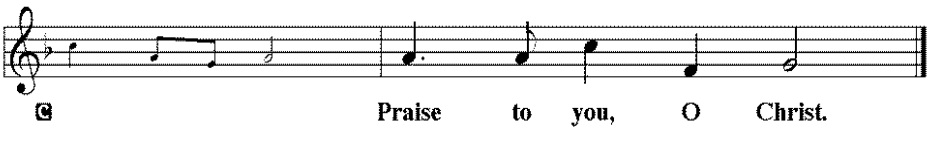
P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, 25thchapter.



***THE HOLY GOSPEL: ST. MATTHEW 25: 1-13 (ESV)**

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2] Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3] For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4] but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5] As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. [6] But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7] Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. [8] And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9] But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' [10] And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. [11] Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12] But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' [13] Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

P: This is Gospel of our Lord.



SERMON Pastor Will Dulin
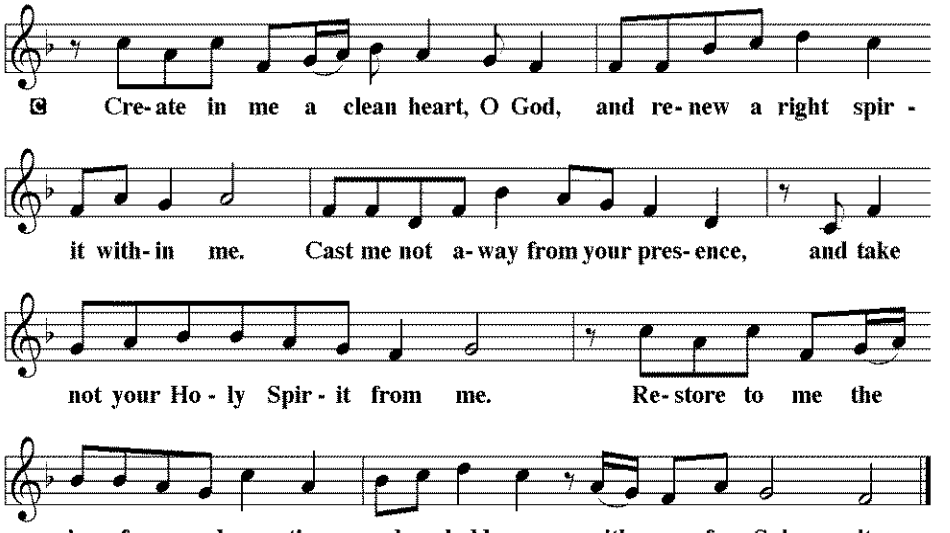
*SERMON HYMN ***"Jesus Shall Reign"*** **(Green) LBW 530**

***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



*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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 "*Battle Hymn Of The Republic*" (Green) LBW 332**

***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 in memory of John Paul Deese by the Larry Barbee family.

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church Annual Congregation Meetings

The **Second** Congregational meeting is **TODAY** following service. May God continue to bless us at Cross of Christ Lutheran Church! These are the nomination names: Betty Archer, Melvin Bost, Susan Caudle, Rusty Drye, Roy Gray, Emily Pless, and Tom Harkins. The current members who are coming **off** Council at the end of this year are: Kim Aldridge, Heather Bell, Chris Pless and Henry Pless. **The following individuals are NOT eligible for nomination due to their family association with current Council members:** Larry and Sharon Barbee, Joey and Lisa Barrier, Chris and Suzanne Bost, Leonard and Belinda Campbell, Matt and Kristi Drye, Sharon Duncan, Ashleigh and Dylan Ennis, Kim Aldridge, Heather Bell, Chris Pless, and Henry Pless.

The **PBnJ Youth Group** will meet this afternoon at 3:30 pm. All kindergarteners through 5th grade are invited to join us.

Women's Bible study will meet this **Wednesday, November 11th at 6:30pm** in the Fisher Building. Let Ashleigh Ennis know you'd like to join!

Coltrane LIFE Center is having a bake sale **Thursday, November 19th, 8am-until.** If you can donate or purchase baked goods we'd appreciate it. Proceeds benefit older adults and their families who need adult day health services. Thank you for your support. See Susan Caudle about donations.

