

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

May 26, 2024

The Holy Trinity

8:30 am

Congregation responses in Bold.

GATHERING MUSIC How Great is Our God Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, Ed Cash

**W**ELCOME

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LET'S TALK

Children's Time

## Reading Romans 8:12-17

In describing the new life of faith, Paul refers to all three persons of the Trinity: the Spirit leads us to recognize that we are children of God the Father and joint heirs with Christ the Son.

L A reading from the eighth chapter of Romans.

Prothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—13 for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. 14 For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. 15 For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" 16 it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

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

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## GOSPEL John 3:1-17

Jesus' miracles prompt Nicodemus to visit him in secrecy. Jesus tells him about being born of the Spirit and about the Son who has been sent by God to save.

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the third chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

ow there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. <sup>2</sup>He came to Jesus by I night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." 3Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." <sup>4</sup>Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. 6What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' 8The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." 9Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" 10 Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? 11"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? 13No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 14And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. <sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. 17"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

- P The Gospel of the Lord
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

**SERMON** 

Pastor John Futterer





## **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.

## **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 We come before the triune God to pray for our communities, ourselves, and our world.

Prayer petitions will conclude: "Merciful God,"

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

- P Receive our prayers, O God, and come quickly to our aid, through the power of the Spirit and the love of Jesus Christ.
- C Amen.

## SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

- A The peace of Christ be with you.
- C And also with you.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

- P Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.
- 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.

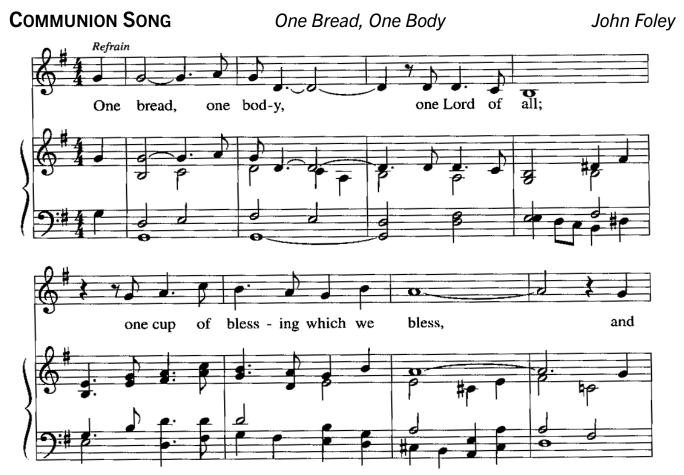
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

#### 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.



continued...

THE HOLY TRINITY



## **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 blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,  $\mathbf{H}$  be upon you now and forever.
- C Amen.

## THE DISMISSAL

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



