



# KIMBALL MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

101 VANCE ST. KANNAPOLIS, NC 28081

March 23, 2024

Third Sunday in Lent

8:30 am

**INSTRUMENTAL**

*Come As You Are*

**WELCOME**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**C Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.**

P Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

P God of new beginnings,

**C we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. 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.**

**READING 1 Corinthians 10:1-13**

L A reading from the tenth chapter of 1st Corinthians.

*Paul uses images from Hebrew Scriptures and prophecy to speak the truth of Jesus Christ: He is our rock, our water, our food, and our drink. Christ is the living sign of God's faithfulness.*

I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, <sup>2</sup> and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, <sup>3</sup> and all ate the same spiritual food, <sup>4</sup> and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. <sup>5</sup> Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness. <sup>6</sup> Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. <sup>7</sup> Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play." <sup>8</sup> We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. <sup>9</sup> We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. <sup>10</sup> And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer.

*continued....*

<sup>11</sup> These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. <sup>12</sup> So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. <sup>13</sup> No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **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. However you choose to receive Communion this morning, know that we are glad you're here for this Sacrament!*

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

*(Sung)*

**C** Behold the Lamb who bears our sins away, slain for us, and we remember the promise made that all who come in faith find forgiveness at the cross. So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice as a sign of our bonds of peace around the table of the King.

**P** The body of our Savior Jesus Christ, torn for you—eat and remember the wounds that heal, the death that brings us life paid the price to make us one.

**C** So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice as a sign of our bonds of love around the table of the King.

**P** The blood that cleanses every stain of sin, shed for you—drink and remember He drained death's cup that all may enter in to receive the life of God.

**C** So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice as a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the King.

**C** And so with thankfulness and faith we rise to respond, and to remember our call to follow in the steps of Christ as His body here on earth. As we share in His suffering, we proclaim Christ will come again! And we'll join in the feast of heaven around the table of the King.

## THE 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 God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to 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.*

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

## COMMUNION SONG

*Come As You Are*

Glover, Crowder, Maher

<p><b>Verse 1</b> Come out of sadness from wherever you've been Come broken-hearted let rescue begin Come find your mercy O sinner come kneel Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal</p> <p><b>Chorus</b> (So) Lay down your burdens lay down your shame All who are broken lift up your face O wanderer come home You're not too far So lay down your hurt lay down your heart Come as you are</p> <p><b>Verse 2</b> There's hope for the hopeless And all those who've strayed</p>	<p>Come sit at the table come taste the grace There's rest for the weary Rest that endures Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't cure</p> <p><b>Bridge</b> Come as you are Fall in His arms Come as you are</p> <p><b>Verse 3</b> There's joy for the morning O sinner be still Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal Earth has no sorrow that Heaven can't heal</p> <p><b>Ending</b> Come as you are Come as you are Come as you are</p>
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## POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P The Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

**C Amen.**

**VERSE**



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found, He is my light, my strength, my  
 2. In Christ a - lone, who took on flesh, full - ness of God in help - less  
 3. There in the ground His bod - y lay, Light of the world by dark - ness  
 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death, this is the pow'r of Christ in



song; This Cor - ner - stone, this sol - id Ground, firm through the fierc - est drought and  
 babe! This gift of love and right - eous - ness, scorned by the ones He came to  
 slain; Then, burst - ing forth in glo - rious Day, up from the grave He rose a -  
 me; From life's first cry to fi - nal breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti -



storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings  
 save. Till on that cross as Je - sus died, the wrath of God was sat - is -  
 gain! And as He stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on  
 ny. No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, can ev - er pluck me from His



cease. My Com - fort - er, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.  
 fied. For ev - 'ry sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.  
 me; For I am His and He is mine, bought with the pre - cious blood of Christ.  
 hand; Till He re - turns or calls me home, here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand!

**INSTRUMENTAL**



## **GREETING**

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

**C** Amen.

## **PRAYER OF DAY**

**A** Let us pray. God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## **LET'S TALK**

*Children's Time*

## **GOSPEL Luke 13:1-9**

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the thirteenth chapter.

