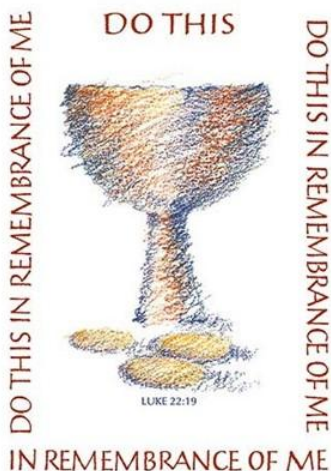


Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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

The Rev. Marty Ramey, Interim Pastor
A NALC Congregation



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

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost
August 3, 2025

(* *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.

*HYMN OF PRAISE: “*This is the Feast*”

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. ① Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was

slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.


 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. || Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.


 This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. ☐ Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and

join in the hymn of all cre-a - tion: Bless-ing, hon-or, glo-ry, and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu - ia,

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. **II** For the Lamb who was

slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu - ia.

C This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu - ia.

*SALUTATION

C The Lord be with you. **C** And al - so with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Almighty, eternal God, your kindness is far more than we desire or deserve. Generously pour out your mercy to forgive where our conscience is afraid and to provide that for which by ourselves, we do not even presume to 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 RAMEY

CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-26 (ESV)

² Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. ¹² I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴ I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind. ¹⁸ I hated all my toil in which I toil under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to the man who will come after me, ¹⁹ and who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰ So I turned about and gave my heart up to despair over all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹ because sometimes a person who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave everything to be enjoyed by someone who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²² What has a man from all the toil and striving of heart with which he toils beneath the sun? ²³ For all his days are full of sorrow, and his work is a vexation. Even in the night his heart does not rest. This also is vanity. ²⁴ There is nothing better for a person than that he should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God, ²⁵ for apart from him who can eat or who can have enjoyment? ²⁶ For to the one who pleases him God has given wisdom and knowledge and joy, but to the sinner he has given the business of gathering and collecting, only to give to one who pleases God. This also is vanity and a striving after wind.

The Word of God for the people of God!

C: Thanks be to God!

Psalm 100: 1-5 (ESV)

READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

² **Serve the LORD with gladness!**

Come into his presence with singing!

³ Know that the LORD, he is God!

It is he who made us, and we are his;

we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

**⁴ Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise!
Give thanks to him; bless his name!**

**⁵ For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.**

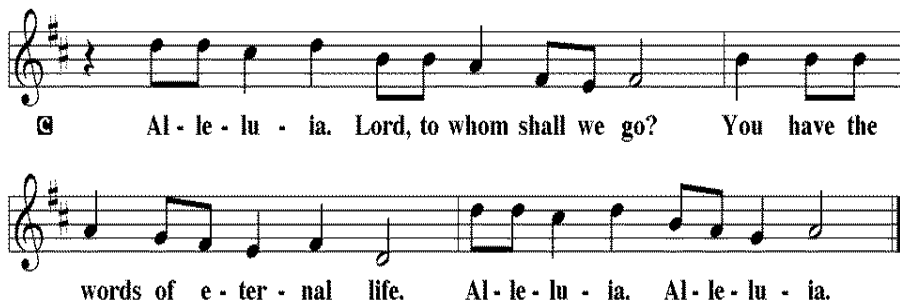
SECOND READING: Colossians 3: 1-11 (ESV)

If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. ³ For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. ⁵ Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming. ⁷ In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. ⁸ But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. ¹¹ Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

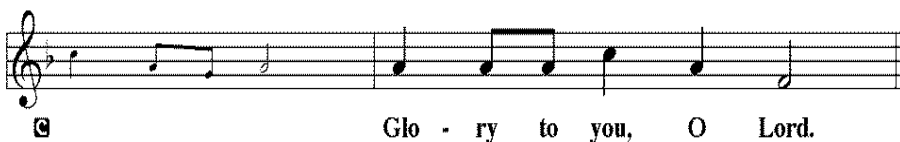
The Word of God for the people of God!

C: Thanks be to God!

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 12th chapter.



*THE HOLY GOSPEL: ST. LUKE 12: 13-21 (ESV)

¹³Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But he said to him, “Man, who made me a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And he said to them, “Take care, and be on your guard against all covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions.” ¹⁶And he told them a parable, saying, “The land of a rich man produced plentifully, ¹⁷and he thought to himself, ‘What shall I do, for I have nowhere to store my crops?’” ¹⁸And he said, ‘I will do this: I will tear down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”’” ²⁰But God said to him, ‘Fool! This night your soul is required of you, and the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’” ²¹So is the one who lays up treasure for himself and is not rich toward God.”

