

This Is Home

Built Together



¹⁹ So then, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰ built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone; ²¹ in him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord, ²² in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

Ephesians 2:19-22

September 7, 2025
Thirteenth 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

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought!

Hartsell

Worship Song

Everlasting God

Brown, Riley

Verse

Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord
We will wait upon the Lord

Pre-Chorus

Our God You reign forever
Our Hope our strong Deliv'rer

Chorus

You are the everlasting God
The everlasting God
You do not faint
You won't grow weary
You're the defender of the weak
You comfort those in need
You lift us up on wings like eagles

Prayers of the Church

Refrain

*God is so good. God is so good.
God is so good, God's so good to me.*

(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)

Holy Baptism of Brooks Jackson Tiller

P: In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

P: Parents, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child, Brooks Jackson Tiller, baptized into Christ?

Response: We do.

P: As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities: to live with him among God's faithful people, bring him to the word of God and the holy supper, teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, place in his hands the holy scriptures, and nurture him in faith and prayer, so that your child may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace.

P: Do you promise to help Brooks grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: We do.

P: People of God, do you promise to support Brooks and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

C: We do.

(Please stand)

Profession of Faith

P: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C: We renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C: We renounce them.

P: Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: We renounce them.

- P: Do you believe in God the Father?
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**
- P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
**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.**
- P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
**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.**

Thanksgiving at the Font

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.**
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
- P: We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters, and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river, your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection, you set us free from the power of sin and death and raised us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, that those who are washed in the waters of baptism may be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.
- C: Amen.**

(Please be seated)

Baptism

Brooks Jackson Tiller, I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

- C: Amen.**
- P: Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Brooks with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.
- C: Amen.**

(The sign of the cross is made with oil on the forehead of the baptized)

P: Brooks, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C: **Amen.**

Welcome

P: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

P: Let us welcome the newly baptized.

C: **We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

(Children may head out for C&C Kids)



This Week's Story: The Battle of Jericho
Icebreaker Question: Would you rather play board games or video games?

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

Ephesians 2:19-22

9 So then, you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, 20 built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone; 21 in him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

P: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Pastor Matt Simpkins

THANKSGIVING

Anthem

Welcome Table

arr. Mark Hayes

I'm a-goin'-a eat at the welcome table,
I'm a-goin'-a eat at the welcome table, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a eat at the welcome table,
I'm goin'-a eat at the welcome table, some of these days.

I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and honey,
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and honey, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a feast on milk and honey,
I'm goin'-a feast on milk and honey, some of these days, some of these days.

I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jordan's river,
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jordan's river, some of these days.
I'm a-goin'-a wade 'cross Jordan's river,
I'm goin'-a wade 'cross Jordan's river, some of these days,
I'm goin'-a wade 'cross Jordan's river, some of these days, yes, some of these days.

(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 -
nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

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



The musical notation for the hymn 'Lamb of God' is presented in four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across multiple notes. The melody is simple and repetitive, with a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

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
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Hymn

Lay It All Down (At the Feet of Jesus)

Reagan, Washington

Verse 1

Bring your worry grief and pain
Every cause you have for shame
Lay it all down lay it all down
When your cares have buried you
And there's nothing left to do
Lay it all down lay it all down
At the feet of Jesus at the feet of Jesus

Verse 2

Carried on but your heart was tired
Feared the worst and felt the fire
Lay it all down lay it all down
Filled with all those anxious thoughts
And your doubts became your god
Lay it all down lay it all down
At the feet of Jesus at the feet of Jesus

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

My Lighthouse

Gilkeson, Llewellyn

Verse 1

In my wrestling and in my doubts
In my failures You won't walk out
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

Verse 2

In the silence You won't let go
In the questions Your truth will hold
Your great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

Chorus

My Lighthouse my Lighthouse
Shining in the darkness
I will follow You oh

Chorus

Lay it all down
Lay it all down
Lay it all down
Lay it all down
(REPEAT)
At the feet of Jesus
At the feet of Jesus

