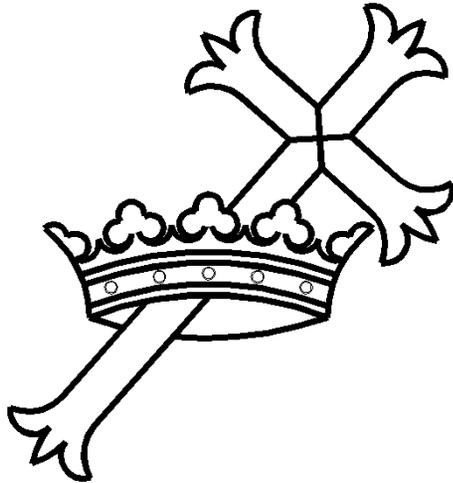


# Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

NALC

4500 Rimer Rd, Concord, NC 28025  
Church 704-782-8483 Parish Hall 704-795-0445  
Parsonage 704-786-3643

*The Rev. Rafe Allison, Pastor*



*Welcome to worship at Cross of Christ!*

*In the Cross of Christ I glory †*

*Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
September 25, 2022*

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

*“Before You, Lord We Bow”*

**LBW 401**

\*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.

\*SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.  
And also with you.

Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God,  
**you know our problems and our weaknesses better than we ourselves. In your love and by your power help us in our confusion and in spite of our weakness, make us firm in faith; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

CHILDREN DISMISSED FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

**FIRST READING: Amos 6: 1-7 (ESV)**

Woe to you who are complacent in Zion,  
and to you who feel secure on Mount Samaria,  
you notable men of the foremost nation,  
to whom the people of Israel come!

<sup>2</sup>Go to Kalneh and look at it;  
go from there to great Hamath,  
and then go down to Gath in Philistia.  
Are they better off than your two kingdoms?  
Is their land larger than yours?

<sup>3</sup>You put off the day of disaster  
and bring near a reign of terror.  
<sup>4</sup>You lie on beds adorned with ivory  
and lounge on your couches.  
You dine on choice lambs

and fattened calves.

- <sup>5</sup>You strum away on your harps like David  
and improvise on musical instruments.  
<sup>6</sup>You drink wine by the bowlful  
and use the finest lotions,  
but you do not grieve over the ruin of Joseph.  
<sup>7</sup>Therefore you will be among the first to go into exile;  
your feasting and lounging will end.

The Word of God for the people of God!  
**Thanks be to God!**

**PSALM 146 (ESV)**

**READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE**

- <sup>1</sup>Praise the LORD.  
Praise the LORD, my soul.  
<sup>2</sup>**I will praise the LORD all my life;  
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.**  
<sup>3</sup>Do not put your trust in princes,  
in human beings, who cannot save.  
<sup>4</sup>**When their spirit departs, they return to the ground;  
on that very day their plans come to nothing.**  
<sup>5</sup>Blessed are those whose help is the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in the LORD their God.  
<sup>6</sup>**He is the Maker of heaven and earth,  
the sea, and everything in them—  
he remains faithful forever.**  
<sup>7</sup>He upholds the cause of the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.  
The LORD sets prisoners free,  
<sup>8</sup>**the LORD gives sight to the blind,  
the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down,  
the LORD loves the righteous.**  
<sup>9</sup>The LORD watches over the foreigner and sustains the fatherless and the widow, but he frustrates the ways of the wicked.  
<sup>10</sup>**The LORD reigns forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.  
Praise the LORD.**

**Second Reading: 1 Timothy 3: 1-13 (ESV)**

Here is a trustworthy saying: Whoever aspires to be an overseer desires a noble task.<sup>2</sup>Now the overseer is to be above reproach, faithful to his wife, temperate, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach,<sup>3</sup>not given to drunkenness, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of

money.<sup>4</sup> He must manage his own family well and see that his children obey him, and he must do so in a manner worthy of full respect.<sup>5</sup> (If anyone does not know how to manage his own family, how can he take care of God's church?)<sup>6</sup> He must not be a recent convert, or he may become conceited and fall under the same judgment as the devil.<sup>7</sup> He must also have a good reputation with outsiders, so that he will not fall into disgrace and into the devil's trap.<sup>8</sup> In the same way, deacons are to be worthy of respect, sincere, not indulging in much wine, and not pursuing dishonest gain.<sup>9</sup> They must keep hold of the deep truths of the faith with a clear conscience.<sup>10</sup> They must first be tested; and then if there is nothing against them, let them serve as deacons.<sup>11</sup> In the same way, the women<sup>[c]</sup> are to be worthy of respect, not malicious talkers but temperate and trustworthy in everything.<sup>12</sup> A deacon must be faithful to his wife and must manage his children and his household well.<sup>13</sup> Those who have served well gain an excellent standing and great assurance in their faith in Christ Jesus.

