



Seventh Sunday After Pentecost

July 12, 2026

10:15 am Family Contemporary Worship





Following Jesus. Loving & Serving All.

WELCOME

Welcome to worship! Cross & Crown is an inclusive, vibrant Christ-centered church committed to caring for and serving our communities and each other. We hope that you will feel a warm welcome and will worship with us again!

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 & Common Room so you can hear. The narthex is a great place to get the wiggles out, and the Common Room 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 & 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 Sharing of the Peace and return to worship before communion.

ADDITIONAL 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!

Cross & Crown has something for everyone, and not just on Sundays. During the week, we have activities such as Bible studies and small groups. Come join us for a home-cooked meal on Wednesday evenings at 6 pm. See the back of the bulletin for more details and how to RSVP.



Now that you know a little about us, help us get to know your story by scanning the QR code to fill out our First Time Guest Connection Form- share as much or as little as you'd like. It takes less than a minute!



SCAN HERE

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude

For the Beauty of the Earth

arr. Carter

Worship Song

Rise

Kaple, Barrett, Moore

Verse

Your love will never fail You're steadfast
Your promises are true You're faithful
You cover all my sins with forgiveness
My eyes have seen Your ways Your goodness

Pre-Chorus

Love and faithfulness meet
We behold Your glory
Righteousness and peace kiss
Heaven's all around us

Chorus

Spring up O well
Living Water rise within us
Spring up O well
Holy Spirit deep within us

Interlude

Rise (4X)

Bridge

We'll see Your goodness in the land of the living

Confession

P: Compassionate God,

C: **we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.**

P: Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C: **Amen.**

Prayers of the Church

Refrain

*We sing God is so good
God is so good, God is so good
He's so good to me*

Trusting in the power of the Holy Spirit to unite this broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation, kneeling, sitting, or standing as you are able.

God of mercy, you call your church to a life filled with acts of grace and mercy. Nourish us so we can proclaim your hope to the world, offer welcome, and proclaim your peace. Give us courage to love our neighbors as you have loved us, especially those who are hurting, forgotten, or in need. Through our words and actions, make us instruments of your healing and reconciliation.

God of the nations, you sent Jesus as peace for all of humankind. Bring an end to war and conflict, bring hope to places devastated by destruction, and sustain those who advocate for peace. You call us to act justly and love mercy. Give us strength to be your voice in a broken world. And we sing...

Refrain

God of healing, you promise to provide for us. Help those living with disabilities. Comfort those experiencing any sort of illness or suffering, especially those on our congregational prayer list and those we name aloud at this time...

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

We lift these prayers to you, trusting you hear our hearts and walk with us on this journey through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. We sing our Amen.

(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: Adam & Eve
Icebreaker Question: Would you rather
have wings or a tail?

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

THE WORD

Isaiah 55:10-13 (NRSVU)

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,

giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;

it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²For you shall go out in joy
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Isaiah 55:10-13 (NIV)

¹⁰As the rain and the snow
come down from heaven,
and do not return to it
without watering the earth
and making it bud and flourish,
so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater,
¹¹so is my word that goes out from my mouth:
It will not return to me empty,
but will accomplish what I desire
and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.
¹²You will go out in joy
and be led forth in peace;
the mountains and hills
will burst into song before you,
and all the trees of the field
will clap their hands.
¹³Instead of the thornbush will grow the juniper,
and instead of briars the myrtle will grow.
This will be for the Lord's renown,
for an everlasting sign,
that will endure forever."