This is Gospel of our Lord.



SERMON *“Don't Worry, Be Wealthy”* Pastor Marty Ramey

*SERMON HYMN *“A Living Bread From Heaven”* 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**

***PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

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 the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

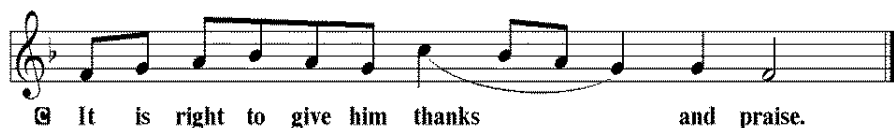
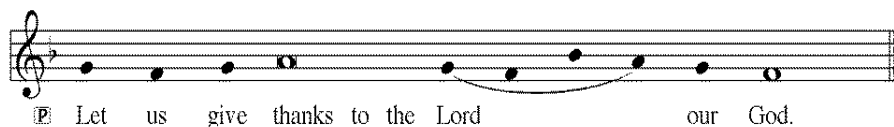
The musical score is written on six staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our". The second staff continues: "cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the". The third staff continues: "seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.". The fourth staff continues: "Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the". The fifth staff continues: "prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your". The sixth staff concludes: "pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.".

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

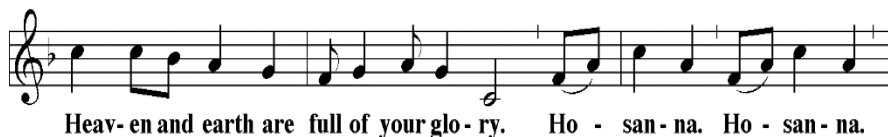
P: Let us pray. Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first give us ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



P: It is indeed right and salutary . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

P: Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth.

In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son,
that all those who believe in him
should not perish, but have eternal life.

We give thanks to you
for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ.

Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts,
that we may receive our Lord with a living faith
as he comes to us in his holy supper.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

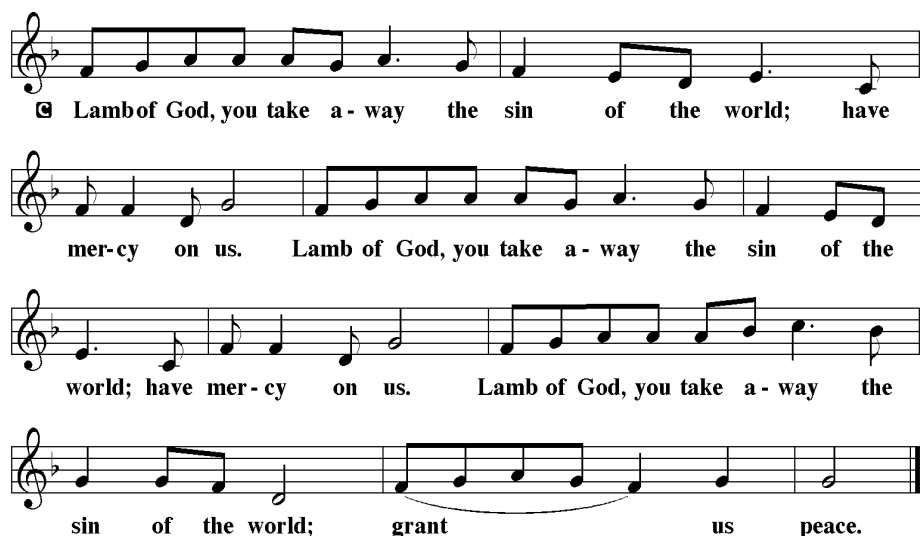
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

