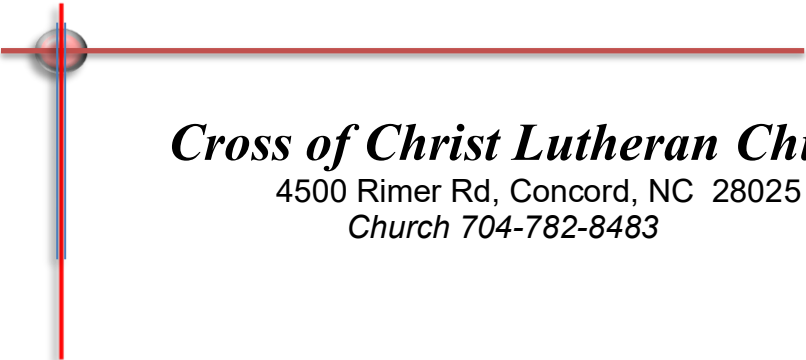
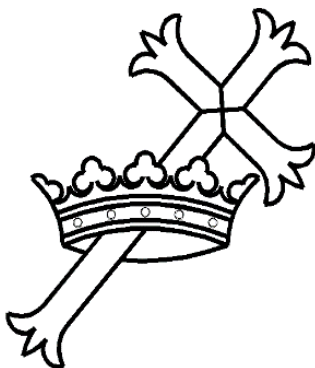




Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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 †

Sixteenth Sunday After Pentecost
September 28, 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

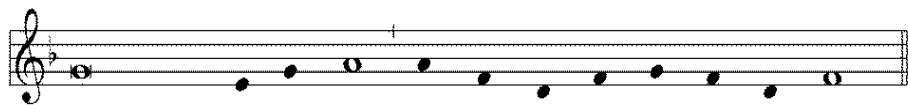
* OPENING HYMN “*What A Friend We Have In Jesus* ” LBW 439

*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 Almighty and most Merciful God, through your bountiful goodness, keep us from all things that may hurt us, that we, being ready both in body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish those things that you would have us do. Grant this, we pray, 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: Amos 6: 1-7 (ESV)

“Woe to those who are at ease in Zion,

and to those who feel secure on the mountain of Samaria,
the notable men of the first of the nations,
to whom the house of Israel comes!

² Pass over to Calneh, and see,
and from there go to Hamath the great;
then go down to Gath of the Philistines.

Are you better than these kingdoms?
Or is their territory greater than your territory,

³ O you who put far away the day of disaster
and bring near the seat of violence?

⁴ “Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and stretch themselves out on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the midst of the stall,

⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp
and like David invent for themselves instruments of music,

⁶ who drink wine in bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,

but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!

⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first of those who go into exile,
and the revelry of those who stretch themselves out shall pass away.”

The Word of God for the people of God!

C: Thanks be to God!

PSALM 146: 1-10 (ESV)

READ RESPONSIVELY BY VERSE

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

² I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³ Put not your trust in princes,
in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

**⁴ When his breath departs, he returns to the earth;
on that very day his plans perish.**

⁵ Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD his God,

**⁶ who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them,
who keeps faith forever;**

⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free;

⁸ the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

**The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹ The LORD watches over the sojourners;
he upholds the widow and the fatherless,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

**¹⁰ The LORD will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, to all generations.**

Praise the LORD!

SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 3: 1-13 (ESV)

The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. ² Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³ not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴ He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, ⁵ for if someone does not know how to manage his own household, how will he care for God's church? ⁶ He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. ⁷ Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil. ⁸ Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. ⁹ They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. ¹⁰ And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. ¹¹ Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. ¹² Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. ¹³ For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

The Word of God for the people of God!

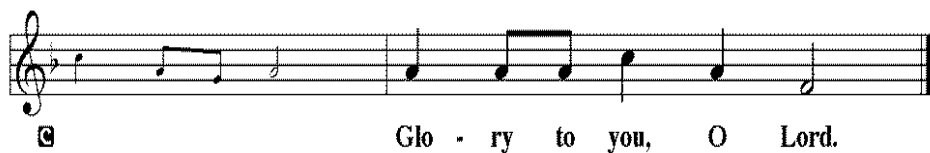
C: Thanks be to God!

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

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

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



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

¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate was laid a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who desired to be fed with what fell from the rich man's table. Moreover, even the dogs came and licked his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried by the angels to Abraham's side. The rich man also died and was buried, ²³ and in Hades, being in torment, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far off and Lazarus at his side. ²⁴ And he called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the end of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in anguish in this flame.’ ²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that you in your lifetime received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner bad things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in anguish. ²⁶ And besides all this, between us and you a great chasm has been fixed, in order that those who would pass from here to you may not be able, and none may cross from there to us.’ ²⁷ And he said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house— ²⁸ for I have five brothers—so that he may warn them, lest they also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹ But Abraham said, ‘They have Moses and the Prophets; let them hear them.’ ³⁰ And he said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.’ ³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not hear Moses and the Prophets, neither will they be convinced if someone should rise from the dead.’”

P: This is Gospel of our Lord.



SERMON

“The \$10,000 Dress”

Pastor Marty Ramey

*SERMON HYMN

“I Love To Tell The Story”

LBW 390

***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**

Anthem

“ My Jesus”

Soldiers of Cross of Christ

*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

***SENDING HYMN “*Lift High The Cross*” LBW 377**

***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 in loving memory of Jacob Webb by the Webb family.

Church T-shirts are in! Pick up your order from Ashleigh Ennis. Missed out? Ask Ashleigh how to order yours!



September 28, 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... 1 Timothy 2:1

In the Fellowship of Cross of Christ

Tim Aldridge; Wayne Furr; Roy Gray (recovering at home from a broken back); Chris Goodman; Dorothy Goodman; Harry Goodman; Norman Goodman; Amy Preston (recovering at home from a fall); 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; Pastor Gene Bost; LeaAnn Buckwell; Pastor Randall Cauble; Pastor Tom Corbell; Luke Cranford; Vicky Floyd; David Gandy; Marty Gandy; David Goforth; Lee Goforth; Barbara Hamilton; Annette Heller; Candice Horton; Greg Houston; Melissa Krumbien; Gerry Litzinger; Susie Moore; Karen Morgan; Hank Morris; Lori Pittard; 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)

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

Today September 28, 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

8:30 AM	Executive Council
9:00 AM	Sunday Church School Classes
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: 1-12

2 Timothy 1: 1-14

St Luke 17: 1-10

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