



KIMBALL MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

101 VANCE ST. KANNAPOLIS, NC 28081

April 14, 2024

Third Sunday of Easter

8:30 am

*Congregation responses in **Bold**.*

GATHERING MUSIC

Jesus Messiah

All the Earth Will Sing Your Praises

Chris Tomlin

Paul Baloche

WELCOME

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of 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

Reading 1 John 3:1-7

God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.

L A reading from the third chapter of 1st John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. ⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Luke 24:36b-48

In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

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

Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.”³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost.³⁸ He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.”⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?”⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish,⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.⁴⁴ Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.”⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,⁴⁶ and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.”

P The Gospel of the Lord

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

SERMON

Pastor John Futterer

SONG OF RESPONSE

Open Our Eyes

Next Page

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.

P Steadfast and faithful God,

C **you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by 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.**

O - pen our eyes, Lord, we want to see Je -

7

sus, to reach out and touch Him, and say that we

14

love Him. O - pen our ears, Lord, and

21

help us to lis - ten. O - pen our eyes, Lord,

28

we want to see Je - - sus.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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 Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

*Prayer petitions will conclude: "God of grace,"
The congregation's response is: "hear our prayer."*

P Into your hands, most merciful God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abiding love; through Jesus Christ, our resurrected and living Lord.

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.**

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.

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.

COMMUNION SONG

I Can Only Imagine

Bart Millard

1. I can only imagine What it will be like When I walk by Your side I can only imagine What my eyes will see When Your face is before me I can only imagine.

Chorus:

Surrounded by Your glory What will my heart feel Will I dance for You Jesus Or in awe of You be still Will I stand in Your presence Or to my knees will I fall Will I sing hallelujah Will I be able to speak at all I can only imagine (yeah) I can only imagine.

2. I can only imagine When that day comes And I find myself standing in the Son I can only imagine When all I will do Is forever forever worship You I can only imagine I can only imagine

Tag

I can only imagine yeah I can only imagine I can only imagine I can only imagine

Ending

I can only imagine when all I will do Is forever forever worship You I can only imagine

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.

THE DISMISSAL

A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SENDING SONG

He Reigns

Steve Taylor, Peter Furler

VERSE

1. It's the song of the re - deemed ris - ing from the Af - ri - can plain.
(2. Let it) rise a - bove the four winds, caught up in the heav - en - ly sound.

3
It's the song of the for - giv - en
Let prais - es ech - o from the tow - ers of ca - the - drals to the

6
drown - ing out the Am - a - zon rain. The song of
faith - ful gath - ered un - der - ground. Of all the songs sung from the

9

A - sian be - liev - ers filled with God's ho - ly fire. It's ev - 'ry tribe, ev - 'ry
dawn of cre - a - tion, some were meant to per - sist. Of all the bells rung from a

13

tongue, ev - 'ry na - tion; A love song born of a grate - ful choir.
thou - sand stee - ples, none rings tru - er than this:

16

CHORUS

It's all God's chil - dren sing - ing: "Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! He reigns, He reigns!"

20

It's all God's chil - dren sing - ing, "Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! He reigns, He reigns."

24

BRIDGE

2. Let it And all the pow - ers of dark - ness trem - ble at what they've just heard,

28

'cause all the pow - ers of dark - ness can't drown out a sin - gle word.

CHORUS

33

It's all God's chil - dren sing - ing: "Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! He reigns,

36

He reigns!" It's all God's chil - dren sing - ing, "Glo - ry, glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah! He reigns.

40

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