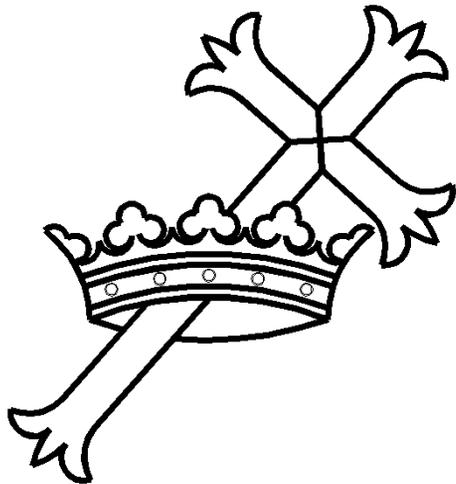


Cross of Christ Lutheran Church

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 †

*Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost
August 23, 2020*

PRELUDE

MRS. YVONNE YOST

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Crown Him with Many Crowns

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on his throne; Hark,
2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, The God in - car - nate born, Whose
3 Crown him the Lord of love— Be - hold his hands and side, Rich
4 Crown him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the grave And

how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own. A -
arm those crim - son tro - phies won Which now his brow a - dom; Fruit
wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied. No
rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those he came to save. His

wake, my soul, and sing Of him who died for thee, And
of the mys - tic rose, Yet of that rose the stem, The
an - gels in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sight, But
glo - ries now we sing, Who died and rose on high, Who

hail him as thy match - less king Through all e - ter - ni - ty.
root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, The babe of Beth - le - hem.
down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes At mys - ter - ies so bright.
died, e - ter - nal life to bring, And lives that death may die.

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. Almighty and everlasting God,

you are always more ready to hear that we are to pray, and to give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us an abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merit of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 51: 1-6 (ESV)

“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD: look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. ²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, that I might bless him and multiply him. ³For the LORD comforts Zion; he comforts all her waste places and makes her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. ⁴“Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation; for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait. ⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed.

Here ends the Reading.

Second READING: ROMANS 11: 33 -12:8 (ESV)

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! ³⁴“For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?” ³⁵“Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?” ³⁶For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen. **12** I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. ³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

Here ends the Reading.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 16th Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

***THE HOLY GOSPEL: ST. MATTHEW 16: 13-20 (ESV)**

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

PASTOR RAFE ALLISON

*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

*SENDING HYMN (TURN PAGE)

*DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

MRS. YVONNE YOST

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Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther; there is no
2 Sum-mer and win-ter and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thine own dear

shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in
pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright

pas-sions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for-ev-er wilt be.
man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy, and love.
hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

Refrain
Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness!

Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy
hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful-ness, Lord, un - to me!

The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in honor of John Harrison's and Frances Pless' birthdays by Meredith, Marianna, Emma and Justin.

I am so thankful for the turn out for the blood drive this past Sunday at Cross of Christ Lutheran for One Blood. We had 17 signed up and had 15 units donated with one person giving ferrese (plasma). One unit will help save up to 3 lives, 45 patients can benefit from these units and the blood will be transfused within 48 to 72 hrs. to someone in our immediate area. The turn around is that fast and the need is this constant!!! THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!!!

September newsletter articles are due **TODAY**.

The **Outreach Committee** is sponsoring a **food drive** for the **Mt. Pleasant Food Ministry** thru the month **August**. **We had a total of 224 lbs!!** Let's do it again this month and have a total donation of 500 lbs. for this ministry. **Thank you for supporting this much needed ministry.**

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

Notes from the August Council Meeting:

- We will continue with worship services at 10:00AM and 11:00AM until further notice.
- Membership requirements are suspended until further notice.
- **Sunday August 30** is Gideon Rally Day. A love offering will be received at both the 10:00AM and 11:00AM services. If you will not be here for worship you may mail your offering to the church so that it will be received prior to August 30.
- The Council is tentatively planning a Third Saturday Breakfast from 7:00AM - 11:00AM on September 19. The format will be modified to observe rules & guidelines concerning the corona virus pandemic.
- The **Parish Hall loan payoff** is: **\$6893.94** (end of July).



August 23, 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; Joann Barrier; Scott Barringer; Megan Blackburn; Stephanie Blackburn; Chris Bost; Robin Drye (Recovering at home from a car accident); Coy Edgison; John Faggart; Geneva Gray; Frank Kluttz; Sylvia Loggans; Rina Moss; Frances Pless; Marie Pless; Rand Yost.

Serving in the Military

Eaven Allison; Will Drye

Friends of Cross of Christ

Family of Randy Fisher (Friends of Jerry and Carl Pless, Jr)
Sherry Baker (Sister of Richard Strube – Breast Cancer diagnosis);
Steve & Angie Dixon; JB Faggart;
Pastor Jeff Faggart (Recovery from Thyroid removal surgery);
Ralph Furr; Marty Gandy; Dave Goff (Friend of Carl Pless, Jr.);
Tommy and Eva Harrel; Ivory Holland;
Ensley Morgan (3rd Brain surgery scheduled for 8/26/2020 at Duke Hospital);
Diane Parker; Bob Seagraves; Beverly and Lewis Williams; Pat Winecuff.

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.