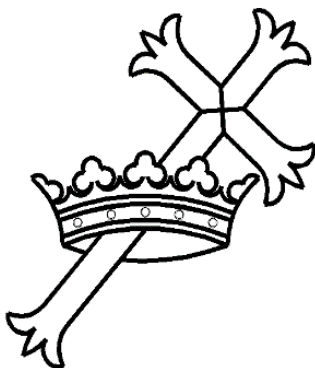


Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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 †

Seventh Sunday After Pentecost
July 27, 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

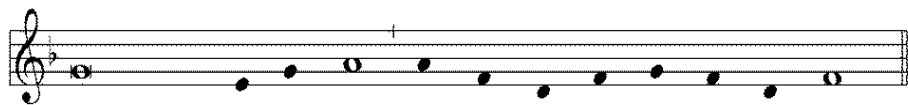
* OPENING HYMN *“What A Friend We Have In Jesus”* LBW 439

*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*"



♩ Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo - ple on earth.



♩ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

*SALUTATION



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: O God, your almighty power is most clearly shown in your mercy and pity. Multiply your grace that we may run to your promises and be made to share in your heavenly joy; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. He 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: Genesis 18:17-33 (ESV)

¹⁷ The LORD said, "Shall I hide from Abraham what I am about to do, ¹⁸ seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? ¹⁹ For I have chosen him, that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing righteousness and justice, so that the LORD may bring to Abraham what he has promised him." ²⁰ Then the LORD said, "Because the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great and their sin is very grave, ²¹ I will go down to see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me. And if not, I will know." ²² So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, but Abraham still stood before the LORD. ²³ Then Abraham drew near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city. Will you then sweep away the place and not spare it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing, to put the righteous to death with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" ²⁶ And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will spare the whole place for their sake." ²⁷ Abraham answered and said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and

ashes. ²⁸ Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking. Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." ²⁹ Again he spoke to him and said, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." ³⁰ Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." ³¹ He said, "Behold, I have undertaken to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." ³² Then he said, "Oh let not the Lord be angry, and I will speak again but this once. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it." ³³ And the LORD went his way, when he had finished speaking to Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

The Word of God for the people of God!

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM 138: 1-8 (ESV)

READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE

I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;

² I bow down toward your holy temple

**and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your
faithfulness,
for you have exalted above all things
your name and your word.**

**³ On the day I called, you answered me;
my strength of soul you increased.**

**⁴ All the kings of the earth shall give you thanks, O LORD,
for they have heard the words of your mouth,**

**⁵ and they shall sing of the ways of the LORD,
for great is the glory of the LORD.**

**⁶ For though the LORD is high, he regards the lowly,
but the haughty he knows from afar.**

**⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you preserve my life;**

you stretch out your hand against the wrath of my enemies,

and your right hand delivers me.

**⁸The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.
Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

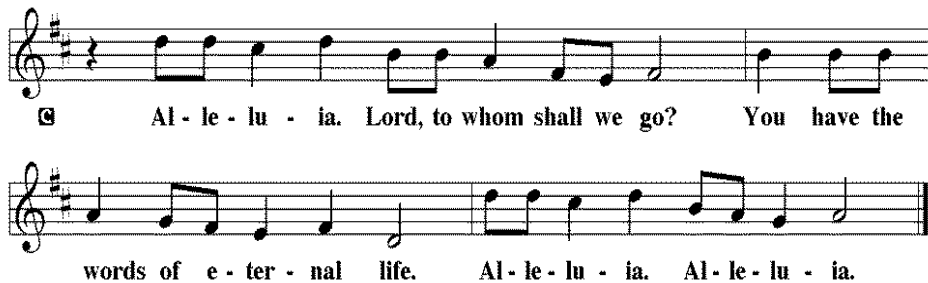
SECOND READING: Colossians 2: 6-19 (ESV)

⁶ Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. ⁸ See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹ For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰ and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority. ¹¹ In him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, ¹² having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through faith in the powerful working of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³ And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him. ¹⁶ Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or a Sabbath. ¹⁷ These are a shadow of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. ¹⁸ Let no one disqualify you, insisting on asceticism and worship of angels, going on in detail about visions, puffed up without reason by his sensuous mind, ¹⁹ and not holding fast to the Head, from whom the whole body, nourished and knit together through its joints and ligaments, grows with a growth that is from God.