The Word of God for the people of God!

**Thanks be to God!**

\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 16th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

\*THE HOLY GOSPEL: St. Luke 16: 19-31 (ESV)

<sup>19</sup>“There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and lived in luxury every day.<sup>20</sup> At his gate was laid a beggar named Lazarus, covered with sores<sup>21</sup> and longing to eat what fell from the rich man's table. Even the dogs came and licked his sores.<sup>22</sup>“The time came when the beggar died and the angels carried him to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried.<sup>23</sup> In Hades, where he was in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham far away, with Lazarus by his side.<sup>24</sup> So he called to him, ‘Father Abraham, have

pity on me and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, because I am in agony in this fire.’<sup>25</sup>“But Abraham replied, ‘Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony.<sup>26</sup> And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been set in place, so that those who want to go from here to you cannot, nor can anyone cross over from there to us.’<sup>27</sup>“He answered, ‘Then I beg you, father, send Lazarus to my family,<sup>28</sup> for I have five brothers. Let him warn them, so that they will not also come to this place of torment.’<sup>29</sup>“Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them listen to them.’<sup>30</sup>“‘No, father Abraham,’ he said, ‘but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’<sup>31</sup>“He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”

This is Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

PASTOR RAFE ALLISON

\*SERMON HYMN

*“Praise To The Father”*

**LBW 517**

\*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

*"O Zion, Haste"*

**LBW 397**

\*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 remembrance of Jacob Webb by his family. Rejoicing in the scripture that comforts all who mourn, "For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all. So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal." 2 Corinthians 4: 17-18

**OCTOBER** newsletter articles are due **TODAY**.

Church Council meeting is **NEXT** Sunday after service.

**Love Offering Today**

A request for assistance has come to us from friends of a local couple. Brandon Lewis is struggling with the loss of his dear wife, Sara. Sara had been suffering complications of diabetes for some time, including the loss of both her legs. Due to further complications she was moved to a hospice house several days ago and has now passed away leaving Brandon in the position of trying to raise enough money to provide a basic funeral/burial for his wife (they had no insurance). We'd like to assist by collecting a special offering this morning to help defray the costs. If you are so moved please make your check payable to "Cross of Christ" with "Brandon Lewis" in the memo line. Thank you and God bless!



September 25, 2022

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**

Marilyn Barringer; Kevin Blackburn; Stephanie Blackburn; Coy Edgison; John Faggart; Geneva Gray (Five Oaks Manor – Rehab); Joyce Harkins; Candice Horton; Doris & Frank Kluttz; Sylvia Loggans; 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 - Family concerns and challenges; Ronnie Boger; Mary Cox; Steve & Angie Dixon; Jane Faggart; Wanda Floyd; Joyce Furr; Ralph Furr; Brady Krimminger; Brandon Lewis (Death of wife Sara and financial difficulties); Kaye and Gerry Litzinger; Doris McCarn; Sharon Blackwelder Measmer; Gabby Monty; Ensley Morgan; Dianne and Steve Parker; Ronnie Procter; Brian Seagraves; Susan Starling; Baby Geneva Amanda Sverko and Mom Chyna; Mike Wagner (Husband of a co-worker of Belinda Campbell's – Pneumonia developed from COVID); Connie Walters; Vickey Belk Young

**General Prayer Concerns**

The People of Ukraine

**Cross of Christ Shut-In**

Sylvia Loggans (Post surgery she will return to Best of Care)  
Best of Care 234 North Dale Ave. Kannapolis NC

**Praise List**

\* Rand Yost – Rand and Yvonne appreciate the recent prayers offered up.

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

**Today September 25, 2022**

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

**NEXT SUNDAY**

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

**Next Sunday's Readings**

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Habakkuk 1: 1-4, 2: 1-4  
Psalm 62  
2 Timothy 1: 1-14  
St Luke 14: 1-10

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