

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 †

*First Sunday in Lent
February 21, 2021*

OUR ACCOMPANIST

MRS. YVONNE YOST

Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain 301

1 Come to Cal-v'ry's ho - ly moun-tain, Sin - ners, ru - ined by the fall;
2 Come in sor - row and con - tri - tion, Wound-ed, im - po - tent, and blind;
3 Those who drink shall live for - ev - er; 'Tis a soul - re - new - ing flood.

Here a pure and heal - ing foun-tain Flows to you, to me, to all,
Here the guilt - y, free re - mis-sion, Here the trou-bled peace may find.
God is faith-ful; God will nev - er Break his cov - e - nant of blood,

In a full per - pet - ual tide, O - pened when our Sav - ior died.
Health this foun-tain will re - store; Those who drink shall thirst no more.
Signed when our re - deem - er died, Sealed when he was glo - ri - fied.

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

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.

Amen

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.

Most merciful God,

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

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.

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. Holy God,

you led your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide now the people of your Church, that, following our Savior, we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

FIRST READING: James 1: 12-18 (ESV)

¹²Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. ¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, “I am being tempted by God,” for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each

person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. ¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Here ends the reading.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 1st Chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

***THE HOLY GOSPEL: ST. MARK 1: 9-15 (ESV)**

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.” ¹²The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him. ¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

PASTOR RAFAEL ALLISON

***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

***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 THE PAGE)**

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

***POSTLUDE**

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The **Altar Flowers** are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Rand and Yvonne Yost by the Larry Barbee Family.

The **PBnJ** youth will meets **TODAY** at 3:30 PM.

March newsletter articles are due **TODAY**.

The **Outreach Committee** at Cross of Christ is sponsoring a **Blood Drive** on **March 14th, 11:45 AM thru 4:30 PM**. This is with One Blood. They will have the mobile bus for donations. The incentives for your blood donation are: St. Patrick's Day T-shirt and a \$10 e-gift card.

Link to register or contact Jodie Strube if you need help registering
https://donor.oneblood.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/1048835

Mark your calendar and eat lots of iron enriched foods till then....many thanks.

Reception of New Members

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church will receive new members on **Sunday, March 21**. If you feel called to join the ministry and fellowship of the Cross of Christ congregation please contact Pastor Allison: revrafea@gmail.com (or) (704) 786-3643.

It's time to direct your **Thrivent Choice Dollars** for **2020**. The last date to direct your Dollars is **March 31, 2021**. You can do this online or by calling your Thrivent representative, Gary Samuelson at 704-786-9388. Thrivent Choice Dollars are available to anyone that has life insurance or annuity's with Thrivent.



February 21, 2021

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... 1Timothy 2:1

In the Fellowship of Cross of Christ

Tim Aldridge; Kay Barbee; Scott Barringer; Megan Blackburn; Phyllis Campbell; John Faggart; Roger Horton (Gallbladder surgery recovery); Frances Kanipe; Doris Kluttz; Frank Kluttz; Marie Pless; John Trull (Recovery from abdominal aneurysm surgery); Harold Yost

Serving in the Military

Eaven Allison (Okinawa, Japan); Will Drye

Friends of Cross of Christ

Sherry Baker; Mike & Shawana Byers and their 2 children; Steve Cagle (Co-worker of Leonard Campbell – Recovery from Ankle reconstruction surgery); Susan Caudle (Recovery from a recent surgery); Steve & Angie Dixon; Morgan Eudy; JB Faggart; Jane Faggart; Joyce Furr; Ralph Furr; Carol Goe; Dave Goff; Tommy and Eva Harrel; Ivory Holland; AJ Jorsey; Mary Paula Keith; Patti Mitchell (Home recovering from a Stroke); Ensley Morgan; Diane Parker; Angie and Steve Potter; Cindy Ritchie; Emory Rae Robinson; Bob Seagraves; Derrick Shafer; Shelbie Snipes; Beverly and Lewis Williams; Pat Winecoff.

General Prayer Concerns

Our nation, Our community and Our Church

Cross of Christ Shut-Ins

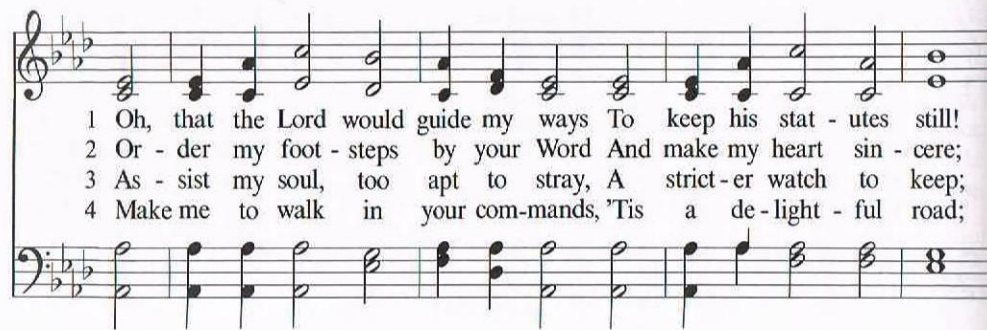
Sylvia Loggans (Five Oaks, Room # 129)

Cross of Christ Lutheran Church - Praise List

Reminder: The Praise List will be utilized as Prayer requests have a positive outcome to pass along as the person transitions off the list the following week.
Dot Weast – “Improved and prayers appreciated during the time of need”

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

480 Oh, that the Lord Would Guide My Ways



1 Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways To keep his stat - utes still!
 2 Or - der my foot - steps by your Word And make my heart sin - cere;
 3 As - sist my soul, too apt to stray, A strict - er watch to keep;
 4 Make me to walk in your com-mands, 'Tis a de - light - ful road;



Oh, that my God would grant me grace To know and do his will!
 Let sin have no do - min-ion, Lord, But keep my con-science clear.
 And should I e'er for - get your way, Re - store your wan - d'ring sheep.
 Nor let my head or heart or hands Of - fend a - gainst my God.