



**Jesus still
meets us at
the table.**

March 15, 2026
10:15 am Family Contemporary Worship
Fourth Sunday in Lent



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

Improvisation on a chord progression

Andy Blackburn, piano

Worship Song

Build My Life

Yunker, Martin, Kaple, Redman, Barrett

Verse 1

Worthy of ev'ry song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You

Verse 2

Jesus the name above ev'ry other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of ev'ry breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
We live for You

Chorus

Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

Bridge

I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

Confession

Refrain

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy on me.

P: Let us confess our sin before God, who forgives us now and always.

(Silence is kept for reflection.)

P: Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love, for seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you. Have mercy on us for desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word. Have mercy on us for failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit and we sing together...

(Refrain)

P: Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love. For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers. Have mercy on us for disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world. Have mercy on us for dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life: Gracious God, have mercy on us according to your steadfast love and we sing...

(Refrain)

P: God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the righteousness of Christ. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

*Refrain- O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord oh Lord our God*

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

O God, When we gather to worship, send us your Spirit. Renew our hearts through the joyful noise we make and bless the work of our church. Preserve your church. Give to pastors, deacons, bishops, and all servants of your gospel the endurance that produces character and the hope that will never disappoint.

O God, you delight in this world. The sun and moon, the wind and the water declare your goodness. We praise you for the diversity of people among us. Awaken us to share and receive the gifts we each possess, and stir up a spirit of understanding, celebration, and welcome for all.
Hear us as we sing...

(Refrain)

O God, we plead for your peace on earth. Bring an end to war and violence, and raise up leaders in governments, courts, businesses, schools, and community organizations who seek goodness and mercy.

O God, When your people thirst, satisfy their needs. Send water and food to all who need nourishment. Grant welcome to all who are excluded. Show your mercy to any in need. We lift to you all who are in need of your healing.

(We now invite you to speak aloud the names of those for whom you are praying.)

O God, when death draws near, we rejoice in the promise of life with you. We remember all who have entered eternal rest, and we pray that you bring us the hope of sharing in your glory. Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation and 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.**



This Week's Story: Jesus Walks on Water
Icebreaker Question: What is your favorite
pizza topping?

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

THE WORD

Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!
Rise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

John 9:1-11

¹As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ²His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” ¹⁰But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.”

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Pastor Matt Simpkins

THANKSGIVING

Anthem
Christ in Me Arise

Thomson

Christ in me arise and dispel all the darkness. Christ in me arise with your power and your strength. Christ in me pour out your blessing and healing. Christ in me arise and I shall rise with you.

Be now my vision; open these eyes, showing me all that I must see. Onward to the kingdom, you are the way. Arise in me and I shall rise with you. Refrain.

Be now my footsteps, leading the way, taking me where I must go. Onward to the kingdom, you are the way. Arise in me and I shall rise with you. Refrain

You know my heart and you know my ways, you who formed me in my mother's womb. I live and move in you, my whole being thrives in you. Refrain

(Please stand)

Offertory Response

481 Come to the Table

Come to the Table



Come to the ta - ble of mer - cy, pre - pared with the wine and the bread.



All who are hun - gry and thirst - y, come, and your souls will be fed.



Come at the Lord's in - vi - ta - tion; re - ceive from his nail - scarred hand.



Eat of the bread of sal - va - tion; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

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.

COMMUNION

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!

Words of Institution

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us:

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



☩ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Song Come to the Table

McDonald, Frey, Glover

Verse 1

We all start on the outside
The outside looking in
This is where grace begins
We were hungry we were thirsty
With nothing left to give
Oh the shape that we were in

Pre-Chorus

Just when all hope seemed lost
Love opened the door for us

Chorus

(He said) come to the table
Come join the sinners who have been redeemed
Take your place beside the Savior
Sit down and be set free
(Come to the table)

Verse 2

Come meet this motley crew of misfits
These liars and these thieves
There's no one unwelcome here
So that sin and shame that you've brought with you
You can leave it at the door
And let mercy draw you near

Bridge

To the thief and to the doubter
To the hero and the coward
To the pris'ner and the soldier
To the young and to the older
All who hunger all who thirst
All the last and all the first
All the paupers and the princes
All who've failed you've been forgiven
All who dream and all who suffer
All who've loved and lost another
All the chained and all the free
All who follow all who lead
Anyone who's been let down
All the lost you have been found
All who've been labeled right or wrong
To ev'ryone who hears this song

Ending

Woah sit down and be set free
Come to the table
Come to the table
Just sit down and rest awhile
Just sit down and rest awhile
Come to the table

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: May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise
✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sending Song

One Thing Remains (Your Love Never Fails)

Johnson, Riddle, Gifford

Verse 1

Higher than the mountains that I face

Stronger than the power of the grave

Constant in the trial and the change

One thing remains

One thing remains

Interlude

Your love Your love Your love will never change

Chorus

Your love never fails

It never gives up

Never runs out on me

(REPEAT)

Your love

Verse 2

On and on and on and on it goes

It overwhelms and satisfies my soul

And I never ever have to be afraid

One thing remains

One thing remains

Bridge

In death in life I'm confident and

Cover'd by the power of Your great love

My debt is paid there's nothing that

Can separate my heart from Your great love

(REPEAT)

Ending

Your love

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: Please read the sending with me.

