



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 †*

**Fourth Sunday In Lent  
March 15, 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

*“Come Thou Fount”*

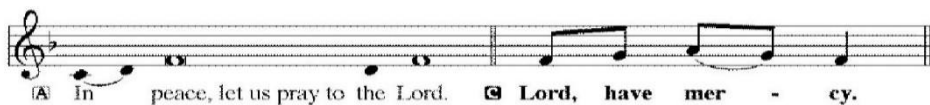
*LBW 499*

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

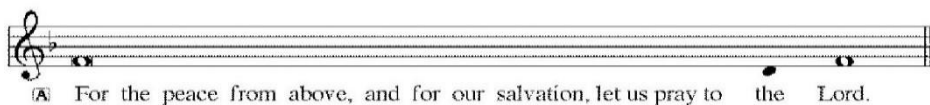
P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

### \*LENTEN KYRIE



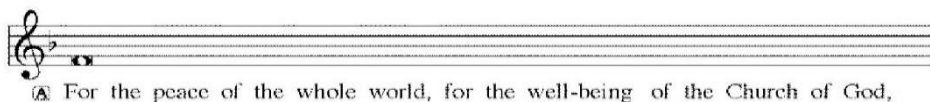
Ⓐ In peace, let us pray to the Lord.    Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.



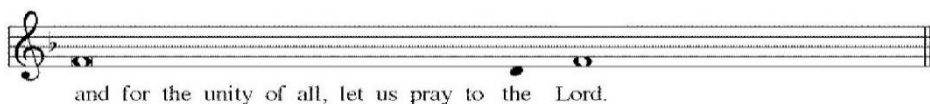
Ⓐ For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.



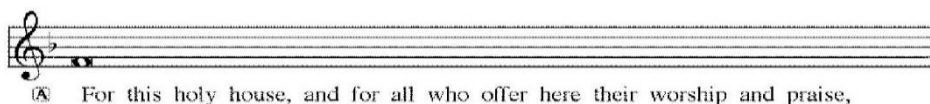
Ⓐ For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



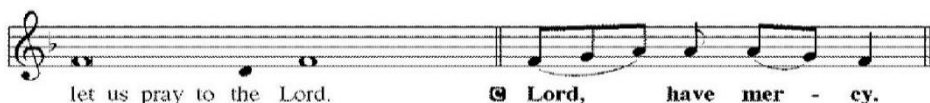
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



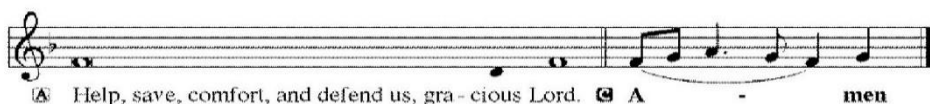
Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.



Ⓐ For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

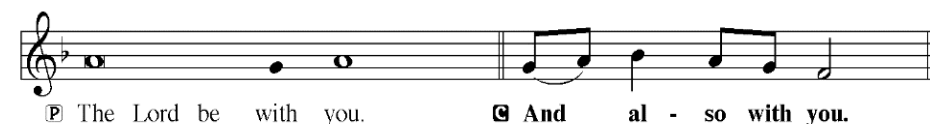


let us pray to the Lord.    Ⓞ Lord, have mer - cy.



Ⓐ Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.    Ⓞ A - men

### \*SALUTATION



Ⓞ The Lord be with you.    Ⓞ And al - so with you.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. O Lord God,

Almighty God, grant that we, who for our evil deeds worthily deserve to be punished, by the comfort of your grace, may mercifully be relieved; through your Son, Jesus Christ, 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: ISAIAH 42: 14-21 (ESV)**

<sup>14</sup>For a long time I have held my peace; I have kept still and restrained myself; now I will cry out like a woman in labor; I will gasp and pant. <sup>15</sup>I will lay waste mountains and hills, and dry up all their vegetation; I will turn the rivers into islands, and dry up the pools. <sup>16</sup>And I will lead the blind in a way that they do not know, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn the darkness before them into light, the rough places into level ground. These are the things I do, and I do not forsake them. <sup>17</sup>They are turned back and utterly put to shame, who trust in carved idols, who say to metal images, "You are our gods." <sup>18</sup>Hear, you deaf, and look, you blind, that you may see! <sup>19</sup>Who is blind but my servant, or deaf as my messenger whom I send? Who is blind as my dedicated one, or blind as the servant of the LORD? <sup>20</sup>He sees many things, but does not observe them; his ears are open, but he does not hear. <sup>21</sup>The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness' sake, to magnify his law and make it glorious.

