
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 †

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
August 20, 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 *“Savior, Again To Your Dear Name”* **LBW 262**

*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 a steady bass line and chords that support the melody.

*SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Gracious Father,

your blessed Son came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world. Give us this bread, that he may live in us and we in him, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

FIRST READING: Isaiah 56: 1, 6-8 (ESV)

¹ Thus says the LORD:

“Keep justice, and do righteousness,
for soon my salvation will come,
and my righteousness be revealed.

⁶“And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD,
to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD,
and to be his servants,
everyone who keeps the Sabbath and does not profane it,
and holds fast my covenant—
⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain,
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
will be accepted on my altar;
for my house shall be called a house of prayer
for all peoples.”
⁸The Lord GOD,
who gathers the outcasts of Israel, declares,
“I will gather yet others to him
besides those already gathered.”

The Word of God for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

PSALM 67 (ESV) READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE

May God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
²**that your way may be known on earth,
your saving power among all nations.**
³Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!
⁴**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide the nations upon earth.**
⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you!
⁶**The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, shall bless us.**
⁷God shall bless us;
let all the ends of the earth fear him!

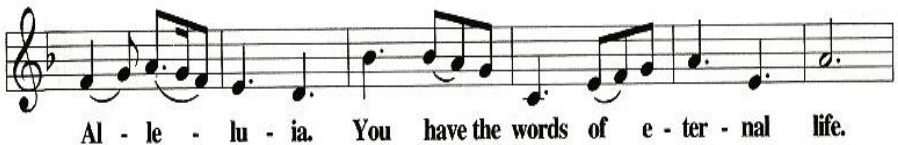
SECOND READING: Romans 11: 1-2a, 13-15, 28-32 (ESV)

¹ I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ² God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. ¹³ Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry ¹⁴ in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. ¹⁵ For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? ²⁸ As regards the gospel, they are enemies for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers. ²⁹ For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ For just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. ³² For God has consigned all to disobedience, that he may have mercy on all.

The Word of God for the people of God!

Thanks be to God!

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 15th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

***THE HOLY GOSPEL: St. Matthew 15: 21-28 (ESV)**

²¹ And Jesus went away from there and withdrew to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² And behold, a Canaanite woman from that region came out and was crying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David; my daughter is severely oppressed by a demon.” ²³ But he did not answer her a word. And his disciples came and begged him, saying, “Send her away, for she is crying out after us.” ²⁴ He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶ And he answered, “It is not right to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷ She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.” ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, “O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

SERMON

PASTOR RAFE ALLISON

*SERMON HYMN ***“O Master, Let Me Walk With You”*** **LBW 492**

***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 *“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”* **LBW 551**

*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 John Harrison by his Family.

The will be a **Council Meeting** following service **today**.

September Newsletter Articles are Due **TODAY**

The **NOAH** Prayer Shawl group will meet tomorrow night at **6:30 PM**

The **Mount Pleasant Food Ministry** thanks everyone for your generous donations. Toiletries and personal hygiene items collected totaled 86 lbs. The **Outreach Committee** appreciates your generosity as well!!!

Blessing of our Sunday School Students.

Weekly Offering Report For: <u>Week No: 33</u> <u>Date: August 13, 2023</u>	
2023 Weekly Needs: \$3,674.98	YTD Budget Needs: \$121,274.34
<u>Last Week</u>	
General Tithes Received \$4,087.00	YTD Gen. Tithes Received \$119,048.00
Last week Above Needs \$412.02	YTD (Deficit) (\$2,226.34)



August 20, 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

Serving in the Military

Eaven Allison (Okinawa, Japan)

Friends of Cross of Christ

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; Connie Walters; Candace Yates; Vickey Belk Young

Serving in the Military

Jonathan Preston

General Prayer Concerns

All those who have been affected by the fires in Maui.

Praise List:

Rand Yost – Thank you for all your prayers on my behalf for the past few weeks. I have had many tests and procedures, and your prayers gave me the needed strength as I progressed. Thanks for continued prayers. God's Blessings! Rand Yost

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

Today - August 20, 2023

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

This Week

MON - Noah Prayer Shawl 6:30 PM

NEXT SUNDAY

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

Next Sunday's Readings

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Isaiah 51: 1-6

Psalm 138

Romans 11:33 – 12:8

St. Matthew 16: 13 - 20

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