Verse 3

When we've given up on better days
There are memories we can't erase
Lay it all down lay it all down
When we've come to fear what we can't explain
And there's nothing here that can ease the pain
Lay it all down lay it all down
At the feet of Jesus at the feet of Jesus

My Lighthouse my Lighthouse
I will trust the promise
You will carry me safe to shore
Safe to shore safe to shore safe to shore

Verse 3

I won't fear what tomorrow brings
With each morning I'll rise and sing
My God's love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea whoa oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea

Bridge

Fire before us
You're the brightest
You will lead us
Through the storms (hey)
(REPEAT 3X)

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.



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 **Sunday, September 14 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.



YOU'RE INVITED TO THE BREAKFAST CLUB!

Ladies! Start your day off right with good food, good friends, and great conversation! We meet bright and early at Collective Café! Join us on September 10, @ 7 a.m. Contact Heidi Rhyne (hrhyne67@gmail.com, 704-534-1367) for info and to RSVP.



Women's Renewal Day Retreat

Join us for a refreshing Women's Renewal Day Retreat—a special time set aside for prayer, uplifting activities, and meaningful fellowship.

Step away from the busyness of life and come be renewed in spirit as we gather together in faith and friendship.

Scan to Register

Saturday, September 20, 2025 | 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Esplanade at Northgate

208 Northgate Blvd, Indian Trail, NC 28079

\$35 per person, lunch is included!

REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 7th



BE A MAN. OF FAITH.

MEN'S RETREAT: NOV. 21-23

STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS...



**Wednesday
Night
Happenings**

6 pm

9-10-25

**Grilled Chicken, Hash Brown
Casserole, Green Beans,
Garden Salad, & Dessert**

SCAN HERE TO
RSVP



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.



Week at a Glance

Monday, September 8th

7:30 pm- Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, September 9th

9:30 am- Squares of Love Quilting

12 pm- Staff Meeting

6:30 pm- Table Talk

Wednesday, September 10th

6 pm- Wednesday Night Happenings Dinner

6:45 pm- Handbells

7:30 pm- Choir

Thursday, September 11th

7:45 am- Men's Bible Study

7pm- Miriam Circle

Friday, September 12th

4:30 pm- Walking Club

Sunday, September 14th

8:15 am Worship

9 am Coffee Hour

9:15 am- Adult Sunday School

10:15 am- Worship

11:30 am- Set Your Roots



Serving in Worship Today

Assisting Minister:

Acolyte:

Communion Assistants:

Usher:

Communion Set-up:

Greeters:

Nursery Assistant:

C&C Kids:

Contribution Counter:

Praying for Possibilities:

Rita Deppe

Rori White

Julie & Ashley Rutkowski

Brian Deppe, Roger Black

Kim Kirk

Cathy Kozlinski

John Hejka

Jason & Dawn Watts

Susan Blair-Kluttz

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

SCAN TO GIVE



Our Staff

Melody Simpkins

Matt Simpkins

Larry Stratemeyer

LeAnne Bates

Laura Van Landingham

Dan Goldstein

Terry McClure

Jessica Carter

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God Is So Good, words and music, Pat Barrett, Daniel Bashta, Ben Smith Ó 2017 Capitol CMG Genesis, Housefires Sounds, Vamos Publishing,

Go Forth Sounds, Bread & Wine Sounds. CCLI Song # 7100964 Welcome Table, African American Spiritual, arr. Mark Hayes Ó 2003 Augsburg Fortress. Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful, music Richard W. Hillert Ó text and music 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Lay It All Down (At the Feet of Jesus), words and music, Will Reagan, Freddie Washington Ó Capitol CMG Genesis, United Pursuit Music. CCLI

Song # 7068183 My Lighthouse, words and music, Gareth Gilkeson, Chris Llewellyn Ó 2013 Thankyou Music. CCLI Song # 7002032 Holy

Communion, Setting Three, Richard W. Hillert Ó 1978, 2006 Augsburg Fortress. OneLicense A-730-808