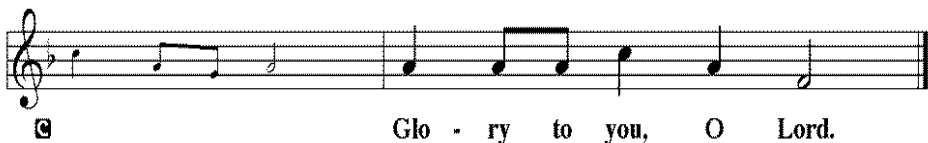
The Word of God for the people of God!

C: Thanks be to God!

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 11th chapter.



*THE HOLY GOSPEL: ST. LUKE 11: 1-13 (ESV)

Now Jesus was praying in a certain place, and when he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.”² And he said to them, “When you pray, say:

“Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread,

⁴ and forgive us our sins,

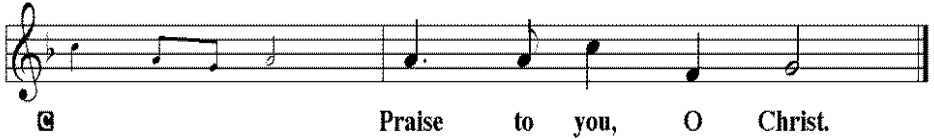
for we ourselves forgive everyone who is indebted to us.

And lead us not into temptation.”

⁵ And he said to them, “Which of you who has a friend will go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves,’⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived on a journey, and I have nothing to set before him’; ⁷ and he will answer from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door is now shut, and my children are with me in bed. I cannot get up and give you anything’? ⁸ I tell you, though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, yet because of his impudence he will rise and give him whatever he needs. ⁹ And I tell you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and to the one who knocks it will be opened. ¹¹ What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; ¹² or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? ¹³ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your

children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

P: This is Gospel of our Lord.



SERMON *“Let It Be Tokyo”* Pastor Marty Ramey

*SERMON HYMN *“The Lord Is My Shepherd”* LBW 451

***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**

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

***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**

**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

***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 Kay Barbee's birthday by her family.

Thank you to all that gave blood during our breakfast. 18 were signed up and 15 were able to donate. Up to 45 people will be helped from your donation of much needed blood. Our next drive is during the **November 15th** breakfast. Eat iron enriched foods and EAT before donating. Thank you, Jodie

This is the last Sunday to get Extra Sunday School materials in the back hallway behind the sanctuary on tables for their personal use. If you would like to have any of the material for your home library, come check out the selection available. Boxes and bags are available for you as well.

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



July 27, 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

Family of Kay Barbee

Tim Aldridge (Rotator cuff surgery on 7/25/25); Karen Faggart;

Wayne Furr (Recovery from knee replacement surgery on 7/21/25);

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

Pastor Charles Barrier; Pastor Gene Bost; Trent Bowers;

LeaAnn Buckwell; Jerry Cain; Pastor Randall Cauble; Luke Cranford;

David Gandy; Marty Gandy; David Goforth; Lee Goforth;

Barbara Hamilton; Tanja Harward (Sister of Kelly Caudle – Surgery July 25th); 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)

Praise List:

- Leonard Campbell – Thank you for your prayers and support during my recovery from recent elbow tendon repair surgery. I'm grateful for the healing progress so far, and I'm expected to begin strength-focused physical therapy in about a month.

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

Today July 27, 2025

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

This Week

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

NEXT SUNDAY

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

Next Sunday's Readings

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 18: 17-33
Psalm 138: 1-8
Colossians 2: 6-19
St Luke 11: 1-13

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