The Word of God for the people of God!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

### **PSALM 142: 1-7**

### **READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE**

With my voice I cry out to the LORD;  
with my voice I plead for mercy to the LORD.

**<sup>2</sup> I pour out my complaint before him;  
I tell my trouble before him.**

**<sup>3</sup> When my spirit faints within me,  
you know my way!**

In the path where I walk  
they have hidden a trap for me.

**<sup>4</sup> Look to the right and see:  
there is none who takes notice of me;  
no refuge remains to me;  
no one cares for my soul.**

<sup>5</sup> I cry to you, O LORD;  
I say, "You are my refuge,  
my portion in the land of the living."

<sup>6</sup> **Attend to my cry,  
for I am brought very low!  
Deliver me from my persecutors,  
for they are too strong for me!**

<sup>7</sup> Bring me out of prison,  
that I may give thanks to your name!  
The righteous will surround me,  
for you will deal bountifully with me.

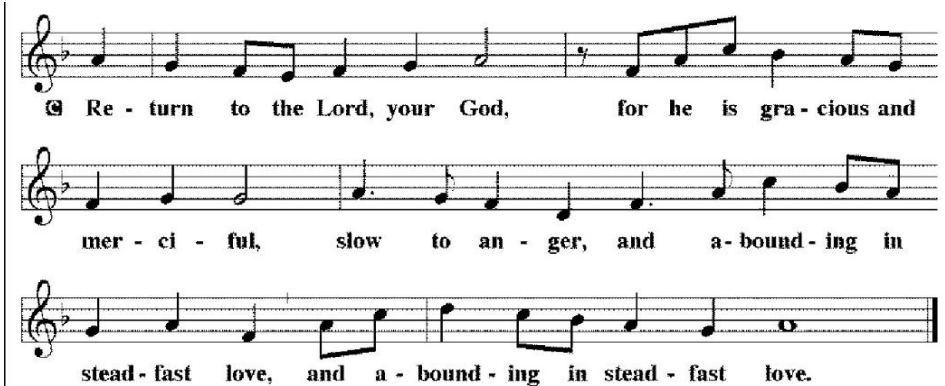
**SECOND READING: EPHESIANS 5: 8-14 (ESV)**

<sup>8</sup> for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light <sup>9</sup>(for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), <sup>10</sup>and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. <sup>11</sup>Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. <sup>12</sup>For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. <sup>13</sup>But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, <sup>14</sup>for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

The Word of God for the people of God!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

**\*LENTEN GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**THE HOLY GOSPEL: ST. John 9: 1-41 (ESV)**

As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born

blind?"<sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him."<sup>4</sup> We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work.<sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."<sup>6</sup> Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud<sup>7</sup> and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.<sup>8</sup> The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?"<sup>9</sup> Some said, "It is he." Others said, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the man."<sup>10</sup> So they said to him, "Then how were your eyes opened?"<sup>11</sup> He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight."<sup>12</sup> They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."<sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind.<sup>14</sup> Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes.<sup>15</sup> So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, "He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."<sup>16</sup> Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them.<sup>17</sup> So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."<sup>18</sup> The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight<sup>19</sup> and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"<sup>20</sup> His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind.<sup>21</sup> But how he now sees we do not know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself."<sup>22</sup> (His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue.<sup>23</sup> Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him.")<sup>24</sup> So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, "Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner."<sup>25</sup> He answered, "Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."<sup>26</sup> They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"<sup>27</sup> He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?"<sup>28</sup> And they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses.<sup>29</sup> We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from."<sup>30</sup> The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes

from, and yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup> We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does his will, God listens to him. <sup>32</sup> Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. <sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” <sup>34</sup> They answered him, “You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?” And they cast him out. <sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” <sup>36</sup> He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” <sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” <sup>38</sup> He said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” <sup>40</sup> Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, “Are we also blind?” <sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, ‘We see,’ your guilt remains.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Pastor George Rhyne

\*SERMON HYMN      *“Amazing Grace”*      *LBW 448*

\*APOSTLES' CREED

**C: 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

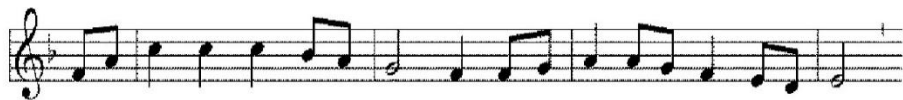
\*THE OFFERTORY



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all his ben-e-fits to me? I will



of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will call on the name of the Lord.



