



Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

4500 Rimer Rd, Concord, NC 28025

Church 704-782-8483 Parish Hall 704-795-0445

The Rev. Marty Ramey, Interim Pastor

A NALC Congregation



Welcome to worship at Cross of Christ!

In the Cross of Christ I glory †

Palm/Passion Sunday

April 13, 2025

THE INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord

C: Hosanna to the Son of David

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray,

mercifully assist us, O Lord God of our salvation,

that we may enter with joy upon the contemplation of those mighty acts whereby you have given us life everlasting; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

***ST. JOHN 12:12-19** (ESV) The next day the large crowd that had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying out, “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!” And Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, just as it is written, “Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!” His disciples did not understand these things at first, but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written about him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to bear witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign. So, the Pharisees said to one another, “You see that you are gaining nothing. Look, the world has gone after him.”

The Thanksgiving & Blessing of the Palms

As the Thanksgiving begins we raise our palm branches.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P: We praise and thank you, O God, for the great acts of love by which you have redeemed us through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. On this day he entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph, and was acclaimed Son of David and King of kings by those who scattered their garments and branches of palm in his path.

We ask that you bless these branches and those who bear them, and grant that we may ever hail him as our Lord and King and follow him with perfect confidence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

P: Let us go forth in peace,

C: In the name of the Lord.

*PROCESSION WITH PALMS

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN *“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”* **LBW 108**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

C: Hosanna in the highest.

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God,
you have sent your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, to take upon him our flesh and to suffer death on the cross, that all humanity should follow the example of his great humility. Mercifully grant that we may follow the example of his patience and also be made partakers of his resurrection; 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'S MESSAGE FROM PASTOR RAMEY

CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

First Reading: Deuteronomy 32: 36-39 (ESV)

³⁶ For the LORD will vindicate his people
and have compassion on his servants,
when he sees that their power is gone
and there is none remaining, bond or free.

³⁷ Then he will say, 'Where are their gods,
the rock in which they took refuge,

³⁸ who ate the fat of their sacrifices
and drank the wine of their drink offering?

Let them rise up and help you;
let them be your protection!

³⁹ "See now that I, even I, am he,
and there is no god beside me;

I kill and I make alive;

I wound and I heal;

and there is none that can deliver out of my hand.

The Word of God for the people of God!

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM 118: 19-29

READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE

¹⁹ Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through
them and give thanks to the LORD.

²⁰ **This is the gate of the LORD;
the righteous shall enter through it.**

²¹ I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

²² **The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.**

²³ This is the LORD's doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

²⁴ **This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

²⁵ Save us, we pray, O LORD!

O LORD, we pray, give us success!

²⁶ **Blessed is he who comes in the name of the LORD!**

We bless you from the house of the LORD.

²⁷ The LORD is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us.

Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

²⁸ **You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God; I will extol you.**

²⁹ Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;

for his steadfast love endures forever!

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 2: 5-11 (ESV)

⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of God for the people of God!

C: Thanks be to God!

(The congregation may be seated.)

LENTEN ANTHEM “GOD SAW A CROSS” SOLDIERS OF THE CROSS OF CHRIST

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 22 and 23

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, Chapters 22 and 23.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

(The congregation is seated for the reading of the Passion narrative and will stand as invited by the pastor at the recounting of the crucifixion.)

*SERMON HYMN

“Ah, Holy Jesus”

LBW 123

RECEIVING OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*THE OFFERTORY



C 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.

*THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

P: Merciful Father,

C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us— our selves, 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

*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

*SENDING HYMN

"He Leadeth Me"

LBW 501

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

Were You There

Susan Caudle

(* *Please stand as you are able*)

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Palm/Passion Sunday

John 12:12-19

Finally, we have arrived at Holy Week! It may have seemed like a long Lenten season, but it has been filled with writings from the Gospel of Luke and Paul's Epistles to the Romans, the Philippians, and the Corinthians. We have been enlightened by events in the life of Jesus, as told by Luke, and pondered the deep meaning of Jesus and the Gospel of God's gift of grace in the death and resurrection of Jesus. Now we are ready for the palm procession into Jerusalem and the events to come.

There is much in these seven verses. We hear that a great crowd came out to meet Jesus and welcome him to the holy city. The disciples only understood after Jesus was crucified, risen, and glorified that this was in fulfillment of the Scriptures. The crowds that went out to greet Jesus had been with him along the way, when he called Lazarus forth and restored life to his beloved friend. And we hear how the Pharisees begin to see that they are losing the battle against Jesus—they can do nothing; the world has gone after him!

Sadly, we know that while many have gone after Jesus, it's not everyone. Certainly, the whole world is not going after Jesus. We wish it were so. We wish all people, everywhere, would come to Jesus and know him and his life, death and resurrection. We wish the whole world would confess Jesus as Lord, that we would enter a new era of love, peace and hope in our day. This is not to be, however. We continue to be disciples and followers of Jesus and we continue to make disciples, baptizing and teaching them all that Jesus has commanded. And yes, we observe Holy Week as a public witness to the world, praying that some may notice and join us for worship on these special days.

