



# KIMBALL MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

101 VANCE ST. KANNAPOLIS, NC 28081

May 5, 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

11:00 am

✝ *Please stand as you are able.*  
*Congregation responses in **Bold**.*

**PRELUDE**

*Easter in the Heart*

*Roger C. Wilson*

**WELCOME**

✝ **THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

**C Amen.**

P Look, here is water!

**C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

P Look, here is water!

**C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

P At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

P Look, here is water!

**C Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**





1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness  
 2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who  
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the  
 4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,



van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream-ings  
 yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,  
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,  
 light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



brought here to you in the light of this day.  
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.  
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.  
 now is the king - dom, and now is the day.



Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the  
 Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the  
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the  
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,  
 proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,  
 bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion  
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.  
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.  
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.  
 fire . . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

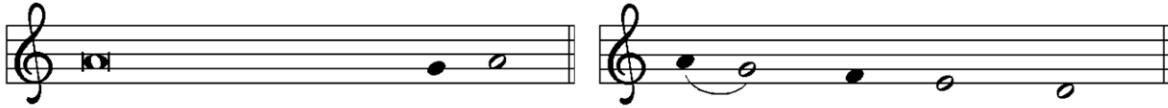
† GREETING

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.

† KYRIE

ELW S147



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



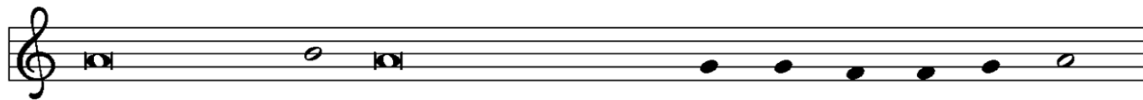
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord.

A - men.

*Refrain*  
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

✠ PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(Please be seated)

# LET'S TALK

Children's Time

## Reading Psalm 98

L A reading from Psalm 98.

- <sup>1</sup>O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.  
His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.
- <sup>2</sup>The LORD has made known his victory;  
he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
- <sup>3</sup>He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.  
All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- <sup>4</sup>Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth;  
break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
- <sup>5</sup>Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre,  
with the lyre and the sound of melody.
- <sup>6</sup>With trumpets and the sound of the horn  
make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.
- <sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;  
the world and those who live in it.
- <sup>8</sup>Let the floods clap their hands;  
let the hills sing together for joy
- <sup>9</sup>at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

## ✠ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

ELW S151

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## ✠ GOSPEL John 15:9-17

*On the night of his arrest, Jesus delivers a final testimony to his disciples to help them in the days ahead. Here, he repeats the most important of all his commands, that they love one another.*

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

C

Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

**J**esus said: <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.



## SERMON

*Pastor John Futterer*

## ✠ HYMN OF THE DAY

*Come, We That Love the Lord*

*Next Page*

## ✠ 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.**

1 Come, we that love the Lord, and let our joys be known;  
 2 Let those re - fuse to sing who nev - er knew our God;  
 3 The hill of Zi - on yields a thou-sand sa - cred sweets  
 4 Then let our songs a-bound, and ev - 'ry tear be dry;

join in a song with sweet ac - cord, join in a song with  
 but chil - dren of the heav'n - ly King, but chil - dren of the  
 be - fore we reach the heav'n - ly fields, be - fore we reach the  
 we're march - ing through Im - man - uel's ground, we're march - ing through Im -

sweet ac - cord and thus sur - round the throne, and thus sur-round the throne.  
 heav'n-ly King may tell their joys a-broad, may tell their joys a - broad.  
 heav'n-ly fields, or walk the gold - en streets, or walk the gold - en streets.  
 man-uel's ground, to fair - er worlds on high, to fair - er worlds on high.

*Refrain*

We're march - ing to Zi - on, beau - ti-ful, beau - ti-ful Zi - on:

we're march - ing up - ward to Zi - on, the beau - ti-ful cit - y of God.

## 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.

A Please greet those around you with words of peace.

*(Especially greet the children and youth.)*

## ANTHEM

*On Eagle's Wings*  
*Nick Bronson, soloist*

*Michael Joncas*

## ✠ OFFERING PRESENTATION



☞ Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our



cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the



seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.



Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the



prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.



## 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

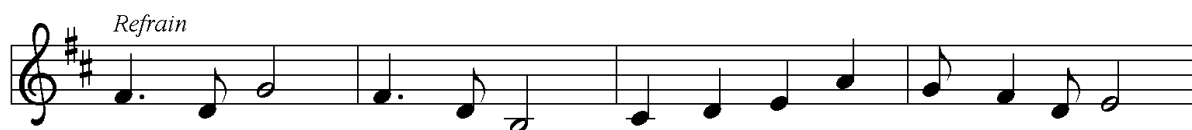
**P** Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit let us pray, as Jesus taught.

**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** The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.  
Come and eat at God's 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.***



Eat this bread, drink this cup. Taste and see the good-ness of God.



Bread of life, cup of love, we re-joyce in your pres-ence.



- 1 I will bless the Lord at all times, praise with heart and voice;
- 2 Look up - on the Lord, be ra - dian, nev - er turn a - way.
- 3 An - gels fold their wings a - round us, guard through good and ill.
- 4 Saints of God, bow down and wor - ship, bless the ho - ly name.



in my God I glo - ry for - ev - er: lis - ten and re - joyce!  
 God will save in ev - 'ry af - flic - tion, hear us when we pray.  
 Those who seek the Lord will lack noth - ing; taste, and have your fill.  
 Rise to tell God's great - ness for - ev - er, won - drous deeds pro - claim!

✠ **POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C Amen.

✠ **POST COMMUNION CANTICLE**

*Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise*



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let



ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joyce and bear the name of Christ.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**P** Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend.

**C** Amen.

## BENEDICTION

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**P** The God of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope ✝ bless you now and always.

**C** Amen.

## SENDING HYMN

*Jesus Loves Me*

*Next Page*

## DISMISSAL

**A** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

*Postludium in F*

*Louise E. Stairs*

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1 Je - sus loves me! this I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so;  
 2 Je - sus loves me! he who died heav - en's gates to o - pen wide;  
 3 Je - sus loves me! he will stay close be - side me all the way;

lit - tle ones to him be - long, they are weak, but he is strong.  
 he will wash a - way my sin, let his lit - tle child come in.  
 when at last I come to die, he will take me home on high.

*Refrain*

Yes, Je - sus loves me, yes, Je - sus loves me,

yes, Je - sus loves me, the Bi - ble tells me so.