Isaiah 55:10-13 (The Message)

"For as the sky soars high above earth,
so the way I work surpasses the way you work,
and the way I think is beyond the way you think.
Just as rain and snow descend from the skies
and don't go back until they've watered the earth,
Doing their work of making things grow and blossom,
producing seed for farmers and food for the hungry,
So will the words that come out of my mouth
not come back empty-handed.
They'll do the work I sent them to do,
they'll complete the assignment I gave them.
¹²⁻¹³ "So you'll go out in joy,
you'll be led into a whole and complete life.
The mountains and hills will lead the parade,
bursting with song.
All the trees of the forest will join the procession,
exuberant with applause.
No more thistles, but giant sequoias,
no more thornbushes, but stately pines—
Monuments to me, to God,
living and lasting evidence of God."

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

(Please be seated)

Sermon

Pastor Matt Simpkins

THANKSGIVING

Anthem

Sing the Lord's Song

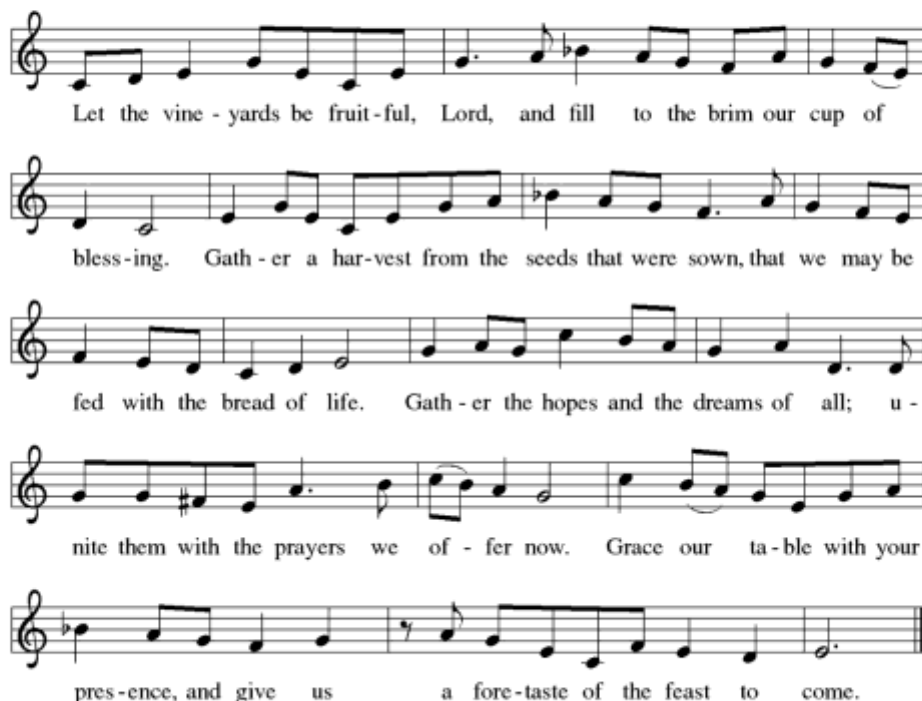
Sleeth

Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, Let the music sound. Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song all the world around! Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, Chant it high or low, Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song everywhere you go! Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, Share the melody, Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song joyfully, Oh, sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, Sing it thru and thru, Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song every day anew! Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, Let it fill the air, Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, Sound it everywhere! Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, 'Tis a song of praise, Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, Thankful voices raise! Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, Follow in its way, Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song day by day, Oh, sing, sing, sing the Lord's song, Sing it shore to shore, Sing, sing, sing the Lord's song now and evermore!

Offertory Hymn

182 Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

Hillert



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.

Statement of Belief

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
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Song

Overcome

Furtick, Brown, Brock

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

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: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C: Amen.

