

# KIMBALL MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

101 VANCE AVE. KANNAPOLIS, NC 28081

December 3, 2023

First Sunday of Advent

11:00 am

*P: Pastor*

*A: Assisting Minister*

*L: Lector*

*C: Congregation*

**PRELUDE**

*Emmanuel*

*~M. W. Smith*

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** God for whom we wait,

**C** **in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you.**

**We fail in believing that your good news is for us.**

**We falter in our call to tend your creation.**

**We find our sense of self in material wealth.**

**We fear those different from ourselves.**

**We forget that we are your children and turn away from your love.**

**Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace.**

**Amen.**

**P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

*Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying*

**ELW 436**

**GREETING**

**A** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C** **And also with you.**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer-cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us

pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mer - cy.**

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

**A - men.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**A** Let us pray. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

*(Please be seated)*

## LET'S TALK

### READING

### 1 Corinthians 1:3-9

*As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.*

**L** A reading from 1st Corinthians...

**G**race to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, <sup>5</sup>for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—<sup>6</sup>just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—<sup>7</sup>so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>8</sup>He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>9</sup>God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**L** Word of God, word of life.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**L** Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW S124

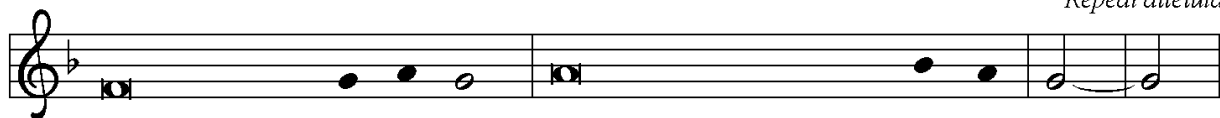


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

**GOSPEL****Mark 13:24-37****P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 13th chapter.

**C**

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

The musical notation is a single staff in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The melody consists of the following notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half).

*Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.*

**J**esus said: <sup>24</sup>“In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup>and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. <sup>26</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. <sup>28</sup>“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. <sup>32</sup>“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C**

Praise to you, O Christ.

The musical notation is a single staff in treble clef with a common time signature (C). The melody consists of the following notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (half).

**SERMON***Pastor John Futterer***HYMN OF THE DAY***Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers***ELW 244**

**CHOIR SINGS**

Maker of the stars of night, of the sun by day,  
rise in us and bring your light;  
burn our shadows away.

In the darkness where we dwell, we await the light of God, Emmanuel.

**RESPONSIVE LITURGY**

**P** During Advent we wait for the coming Savior who is our Wonderful Counselor.

**C** **Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you.**

**P** We anticipate the One who hears our prayers.

**C** **Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you.**

**P** We anticipate the One who heals our infirmities.

**C** **Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you.**

**P** We anticipate the One who renews our faith.

**C** **Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you.**

**P** We anticipate the One who ignites our hope.

**C** **Cast your cares on the Lord and he will sustain you.**

*Candle Lighting*

**P** Today we light the **first candle**. The first candle, reminds us that Jesus is our Wonderful Counselor who brings hope to a hurting world. As our counselor, Jesus brings hope in times of despair, compassion in times of sorrow, and healing in times of brokenness. As we begin the season of Advent, let our hope reside in the One who cares about our needs and sustains our faith.

**C**

Ev-er-last-ing Fa-ther, Prince of Peace,  
Won-der-ful Coun-se-lor, Al-might-y God.  
Em-man-u-el, Em-man-u-el.  
God with us, Em-man-u-el.

## **CLOSING PRAYER**

**P** Gracious Lord, we thank you for being our Wonderful Counselor. As we begin our Advent journey, help us to know the abiding hope that comes from knowing you. We pray this in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

**C** Amen.

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*The Nicene Creed*

**A** With the people of God in Christ now and in every time, let us confess our faith.

**C** We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven;  
by the power of the Holy Spirit He became incarnate from the virgin Mary,  
and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

## **PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

**A** With hope and expectation, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who await God's day of restoration.

*Prayer petitions will conclude: "Merciful God."*

*The congregation's response is: "receive our prayer."*

**P** Listen to these and all our prayers, O God of hosts, and restore us with your great and everlasting mercy.

**C** Amen.

## SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

A Following his resurrection, the Lord Jesus breathed peace upon his disciples. We share in this peace of Christ in the Church today. The peace of the Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

A Please greet those around you with words of peace.

*(Especially greet the children and youth.)*

## OFFERING PRESENTATION

*(Please stand, as able)*

ELW 182



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.

## OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. God our provider, by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

## LORD'S PRAYER

P Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit let us pray, as Jesus taught.

C 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.

## INVITATION

P In this meal, righteousness and peace meet together. Come, take your place at the table.

You may receive the Elements as the words are said:  
*The Body of Christ given for You; The Blood of Christ shed for You.*

## ANTHEM

*Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel*

~J. Althouse

## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Generous God, in bread and cup you have revealed your glory for all people to see together. Nourished by this meal, send us out to proclaim your good news of liberation and release, brought to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior.

C Amen.

## BENEDICTION

P The God of peace bless you,  
the love of Christ sustain you in hope,  
and the anointing of the Spirit ✠ remain upon you  
now and forever.

C Amen.

## SENDING HYMN

*Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*

ELW 802

## DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Keep awake.

C Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

~arr. J. Innes