



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

March 3, 2024

Third Sunday in Lent

8:30 am

P: Pastor

A: Assisting Minister

C: Congregation

GATHERING MUSIC

Grace Alone

Scott Wesley Brown / Jeff Nelson

BOB 77

WELCOME

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through 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

Reading

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

L A reading from the first chapter of 1 Corinthians.

The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." ²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

L Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the second chapter.

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

Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a marketplace!” ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” ¹⁹Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” ²⁰The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

P The Gospel of the Lord

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

SERMON

Pastor John Futterer

SONG OF RESPONSE

There Is a Redeemer

BOB 211

VERSE

1. There is a Re - deem - er, _____
 2. Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, _____
 3. When I stand in glo - ry _____

3

Je - sus, God's own Son, _____
 Name a - bove all names, _____
 I will see His face, _____ and

5

Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes - si - ah,
 Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes - si - ah,
 there I'll serve my King for - ev - er,

7

Ho - ly One.
 hope - for sin - ners slain.
 in that ho - ly place.

9 **CHORUS**

Thank You, O my Fa - ther, for

11

giv - ing us Your Son; And leav - ing Your

14

Spir - it 'til the work on earth is done.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be God, the one who forms us, ✚ Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete.

C Amen.

P Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Steadfast and faithful God,

C you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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.

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.

PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

A Trusting in God's promise to reconcile all things, let us pray for the church, the well-being of creation, and a world in need.

Prayer petitions will conclude: "Hear us, O God."

The congregation's response is: "Your mercy is great."

P Accompany us on our journey, God of grace, and receive the prayers of our hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

DEDICATION OF COLUMBARIUM

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.**

OFFERING PRAYER

- P Let us pray. Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name.
- 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. 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.

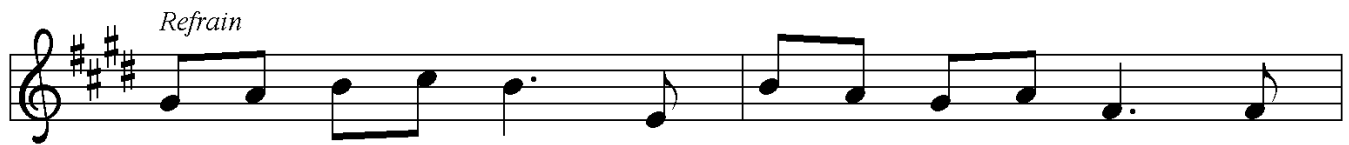
LORD'S PRAYER

- 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 Jesus invites you to this table. Come, eat and live.

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



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were



gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from



all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.



1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with - in our midst,
 2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when



may we share the pres - ence of your love.
 all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

Refrain



POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The God of glory, ✚ Jesus Christ, name above all names, and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG

He Is Exalted

Next Page

THE DISMISSAL

A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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He is ex-alt-ed, the King is ex-alt-ed on high; I will praise him.

He is ex-alt-ed, for - ev - er ex-alt-ed, and I will praise his

name. Je - sus is Lord, for - ev - er his truth shall

reign; hea - ven and earth re - joice in his ho - ly

name. He is ex-alt-ed, the King is ex-alt-ed on high.