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

*Asked about current tragic events, Jesus turns a lesson about whether suffering is deserved into a hard call to obedience. He then tells a parable that holds out hope that the timeline for ultimate judgment will be tempered by patience.*

**A**t that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices.<sup>2</sup> Jesus asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?<sup>3</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. <sup>4</sup> Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? <sup>5</sup> No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.” <sup>6</sup> Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. <sup>7</sup> So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ <sup>8</sup> He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. <sup>9</sup> If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’ ”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

## **SERMON**

*Pastor John Futterer*

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

### *Apostles' Creed*

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

**C** I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary, He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

**Amen.**

## **SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE**

A The peace of the Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

A Please greet those around you with words of peace.

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

A Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

As able, you are invited to kneel or be seated for the prayers.

*Prayer petitions will conclude: "God, in your mercy,"*

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

P Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

**C** Amen.

## **BENEDICTION**

P God our tender parent,  
God the crucified one,  
God the reconciling Spirit,  
✠ bless you now and forever.

**C** Amen.



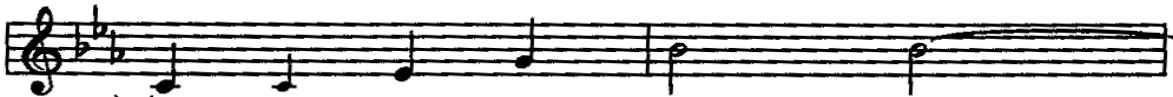
1. I want Je - sus \_\_\_\_\_  
 2. In my tri - als, \_\_\_\_\_  
 3. When I'm in trou - ble, \_\_\_\_\_

2



— to walk with me; \_\_\_\_\_  
 — Lord, walk with me; \_\_\_\_\_  
 — Lord, walk with me; \_\_\_\_\_

4



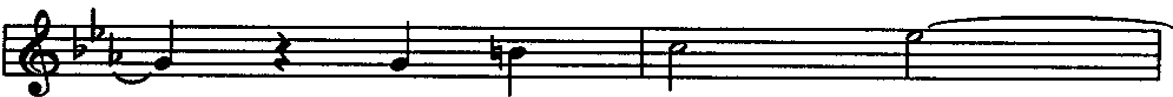
— I want Je - sus \_\_\_\_\_  
 — When In my tri - als, \_\_\_\_\_  
 — I'm in trou - ble, \_\_\_\_\_

6



— to walk with me; \_\_\_\_\_  
 — Lord, walk with me; \_\_\_\_\_  
 — Lord, walk with me; \_\_\_\_\_

8



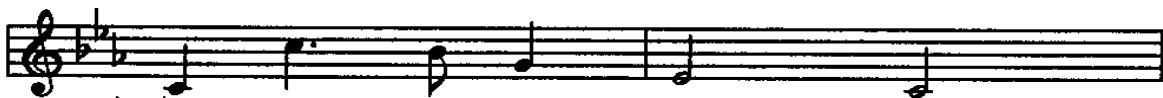
— All a - long my \_\_\_\_\_  
 — When my heart is \_\_\_\_\_  
 — When by head is \_\_\_\_\_

10



— pil - grim jour - ney, \_\_\_\_\_  
 — al - most break - ing, \_\_\_\_\_  
 — bowed in sor - row, \_\_\_\_\_

12



— Lord, I want Je - sus \_\_\_\_\_  
 — Lord, I want Je - sus \_\_\_\_\_  
 — Lord, I want Je - sus \_\_\_\_\_

14



— to walk with me. \_\_\_\_\_  
 — to walk with me. \_\_\_\_\_  
 — to walk with me. \_\_\_\_\_

## DISMISSAL

A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

**Monday, March 24, 2025—Oscar Arnulfo Romero, Bishop-El Salvador, martyr, died 1980**

Romero was deeply concerned with injustices evident toward the poor and powerless in El Salvador, and worked forthrightly against political repression. He was assassinated while presiding at the eucharist in a chapel near the cathedral in San Salvador.

**Tuesday, March 25, 2025—Annunciation of Our Lord**

Nine months before Christmas we celebrate the annunciation, in which the angel Gabriel announced to Mary that she would give birth to the Son of God. The ancient church believed that this was also the date of the world's creation and of Jesus' death on the cross.

**Saturday, March 29, 2025—Hans Nielsen Hauge, renewer of the church, died 1824**

Hauge was a layperson who wished to revitalize the church in Norway. As a result of a mystical experience, he felt called to preach. Many professionals in the church feared his motives and influence, and he was imprisoned for leading unauthorized gatherings.



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