

KIMBALL MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

101 VANCE AVE. KANNAPOLIS, NC 28081

December 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent

11:00 am

P: Pastor

A: Assisting Minister

L: Lector

C: Congregation

PRELUDE

On Jordan's Stormy Banks

~D. Cherwien

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

On Jordan's Stormy Bank I Stand

ELW 437

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 our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(Please be seated)

LET'S TALK

READING

2 Peter 3:8-15a

This short letter deals with pressing concerns regarding the final advent of Jesus, especially concerns that could arise over its apparent delay. The author of the letter calls on Christians to anticipate the promised coming of the Lord through conduct dedicated to God.

L A reading from 2nd Peter...

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. ⁹The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. ¹⁰But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. ¹¹Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, ¹²waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? ¹³But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. ¹⁴Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; ^{15a}and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation.

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

Repeat alleluia

GOSPEL

Mark 1:1-8

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark the 1st chapter.

C

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

The Gospel of Mark does not begin with a story of Jesus' birth but with the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord.

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. ²As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; ³the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,' " ⁴John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. ⁸I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor John Futterer

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

God With Us, Emmanuel

~Joel Raney

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 Mighty God.

C You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

P We look to the One in whom we find redemption.

C You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

P We look to the One who forgives our sins.

C You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

P We look to the One who overcomes darkness.

C You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

P We look to the One who has come to set us free.

C You are mighty, O Lord, and your faithfulness endures forever.

Candle Lighting

P Today we light two candles. The **first candle**, reminds us of our hope in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor. The **second candle** reminds us of our joy, knowing that Jesus is our Mighty God. As we light the second candle we remember that even when we face trials, hardships and difficulties—our strength is found in what Christ has done. As we continue our Advent journey, let us rejoice in the One who gives strength to the weary and power to the weak.

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, remind us of your power throughout this Advent season. In times of weakness, remind us that you are the One who gives strength. In times of confusion, remind us that you the One who reveals truth. In times of doubt, remind us that you are the One who gives hope. We thank you for being our Mighty God. We pray this in the name of Christ, our Lord.

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.**

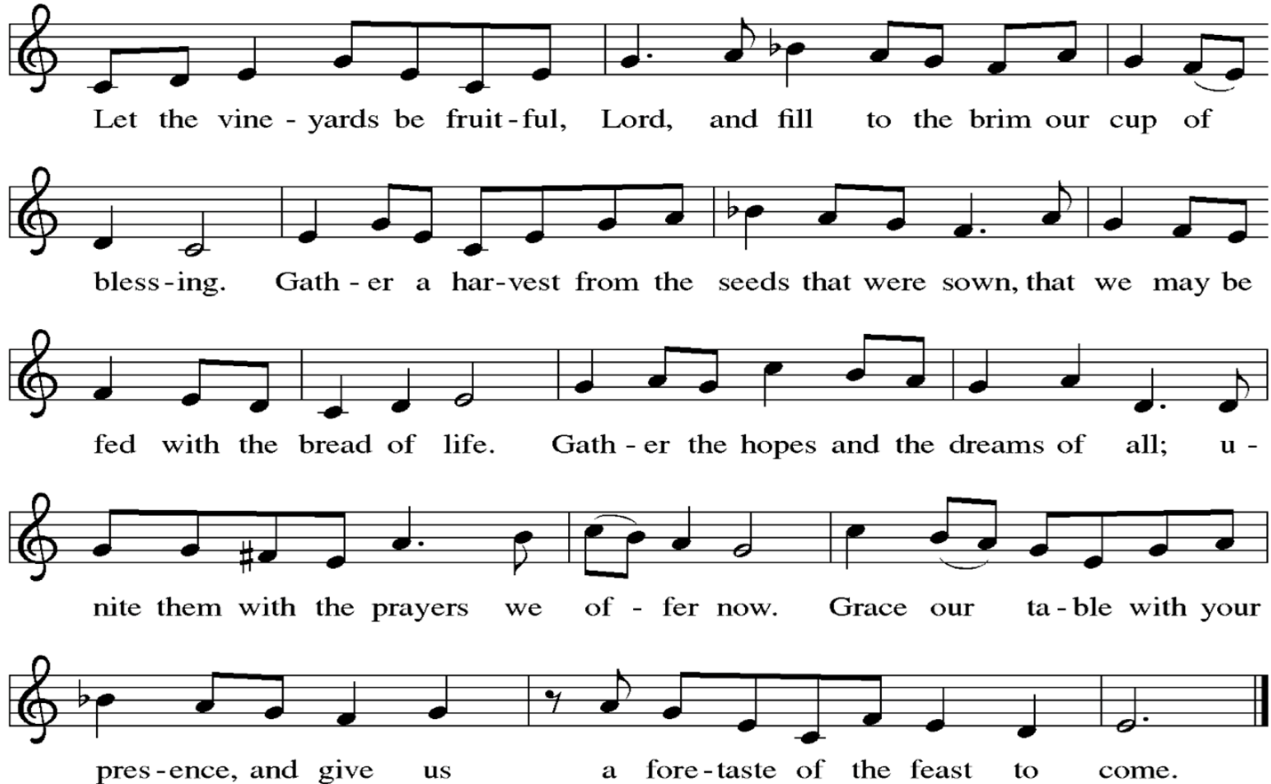
A Please greet those around you with words of peace.

(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

A Tiny Child Will Come

~Besig/Price

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

Prepare the Royal Highway

ELW 264

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Keep awake.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Prepare the Royal Highway

~D. Cherwien