L: Go in peace and share Cross and Crown's mission with the world.

C: **Following Jesus, loving and serving all!**



Weekly Announcements

JOIN US FOR LUNCH & LEARN ABOUT C&C!

TODAY!



Welcome home! That's what we say every time we gather for worship. Are you ready to set your roots? Are you ready to deepen your faith in this community?

Join us today at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall for Set Your Roots. This is a time to learn more about the Cross & Crown family.

Lunch will be provided.

Ladies Lunch Bunch March 16th

The Ladies Lunch Bunch will meet at Portofino's at 12:30 pm. on Monday, March 16th. All women are welcome! RSVP to Kathy Shepler (kathylovespete@gmail.com).



**Saturday
April 4
10am - 12pm**

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

The annual C&C Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, April 4th! We are collecting plastic eggs and egg "fillers". Egg "fillers" can be individually wrapped candy and small toys. Please drop off your donations in the collecting basket in the Narthex.

Thank you!

FLOWERS FOR EASTER

Each year, we invite the congregation to help beautify the sanctuary for Easter Sunday by purchasing flowers. With a donation of \$20, you can select a plant to take home after the service. Flowers will be purchased just before Easter to ensure freshness and provide a variety of options.

Dedications can be made in memory of someone special, in someone's honor, or to the Glory of God. If you'd like to make a donation to Common Heart instead of receiving a plant, please mark "No Plant". **Order forms are due by March 29.**



Thank you to Lori Meath and Kathy Shepler for teaching a group of us how to play Mahjong in February. Regular play has now started on Wednesdays from 1 to 3 PM in the parlor. Please reach out to Carole Stojetz for more information if you wish to play at cestojetz@carolina.r.com.

INGATHERING OF COMMUNION WINE

During Lent we will be having an ingathering of communion wine. You are invited to bring a bottle of Manischewitz Concord Grape wine.

There is a labeled collection basket in the Narthex.



Lenten Sunday School Class

Pastor Melody will lead a Lenten class based on the book *Meeting Jesus at the Table* by Cynthia Campbell and Christine Coy Fohr. This will be a discussion class based on the scripture and questions after the devotion for the week.

Sunday mornings Feb 22- March 29 at 9:15.

Mid Week Lenten Services

Midweek Lenten services are held on Wednesday after dinner at 6:45 in the Fellowship Hall around our dinner tables. Each service will have a short homily based on the theme for the week.

This weeks scripture focus: Luke 14:15-24



SERVE ON THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

Looking for a simple but meaningful way to serve the church? Consider joining the Finance Committee.

The committee meets once a month to review financial reports from the Bookkeeper and Treasurer, discuss the church's financial health, and share insights with the Congregation Council. In the fall, the team also helps coordinate the annual budgeting process.

You don't need to be a financial expert, but some experience managing household finances is helpful. This is a one or two year commitment with monthly meetings—an easy but important way to support the mission and future of our church.



**Wednesday
Night
Happenings**

SCAN TO RSVP



March 18

**Chicken Pot Pie
Soup
& Sandwiches**

All the cozy flavors of a homestyle pot pie in a warm, hearty soup with chicken, vegetables, and a creamy base.

**Sides: Garden Salad &
Dessert**

Monday, March 16

10 am- Morning Book Club
12:30 pm- Lunch Bunch @ Portofino's
7:30 pm- Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, March 17

Happy St. Patrick's Day!



12 pm- Staff Meeting
7 pm- Finance Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 18

5:30 pm- Executive Committee Meeting
6 pm- WNH Dinner
6:45 pm- Mid-Week Lenten Service
7:15 pm- Handbells
7:45 pm- Choir

Friday, March 20

4:25 pm- Walking Club

Sunday, March 22

8:15 am- Worship
9 am- Coffee Hour
9:15 am- Adult Sunday School
10:15 am- Worship
11:30 am- PEEP OLYMPICS
(C&C Youth Group)



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

SCAN TO GIVE



Serving in Worship Today

Assisting Minister:	Cathy Thompson
Acolyte:	Copeland Simpkins
Communion Assistants:	Hugh Klutz, Susan Arcuri
Usher:	Keith Whitener, Garry Rudolph
Communion Set-up:	Jennifer LaMere
Greeters:	Felicia Eybl
Nursery Assistant:	Amanda Hayes
C&C Kids:	Jared Blackburn, Brandon Prickett
Contribution Counter:	Barbara Maillet, Cathy Kozlinski

Our Staff

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