



# 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.

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**Administrator** – Angela Howard  
angela@northcrosschurch.com

**Worship Director** - Ben Chapman  
ben@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

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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 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 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent

## Call to Worship

Read Responsively

Isaiah 64:1-5  
I Corinthians 2:9

Leader: Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down,  
that the mountains might quake at your presence—  
as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—  
to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations  
might tremble at your presence!

**Congregation: When you did awesome things that we did not look  
for, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.**

Leader: From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye  
has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him.

**Congregation: Thus we hope in what God has prepared for those who  
love him, knowing you meet him who joyfully works righteousness,  
those who remember you in your ways.**

Leader: Let us worship the God of righteousness and peace together!

## Advent Reading

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

### 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

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

### Song of Worship

*Gather 'Round Ye Children Come*

#### 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

Isaiah 9:6  
Hebrews 4:11-16

**ALL: Gracious Father, you are the God of justice and peace. You are our true place of rest and flourishing. We come to you through your Son Jesus Christ who is our Prince of Peace and Wonderful Counselor.**

**Yet, we confess that where you have called us to be peacemakers, we have often had hearts of envy, anger or apathy. Where we have been called to rejoice in our trials, we have been bitter and jealous. Where we have been called us to be wise, we have been foolish. Where we have been called to wait, we have been impatient. Where we have been called to obey, your word has exposed the sins of our thoughts and intentions. No creature is hidden from your sight. We are exposed.**

**And yet we look to the Prince of Peace, the Son of God, our perfect high priest who brings every spiritual blessing into our lives through faith. Please forgive us and strengthen us. We now draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace in our time of need.**

### Silent Confession

#### Assurance of Pardon

Leader

Isaiah 26:3, 30:15

Leader: For thus said the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel,  
"In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and in trust shall be your strength." ... You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you... And Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

**Covenant of Baptism**

*Rose Katherine Gordon*

**Song of Thanksgiving**

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

**Children of NorthCross**

*The King of Christmas*

## **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)

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

<sup>2</sup> *Abraham was the father of Isaac.*

*Isaac was the father of Jacob.*

*Jacob was the father of Judah and his brothers.*

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

*Perez was the father of Hezron.*

*Hezron was the father of Ram.*

<sup>4</sup> *Ram was the father of Amminadab.*

*Amminadab was the father of Nahshon.*

*Nahshon was the father of Salmon.*

<sup>5</sup> *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.*

<sup>6</sup> *Jesse was the father of King David.*

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

<sup>7</sup> *Solomon was the father of Rehoboam.*

*Rehoboam was the father of Abijah.*

*Abijah was the father of Asa.*

<sup>8</sup> *Asa was the father of Jehoshaphat.*

*Jehoshaphat was the father of Jehoram.*

*Jehoram was the father of Uzziah.*

<sup>9</sup> *Uzziah was the father of Jotham.*

*Jotham was the father of Ahaz.*

*Ahaz was the father of Hezekiah.*

<sup>10</sup> *Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh.*

*Manasseh was the father of Amon.*

*Amon was the father of Josiah.*

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

<sup>12</sup> *After the Babylonian exile:*

*Jehoiachin was the father of Shealtiel.*

*Shealtiel was the father of Zerubbabel.*

<sup>13</sup> *Zerubbabel was the father of Abiud.*

*Abiud was the father of Eliakim.*

*Eliakim was the father of Azor.*

<sup>14</sup> *Azor was the father of Zadok.*

*Zadok was the father of Akim.*

### 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.

*Akim was the father of Eliud.*

<sup>15</sup> *Eliud was the father of Eleazar.*

*Eleazar was the father of Matthan.*

*Matthan was the father of Jacob.*

<sup>16</sup> *Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary.*

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

<sup>17</sup> *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?"*

**Rev. Ken Cross**

Cede Sports

## GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

**Song of Response**

*Worthy of It All*

**The Lord's Supper**

**Song of Receiving**

*O Come All Ye Faithful*

**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

- 12.10 Daybreak Prayer, 7:30 am  
Sunday School, 9:30 am  
Worship Service, 10:30 am
- 12.15 Youth Christmas Party, 7:00 pm

**This week's Mission + Outreach Organization**  
Lake Norman Community Pregnancy Center

## Announcements

**Youth Christmas Party** - Friday, Dec. 15th at the Estler's home, 13711 Hagers Ferry Road, Huntersville

**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

**Lost & Found** - Please claim your items from the Lost and Found in the Lobby. Items will be donated on Dec. 11th.

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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

**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).

**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

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### NorthCross Church YTD Financial Summary

(for fiscal year 2023/2024; as of October 31, 2023)

Congregation Giving - Actual \$105,236 vs. Budget \$112,261  
Expenses (less Missions & Deacon's Fund) - Actual \$85,798 vs. Budget \$437,684  
Missions expenses \$9,731 Deacon's Fund expenses \$706  
Worship Facility Received \$201,254 | Non-restricted cash position \$620,946