



# NORTHCROSS

C H U R C H

*Loved. Equipped. Sent.*

**Senior Pastor** - Dr. Gary Purdy  
gary@northcrosschurch.com

**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*)  
Scott Tew (*Calendar & Curricula*)  
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**  
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## **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  
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

February 11, 2024

## *Meditation*

*“May he never be forgotten,  
his fame shine on like sunshine.  
May all nations enter his circle of blessing  
and bless the One who blessed them.  
Blessed God, Israel’s God,  
the one and only wonder-working God!  
Blessed always his blazing glory!  
All earth brims with his glory.  
Yes and Yes and Yes.”*

*- Psalm 72:17-19 (The Message)*

## **Call to Worship**

Read Together

Book of  
Common Prayer

**All: Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## **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

### Songs of Worship

*Death Was Arrested*

*How Deep the Father's Love For Us*

#### 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.

### Confession of Sin

Read Responsively

*Isaiah 6:9-10*

Leader: Keep on hearing,

**People: but do not understand.**

Leader: Keep on seeing,

**People: but do not perceive.**

Leader: Make the heart of this people dull, and their ears heavy, and blind their eyes;

**People: Lest we see with our eyes, and hear with our ears, and understand with our hearts, and turn and be healed.**

### Silent Confession

#### Assurance of Pardon

This 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.

### Assurance of Pardon

Leader

*Isaiah 6:7*

Leader: Behold, your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for!

### Song of Thanksgiving

*Speak, O Lord*

## 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

Luke 8:4-18

<sup>4</sup> And when a great crowd was gathering and people from town after town came to him, he said in a parable, <sup>5</sup> "A sower went out to sow his seed. And as he sowed, some fell along the path and was trampled underfoot, and the birds of the air devoured it. <sup>6</sup> And some fell on the rock, and as it grew up, it withered away, because it had no moisture. <sup>7</sup> And some fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up with it and choked it. <sup>8</sup> And some fell into good soil and grew and yielded a hundredfold." As he said these things, he called out, "He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

<sup>9</sup> And when his disciples asked him what this parable meant, <sup>10</sup> he said, "To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of God, but for others they are in parables, so that 'seeing they may not see, and hearing they may not understand.' <sup>11</sup> Now the parable is this: The seed is the word of God. <sup>12</sup> The ones along the path are those who have heard; then the devil comes and takes away the word from their hearts, so that they may not believe and be saved. <sup>13</sup> And the ones on the rock are those who, when they hear the word, receive it with joy. But these have no root; they believe for a while, and in time of testing fall away. <sup>14</sup> And as for what fell among the thorns, they are those who hear, but as they go on their way they are choked by the cares and riches and pleasures of life, and their fruit does not mature. <sup>15</sup> As for that in the good soil, they are those who, hearing the word, hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patience.

<sup>16</sup> "No one after lighting a lamp covers it with a jar or puts it under a bed, but puts it on a stand, so that those who enter may see the light. <sup>17</sup> For nothing is hidden that will not be made manifest, nor is anything secret that will not be known and come to light. <sup>18</sup> Take care then how you hear, for to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he thinks that he has will be taken away."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

**CHANGED BY GOD'S WORD**

**Sermon**

*Epiphany –  
Jesus, God's Word and Light*

### 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.

## GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

**Song of Response**

*Show Us Christ*

**The Lord's Supper**

*Athanasian Creed (5th Century A.D.)*

Leader: Now this is the true faith:

**All: That we believe and confess that our Lord Jesus Christ, God's Son, is both God and human, equally. He is God from the essence of the Father, begotten before time; and he is human from the essence of his mother, born in time; completely God, completely human, with a rational soul and human flesh; equal to the Father as regards divinity, less than the Father as regards humanity.**

**Although he is God and human, yet Christ is not two, but one. He is one, however, not by his divinity being turned into flesh, but by God's taking humanity to himself. He is one, certainly not by the blending of his essence, but by the unity of his person. For just as one human is both rational soul and flesh, so too the one Christ is both God and human.**

**He suffered for our salvation; he descended to hell; he arose from the dead; he ascended to heaven; he is seated at the Father's right hand; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**At his coming all people will arise bodily and give an accounting of their own deeds. Those who have done good will enter eternal life, and those who have done evil will enter eternal fire.**

**Song of Receiving**

*The Church's One Foundation*

**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

- 2.11 Daybreak Prayer, 7:30 am  
Sunday School, 9:30 am  
Worship Service, 10:30 am
- 2.14 Women's Bible Study, 9:30 am
- 2.15 Women's Bible Study, 7:00 pm

## Announcements

**Baby Bottle Boomerang** - The baby bottles distributed for the Lake Norman Community Pregnancy Center are due back next Sunday, Feb. 18th. Please fill them with the cash or checks you have collected, and return them to the basket in the foyer.

**New Member Class** - If you are interested in the New Member class this spring, please reach out to Gary or an elder. The class will be scheduled in March once we gauge interest.

**Communicants Class** - We typically offer a communicants class in the spring for children in 3rd-5th grades who have expressed an interest in their faith. Please reach out to Gary or an elder if you feel your child is ready to participate in this class. Usually the class is offered during SS, and we are looking at late April/early May.

## This week's Mission + Outreach Organization

Rev. Andrew Goyzueta  
Davidson College 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).

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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

### 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 January 31, 2024)

Congregation Giving - Actual \$187,234 vs. Budget \$196,457

Expenses (less Missions, Deacons & Facility) - Actual \$149,946 vs. Budget \$199,674

Missions expenses \$15,345    Deacon's Fund expenses \$1,552

Worship Facility Received \$227,642 | Non-restricted cash position \$629,355