

This Is Home

A Place of Welcome



⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

Romans 15:7

September 14, 2025
Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost
10:15 am Family Contemporary Worship



Come & See

WELCOME

Welcome to worship! We are so glad that you've chosen to worship here! Cross & Crown is a community of Christ-followers from all walks of life. We hope that you will feel a warm welcome from the congregation and will worship with us again!

ADDITIONAL SUNDAY INFORMATION

Sunday school classes are offered for adults located in the Multipurpose space. Our adult class, Books of Faith, meets in room 206.

Communion is offered each week. Everyone is invited to the Lord's Table!

Our church has something for everyone, and not just on Sundays. During the week, we have activities such as Bible studies and small groups. On Wednesday evenings we share a fellowship dinner at 6 pm. We hope you'll come try it out! See the back of the bulletin for more details about how to sign up.

Now that you know a little about us, help us get to know you better by completing the Connection Card handed to you by one of our greeters when you entered. You can hand it to one of the pastors or drop it in the offering plate.

PARENTS

We love the sound of kids in our service! Here are some ideas to keep them engaged.

Relax! It's ok to let kids be kids!

Sit close: Consider sitting up front where it's easier for kids to see and hear.

Explain: Kids are curious! Explain what's happening in the service.

Participate: Sing hymns loudly, pray, respond, etc. Children learn by following your lead.

Activities: If you would like a bag of quiet activities for your little ones, ask an usher and they will provide one for you.

Wander: It's ok to move around. Sometimes it's easier to let fidgety kids move a bit.

Need to Leave? No problem, but please come back! Sometimes kids just need a break. There are speakers in the narthex & lounge so you can hear. The narthex is a great place to get the wiggles out, and the lounge is nice if you need privacy.

Ask: Questions or just need help? Just ask one of our ushers.

Childcare: The nursery is down the hall in the Multipurpose Space for infants to age 4 and is available during both worship services. If you need assistance, an usher can help you. C&C Kids is offered to kids pre-K through 3rd grade. Kids depart the sanctuary during the Passing of the Peace and return to worship before communion.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

How Beautiful

Paris

Worship Song

Overcome

Brown, Brock, Furtick

Verse 1

Now the darkness fades
Into new beginnings
As we lift our eyes
To a hope beyond
All creation waits
With an expectation
To declare the reign
Of the Lord our God

Chorus

We will not be moved
When the earth gives way
For the Risen One has overcome
And for every fear
There's an empty grave
For the Risen One has overcome

Verse 2

Now the silence breaks
In the name of Jesus
As the heavens cry

Let the earth respond
All creation shouts
With a voice of triumph
To declare the reign
Of the Lord our God

Bridge

He shall reign forever
Strongholds now surrender
For the Lord our God has overcome
Who can be against us
Jesus our defender
He is Lord and he has overcome

Prayers of the Church



Lord, I need You, oh, I need You.



Ev - 'ry hour I need You. My one de - fense, my right - eous - ness; Oh, God, how I need



You.

(Refrain)

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

Holy One, We pray for the church to follow in your ways, that it may be a witness to your love for all people.

Help us choose all that is life-giving. pour out your grace upon your church. Forgive us for the times when we have been unfaithful, and renew our commitment to your gospel of love. Empower us to live as a community of mercy.

Gracious Father, we pray for those in authority. Grant them wisdom to govern justly and compassion to care for the marginalized. Equip them for actions that further the common good. Make them instruments of your mercy in the world, working to heal divisions and promote peace.

God of Us All, bring your peace, the peace that passes all understanding to this world. In places of war show your compassion and mercy. Bring reconciliation to all the countries that see war, destruction, and hardship with their own eyes.

And we sing...

(Refrain)

Compassionate God, we lift up all who suffer. Bring healing, comfort, and peace to those who are sick, grieving, or in pain. We lift up to you all on our congregational prayer list and all we name aloud at this time...

(Pause for congregation)

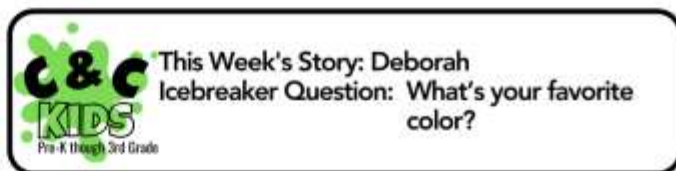
Give us compassionate hearts to accompany those who are hurting and courage to work for justice and mercy.

God of Love, we pray for this congregation, that we may be united in love and faith. Refresh our hearts in Christ, and deepen our support of one another. We pray that our sharing of faith may transform lives. We pray over our "This is home" special appeal. May the updates and maintenance to our building bring you glory by providing a home for us and those that have not walked through our doors yet.

We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. We sing our AMEN.