***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**

ADMINISTRATION OF THE HOLY SACRAMENT



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMNS

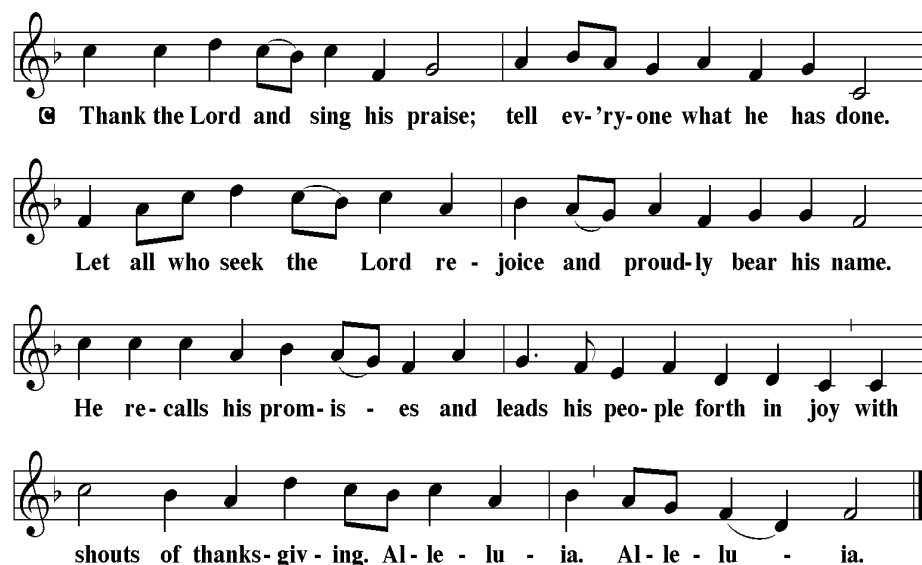
WOV 740 & 709

*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen

*POST COMMUNION CANTICLE: *"Thank the Lord"*



Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
 Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear his name.
 He re - calls his prom - is - es and leads his peo - ple forth in joy with
 shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life; and we pray that in your mercy you would strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: 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 *“Oh Master Let Me Walk With You”* **LBW 492**

*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 honor of Jane Faggart's and Sharon Barbee's birthdays by their families.

There will be a short **Congregation Meeting** following the service on **August 17th** . Additional information can be found in the Council Minutes.

The Pastor will bless the students book bags and teachers on **August 17th**.

The PBnJ Youth Group will be assembling **Cancer Care Packs** at their August meeting. We need Ink Pens, Individual Packs of Kleenex, Gripper Socks, Hand Sanitizer, Hard Candy, Chapstick, Lotion, and Word Searches. The link below gives the exact amount of each item we need. Thank you in advance for your support. Please give your items to Meredith by **August 3rd**. Thank you!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/30E0C4AA9AA2BA6FB6-57474446-cancer>

We are now taking orders for Cross of Christ Church shirts! Order forms have been placed in your church mailbox. Orders are due by **August 17th**. Please see Ashleigh Ennis if you have any questions.

Baby Bottles: Cross of Christ is helping with a fundraiser for Cabarrus Women's Center by collecting coins, paper money or checks in the baby bottles. **This will run through the August 19th monthly breakfast.** You may turn in your bottles full or empty to Tracy Drye anytime through then. Thank you in advance for your compassion and generosity. Tracy Drye



August 3, 2025

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

Tim Aldridge (Recovery from Rotator cuff surgery); Karen Faggart;
Wayne Furr (Recovery from knee replacement surgery);
Chris Goodman; Dorothy Goodman; Harry Goodman;
Norman Goodman; Doris Kluttz; Frank Kluttz; John Trull; Linda Trull.
Call Process prayer requests: 1) Cross of Christ Church; 2) Call Committee; 3) Prospective pastors see our profile/video and consider a call here.

Friends of Cross of Christ

Family of Larry Stirewalt (Brother-in-Law of Jerry Pless)
Pastor Charles Barrier; Deena Bost (Friend of Chris and Suzanne Bost – diagnosed with stage 2 breast cancer); Pastor Gene Bost;
LeaAnn Buckwell; Pastor Randall Cauble; Luke Cranford;
David Gandy; Marty Gandy; David Goforth; Lee Goforth; Barbara Hamilton; Tanja Harward; Annette Heller; Candice Horton;
Greg Houston; Melissa Krumbien; Gerry Litzinger; Susie Moore;
Karen Morgan; Hank Morris; Daniel Pless; Lettie Reid; Blake Rogers;
Jacob Rodgers; Steve Sifford; Nick Smith; Susan Starling;
Veronica Williams; Candace Yates; Vickey Belk Young.

Serving in the Military

Eaven Allison (Fairbanks, Alaska)

General Prayer Concerns:

NALC Convocation in Pittsburgh and safe travel to all pastors and lay delegates attending

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

Today August 3, 2025

Executive Council Meeting	8:30 AM
Sunday Church School	9:00 AM
Holy Communion Service	10:00 AM
Council Meeting	11:00 AM

This Week

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

NEXT SUNDAY

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

Next Sunday's Readings

Ninth Sunday After Pentecost

Genesis 15: 1-6
Psalm 33: 12-22
Hebrews 11: 1-16
St. Luke 12: 22-40

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