

KIMBALL MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH 101 VANCE ST. KANNAPOLIS, NC 28081

April 6, 2024

Fifth Sunday in Lent

8:30 am

INSTRUMENTAL

Alabaster

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 Philippians 3:4b-14

L A reading from the third chapter of Philippians.

Writing to Christians in Philippi, Paul admits that his heritage and reputation could give him more reason than most people to place confidence in his spiritual pedigree. But the overwhelming grace of God in Jesus calls Paul to a new set of values.

Paul writes: ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

- 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

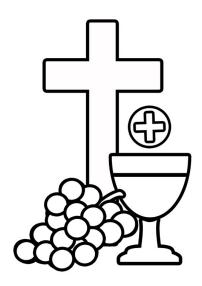
Alabaster

Rend Collective

Interlude	Chorus
Ooh ooh	(And) (Oh) I will bow my life
Verse 1 I am broken at Your feet Like an alabaster jar	At Your feet at Your feet My lips so lost for words will kiss Your feet Kiss Your feet
Ev'ry piece of who I am	Verse 2
Laid before Your majesty	Oh the gravity of You
	Draws my soul unto its knees
	I will never be the same
	I am lost and found in You

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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



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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. Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through 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

- 廿 GOSPEL John 12:1-8
- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

Judas willfully misinterprets as waste Mary's extravagant act of anointing Jesus' feet with costly perfume. Jesus recognizes that her lavish gift is both an expression of love and an anticipation of his burial.

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

- 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,
 H bless you now and forever.
- C Amen.



DISMISSAL

- A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Sunday, April 6, 2025—Albrecht Dürer, died 1528; Matthias Grünewald, died 1529; Lucas Cranach, died 1553; artists

These great artists revealed through their work the mystery of salvation and the wonder of creation. Dürer's work reflected the apocalyptic spirit of his time. Though he remained a Roman Catholic, he was sympathetic to Martin Luther's reforming work. Grünewald's paintings are known for their dramatic forms, vivid colors, and depiction of light. Cranach's work includes many fine religious examples and several portraits of Martin Luther. Cranach was also widely known for his woodcuts.

Wednesday, April 9, 2025—Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian, died 1945

Bonhoeffer was a German theologian who wrote profoundly, yet in an accessible manner. In the Second World War, he became a leader of the Confessing Church in Germany that resisted the Nazi movement. Linked to a plot to kill Hitler, he was hanged shortly before the end of the war.

Thursday, April 10, 2025—Mikael Agricola, Bishop of Turku, died 1557

Consecrated bishop of Turku, Finland, without the approval of the pope, Agricola began a reform along Lutheran lines. In only three years, he translated the New Testament and worship texts into Finnish, in the process establishing the rules of Finnish writing that are still used today.

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