We hope that the congregation is bold in getting the news out about services during Holy Week. There are those who are just waiting to be invited to Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter services by a friend, family member or neighbor. **We want to reach the whole world with the invitation to walk with Jesus to Golgotha and to visit the empty tomb!**

Father, bring the whole world to Jesus, and use me to share the good news.

Amen.

The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Johnnie Blackwelder's birthday and memory of Alma Blackwelder by Ann Benson and Mary Catherine, Joe, Ann Safrit and Cabot Grew.

The annual Easter Egg Hunt is TODAY starting at 11:15 until 1PM. Lunch will be served (mac n cheese and corn dogs). Ages 1-10 (5th grade) are invited to attend.

Easter Sunday 4/20, we will have Sunrise service. You need to bring a chair and flowers for our living cross. Gathering at 6:30 to see the sunrise and service at 7 am. Breakfast to follow approximately 7:30. **NO Sunday School.** Communion Service will be at **9AM (note the time change)**

The PBnJ and CSI Youth Groups will be going to the Life Center on Monday, April 21st to play Bingo with the participants. We are in need of BINGO prizes. They like Large Print Word Search Books, "Kids"/"Beaded" Bracelets and Necklaces, Small Nick Nacks (to sit around), Socks, Scarves, Small Stuffedies, etc. Please NO Candy. Please give items to Meredith or Kristi. Thank you!

Church Cookbook: How do you submit a recipe? Submit recipes via email OR handwritten to Kristi or Gail What kind of recipes? Anything and everything. How many can I submit? Each person is allowed to submit up to 4 recipes (in their name). More recipes from each family will be allowed with different members names. **Please submit ALL recipes by April 27th.** Thank you so much! We are excited to share this with everyone. Kristi and Gail

VBS will be held June 5-7, 2025, this year. It will be from 6 to 8 on Thursday and Friday and 9 to 1 on Saturday. This year's theme is **ROAD TRIP: On the Go with God!** VBS is for ages 2 through 5 grades. If you would like to help see Meredith Harrison. You can register your child, grandchild, neighbor etc see Meredith.

For those wanting to send cards or visit Norman:

Norman Goodman

Concord Rehab & Nursing Center

515 Lake Concord Rd NE

Concord, NC 28025 Room 177

Weekly Offering Report For: <u>Week No: 14</u> <u>Date: April 6, 2025</u>			
2025 Weekly Needs:	\$3,989.43	YTD Budget Needs:	\$55,852.02
<u>Last Week</u>			
General Tithes Received	\$5,355.00	YTD Gen. Tithes Received	\$49,415.00
Last week Above Needs	\$1,365.57	YTD (Deficit)	(\$6,437.02)



Holy Week

4-17 - Maundy Thursday Communion Service –@ 7pm

4-18 - Good Friday Service @ 7 pm

4-20 - Sunrise Service & Flower Cross @ 7 am

4-20 - Breakfast @ 7:30 am

4-20 - Easter Holy Communion Service @ 9am (note time change)

(NO Sunday School)



April 13, 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 prayerccle@gmail.com by Tuesday at 5PM.

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

Kay Barbee; Joey Barrier (Recovering at home); Dorothy Goodman; Harry Goodman; Norman Goodman (Concord Rehab & Nursing Center – Room 177); Doris Kluttz; Frank Kluttz; John Trull; Linda Trull;

Rand Yost; Yvonne Yost

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 (He wishes to express his sincere appreciation for the prayers during chemo and radiation treatments. He is undergoing 12 months of immunotherapy and asks for continuing prayers for healing in his body and no cancer); Atlas Baucom; Pastor Gene Bost;

LeaAnn Buckwell; Jerry Cain; Bill Carpenter; Pastor Randall Cauble;

Luke Cranford; Brynn Fesler; Wanda Floyd; David Gandy;

Marty Gandy; David Goforth; Lee Goforth; Annette Heller;

Candice Horton; Greg Houston; Melissa Krumbien;

Kaye and Gerry Litzinger; Susie Moore; Karen Morgan; Hank Morris;

Lettie Reid; Blake Rogers; Nick Smith; Susan Starling;

Veronica Williams; Candace Yates; Vickey Belk Young.

Serving in the Military

Eaven Allison (Fairbanks, Alaska)

General Prayer Concerns:

Praise List:

*Jane Jansen (Pastor Ramey's friend) – After going through the entire chemo and radiation treatments, she has been deemed cancer-free. God's healing power is magnificent!

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

Today – April 13, 2025

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

THIS WEEK

THURS: 7 PM Maundy Communion Service

FRI: 7 PM Good Friday Service

NEXT SUNDAY

7:00 AM Sunrise Service

7:30 AM Easter Breakfast

9:00 AM Easter Holy Communion Service

Next Sunday's Readings

Easter Sunday

Isaiah 65: 17-259

Psalm 16

1 Corinthians 15: 19-26

St Luke 24: 1-12

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