



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

March 22, 2026

Fifth Sunday in Lent

8:30 am

WELCOME

✠ **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another. Gracious God,

C have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

C have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C Amen.

READING Romans 8:6-11

L A reading from the eighth chapter of Romans.

For Paul, Christian spirituality entails living in the reality of the Holy Spirit. The driving force behind our actions and values is not our sinful desire for self-satisfaction but the very Spirit by which God raised Jesus from the dead and will also raise us from the dead.

To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. ⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

L Word of God, word of life. **C Thanks be to God.**

SCRIPTURE SONG

Firm Foundation

Nancy Gordon, Jamie Harvill

Je - sus, You're my firm foun - da - tion, I know I can stand se - cure;

5 Je - sus, You're my firm foun - da - tion, I put my hope in Your ho - ly Word,

9 I put my hope in Your ho - ly Word. *Fine* **VERSE**
1. I have a liv - ing hope,
2. Your Word is faith - ful,

12 (I have a liv - ing hope,) I have a fu - ture; (I have a fu - ture;) (Your Word is faith - ful,) might - y in pow - er; (might - y in pow - er;)

15 God has a plan for me, (God has a plan for me,) of this I'm sure, of
God will de - liv - er me, (God will de - liv - er me,) of this I'm sure, of

18 *D.C. al Fine*
this I'm sure. _____
this I'm sure. _____

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.

Refrain

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.

Refrain

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 Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Come to the table; taste and see.

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.

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. Gluten-free is available on request. However you choose to receive Communion this morning, know that we are glad you're here for this Sacrament!

COMMUNION SONG

I Am the Bread of Life

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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.**

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 **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF DAY

A Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, 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



1. I am the Bread of life. You who
 2. The bread that I will give is My
 3. Un - less you eat of the
 4. I am the Res - ur - rec - tion,
 5. Yes, Lord, I be - lieve that

3



come to Me shall not hun - ger; and who be -
 flesh for the life of the world, and if you
 flesh of the Son of Man and
 I am the life. If you be -
 You are the Christ, the

5



lieve in Me shall not thirst.
 eat of this bread,
 drink of His blood, and
 lieve in Me,
 Son of God,

7



No one can come to Me un -
 you shall live for - ev - er,
 drink of His blood, you
 e - ven though you die,
 Who has come in -

9



less the Fa - ther beck - ons.
 you shall live for - ev - er.
 shall not have life with - in you.
 you shall live for - ev - er.
 to the world.

CHORUS



"And I will raise you up, and I will

13



raise you up, and I will raise you

16



up on the last day."

GOSPEL John 11:1-45

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus is moved to sorrow when his friend Lazarus falls ill and dies. Then, in a dramatic scene, he calls his friend out of the tomb and restores him to life.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. ³ So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." ⁴ But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." ⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. ⁷ Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." ⁸ The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" ⁹ Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. ¹⁰ But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." ¹¹ After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." ¹² The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." ¹³ Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. ¹⁴ Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. ¹⁵ For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." ¹⁶ Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him." ¹⁷ When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, ¹⁹ and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." ²⁴ Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." ²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" ²⁷ She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." ²⁸ When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹ And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. ³⁰ Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. ³¹ The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³² When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³ When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴ He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵ Jesus began to weep. ³⁶ So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷ But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸ Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it.

continued...

³⁹ Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰ Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹ So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴² I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." ⁴³ When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go." ⁴⁵ Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

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.

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Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- A Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.
A Please kneel or be seated for the Prayers of Intercession.

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

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

- P Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.
C Amen.

BLESSING

- P Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:
God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
✠ bless you now and always.
C Amen.

SENDING SONG

Days of Elijah

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DISMISSAL

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

VERSE

1. These are the days of E - li - jah, de - clar - ing the Word of the Lord;
 (2.) these are the days of E - ze - kiel, the dry bones be - com - ing as

4
 And these are the days of Your ser - vant, Mo - ses, right - eous - ness be - ing re -
 flesh; And these are the days of Your ser - vant, Dav - id, re build - ing a tem - ple of

8
 - stored; And though these are days of great tri - als, of fam - ine and dark - ness and
 praise; And these are the days of the har - vest, the fields are as white in the

12
 sword; Still we are the voice in the des - ert cry - ing, "Pre - pare ye the way of the Lord."
 world; And we are the la - bour ers in Your vine - yard, de - clar - ing the Word of the Lord.

CHORUS 1a

16
 Be - hold He comes, rid - ing on the clouds, shin - ing like the sun at the trum - pet

20
 call; Lift your voice, it's the year of Ju - bi - lee, and out of Zi - on's hill sal - va - tion

1
2
 comes. 2. And

There is no god like Je - ho - vah, there is no god like Je - ho - vah,

31
 there is no god like Je - ho - vah, there is no god like Je - ho - vah.

There is no god like Je - ho - vah, there is no god like Je - ho - vah,

35
 there is no god like Je - ho - vah, there is no god like Je - ho - vah. Hey! Be - hold He

CHORUS 1b

comes, rid - ing on the clouds, shin - ing like the sun at the trum - pet call; Lift your

42
 voice, it's the year of Ju - bi - lee, and out of Zi - on's hill sal - va - tion

45
 1 2
 comes. Be - hold, He comes.