



# NORTHCROSS

C H U R C H

*Loved. Equipped. Sent.*

**Senior Pastor** - Dr. Gary Purdy  
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**Worship Director** - Ben Chapman  
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**Administrator** – Angela Howard  
angela@northcrosschurch.com

**Children’s Director** –  
Emma Chapman  
emma@northcrosschurch.com

**Elders** (*Ministry Oversight*)  
Damon Anderson (*Children & Youth*)  
Mark Andrews (*Missions/Outreach*)  
Hudson Belk (*Life Groups*)  
Matt Estler (*Deacons*)  
Matt Seiter (*Sunday morning*)  
Scott Tew (*Calendar & Curricula*)  
Dean Whitehill (*Men & Women*)

#### **Deacons**

Mark Bankert  
Justin James  
Reuben Vandezande  
Joel Campanella, Treasurer

#### **Women Shepherds**

Pat Andrews, Jean Edwards,  
Lynn Whitehill

**NorthCross Church Office**  
704-237-4853  
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Cornelius, NC 28031  
**Meet:** 11020 Bailey Rd., Ste. H  
Cornelius, NC

northcrosschurch.com

## **Welcome to NorthCross Church!**

Whatever your spiritual disposition  
- skeptic, seeker, follower -

we are glad you are with us today and pray that you  
experience the grace of our Lord.

Our desire is to have our hearts strengthened  
by the grace of Christ and to share that grace with the  
community of Lake Norman.

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### **Our Mission**

NorthCross Church exists to facilitate a gospel movement  
throughout the communities that make up Lake Norman  
for the glory of Christ.

### **Our Vision**

To be a people who are Loved by God,  
Equipped by the Gospel, and Sent into our communities.

**Loved:** Experiencing God’s love and the love of one another  
in community

**Equipped:** Growing in our knowledge of the gospel and  
strengthened to share it with others

**Sent:** Engaging in the mission of God within our local communities

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### **Sunday Morning Children’s Ministry Information:**

**Sunday School:** 9:30 am (children age 3 – high school)

*All children are welcome to stay with their parents in the  
worship service! Also available:*

**Nursing room:** adjacent to the sanctuary. Turn on the  
speaker to hear the sermon.

**Nursery:** provided during the worship service for babies and  
children up to age 2

**Children’s church:** ages 2 & 3 in the toddler room  
ages 4 - 2nd grade in the early elementary room

*\*Children will be dismissed from the service during the Passing of  
the Peace. They will return before Communion. The teachers will  
bring the children to the sanctuary and help find their parents.*

**Wifi Network:** NCC **Password:** #northcrosschurch1

# WORSHIP SERVICE

May 5, 2024

*Eastertide*

## *Meditation*

*“When the New Testament strikes the great Easter bell, the main resonances it sets up are not simply about ourselves and about whatever future world God is ultimately going to make, when heaven and earth are joined together and renewed at last from top to bottom. Precisely because the resurrection has happened as an event within our world, its implications and effects are to be felt within our own world, here and now.”*

- N.T. Wright  
*Surprised by Hope*

**Call to Worship\***

Read Together

*Book of Common  
Prayer*

**ALL: O God, you have prepared for those who love you such good things as surpass our understanding: Pour into our hearts such love towards you, that we, loving you in all things and above all things, may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*\*Please stand*

## **Preparing for Worship**

With so many distractions vying for our attention, this is a time to quiet ourselves and prepare our hearts for worship.

## **Call to Worship**

God calls us to worship because God exists and speaks first. Therefore, our worship is answering God. We answer him by offering what we are to who God is. The Call to Worship is a way to proclaim God as he is, while also challenging what we worship daily.

## GOD'S PEOPLE WORSHIP

### Songs of Worship\*

*Come People of the Risen King  
Crown Him with Many Crowns*

#### Confession of Sin

The prayer of confession invites us to speak words that are remarkably honest about how our thoughts, feelings, actions and words can curve inwards. This kind of honesty does not come naturally in our relationship with God or with others. But confession is liberating when we sense the greater power of Jesus' love.

### Confession of Sin

Read Responsively      *Deuteronomy 6:4-5*

Leader: Hear, O Israel:

**People: The Lord our God, the Lord is one.**

Leader: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might."

### Silent Confession

*Silently confess what your heart loves  
more earnestly than the One true God.*

#### Assurance of Pardon

This is what we need to hear after the honesty of our confession. These are God's affirming words, his forgiveness of us because of Jesus Christ.

### Assurance of Pardon\*

Leader      *I Peter 2:9-10*

Leader: But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

**Song of Thanksgiving\***

*Arise My Soul Arise*

## **LIFE TOGETHER**

### **Passing of the Peace\***

*\*Children ages 2 through 2nd grade dismissed for Children's Church*

### **Announcements**

### **Receiving of Tithes and Offerings**

### **Pastoral Prayer/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 debts,  
as we forgive our debtors,  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.*

### **Tithes and Offerings**

We give as an act of faith, remembering his faithfulness as our provider and joining with God's people in expressing our dependence on him, in obedience to be generous with all we have as he is generous to us.

