

19th Sunday After Pentecost

October 4, 2026

10:15 am Family Contemporary Worship

WE GATHER IN GOD'S PRESENCE

Prelude
All Things Bright and Beautiful — Hartsell

Worship Song
Your Grace Is Enough — **Maher**

Verse 1
Great is Your faithfulness O God
You wrestle with the sinner's restless heart
You lead us by still waters into mercy
And nothing can keep us apart

Pre-Chorus
(So) remember Your people
Remember Your children
Remember Your promise O God

Chorus 1
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough
Your grace is enough for me

Verse 2
Great is Your love and justice God of Jacob
You use the weak to lead the strong
You lead us in the song of Your salvation
And all Your people sing along

Chorus 2
Yeah Your grace is enough
Heaven reaches out to us
Your grace is enough for me
God I sing Your grace is enough
I'm covered in Your love
Your grace is enough for me for me

Confession
P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.
C: Amen.
P: Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for relection.
P: Compassionate God,
C: we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation cries from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.
P: Hear this good news: We have peace with God through ☩ Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace.
C: Amen.

Prayers of the Church

Refrain
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

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us, kneeling, sitting, or standing.

God of Us All, you show us an immense amount of love. You are gracious, compassionate, and abounding in steadfast love. Help us to reflect your love in our homes, to our neighbors, and in our community. Fill our hearts and community with a spirit of deep understanding and care for others.

(refrain)

God of Us All, Calm the fears of all in need with your promises. Compassionately free the lives of any who feel bound by their failures. Remember your children in need. Fill us with compassion so we can care for one another through your eyes. Bring comfort to those who are hurting, strength to the weary, and hope to the forgotten. We lift to you 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.)

Thank You for placing us together in the body of Christ for fellowship, ministry, and worship. Make your church a shining light and a place of real comfort. Help us serve our neighbors and show Your relentless grace to everyone we meet.

Strengthen all peacemakers who serve in dangerous places and work tirelessly to heal a broken world. Disarm the hearts of those who wage war and turn the thirst for power into a hunger for justice.

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name and 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.

C&C KIDS Pre-K though 3rd Grade

This Week's Story: David and Goliath
Icebreaker Question: What super power do you wish you had?

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

THE WORD

John 1:1-4, 9-14

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being 4 in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. 9 The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

10 He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. 11 He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. 12 But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, 13 who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

14 And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated)

Sermon **Pastor Melody Simpkins**

THANKSGIVING

Anthem

All Things Bright and Beautiful Rutter

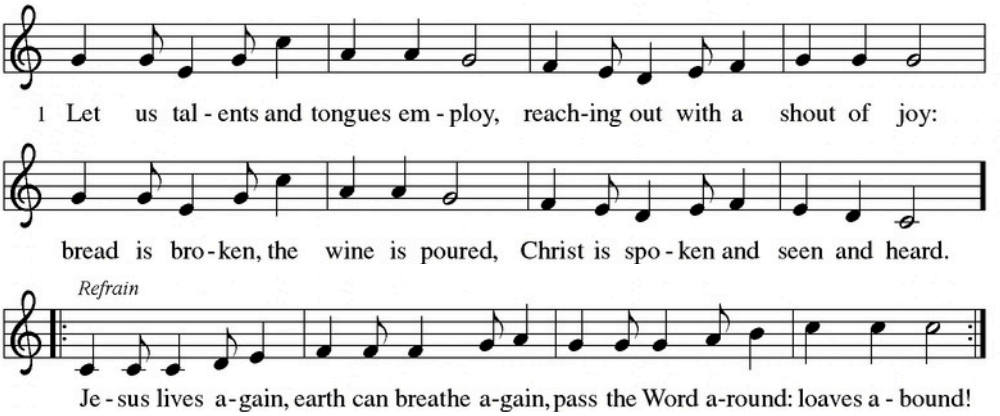
All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all, Each little flower that opens, Each little bird that sings, He made their glowing colors, He made their tiny wings, All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all.

The purple-headed mountain, The river running by, The sunset and the morning, That brightens up the sky; The cold wind in the winter, The pleasant summer sun, The ripe fruits in the garden, He made them every one; All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all.

He gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell How great is God Almighty, Who has made all things well, All things bright and beautiful, All creatures great and small, All things wise and wonderful, The Lord God made them all.