The **Outreach Committee** is sponsoring **Toys for Tots** this year. The boxes will be at the back of the sanctuary. New, unwrapped toys for all ages are needed. **Our church will collect toys through November 29th**. Just think of the smiles on the children's faces this Christmas morning. Thank you for your generosity. A box will also be at the November monthly breakfast.

2026-2027 Cross of Christ Annual Yearbook – It's that time of year! Committee chairs, event leaders and group leaders, start preparing your year-end reports for the yearbook. Please send reports to the historical committee, to Emily Pless, **emily_2414@yahoo.com**. Please put COC yearbook in the subject line. Also, the current contact list is posted in the mailroom. Please check your info and let us know if you have any changes to your address, phone number, or email address.

We will be placing **Poinsettias** in the sanctuary on Sunday, December 20th. 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 6th**. The cost

this year is **$10.50**. Money should be placed in the plate offer and information about plants should be given to Meredith. Thank you!

During November, Cross of Christ will be collecting nonperishable food items for the **Mt. Pleasant Food Ministries**. These items will provide much needed nourishment for families in the Mt. Pleasant school district.

Suggested Items include:

• Canned meats (chicken, luncheon meat, tuna, beef stew, chili
• Canned fruit (mandarin oranges, pineapple, fruit cocktail, peaches, pears, applesauce)
• Canned beans (black, green, pintos, refried, lima, baked, navy, pork n beans, black eyed peas, sweet peas, etc.)
• Canned vegetables (carrots, mixed vegetables, tomatoes, corn, greens etc.)
• Canned potatoes (white or sweet)
• Canned soups (tomato, chicken noodle, vegetable, cream of, chunky soups)
• Canned pasta • Dry beans • Jello/pudding instant • Oatmeal • Grits
• Rice 1lb • Egg noodles • Spaghetti noodles • Pasta
• Boxed Mac and cheese • Jiffy mix • Juice 64oz • Pancake mix
• Pancake syrup • Corn Meal 2 lbs. • Flour 2 lbs. • Sugar 2 lbs. • Cereal
• Crackers • Peanut butter • Jelly

November Stewardship Awareness

excerpt from theNALC.org –

The Indescribable Joy of Giving

Jesus said, "It is more blessed to give than receive" (Acts 20:35). And he was absolutely right. Paul said, "God loves a cheerful (joyful) giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Joy-filled giving warms the heart. It is contagious, and it has the power to transform the human heart. Joy is released in us when we put God and others first in our lives.

Generous God, teach us to be joyful givers, recognizing that all we have comes from you in the first place. May we use the gifts you've graciously given us for the sake of the world you love, so that all would come to know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.



November 8, 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

Marilyn Barringer; Brenda Barrier (Brain surgery scheduled for 11/18/26 for shunt placement); Amanda Faggert; Carl Pless, Jr.; Richard Strube; Rand Yost

Shut-Ins

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

Friends of Cross of Christ

Lauren Banks; Josh Fabricius; April Funderburke; Shirley Furr; Lee Gorforth; Brandy Harkins (Daughter of Tom & Joyce Harkins); Candice Horton; Cynthia Horton; Gloria Mann; Alicia McQueen; Hayden Polakowski; Eric Starling; Susan Starling; Andrew Stirewalt; Ruthie O'Brien; Daniel Pless; Jacob Rodgers; Nick Smith; Bob Wilson; Candace Yates

Carolina Mission Region Seminarians: Cody Carpenter, Melanie Corn, Shane Honig, James Price, Kyle Page

Serving in the Military

Eaven Allison (Fairbanks, Alaska)

General Prayer Concerns:

- Ongoing Iran war impacts

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

Today November 8, 2026

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

This Week

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

WED: 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study (Fisher Bldg.)

NEXT SUNDAY

9:00 AM Sunday Church School Classes

10:00 AM Family Worship Service

Next Sunday's Readings

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Zephaniah 1: 7-16

Psalm 90: 1-12

1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11

St. Matthew 25: 14-30

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ClericalTeam@Gmail.com

prayercclc@gmail.com