Kimball Memorial Lutheran Church
101 Vance St. Kannapolis, NC 28081

October 18, 2026 **21st Sunday after Pentecost**

8:30 AM

*Congregation responses in **Bold**.*

Gathering Music *Humble Thyself / Awesome God* *Bob Hudson / Rich Mullins*

Humble thyself in the sight of the Lord (echo)
Humble thyself in the sight of the Lord (echo)
And He shall lift you upHigher and higher and
He shall lift you up

Humble thyself in the spirit of the Lord (echo)
Humble thyself in the spirit of the Lord (echo)
And He shall lift you upHigher and higher and
He shall lift you up

Our God is an awesome God,
He reigns from heaven above
with wisdom, pow'r, and love
our God is an awesome God!

Our God is an awesome God,
He reigns from heaven above
with wisdom, pow'r, and love
our God is an awesome God!

Humble thyself in the power of the Lord (echo)
Humble thyself in the power of the Lord (echo)
And He shall lift you upHigher and higher and
He shall lift you up.

Humble thyself in the love of the Lord (echo)
Humble thyself in the love of the Lord (echo)
And He shall lift you upHigher and higher and
He shall lift you up.

Our God is an awesome God,
He reigns from heaven above
with wisdom, pow'r, and love
our God is an awesome God!

Our God is an awesome God,
He reigns from heaven above
with wisdom, pow'r, and love
our God is an awesome God!

Our God is an awesome God.
Our God is an awesome God.

Welcome

Prayer of the Day

A Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Let's Talk *Children's Time*

READING 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Most likely this letter is the first written by Paul. Paul gives pastoral encouragement and reassurances to new Christians living in an antagonistic environment. Their commitment of faith, love, and hope makes them a model for other new Christian communities.

L A reading from the first chapter of 1st Thessalonians.

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord
Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. 2 We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention
you in our prayers, constantly 3 remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and
labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. 4 For we know, brothers and sisters
beloved by God, that he has chosen you, 5 because our message of the gospel came to you not in
word only but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what
kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. 6 And you became imitators of us and of
the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy from the Holy Spirit, 7 so that
you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. 8 For the word of the Lord
has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia but in every place your faith in God
has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. 9 For they report about us what kind
of welcome we had among you and how you turned to God from idols to serve a living and true
God 10 and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us
from the coming wrath.

L Word of God, word of life.
C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Matthew 22:15-22

After Jesus begins teaching in the temple, religious leaders try to trap him with questions. First they ask if God's people should pay taxes to an earthly tyrant like Caesar.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-second chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

15 The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. 16 So they sent their disciples to
him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way
of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one, for you do not regard people with
partiality. 17 Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar or not?" 18 But Jesus,
aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? 19 Show me the
coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. 20 Then he said to them, "Whose head is
this and whose title?" 21 They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to
Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's." 22 When they heard this,
they were amazed, and they left him and went away.

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON *Pastor John Futterer*

SONG OF RESPONSE *Lift Every Voice and Sing* *James & Rosamond Johnson*

1 Lift ev'ry voice and sing till earth and heaven ring,
ring with the harmonies of liberty.
Let our rejoicing rise high as the list'ning skies,
let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past
has taught us; sing a song full of the hope
that the present has brought us;
facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
let us march on till victory is won.

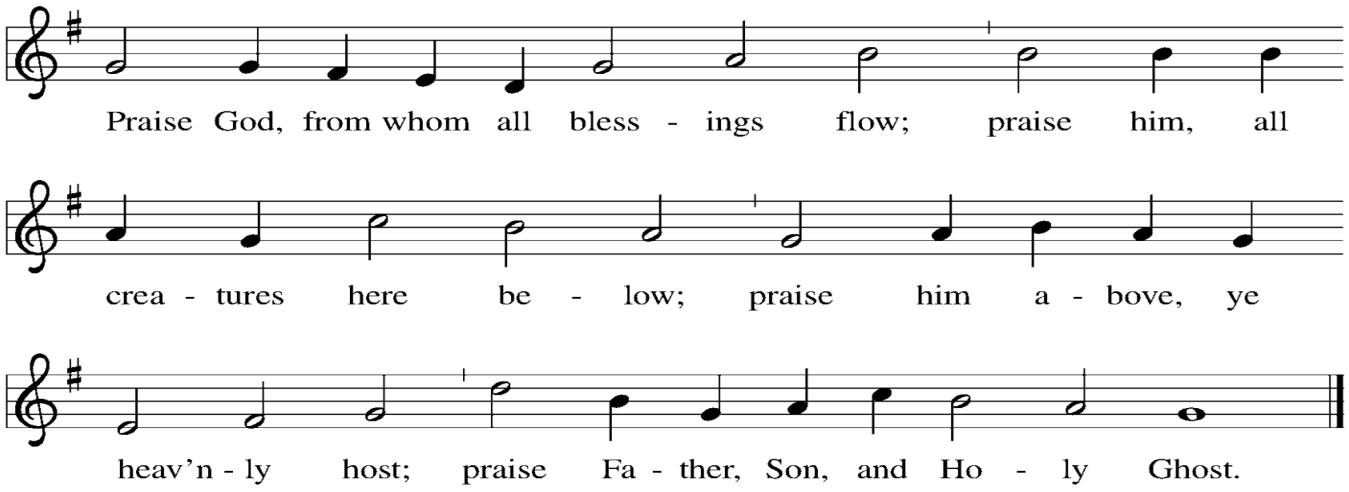
2 Stony the road we trod, bitter the chast'ning rod,
felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
come to the place for which our parents sighed?
We have come over a way that with tears has been
watered; we have come, treading our path through
the blood of the slaughtered, out from the gloomy
past, till now we stand at last where the white gleam
of our bright star is cast.