Offertory Hymn

674 Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ Linstead



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

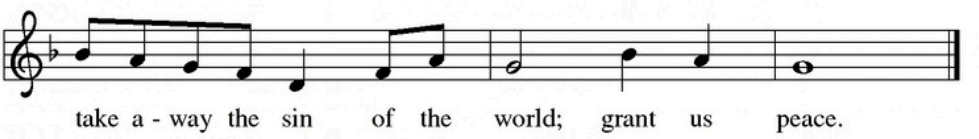
P: Come now and feast on the gifts of God for the people of God.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Please be seated)

Lamb of God





Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion Song
Rest On Us Lake, Figueroa, Bashta, Jay, White, Brown

Verse 1
As the Spirit was moving over the water
Spirit come move over us
Come rest on us come rest on us
Chorus
Come down Spirit when You move
You make my heart pound
When You fill the room
You're here and I know You are moving
I'm here and I know You will fill me

Verse 2
Fire and wind come and do it again
Open up the gates let Heaven on in
Come rest on us come rest on us
Bridge
Holy Spirit
Come rest on us
You're all we want You're all we want

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 love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.
C: Amen.

Sending Song
10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord) Myrin, Redman

Chorus
Bless the Lord O my soul O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name
Verse 1
The sun comes up it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes
Verse 2
You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

Verse 3
And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore
Tag
Worship Your holy name
Lord I'll worship Your holy name
Ending
Sing like never before O my soul
I'll worship Your holy name
Worship Your holy name
Worship Your holy name

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!

SUNDAY *Announcements*

Let's Put Faces to Names!



We're updating the member photos in Breeze, and we'd love for everyone to have a current photo! Laura Van Landingham will be taking photos on Sunday mornings. Just find Laura on Sunday mornings and we will do the rest!

Once we've updated our photos, we'll create a printed pictorial directory and place it by the mailboxes for everyone to use. Our hope is that this will make it easier to put names with faces and get to know the people who make up our Cross & Crown family. When you see someone you don't recognize, simply look them up in Breeze or check the printed directory!

Thanks for helping us make Cross & Crown an even more welcoming place where everyone feels at home.

THIS SUNDAY! RAIN OR SHINE!

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 4 AT 4:00 PM

Join us for a special Blessing of the Animals Service at 4:00 PM as we celebrate the wonderful creatures God has placed in our lives! Bring your dogs, cats, bunnies, birds, hamsters, fish–if it wiggles, wags, woofs, or chirps, it's welcome! And this year, we'll have HORSES joining us as a special treat! For everyone's safety, please keep pets on a leash or in a cage. Don't have a pet? No worries! We'll have stuffed animals available so everyone can join in the fun and receive a blessing. Come celebrate God's creation with us–furry, feathered, four-legged, and all!



WE ARE LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH THE SERVICE. CONTACT MIKE OR LORI MEATH.

Warm Hearts, Warm Hands



We're collecting new winter scarves, hats, gloves, and socks for A Roof Above, helping provide warmth and comfort to our neighbors experiencing homelessness.
Please place your donations in the collection basket in the Narthex throughout the month of September. Thank you for helping us share warmth, care, and compassion with our community!

Donations are due by Sunday, October 11th.



TRUNK Or TREAT

Wednesday Night Happenings

WEDNESDAY OCT, 28 | 6 PM

Start the night at Wednesday Night Happenings for dinner at 6 pm, then head outside for our annual Trunk or Treat!
Kids (and kids-at-heart!) can enjoy candy, decorated trunks, and plenty of festive fun. Bring your friends, neighbors, and costumes—it's a great way to share a meal, celebrate together, and enjoy a safe, family-friendly evening at church!





GRAB YOUR LEDERHOSEN AND YOUR LITTLE ONES—IT'S TIME FOR OKTOBERFFST AT C&C!

We'll have all the classics you love— brats, sauerkraut, beer, etc. For the kids? Bounce house & games that will keep them smiling all afternoon long.
So bring your appetite, a dessert to share, your friends, and your festive spirit!

SCAN TO RSVP!

Cross & Crown's Annual

Oktoberfest CELEBRATION

October 24
4 pm

ONE BODY, MANY GIFTS, ONE MISSION.
CONGREGATIONAL RETREAT
LUTHEROCK
NEWLAND, NORTH CAROLINA
Welcome Home

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

2027 Congregational Retreat January 15-17(18)

Registration coming soon!

ONLINE STORE CLOSES ON OCTOBER 9TH!

New Cross & Crown Apparel Is Here!

Use the link below to place your order!

Show your Cross & Crown spirit while supporting our youth! Cross & Crown apparel is available through an online store set up directly with our vendor.

There will be lots of options to choose from, including hoodies, long-sleeve T-shirts, hats, and a pullover option. With a variety of styles and sizes available, there's something for everyone!

Best of all, your purchase helps support our youth as they raise funds to attend the National Youth Gathering next year! It's a great way to add some new Cross & Crown gear to your wardrobe while helping our young people have an incredible faith-filled experience.

Watch for the online store link next week and start shopping! All orders will be placed directly through the online store and fulfilled by our vendor.

Wear your Cross & Crown pride and support our youth!



CROSS & CROWN
LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Practical Way to Help Our Members in Need

One of the things that makes Cross & Crown so special is the way we care for one another. Right now, we have a number of individuals and families within our congregation who could use a little extra support.