(Refrain)

(Children may head out for C&C Kids)



Sharing of the Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Welcome Home and Announcements *(See back page for additional announcements.)*

Temple Talk

THE WORD

Romans 15:7

⁷Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Luke 10:25-37

²⁵An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?"

²⁶He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" ²⁷He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." ²⁸And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." ²⁹But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" ³⁰Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. ³¹Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. ³²So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. ³³But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and

when he saw him he was moved with compassion. ³⁴He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. ³⁵The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.' ³⁶Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" ³⁷He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Pastor Melody Simpkins

THANKSGIVING

Anthem

Giver of Every Perfect Gift

Jaroslav J. Vajda/K. Lee Scott

Giver of every perfect gift, You shape my life from womb to grave. Reveal your good and gracious will That plants me in this time and place. Display the gifts assigned to me. Make them a witness to your name.

You planned and know the gifts I have; Creator God, from you they come, Unique and special, from your heart, Intended for a chosen role. Thrill me to find and recognize the talents only you can give.

Revealing Word, sent Son of God, Proclaimer of the Kingdom's dawn. It is for you, because of you, That every talent is bestowed. You have a part for me to fill, A purpose for this life of mine.

Enabling Spirit, Gift of gifts, Empower me, stir up my faith, make me an instrument of grace, Of mercy, blessing, peace and joy. Let me not miss another day in seeing what your gifts can do. Giver of every perfect gift.

(Please stand)

Offertory Response

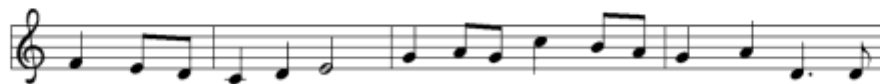
Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful



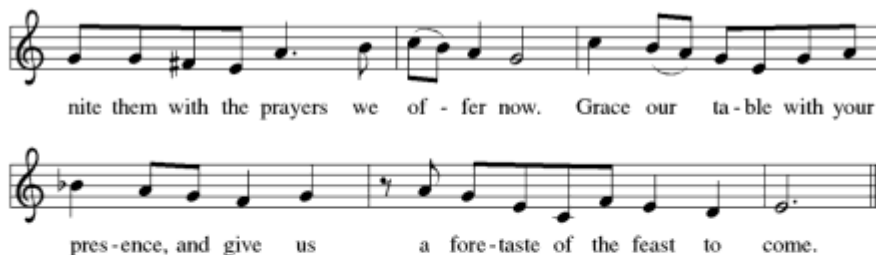
Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



Statement of Belief

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

Come to the Table-- Everyone's Invited!

Holy Communion is a celebration of Christ's love, shared through His body and blood. If you're hungry for His presence, this meal is for you! We commune by taking a piece of bread and dipping it into wine or grape juice. Need grape juice or gluten-free options? No problem—the assistant will gladly help you out. Kids are welcome, too! Just let the assistant know if your child will be receiving Communion or would prefer a special blessing. We're so glad you're here—let's share this joyful moment together!

Communion

Words of Institution

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.

OR

Our Father, who is of heaven,
Holy is your name
Your kingdom come
Your will be done
On earth as it is in heaven
Give us today our daily bread
And forgive us our trespasses
As we forgive those who trespass against us
And lead us not into temptation
and deliver us from evil
For yours is the kingdom
And the power, and the glory
now and forever, Amen.

Welcome to the Table

P: Come now and feast on the gifts of God for the people of God.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated)

Lamb of God



Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

Come As You Are

Verse 1

Come out of sadness from wherever you've been
Come broken-hearted let rescue begin
Come find your mercy O sinner come kneel
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal

Chorus

(So) Lay down your burdens lay down your shame
All who are broken lift up your face
O wanderer come home
You're not too far
So lay down your hurt lay down your heart
Come as you are

Verse 2

There's hope for the hopeless
And all those who've strayed

Crowder, Maher, Glover

Come sit at the table come taste the grace
There's rest for the weary
Rest that endures
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure

Bridge

Come as you are
Fall in His arms
Come as you are

Verse 3

There's joy for the morning O sinner be still
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal
Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal

Ending

Come as you are
Come as you are
Come as you are

The Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in God's grace.

C: Amen.

Benediction

P: The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ☩ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Song

The Lion and the Lamb

Brown, Johnson, Mooring

Verse 1

He's coming on the clouds
Kings and kingdoms will bow down
And every chain will break
As broken hearts declare His praise
For who can stop the Lord Almighty

Chorus

Our God is the Lion
The Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power
And fighting our battles
And every knee will bow before Him
Our God is the Lamb
The Lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world
His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb
Every knee will bow before Him

Verse 2

So open up the gates
Make way before the King of kings
The God who comes to save
Is here to set the captives free
For who can stop the Lord Almighty

Bridge

Who can stop the Lord Almighty
Who can stop the Lord (Almighty)

The Doxology (sung a capella)

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen!

