



NORTHCROSS

C H U R C H

Loved. Equipped. Sent.

Welcome to NorthCross Church!

Whatever your spiritual disposition
- skeptic, seeker, follower -

we are glad you are with us today and pray that you
experience the grace of our Lord.

Our desire is to have our hearts strengthened
by the grace of Christ and to share that grace with the
community of Lake Norman.

Worship Director - Ben Chapman
ben@northcrosschurch.com

Administrator - Angela Howard
angela@northcrosschurch.com

Children's Director -
Emma Chapman
emma@northcrosschurch.com

Elders (*Ministry Oversight*)
Damon Anderson (*Children & Youth*)
Mark Andrews (*Missions/Outreach*)
Hudson Belk (*Life Groups*)
Matt Estler (*Deacons*)
Matt Seiter (*Sunday morning*)
Dean Whitehill (*Men & Women*)

Deacons
Mark Bankert
Justin James
Reuben Vandezande
Joel Campanella, Treasurer

Women Shepherds
Pat Andrews, Jean Edwards,
Holly Stone, Lynn Whitehill

NorthCross Church Office
704-237-4853
info@northcrosschurch.com

Mail: PO Box 2275
Cornelius, NC 28031
Meet: 11020 Bailey Rd., Ste. H
Cornelius, NC

northcrosschurch.com

Our Mission

NorthCross Church exists to facilitate a gospel movement
throughout the communities that make up Lake Norman
for the glory of Christ.

Our Vision

To be a people who are Loved by God,
Equipped by the Gospel, and Sent into our communities.

Loved: Experiencing God's love and the love of one another
in community

Equipped: Growing in our knowledge of the gospel and
strengthened to share it with others

Sent: Engaging in the mission of God within our local communities

Sunday Morning Children's Ministry Information:

Sunday School: 9:30 am (children age 3 – high school)

*All children are welcome to stay with their parents in the
worship service! Also available:*

Nursing room: adjacent to the sanctuary. Turn on the
speaker to hear the sermon.

Nursery: provided during the worship service for babies and
children up to age 2

Children's church: ages 2 & 3 in the toddler room
ages 4 - 2nd grade in the early elementary room

**Children will be dismissed from the service during the Passing of
the Peace. They will return before Communion. The teachers will
bring the children to the sanctuary and help find their parents.*

Wifi Network: NCC **Password:** #northcrosschurch1

WORSHIP SERVICE

December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent

Preparing for Worship

With so many distractions vying for our attention, this is a time to quiet ourselves and prepare our hearts for worship.

Call to Worship

Read Responsively

Psalms 98:1-4

Leader: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

**Congregation: The LORD has made known his salvation;
he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

Leader: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.

**Congregation: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation
of our God.**

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;
break forth into joyous song and sing praises!
The Lord is worthy of our joyful praise! Let us worship him together!

Advent Reading

Isaiah 35:1-4, 8-10

Call to Worship

God calls us to worship because God exists and speaks first. Therefore, our worship is answering God. We answer him by offering what we are to who God is. The Call to Worship is a way to proclaim God as he is, while also challenging what we worship daily.

GOD'S PEOPLE WORSHIP

Songs of Worship

Joy to the World

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Confession of Sin

The prayer of confession invites us to speak words that are remarkably honest about how our thoughts, feelings, actions and words can curve inwards. This kind of honesty does not come naturally in our relationship with God or with others. But confession is liberating when we sense the greater power of Jesus' love.

Assurance of Pardon

This is what we need to hear after the honesty of our confession. These are God's affirming words, his forgiveness of us because of Jesus Christ.

Confession of Sin

Read Together

by Martin Bucer

ALL: O God the Father of heaven, have mercy upon us.

O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us.

O God the Holy Spirit, have mercy upon us.

Be merciful to us and spare us, O Lord.

Be merciful to us and deliver us, O Lord.

From all sin, from all error, from all evil—deliver us, O Lord.

From the lies of the devil and from everlasting death—deliver us, O Lord.

Lord Jesus, by the mystery of your holy incarnation,

By your holy nativity,

By your baptism, fasting and temptations—deliver us, O Lord.

By your agony and bloody sweat,

By your cross and passions,

By your death and burial,

By your resurrection and ascension,

By the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter—deliver us, O Lord.

Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Read Responsively

Isaiah 53:2-12

Leader: For he grew up before him like a young plant, and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, and no beauty that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief; and as one from whom men hide their faces he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Congregation: Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.

Leader: All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned—every one—to his own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all...Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him; he has put him to grief...by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant, make many to be accounted righteous, and he shall bear their iniquities...he bore the sin of many, and makes intercession for the transgressors.

Song of Thanksgiving

Away In A Manger

LIFE TOGETHER

Passing of the Peace

**Children ages 2 through 2nd grade dismissed for Children's Church*

Announcements

Receiving of Tithes and Offerings

Pastoral Prayer/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 debts,
as we forgive our debtors,
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Tithes and Offerings

We give as an act of faith, remembering his faithfulness as our provider and joining with God's people in expressing our dependence on him, in obedience to be generous with all we have as he is generous to us.