*\*Please stand*

## CHANGED BY GOD'S WORD

### Scripture Reading\*

### I Corinthians 8

*<sup>1</sup> Now concerning food offered to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." This "knowledge" puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup> If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. <sup>3</sup> But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.*

*<sup>4</sup> Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "an idol has no real existence," and that "there is no God but one." <sup>5</sup> For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"—<sup>6</sup> yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.*

*<sup>7</sup> However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup> Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup> But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup> For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? <sup>11</sup> And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. <sup>12</sup> Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup> Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.*

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

**Congregation: Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

**Dr. Gary Purdy**

*Renewed Relationships - Differing Convictions*

#### **Sermon**

The sermon is teaching based on the Scripture Reading. The role of the sermon is to explain the truths of the Bible and apply them in our lives. This is not just an intellectual function; our hearts are to be affected by the words of God preached.

*\*Please stand*

## GOD'S PEOPLE RESPOND

**Song of Response\***

*Take My Life and Let It Be*

**The Lord's Supper**

*Belgic Confession (1561), Article 24*

**Although we do good works  
we do not base our salvation on them;  
for we cannot do any work  
that is not defiled by our flesh  
and also worthy of punishment.  
And even if we could point to one,  
memory of a single sin is enough  
for God to reject that work.**

**So we would always be in doubt,  
tossed back and forth  
without any certainty,  
and our poor consciences would be tormented constantly  
if they did not rest on the merit  
of the suffering and death of our Savior.**

**Song of Receiving\***

*The Love of Christ is Rich and Free*

**Benediction\***

### **The Lord's Supper**

Jesus Christ promised to meet (or commune) with his people in a special way through this "sacrament" - from the Latin word meaning mystery. We experience Christ's spiritual presence as we eat in faith. The Lord's Supper points us to the finished work of Christ at the cross and in the resurrection on our behalf.

### **Benediction**

"Benediction" means "a good word" or blessing. In this blessing God gets the last word, promising to be with us as he sends us out into the world, carrying the hope, joy and love of Christianity's central message (the gospel).

*\*Please stand*

## This Week's Calendar

5.5 Daybreak Prayer, 7:30 am  
Sunday School, 9:30 am  
Worship Service, 10:30 am

## Announcements

**VBS** - June 18-21 from 9-11:30 am at Torrence Chapel Park in Cornelius. Register on the Church Center app or online at: *northcross.churchcenter.com*.

And very importantly...VBS is an all-hands on deck thing! We need YOU on our team and we need lots of hands to help in all areas to make VBS possible. If you can serve even for some of the days, please email [emma@northcross-church.com](mailto:emma@northcross-church.com) or sign up in the lobby today!

**Men's Cornhole Tournament** - Thursday, May 23rd at 7:00 pm at Eleven Lakes Brewery. RSVP on the Church Center app.

**New Worship Facility** - Be ready in the last two weeks of April and first two weeks of May to help move NorthCross into the new building! There's lots to do (moving, installation, cleaning) and the more hands we have the better (everyone is welcome). We'll firm up dates as we get closer to construction finishing.

**This week's Mission + Outreach Organization**  
Community Pregnancy Center of Lake Norman

**Connect Card** - If you are new to NorthCross and want to connect, or if you have a prayer request, use this QR code and fill out the form online.



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Life Groups meet regularly for fellowship, prayer, service and study.  
Contact one of the leaders if you would like to attend.

**Huntersville:** Sunday  
Hudson Belk, [HUDSONBELK2@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:HUDSONBELK2@HOTMAIL.COM)

**West Lake Norman:** Sunday  
Matt Estler, [MDESTLER5@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MDESTLER5@GMAIL.COM)  
Greg Howard, [GHOW1961@GMAIL.COM](mailto:GHOW1961@GMAIL.COM)

**East Huntersville:** Sunday  
Roger Edwards, [ROGER.EDWARDS55@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ROGER.EDWARDS55@GMAIL.COM)

**Cornelius:** Sunday  
Jonathan Skolrood, [JONATHAN.SKOLROOD@GMAIL.COM](mailto:JONATHAN.SKOLROOD@GMAIL.COM)

**Cornelius:** Sunday  
Cole Beardsley, [COLEB96@VT.EDU](mailto:COLEB96@VT.EDU)

**Davidson:** Sunday  
Matt Seiter, [MATTHEW.SEITER@GMAIL.COM](mailto:MATTHEW.SEITER@GMAIL.COM)

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### NorthCross Church YTD Financial Summary

(for fiscal year 2023/2024; as of March 31, 2024)

Congregation Giving - Actual \$242,030 vs. Budget \$252,587

Expenses (less Missions, Deacons & Facility) - Actual \$154,707 vs. Budget \$199,734

Missions expenses \$19,144 Deacon's Fund expenses \$1,552

Worship Facility Received \$231,177 | Non-restricted cash position \$303,149