Sending Song

Yes and Amen

Verse 1

Father of kindness You have poured out grace
You brought me out of darkness
You have filled me with peace
Giver of mercy You're my help in time of need
Lord I can't help but sing

Chorus 1

Faithful You are
Faithful forever You will be
Faithful You are
All Your promises are Yes and Amen
All Your promises are Yes and Amen

Verse 2

Beautiful Savior You have brought me near
You pulled me from the ashes
You have broken ev'ry curse

McClarney, Moore, Brown

Blessed Redeemer You have set this captive free
Lord I can't help but sing

Chorus 2

Faithful You are
Faithful forever You will be
Faithful You are yes You are
All Your promises are Yes and Amen

Bridge

I will rest in Your promises
My confidence is Your faithfulness
(REPEAT)

Ending

All Your promises are Yes and Amen
All Your promises are Yes and Amen

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: Together we say our mission statement:

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

L: Now, go and live it out!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS



YOUTH MISSION TRIP

Our youth mission trip to The Dwelling is almost here! From July 26-31, our youth will spend the week at Spark'Dwell, serving, learning, and experiencing this incredible ministry firsthand.

Our youth are still a little short of their fundraising goal. Unfortunately, water restrictions meant we weren't able to hold our annual car wash fundraiser, so we could use a little extra help getting them across the finish line!

If you would like to support our youth and their mission trip, donations can be made scanning the QR code, & select "Youth Mission Trip Donation".



Thank you for supporting our youth as they prepare to serve, grow, and make a difference!

Our Next Summer Series is NEXT Sunday! July 19: Grow Together



Faith flourishes when we grow side by side. Gather for a comforting meal and reflect on the Fruit of the Spirit as we continue growing together in Christ. We will be collecting school supplies and packing backpack for kids in our area.

Diane Hunt, Executive Director and CEO of Changed Choices, will be with us next Sunday for our next Summer Series! Diane will share more about this life-changing ministry and the incredible work being done to help women build new lives beyond prison walls.

Cross & Crown has proudly supported Changed Choices for many years. Through caring relationships, community partnerships, and re-entry support, women are finding meaningful

employment, securing homes of their own, reuniting with their children, and supporting women who come after them.

Come hear Diane share more about the difference Changed Choices is making in the lives of women and their families!

**SCAN
TO
RSVP!**



Celebration of Life Planning Party

August 2



Join us for a special afternoon of planning, fellowship, and peace of mind. Whether you're creating your Celebration of Life plans for the first time or simply want to review and refresh the choices you made last year, this event is for you.

Representatives from local funeral homes will be available to answer questions and provide guidance through the planning process, making it easy to explore your options and complete important details. Larry will also be on hand to play a selection of beloved hymns, helping inspire your music selections for your service.

Give yourself—and your loved ones—the gift of having your wishes in place, all while surrounded by your church family. Everyone is welcome!

Preparing Today, Peace for Tomorrow

Monday: July 13th

All women are welcome!
Join us at Char-Bar 7
Mint Hill Location

12:30 pm

Text/Call Kathy Shepler
to RSVP: 330-603-4115



Week at a Glance

Monday, July 13

12:30 pm- Lunch Bunch

Tuesday, July 14

9:30 am- Squares of Love Quilting

12 pm- Staff Meeting

6:30 pm- Table Talk

Wednesday, July 15

1 pm- Mahjong

6:30 pm- Executive Committee Meeting

Sunday, July 19

8:15 am- Worship

9 am- Coffee Hour

9:15 am- Adult Sunday School

10:15 am- Worship

11:30 am- Summer Series: Grow Together!



Serving in Worship Today

Assisting Minister:	Vaughn Herlong
Acolyte:	Allison Goode
Communion Assistants:	Suzy Wleznia, Mike Meath
Usher:	Leonard Rutkowski, Brian Deppe
Communion Set-up:	Kim Kirk
Greeter:	Felicia Eybl
Nursery Assistant:	Kati Goode
C&C Kids:	Kia Smith, Brittany Wellborn
Contribution Counter:	Barbara Maillet, Cathy Kozlinski

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

SCAN TO GIVE



Our Staff

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Terry McClure	Hospitality Coordinator	
Jessica Carter	Custodian	

***Free Notary Services:** Laura Van Landingham is a commissioned Notary Public. Free notary services are available to Cross & Crown members. Contact Laura to schedule.

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