Scripture Reading

Matthew 1:1-17 (NLT)

¹ *This is a record of the ancestors of Jesus the Messiah, a descendant of David and of Abraham:*

² *Abraham was the father of Isaac.*

Isaac was the father of Jacob.

Jacob was the father of Judah and his brothers.

³ *Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah (whose mother was Tamar).*

Perez was the father of Hezron.

Hezron was the father of Ram.

⁴ *Ram was the father of Amminadab.*

Amminadab was the father of Nahshon.

Nahshon was the father of Salmon.

⁵ *Salmon was the father of Boaz (whose mother was Rahab).*

Boaz was the father of Obed (whose mother was Ruth).

Obed was the father of Jesse.

⁶ *Jesse was the father of King David.*

David was the father of Solomon (whose mother was Bathsheba, the widow of Uriah).

⁷ *Solomon was the father of Rehoboam.*

Rehoboam was the father of Abijah.

Abijah was the father of Asa.

⁸ *Asa was the father of Jehoshaphat.*

Jehoshaphat was the father of Jehoram.

Jehoram was the father of Uzziah.

⁹ *Uzziah was the father of Jotham.*

Jotham was the father of Ahaz.

Ahaz was the father of Hezekiah.

¹⁰ *Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh.*

Manasseh was the father of Amon.

Amon was the father of Josiah.

¹¹ *Josiah was the father of Jehoiachin and his brothers (born at the time of the exile to Babylon).*

¹² *After the Babylonian exile:*

Jehoiachin was the father of Shealtiel.

Shealtiel was the father of Zerubbabel.

¹³ *Zerubbabel was the father of Abiud.*

Abiud was the father of Eliakim.

Eliakim was the father of Azor.

¹⁴ *Azor was the father of Zadok.*

Sermon

The sermon is teaching based on the Scripture Reading. The role of the sermon is to explain the truths of the Bible and apply them in our lives. This is not just an intellectual function; our hearts are to be affected by the words of God preached.

Zadok was the father of Akim.

Akim was the father of Eliud.

¹⁵ *Eliud was the father of Eleazar.*

Eleazar was the father of Matthan.

Matthan was the father of Jacob.

¹⁶ *Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary.*

Mary gave birth to Jesus, who is called the Messiah.

¹⁷ *All those listed above include fourteen generations from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the Babylonian exile, and fourteen from the Babylonian exile to the Messiah.*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

CHANGED BY GOD'S WORD

Sermon

"Is My Mess Too Bad for Jesus? Part 2"

Rev. Ken Cross

Cede Sports

GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

Song of Response

O Come All You Unfaithful

The Lord's Supper

Song of Receiving

Because He Lives

Benediction

The Lord's Supper

Jesus Christ promised to meet (or commune) with his people in a special way through this "sacrament" - from the Latin word meaning mystery. We experience Christ's spiritual presence as we eat in faith. The Lord's Supper points us to the finished work of Christ at the cross and in the resurrection on our behalf.

Benediction

"Benediction" means "a good word" or blessing. In this blessing God gets the last word, promising to be with us as he sends us out into the world, carrying the hope, joy and love of Christianity's central message (the gospel).

This Week's Calendar

- 12.17 Daybreak Prayer, 7:30 am
Sunday School, 9:30 am
Worship Service, 10:30 am
- 12.22 Youth Ice Skating @ Whitewater Center,
6:00 pm

Announcements

No Sunday School - There will be no Sunday School on December 24th and 31st.

Youth Ice Skating @ The Whitewater Center -
Friday, Dec. 22 at 6:00 pm

Christmas Eve Service - Dec. 24th at 10:30 am

Dr. Gary Purdy Installation Service -
Sunday, December 31st at 10:30 am

This week's Mission + Outreach Organization

Ben Pate
Columbia University RUF

Connect Card - If you are new to NorthCross and want to connect, or if you have a prayer request, use this QR code and fill out the form online.



Daybreak Prayer at 7:30 am:

The session invites us to join in prayer for NorthCross during this time of transition. Please join us Sunday mornings at 7:30 am via Zoom (link is in the Weekly News).

Life Groups meet regularly for fellowship, prayer, service and study.
Contact one of the leaders if you would like to attend.

Huntersville: Sunday
Hudson Belk, hudsonbelk2@hotmail.com

West Lake Norman: Sunday
Matt Estler, mdestler5@gmail.com
Greg Howard, gwhow1961@gmail.com

East Huntersville: Sunday
Roger Edwards, roger.edwards55@gmail.com

Cornelius: Sunday
Jonathan Skolrood, jonathan.skolrood@gmail.com

Cornelius: Sunday
Matt Gordon,
matthew.randolph.gordon@gmail.com

Davidson: Sunday
Matt Seiter, matthew.seiter@gmail.com

NorthCross Church YTD Financial Summary

(for fiscal year 2023/2024; as of November 30, 2023)

Congregation Giving - Actual \$122,800 vs. Budget \$140,327
Expenses (less Missions & Deacon's Fund) - Actual \$125,292 vs. Budget \$581,682
Missions expenses \$11,631 | Deacon's Fund expenses \$706
Worship Facility Received \$201,304 | Non-restricted cash position \$599,391