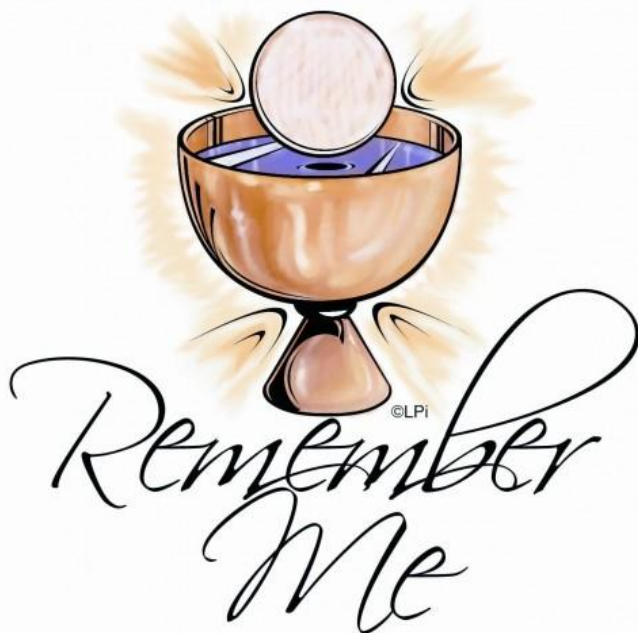


# Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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 †*

*Ninth Sunday After Pentecost  
August 2, 2020*

PRELUDE

MRS. YVONNE YOST

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## Oh, Worship the King

1 Oh, wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove.  
2 Oh, tell of his might; oh, sing of his grace,  
3 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,  
4 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?

Oh, grate - ful - ly sing his pow'r and his love;  
Whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space;  
Al - might - y, your pow'r has found - ed of old;  
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,

Our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,  
His char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form,  
Es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,  
It streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,

Pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.  
And dark is his path on the wings of the storm.  
And round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.  
And sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.

## 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**

### \*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.**

### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. God of all creation,

**you reach out to call people of all nations to your kingdom. As you gather disciples from near and far, count us also among those who boldly confess your Son, Jesus Christ as Lord. Amen.**

### FIRST READING: ROMANS 13: 1-10 (ESV)

Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. <sup>2</sup>Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. <sup>3</sup>For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, <sup>4</sup>for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. <sup>5</sup>Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. <sup>6</sup>For because of this you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. <sup>7</sup>Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed. <sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>For the commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

Here ends the reading.

\* The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 18<sup>th</sup> Chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

### \*THE HOLY GOSPEL: ST. MATTHEW 18: 1-20 (ESV)

At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" <sup>2</sup>And calling to him a child, he put him in the midst of them <sup>3</sup>and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup>Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." <sup>5</sup>"Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, <sup>6</sup>but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea. <sup>7</sup>"Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! <sup>8</sup>And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. <sup>9</sup>And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to

enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.  
<sup>10</sup> “See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of my Father who is in heaven.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

PASTOR RAFE ALLISON

\*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

\*HOLY COMMUNION

\*BENEDICTION

\*SENDING HYMN (TURN THE PAGE)

\*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

\*POSTLUDE

MRS. YVONNE YOST

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The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Susan, Alexis and Larry Barbee birthdays by their family.

The Piano Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving honor of Marie Pless' 93rd birthday and Carl and Marie's 73rd anniversary by the family.

The **PBnJ** and **CSI** youth will both meet next **Sunday at 3:30** under the shelter.

The **Outreach Committee** would like to thank the congregation for all the donated supplies for the Mt. Pleasant Food Ministry. We had a total of 601 lbs. July donations of 244 lbs and August donations of 500 lbs from the congregation and 101 lbs purchased with funds donated by Carolinas Mission Region of the NALC with Mission Stimulus Funds. As I was delivering our donations they were giving out some of what we donated. God has blessed us with a generous congregation!!

The **Outreach Committee** is having a mini drive for Mt. Pleasant Food Ministry thru the month of September. They are still in need of these items: salt, pepper, ketchup, mustard, salad dressings (ranch, 1000 island, honey mustard, etc), cooking oil, cake mixes and icings, cooking spices (Italian seasoning, garlic salt, onion powder, cinnamon, paprika, chili powder), Duke and Hellman mayonnaise. Most all of these can be purchased at Dollar Stores. Thank you much for thinking of others during this time. Please place in the boxes like before.

A **Women's retreat** is in the planning stage for **Oct 2 – 4**, please let Kristi know if you are interested.

### Notes from September Council Meeting (held Sunday, August 30)

\* Council received an interim **Treasurer's Report**. (As we met on August 30 final figures will be forthcoming once end-of-month is finalized.) Earlene reported that we only need about **\$1500** to pay off the Parish Hall debt. Council is asking that we set a goal to **pay this off** by the next payment date: **Wednesday, September 23.**

\* The **Financial Oversight Committee** is completing the mid-year audit and is providing information to the **Finance Committee** for budget preparation. A proposed budget will be presented to the Council for consideration at the October meeting.

\* Pastor attended the online **2020 NALC Convocation, 2020 Carolinas Mission Region Convocation**, and a related meeting of the **Piedmont-East Mission District** during the weeks of August 3 and August 10. Reports were given to the Council with the main item being the decision that the NALC will move from annual to bi-annual convocations.

\* Richard Strube and Sharon Duncan will be joining the four off-going Council members as this year's **Nominating Committee**. James Bailey will chair the committee. A Nominating Committee report will be received by Council for consideration at the October meeting.

