



# NORTHCROSS

C H U R C H

*Loved. Equipped. Sent.*

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**Children’s Director** –  
Emma Chapman  
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**Elders** (*Ministry Oversight*)  
Damon Anderson (*Children & Youth*)  
Mark Andrews (*Missions/Outreach*)  
Hudson Belk (*Life Groups*)  
Matt Seiter (*Sunday morning*)  
Scott Tew (*Calendar & Curricula*)  
Dean Whitehill (*Men & Women*)  
Matt Estler (*Deacons*)

#### **Deacons**

Justin James  
Reuben Vandezande  
Joel Campanella, Treasurer

#### **Women Shepherds**

Pat Andrews, Jean Edwards,  
Holly Stone, Lynn Whitehill

**NorthCross Church Office**  
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**Mail:** PO Box 2275  
Cornelius, NC 28031

**Meet:** 11020 Bailey Rd., Ste. H  
Cornelius, NC 28031

*northcrosschurch.com*

## **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.

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### **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 strength-  
ened to share it with others

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

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### **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 after the Children’s  
Sermon. They will return before Communion. The teachers will  
bring the children to the sanctuary and help find their parents.*

**Wifi Network:** NCC and the Password is #northcrosschurch1

# WORSHIP SERVICE

December 11, 2022

## Meditation

*"In the poignant music of his birth, we hear the sad melody of his death. And by that weak death he will defeat all the powers of evil, will be crowned as Messiah and Lord, will be the strong Savior of all who will trust in him. This sign is precisely right. It is by his weakness that he is strong, by his vulnerability that he is the conqueror, by his sufferings that he will be the Savior. Marvel with the shepherds at this conquering baby, this meek Messiah, this despised Lord."*

*- Christopher Ash*

## CALLED BY GOD

### Welcome

### Call to Worship

Read Responsively

*Psalms 89*

### Congregation:

**I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord, forever;  
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all  
generations.**

### Leader:

For you have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;  
I have sworn to David my servant:  
'I will establish your offspring forever,  
and build your throne for all generations.' "

### Congregation:

**Righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne;  
steadfast love and faithfulness go before you.  
Blessed are the people who know the festal shout,  
who walk, O Lord, in the light of your face,  
who exult in your name all the day  
and in your righteousness are exalted.**

### Preparing for Worship

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

### 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.

Leader:

Of old you spoke in a vision to your godly one, and said:

“I have granted help to one who is mighty;

I have exalted one chosen from the people.

I have found David, my servant;

so that my hand shall be established with him;

my arm also shall strengthen him.

The enemy shall not outwit him;

the wicked shall not humble him.

I will set his hand on the sea

and his right hand on the rivers.

He shall cry to me, ‘You are my Father,

my God, and the Rock of my salvation.’

And I will make him the firstborn,

the highest of the kings of the earth.

**Congregation: Blessed be the Lord forever! Amen and Amen.**

### Confession of Sin

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

## Advent Reading

*Luke 2:1-7*

## GOD’S PEOPLE RESPOND

### Songs of Worship

*Come Lord Jesus (Even So Come)*

*Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

### Confession of Sin

Read Together *from Seeking God’s Face*

**All:**

**Incarnate Lord, forgive us for being ashamed of weakness and limits.**

**Remind us that you, Ancient of Days, had a beginning as a child,**

**that you, Infinite and Eternal God, took on our human flesh.**

**Incarnate Lord, forgive us for trying to be more spiritual than you are,**

**for trying to live the perfect life, being the perfect friend and family**

**member, for attempting to stuff feelings of emptiness with busyness or**

**food or advice.**

**Remind us that you alone, Jesus, were fully human,  
and that you came to save me wholly, body and soul. Amen.**

## **Silent Confession**

**Words of Assurance**                      Leader                      *John 1:14-18*

Leader: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known. Amen.

**Song of Thanksgiving**                      *Go Tell it on the Mountain*

## **LIFE TOGETHER**

### **Children Special Music**

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

### **Passing of the Peace**

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**Congregation: And also with you.**

### **Announcements**

### **Receiving of Tithes and Offerings**

#### **Words of Assurance**

In some traditions this is called the assurance of pardon, and it 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.

## CHANGED BY GOD'S WORD

### 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.

### 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.

### Scripture Reading

*Luke 2:1-20*

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying,

"Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!"

When the angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made known to us." And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in a manger. And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had been told them concerning this child. And all who heard it wondered at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her heart. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

## Pastoral Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer

Recite together

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.

### Sermon

Clyde Godwin  
*"Great Joy!"*

## GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

### Song of Response

*O Come All Ye Faithful*

### The Lord's Supper

### Song of Receiving

*What Child is This?*

## SENT BY GOD

### 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

12.11 Daybreak Prayer, 7:00 am  
Sunday School, 9:30 am  
Worship service, 10:30 am

### Announcements

**Candlelight Christmas Eve Service** – Saturday, Dec. 24th at 5:00 pm. Invite your friends, family and neighbors. No worship service on Christmas Day.

**Online Giving** – We now have our own online giving portal. To give online, please go to [northcrosschurch.churchcenter.com](http://northcrosschurch.churchcenter.com). In addition, consider giving by ACH (direct draft from your bank), or you have the option to cover the processing fees when you give. You can even set up a regularly occurring gift (weekly, monthly, etc).

### Season of prayer:

The session invites us to join in prayer for NorthCross during this time of transition. Here are the ways you can pray with us:

~ The **Scripture and Prayer Guide** can be used with your families or personally. The prayer guide for this week can be found here. Paper copies are also available in the foyer.

~ **Daybreak Prayer** – every Sunday morning at 7:00 am via Zoom:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83380044905>

~ **Stay and Pray** – first Sunday of each month, pack a lunch and stay after the service to pray for the unsaved in our community and families.

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

**South Huntersville:** Sunday  
Hudson Belk, [HUDSONBELK2@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:HUDSONBELK2@HOTMAIL.COM)  
Matt Estler, [MDESTLER5@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MDESTLER5@GMAIL.COM)

**North Huntersville:** Sunday  
Roger Edwards, [ROGER.EDWARDS55@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ROGER.EDWARDS55@GMAIL.COM)

**Cornelius:** Sunday  
Jonathan Skolrood, [JONATHAN.SKOLROOD@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JONATHAN.SKOLROOD@GMAIL.COM)

**Cornelius:** Sunday  
Matt Gordon,  
[MATTHEW.RANDOLPH.GORDON@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MATTHEW.RANDOLPH.GORDON@GMAIL.COM)

**Davidson:** Sunday  
Matt Seiter, [MATTHEW.SEITER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MATTHEW.SEITER@GMAIL.COM)

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### NorthCross Church YTD Financial Summary

(for fiscal year 2022/2023; as of October 31, 2022)

Congregation Giving - Actual \$76,531 vs. Budget \$96,501  
Expenses (less Missions & Deacon's Fund) - Actual \$85,794 vs. Budget \$103,968  
Missions expenses \$7,333 Deacon's Fund expenses \$3,183  
Non-restricted cash position \$334,197