3 God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;
thou who hast by thy might led us into the light,
keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God,
where we met thee; lest, our hearts drunk
with the wine of the world, we forget thee;
shadowed beneath thy hand may we forever stand,
true to our God, true to our native land.

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

A The peace of Christ be with you.
C And also with you.
A Please greet those around you with words of peace.

OFFERING SONG *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow* *Thomas Ken*



OFFERING

The offering plates are in the narthex for your use. You may also place your offering in the plate at the communion rail when you come forward for communion. Please ask an usher if you have any questions.

Offering Prayer

P Let us pray. God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always.

C Amen.

Sacrament of Holy Baptism

See Insert

Prayers of Intercession

A Seeking the Spirit of God who makes all things new, we pray for the church and the world.

Prayer petitions will conclude: "Hear us, O God."
The congregation's response is: **"Your mercy is great."**

P Trusting in your boundless grace, O God, we lift up these spoken prayers and those in our hearts; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

Confession and Forgiveness

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 reflection.

P Compassionate God,

C we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans 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.

HOLY COMMUNION

We have two options for Communion during this time. You are free to come forward to receive the bread and pre-filled cups of wine from our clergy and lay assistants, returning to your seats after you've deposited the empty cup and following the guidance of our ushers; or you may continue to use the pre-packaged communion elements which are available from the ushers at the entrance to the Sanctuary. Gluton-free is available on request. However you choose to receive Communion this morning, know that we are glad you're here for this Sacrament!

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 Christ invites you to this table.
All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

Receive the Elements as the words are said:
The Body of Christ given for you; The Blood of Christ shed for you.

Healing Prayer is available under the balcony during Communion if you desire prayer.

COMMUNION SONG *Gratitude* *Brandon Lake*

All my words fall short; I got nothing new.
How could I express all my gratitude?
I could sing these songs, as I often do,
but ev'ry song must end and You never do.

Refrain
So I throw up my hands
and praise You again and again,
'cause all that I have is a hallelujah, hallelujah.

And I know it's not much,
but I've nothing else fit for a king
except for a heart singing,
"Hallelujah, hallelujah."

I've got one response, I've got just one move:
with my arms stretched wide I will worship You. ***Refrain***

And I know it's not much,
but I've nothing else fit for a king
except for a heart singing, "Hallelujah, hallelujah."

Come on, my soul, oh, don't you get shy on me.
Lift up your song,
'cause you've got a lion inside of those lungs.
Get up and praise the Lord! ***Repeat 2X***

So I throw up my hands
and praise You again and again,
'cause all that I have is a hallelujah, hallelujah.

And I know it's not much,
but I've nothing else fit for a king
except for a heart singing, "Hallelujah, hallelujah."

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 Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

P The God of hope grant you strength and joy in all circumstances through the interceding of the Spirit.

C Amen.

P The God of grace ☩ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG *Love the Lord* *Next Page*

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SENDING SONG *Love the Lord* *Lincoln Brewster*

Love the Lord, your God,
with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, and with all your strength;

Love the Lord, your God,
with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, and with all your strength;

With all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, with all your strength;

Love the Lord, your God,
with all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, and with all your strength.

I will serve the Lord
with all my heat, with all my soul,
with all my mind, and with all my strength;

I will serve the Lord
with all my heat, with all my soul,
with all my mind, and with all my strength;

With all your heart, with all your soul,
with all your mind, with all your strength;

I will serve the Lord
with all my heat, with all my soul,
with all my mind, and with all my strength;

I will love You; (I will love You;)
I will praise You; (I will praise You;)
I will serve You; (I will serve You;)
I will trust You, Lord. (I will trust You.)

With all my heart, with all my soul,
with all my mind, with all my strength;

With all my heart, with all my soul,
with all my mind, with all my strength;

I will love You Lord,
with all my heart, with all my soul,
with all my mind, and with all my strength;

I will love You Lord,
with all my heart, with all my soul,
with all my mind, and with all my strength;

I will love You Lord,
with all my heart, with all my soul,
with all my mind, and with all my strength.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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LOVE THE LORD CCLI Song # 4572938Lincoln Brewster© 2005 Integrity's Praise! Music

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Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this and whose title?" They answered, "Caesar's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's."