\* A **Facilities Improvement Task Force** was authorized. This Task Force will work to gather information, quotes, etc. regarding several outstanding and proposed improvement projects needed for our church facilities. The Task Force will make periodic informational reports and recommendations to the Council. Off-going President, Scott Barringer, off-going Vice-President, James Bailey, former President, Rusty Drye, Treasurer, Earlene Cox, and Pastor will be serving on the task force.

\* Due to current health requirements a 2-part **Annual Congregational Meeting** will be held this November with identical presentations given at the 10:00 & 11:00AM services. Voting tabulations will be finalized following the 11AM session. The Executive Committee will be meeting in the near future to iron-out the logistics.

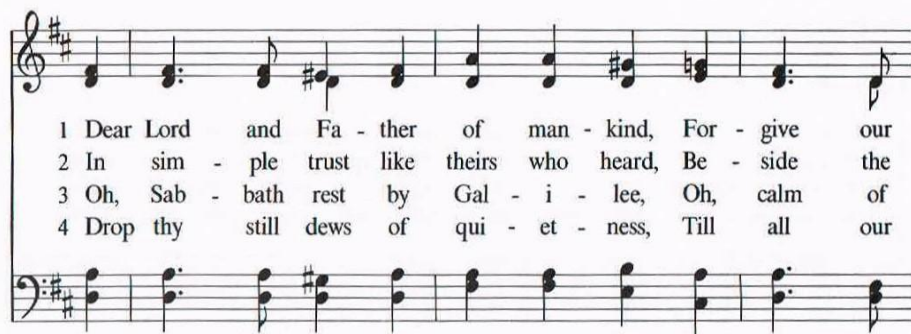
\* A **Women's Retreat** was endorsed by Council to be held in October at Teen Valley Ranch. A motion was also approved to provide \$100 per participant from the Education Endowment Fund.

\* A **3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Breakfast** will be held in the Parish Hall on Saturday, September 19 from 7:00 – 11:00AM. NC Phase 2 COVID requirements for restaurants will be followed including limited capacity and social distancing. All food will be served in take-away boxes. Funds received will go towards Parish Hall Debt/Facilities Improvement.

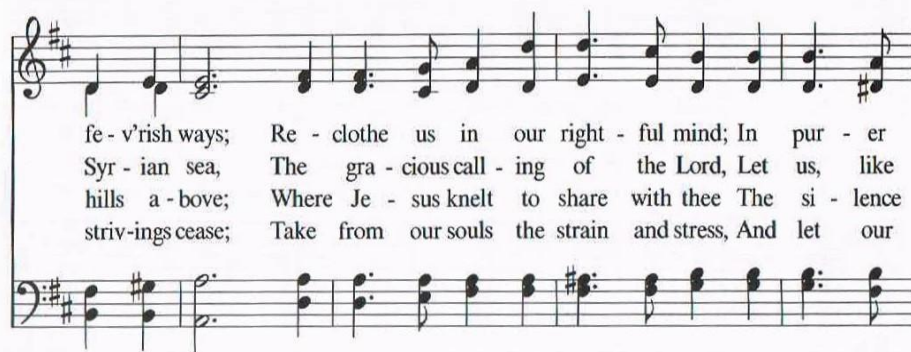


# Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

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1 Dear Lord and Fa - ther of man - kind, For - give our  
 2 In sim - ple trust like theirs who heard, Be - side the  
 3 Oh, Sab - bath rest by Gal - i - lee, Oh, calm of  
 4 Drop thy still dews of qui - et - ness, Till all our



fe - v'rish ways; Re - clothe us in our right - ful mind; In pur - er  
 Syr - ian sea, The gra - cious call - ing of the Lord, Let us, like  
 hills a - bove; Where Je - sus knelt to share with thee The si - lence  
 striv - ings cease; Take from our souls the strain and stress, And let our



lives thy ser - vice find, In deep - er rev - 'rence, praise.  
 them, with - out a word Rise up and fol - low thee.  
 of e - ter - ni - ty, In - ter - pret - ed by love!  
 or - dered lives con - fess The beau - ty of thy peace.

September 6, 2020

*A little reminder about our prayer list.*

*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... 1 Timothy 2:1*

## In the Fellowship of Cross of Christ

Kay Barbee; Scott Barringer; Megan Blackburn; Stephanie Blackburn;  
 Chris Bost; Robin Drye; Coy Edgison; John Faggart; Geneva Gray;  
 Frank Kluttz; Sylvia Loggans; Rina Moss; Frances Pless; Marie Pless;  
 Dot Weast (Recovering from a broken arm and fractured knee).

## Serving in the Military

Eaven Allison; Will Drye

## Friends of Cross of Christ

Sherry Baker (Sister of Richard Strube – Breast Cancer diagnosis); Kelly Caudle  
 (Recovering from a fall that fractured his upper arm, injured the C4 vertebra, and  
 caused a concussion); Steve & Angie Dixon; JB Faggart;  
 Ralph Furr; Marty Gandy; Dave Goff (Friend of Carl Pless, Jr.);  
 Tommy and Eva Harrel; Ivory Holland;  
 Ensley Morgan (Recovery from Brain surgery on 8/26/2020 at Duke Hospital);  
 Daniel Neubacher (Son-in-Law of Pastor Jeff Faggart – Recovering from a  
 broken neck (3 months in a neck brace) and skin abrasions received in a  
 motorcycle accident); Diane Parker; Bob Seagraves;  
 Beverly and Lewis Williams; Pat Winecoff.

## General Prayer Concerns

Our nation, Our community and Our Church  
 School Students of all ages, Teachers, School Personnel and Parents  
 as you navigate the new school year

## Cross of Christ Shut-Ins

Mildred Watson

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



**PRAY FOR...**

