*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 

*Tenth Sunday After Pentecost*

*August 17, 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  ***“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”* LBW 551**

\*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”*

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\*Salutation

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\*Prayer of the Day

P: Almighty, eternal God, increase in us your gifts of faith, hope and love; and in order that love may abide in us, help us to celebrate what your love has done for us. Grant this, we 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: Jeremiah 23: 16-29 (ESV)

# 16Thus says the Lord of hosts: “Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you, filling you with vain hopes. They speak visions of their own minds, not from the mouth of the Lord. 17They say continually to those who despise the word of the Lord, ‘It shall be well with you’; and to everyone who stubbornly follows his own heart, they say, ‘No disaster shall come upon you.’” 18For who among them has stood in the council of the Lord    to see and to hear his word, or who has paid attention to his word and listened? 19Behold, the storm of the Lord! Wrath has gone forth, a whirling tempest;  it will burst upon the head of the wicked. 20The anger of the Lord will not turn back    until he has executed and accomplished  the intents of his heart. In the latter days you will understand it clearly. 21“I did not send the prophets,  yet they ran; I did not speak to them,  yet they prophesied. 22But if they had stood in my council,   then they would have proclaimed my words to my people, and they would have turned them from their evil way,   and from the evil of their deeds. 23“Am I a God at hand, declares the Lord, and not a God far away? 24Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the Lord. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the Lord. 25I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, ‘I have dreamed, I have dreamed!’ 26How long shall there be lies in the heart of the prophets who prophesy lies, and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart, 27who think to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, even as their fathers forgot my

# name for Baal? 28Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let him who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? declares the Lord. 29Is not my word like fire, declares the Lord, and like a hammer that breaks the rock in pieces?

The Word of God for the people of God!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

# Psalm 119: 81-88 (ESV) Read Responsively by Verse

**81**My soul longs for your salvation;
    I hope in your word.
**82My eyes long for your promise;
    I ask, “When will you comfort me?”
83**For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke,
    yet I have not forgotten your statutes.
**84How long must your servant endure?
    When will you judge those who persecute me?
85**The insolent have dug pitfalls for me;
    they do not live according to your law.
**86All your commandments are sure;
    they persecute me with falsehood; help me!
87**They have almost made an end of me on earth,
    but I have not forsaken your precepts.
**88In your steadfast love give me life,
    that I may keep the testimonies of your mouth.**

# Second Reading: Hebrews 11: 17-31; 12: 1-3 (ESV)

# 17By faith Abraham, when he was tested, offered up Isaac, and he who had received the promises was in the act of offering up his only son, 18of whom it was said, “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” 19He considered that God was able even to raise him from the dead, from which, figuratively speaking, he did receive him back. 20By faith Isaac invoked future blessings on Jacob and Esau. 21By faith Jacob, when dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, bowing in worship over the head of his staff. 22By faith Joseph, at the end of his life, made mention of the exodus of the Israelites and gave directions concerning his bones. 23By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. 24By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. 26He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. 27By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible. 28By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them. 29By faith the people crossed the Red Sea as on dry land, but the Egyptians, when they attempted to do the same, were drowned. 30By faith the walls of Jericho fell down after they had been encircled for seven days. 31By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had given a friendly welcome to the spies.12 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.3Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

# The Word of God for the people of God!

**C: Thanks be to God!**

# \*Gospel Acclamation C:\Users\Pless\Documents\bulletins\LBW Services\HOLYCOM1\GRAPHICS.TIF\HC1G005.TIF

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



# \*The Holy Gospel: St.  [Luke](https://ref.ly/Luke%2010.38%E2%80%9342;esv?t=biblia" \t "_blank) 12: 49-56 (ESV)

# 49“I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! 50I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! 51Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. 52For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. 53They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”54He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, ‘A shower is coming.’ And so it happens. 55And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. 56You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

P: This is Gospel of our Lord.

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Sermon “*Fire or Ice”*  Pastor Marty Ramey

\*Sermon Hymn  ***“Dear Lord And Father Of Mankind”* LBW 506**

# \*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**

Blessing of Student bookbags and Teachers

\*Receiving of our Tithes and Offerings

\*The Offertory 

**Dedication**

\*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 “*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*”  WOV 771

# \*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 Yvonne Yost for her dedication and years of service to Cross of Christ by the congregation.

# There will be a short Congregation Meeting following the service.

Service for **Doris Kluttz** **is tomorrow, Monday August 18, 2025**. Receiving of friends will be from 2:00PM to 3:45PM in the sanctuary. Service will begin at 4:00pm with internment at the Church cemetery. Please keep the family in prayers.

# Newsletter articles for SEPTEMBER are due NEXT Sunday.

# Cookbooks are now available to purchase. Please see Kristi Drye to buy, $15 each. Proceeds will go to help purchase a much-needed cover for the playground. Thank you.

# Noah (Prayer Shawl Group) will meet tomorrow night at 6:30 p.m.

# Cross of Christ T-shirt orders are due TODAY. Please see Ashleigh Ennis if you have any questions.

It’s Fall Car Show planning time for the **Sept 20th** event.  Please consider volunteering or sponsoring a trophy.  A flyer for the event will be placed in your mailbox.  Please share with a friend or place in a local business for advertisement.  **August 17th and 24th your donations will be accepted after service for event expenses**.  Please see Earlene Cox if you have any questions.

**August 17, 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 Doris Kluttz

Tim Aldridge; Wayne Furr; Chris Goodman; Dorothy Goodman;

Harry Goodman; Norman Goodman; 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; 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; Sally Justice (Grandmother of Clare Justice – fiancé of Caleb Campbell – Kentucky hospital with a brain injury);

Melissa Krumbien; Gerry Litzinger; Susie Moore; Karen Morgan;

Hank Morris; Daniel Pless; Lettie Reid; Blake Rogers; Jacob Rodgers;

 Nick Smith; Susan Starling; Veronica Williams;

Candace Yates; Vickey Belk Young.

**Serving in the Military**

Eaven Allison (Fairbanks, Alaska)

**General Prayer Concerns:**

\*   All the students, parents, teachers, and support staff of local schools as the children return to the new school year.

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

**Today August 17, 2025**

Sunday Church School 9:00 AM

Family Worship Service 10:00 AM

 Congregational Meeting After Service TODAY

***This Week***

**MON:** Doris Kluttz receiving 2-3:45PM

 Service at 4PM

**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***

*Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*

Isaiah 66: 18-23

Psalm 50: 1-15

Hebrews 12: 4-29

St Luke 13: 22-30

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