

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER - CROSS CHURCH OF NORMAN

THE CROSS ROAD

VOL. 14 NO. 21 - WEEK OF MAY 26TH, 2026

CLOSE ENOUGH TO SAVE

In the final hours of Jesus' life, Scripture gives us one of the most powerful scenes in all the Bible. Two criminals hung beside Him, broken by their pasts and carrying public shame. No chance remained for them to make things right. Rome declared them guilty enough to be publicly executed. These men were no petty thieves.

One mocked Jesus. The other simply cried out, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom" (Luke 23:42).

And Jesus answered with astonishing grace: "Today you will be with me in paradise."

The thief brought nothing to Jesus except faith. No good works. No church attendance. No baptism. No time left to prove anything. There was no climbing down from the cross to bear fruit. There was only trust in the One hanging beside him.

Salvation has never depended on human achievement. It has always rested on the mercy of Jesus.

The thief saw what many still miss. Jesus was more than a suffering man; He was a King. In the middle of blood, nails, mocking crowds, and darkness, the thief saw a kingdom. While others saw defeat, he saw salvation. What remarkable faith.

And perhaps the most beautiful part of this moment is that Jesus did not say, "Clean yourself up first." He did not say, "You should have lived differently." Compassion met the thief in his final moments.

That is the Gospel.

No one is beyond the reach of grace. No past is too broken. No failure is too final. The cross reminds us that even at the very end, Jesus still saves.

The thief had nothing left to hold onto except Jesus.

As you picture this moment, remember that the Cross of Christ was between two criminals - not above them, nor far away from them.

Jesus was close enough to have a conversation.

Even as he labored for his final breath, He was seeking out one more sinner to save. This is mercy, upon mercy.



- Lead Pastor

LAST WEEK @ CROSS CHURCH:

WEEKLY NEEDS: \$9,986.55

OFFERING: \$20,608.29

DIFFERENCE: +\$10,621.74

BUILDING FUND: \$274,974.81

ATTENDANCE:

SUNDAY, MAY 24TH
285

TUESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP
43

FAMILY NIGHT
105

COMING UP:

SUMMER BIBLE STUDY
STARTS JUNE 2ND, 6-7:45 PM

CROSSKIDS PLAYDATE and YOUTH
JUNE 3RD, 6-8 PM

YOUNG ADULT FELLOWSHIP
JUNE 6TH, 5-7 PM

YOUTH POOL PARTY
JUNE 10TH, 6-8 PM

TOGETHER WEEK
JUNE 22ND - JUNE 26TH