I will take the cup of sal - va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord.



I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all his peo-ple,



in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

\*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

*“There Is A Green Hill Far Away”*

*LBW 114*

\*DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Extinguishing Candles “When I Survey The Wondrous Cross”

Susan Caudle

\*POSTLUDE

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***Fourth Sunday in Lent***

*Fourth Sunday in Lent Themes of light and darkness, sight and blindness pervade the lessons for this Sunday. As humans mired in the sin that holds us captive, we fail to recognize our blindness. Christ calls us into the light of his life, love, and mercy as he beckons us to come and follow him. In that following, we come to see things in ways we have never seen them before, and the light of Christ shines through us.*



**HOLY WEEK  
WORSHIP  
SCHEDULE**

Sunday March 29th Palm/Passion Sunday 10:00 AM

Thursday April 2 Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 PM

Friday April 3 Good Friday Service 7:00 PM

Sunday April 5 Easter Sunrise Service 7:00 AM

Sunday April 5 Easter Morning Breakfast 7:30 AM

Sunday April 5 Easter Holy Communion **9:00 AM**

**NO SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES**

The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God in honor and memory of J.B. Faggart's birthday by Jane Faggart and family.

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

The **CSI Youth Group** will meet this afternoon directly after service today for lunch and then golfing at 2pm.

**APRIL** newsletter articles are due **NEXT SUNDAY**.

The **NOAH (Prayer Shawl Group)** will meet tomorrow night, March 16th at 6:30 PM.

**Annual Easter Egg Hunt Saturday March 29, Palm Sunday, at 2pm.** Children ages 2-10 are welcome to join us in 2 eggs hunts and cookie decorating in between the hunts. Invite your neighbors and friends. **CSI will NOT meet on 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

**New Member Class** with Pastor Haynes will be **Sunday 3.22.26 and 3.29.26** during the Sunday School time **9:00 to 9:45 am in the parlor**. Anyone interested in joining, please attend these meetings. Bring your Bible.

**Easter Lilies and Geraniums** will be placed in the sanctuary on Easter Sunday, April 5th. If you would like to order, the cost is \$15.00 for Lilies and \$15.00 for Geraniums. Please place money in an envelope with how many and which flower you are ordering on it and place the envelope in the offering plate. Please give your information, including which flower(s) you ordered and about who you would like to put the flowers in honor or memory of to Meredith Harrison by **March 22nd**.

March 31, 2026 deadline is approaching, now is a great time to remind your supporters to direct any remaining 2025 Choice Dollars. Thrivent Choice Dollars are available to anyone that has life insurance or annuities with Thrivent. Our church is one of the organizations you may direct your Dollars to. The last day you can enter this online is **March 31, 2026**.

There will be a **Community meeting at Rimer Volunteer Dept on March 30, 2026 at 7:00 pm** in reference to the New fire truck.



**March 15, 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](mailto:prayercclc@gmail.com) by Tuesday 5 PM.*

*First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people... 1 Timothy 2:1*

### **In the Fellowship of Cross of Christ**

Matt & Kristi Drye; Jane Faggart; Pastor Carl Haynes (Surgery was successful, and he is recovering at home)

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**

Roddy Ballard; LeaAnn Buckwell; Addie Drye; Ed Duncan; April Funderburke; Lee Gorforth; Candice Horton; Cynthia Horton; Alicia McQueen; Susan Starling; Daniel Pless; Jacob Rodgers; Nick Smith; Melanie Thrift; Max Vanderburg; Bob Wilson; Candace Yates

Carolina Mission Region Seminarians: Melanie Corn, Robert Dernbach, Lucas Safrit

### **Serving in the Military**

Eaven Allison (Fairbanks, Alaska)

### **Praise List:**

- Ruthie O'brien (Friend of Shelbie Bost) – appreciates the prayers during her time in the Hospital. She has recently walked out of Rehab.

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

**Today – March 15, 2026**

Sunday Church School	9:00 AM
Family Worship Service	10:00 AM
CSI Meeting	3:30 PM

**This Week**

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

**MON:** 6:30 PM NOAH Prayer Shawl

**NEXT SUNDAY**

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

**Next Sunday's Readings**

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Psalm 130: 1-8

Romans 8: 1-11

St. John 11: 1-53