Sending

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

Children are invited to join Mr. Larry for music in the choir room following the service.



Weekly Announcements

AT CROSS & CROWN

SET YOUR ROOTS @ C&C!

Welcome Home!

That's what we say every time we gather for worship—and we mean it. Many of you have been worshipping with us regularly and already feel like part of the family, even if you haven't officially joined yet.

If you're ready to set your roots and deepen your faith in this community, we invite you to Set Your Roots on **TODAY at 11:30 a.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. This is a relaxed time to learn more about the Cross & Crown family, what membership means, and how you can continue growing in faith and connection here.

Lunch will be provided. For more information, contact Pastor Melody at pastormelody@crossandcrown.org.



ROOTED SUNDAYS

11:30-2:30

We are excited to announce that we'll have a Faith Formation Day for all children and youth.

Once a month, we'll gather on Sunday at 11:30 to share lunch together. Followed by learning for all ages. The high school will have youth group with a devotion and activities.

The middle school will have confirmation with Pastor Melody to learn the catechism and the bible, preparing them to take on their faith themselves. And for grades kindergarten to 5th grade, we have "Rooted Sunday". This is an interactive experience led by one of our members, sharing their gifts with the younger generation. Our children will experience the

Biblical foundations each month through hands-on fun activities.

Come Sept 21 for our first Faith Formation Day!!!



BE A MAN. OF FAITH.


**MEN'S RETREAT:
NOV. 21-23**


STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS...


Paint & Sip- Nov. 22

Ladies, mark your calendars for another Paint & Sip! After such a fun time at our last gathering, we're excited to do it again. All women of the church are invited to join us for an afternoon of creativity, laughter, and connection!



 Friday, November 22

 12:30-3:00 p.m.

 At the church

\$ \$35 per person (RSVP required in advance)

SIGN UP DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 1ST.

WE CANNOT ADD ANYONE AFTER THE SIGN UP DEADLINE.

Scan to
RSVP



We'll sip on wine, enjoy light snacks, and share stories as we create together in a relaxed, judgment-free space. No painting experience needed—just come ready to unwind and have fun!



**Wednesday
Night
Happenings**

6 pm

SCAN TO RSVP



9-17-25

**Shepherd's Pie,
Garden Salad, & Dessert**



Let's Light a Fire!

Join the Men's Group around the fire pit on Sept. 17th! This is a chill time to talk about anything on your mind and future events for the Men's Group.



Children, Youth & Family

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday, Sept. 21
Saturday, Sept. 27

Confirmation, Youth Group, Faith Formation
Family Meet-up: Tailgate & Bike Race

Sunday, Oct. 5
Sunday, Oct. 12
Friday, Oct. 24
Wednesday, Oct. 29

Confirmation, Youth Group, Faith Formation
Family Meet-up: Hall Family Farm
Corn Maze (Youth)
Trunk-or-Treat

Week at a Glance

Monday, September 15th

10 am- Book Club
7:30 pm- Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, September 16th

12 pm- Staff Meeting
7pm- Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 17th

6 pm- Wednesday Night Happenings Dinner
6:30 pm- Men's Gathering @ the Fire Pit
6:45 pm- Handbells
7:30 pm- Choir

Friday, September 19th

4:30 pm- Walking Club

Sunday, September 21st

8:15 am Worship
9 am Coffee Hour
9:15 am- Adult Sunday School Book of Psalm
10:15 am- Worship

11:30 am- Confirmation & Youth Group

11:30 am- Rooted Sundays

See Info Below!

new!

Serving in Worship Today

Assisting Minister:	Hugh Kluttz
Acolyte:	Nevaeh McClinton
Communion Assistants:	Susan Arcuri, Mike Meath
Usher:	Brenda Wagner, Helen McLiverty
Communion Set-up:	Jennifer LaMere
Greeters:	Brittany Wellborn
Nursery Assistant:	Kati Goode
C&C Kids:	Kia Smith, Pastor
Contribution Counter:	Barbara Maillet, Cathy Kozlinks

You can give to C&C by scanning the QR code below.

SCAN TO GIVE



Our Staff

Melody Simpkins	Co-Pastor
Matt Simpkins	Co-Pastor
Larry Stratemeyer	Dr. of Music Ministries
LeAnne Bates	Church Administrator
Laura Van Landingham	Ministry Program
Dan Goldstein	Coordinator
Terry McClure	Technical Director
Jessica Carter	Hospitality Coordinator
	Custodian

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Maher, Ben Glover © 2014 Ariose Music, sixsteps Music, Thankyou Music, Valley Of Songs Music, worshiptogether.com songs CCLI Song #
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