Many of these needs are not widely known, as people often face difficult circumstances quietly. Through conversations with Pastor Melody and our Congregational Care Team, we are aware of situations where a little extra help can make a meaningful difference.

Rather than focusing on one specific family or circumstance, we are asking our church family to help us build a supply of gift cards that can be shared as needs arise. Gift cards for grocery stores, restaurants, gas stations, Uber, Walmart, Target, pharmacies, or other retailers allow us to respond quickly and thoughtfully to a variety of situations.

During the school year, when we gather for Wednesday Night Happenings, our church family often prepares and delivers meals to members who are recovering from illness, grieving, welcoming a new baby, or simply going through a difficult season in life. During the summer months, however, those meals are not as readily available. A restaurant or grocery gift card allows us to continue extending that same care and support, even when Wednesday Night Happenings is on break.

Whether it's helping someone put food on the table, fill up a gas tank for work or medical appointments, or purchase everyday necessities, even a small gift card can be a tangible reminder that they are seen, loved, and supported by their church family.

You may remember receiving scam emails in the past that falsely claimed to be from Pastor Melody asking for gift cards. Those messages were fraudulent, and we appreciate everyone who helped spread the word. **This request is different—it's really from Pastor Melody and our Congregational Care Team.**

If you would like to help, you may drop off gift cards at the church office or place them in the offering plate in a sealed envelope marked **"Member Care Gift Cards."**

Thank you for helping us live out Christ's call to love one another. Your generosity allows us to care for members of our Cross & Crown family with dignity, compassion, and discretion whenever the need arises.

Grace & peace,
Pastor Melody, Pastor Matt & The Congregational Care Team

8:15 am- Worship
9 am- Coffee Hour
9:15 am- Adult Sunday School
10:15 am- Worship
4 pm- Blessing of the Animals

Monday, October 5

7:30 pm- Women's Bible Study

Tuesday, October 6

12 pm- Staff Meeting
7 pm- Worship & Music Committee Mtg.

Wednesday, October 7

7 am- Breakfast Club
1 pm- Mahjong
5 pm- Care Givers Support Group
6 pm- WNH Dinner
6:45 pm- Handbells, 7:30 pm Choir

12:20 pm- Lunch Bunch @ Osaka Japanese
1 pm- Gift Share
7 pm- Miriam Circle

Friday, October 9

4:25 pm- Walking Club

Sunday, October 11

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

Serving in Worship Today

Assisting Minister:	**Deanna Herlong**
Acolyte:	**Rori White**
Communion Assistants:	**Hugh Kluttz, Jill Jurgensen**
Usher:	**Leonard Rutkowski, Brian Deppe**
Communion Set-up:	**Rita Deppe**
Greeters:	**Brittany Wellborn**
Nursery Assistant:	**Kati Goode**
C&C Kids:	**Brittany Wellborn, Brandon Prickett**
C&C Kids Youth Volunteer:	
Contribution Counter:	**Barbara Maillet, Ayke Blackburn**

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

SCAN TO GIVE

Our Staff

Melody Simpkins	**Co-Pastor**	**pastormelody@crossandcrown.org**
Matt Simpkins	**Co-Pastor**	**pastormatt@crossandcrown.org**
Larry Stratemeyer	**Dir. of Music Ministries**	**music@crossandcrown.org**
LeAnne Bates	**Church Administrator**	**office@crossandcrown.org**
Laura Van Landingham*	**Ministry Program Coordinator**	**ministries@crossandcrown.org**
Dan Goldstein	**Technical Director**	**tech@crossandcrown.org**
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 to schedule.**

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Your Grace Is Enough, words and music, Matt Maher Ó 2003 Thankyou Music, spiritand song.com CCLI Song # 4477026 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 All Things Bright and Beautiful, words C. F. Alexander, music John Rutter Ó 1983 Oxford University Press Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ, words, Fred Kaan, music, Jamaican folk tune, adapt. Doreen Potter Ó 1975 Hope Publishing Co. Rest On Us, words and music, Brandon Lake, Elyssa Figueroa, Harvest Bashta, Jonathan Jay, Tony Brown Ó 2019 Bethel Worship Publishing, Brandon Lake Music, Heritage Worship Music Publishing, Heritage Worship Publishing, Maverick City Publishing, Maverick City Publishing Worldwide, Tony Brown Music Designee, Elyssa Marie Music, UR Creative, A New Song for a New Day Music, Mike Curb Music, Go Forth Sounds, Let There Be Songs, Bethel Music Publishing. CCLI Song # 7126736 10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord), words and music, Jonas Myrin, Matt Redman Ó 2011 Atlas Mountain Songs, sixsteps Music, Thankyou Music, worshiptogether.com songs CCLI Song # 6016351 Holy Communion, Setting Two, Marty Haugen © 2004,2006 Augsburg Fortress.
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