



KIMBALL MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

101 VANCE ST. KANNAPOLIS, NC 28081

June 16, 2024

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

8:30 am

*Congregation responses in **Bold**.*

WELCOME

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

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

C **we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. 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.**

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 **Amen.**

OPENING SONG

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PRAYER OF DAY

A Let us pray. O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

LET'S TALK

Children's Time

VERSE

1. Let the glo - ry of the Lord rise a - mong us, let the
 (2. Let the) songs of the Lord rise a - mong us, let the

3
 glo - ry of the Lord rise a - mong us; Let the prais - es of the King
 songs of the Lord rise a - mong us; Let the joy of the King

6
 1 2
 CHORUS
 rise a - mong us, let it rise. 2. Let the O,
 rise a - mong us, let it rise.

12
 let it rise. O, let it rise.

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Reading Ezekiel 17:22-24

Tree imagery is used in a messianic prophecy to tell how the LORD will choose someone from Judah's royal family (the cedar tree) to reign over all creation. This tree will be planted on Mount Zion, the location of the holy temple.

L A reading from the seventeenth chapter of Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Mark 4:26-34

Jesus frequently uses parables to teach ordinary people as they are able to hear and understand. Images of sowing and growing show the vitality of God's kingdom.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourth chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground,²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." ³⁰He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." ³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

P The Gospel of the Lord

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor John Futterer

REFRAIN

Seed, scat - tered and sown, wheat gath - ered and grown, bread, bro - ken and

shared as one, the Liv - ing Bread of God. Vine, fruit of the land, wine, work of our

hands, one cup that is shared by all; the Liv - ing Cup, the Liv - ing Bread of God.

Fine VERSES

1. Is not the bread we break a shar - ing in our Lord?
2. The seed which falls on rock will with - er and will die.
3. As wheat up - on the hills was gath - ered and was grown,

Is not the cup we bless the Blood of Christ out - poured?
The seed with - in good ground will flow - er and have life.
So may the church of God be gath - ered in - to one.

D.C.

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 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.

A Please greet those around you with words of peace.

(Especially greet the children and youth.)

ELW 674

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



1 Let us tal - ents and tongues em - ploy, reach - ing out with a shout of joy:



bread is bro - ken, the wine is poured, Christ is spo - ken and seen and heard.

Refrain



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the Word a - round: loaves a - bound!

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!

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.

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 Christ has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

**You may come forward (*directed by ushers*) to receive the Elements as the words are said:
*The Body of Christ given for you; The Blood of Christ shed for you.***

COMMUNION SONG

Remember and Proclaim

Mathew Linton/Wendy Wills

Verse 1 This bread His flesh this wine His blood
Emblems of the love of God
We fear no wrath or piercing sword
We are redeemed released restored in Jesus

Chorus 1 Alleluia we take this bread Alleluia we drink
this cup Remembering to proclaim His death
Until He comes again

Verse 2 Come ev'ry soul weighed down with care
Anxious thoughts uneasy prayers
Come and believe and find your rest
Come and receive the righteousness of Jesus

Chorus 2 Alleluia we take this bread Alleluia we drink
this cup Remembering to proclaim His death Until He
comes Oh alleluia we take this bread Alleluia we drink
this cup Remembering to proclaim His death Until He
comes again Oo oo

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, ✠ be upon you now and forever. **C Amen.**

SENDING SONG

The River Is Here

Andy Park

VERSE 1

1. Down the moun - tain the riv - er flows and it brings re - fresh - ing wher -
ev - er it goes. Through the val - leys and o - ver the fields the riv - er is rush - ing and the

CHORUS

riv - er is here. The riv - er of God sets our feet a - danc - ing, the riv - er of God fills our
12 hearts with cheer. The riv - er of God fills our mouths with laugh - ter, and we re - joice for the

INSTRUMENTAL 1

2nd time to Coda ☩

16 riv - er is here. 2. The

VERSE 2

riv - er of God is teem - ing with life, and all who touch it can be re - vived. And

25 those who lin - ger on this riv - er's shore will come back thirst - ing for more of the Lord. The

♩ Coda **VERSE 3 & 1**

29 3. Up to the moun - tain we love to go to find the pres - ence
1. Down the moun - tain the riv - er flows and it brings re - fresh - ing when

33 of the Lord. A - long the banks of the riv - er we run, we
ev - er it goes. Through the val - leys and o - ver the fields the

CHORUS

36 dance with laugh - ter giv - ing praise to the Son. The riv - er of God sets our
riv - er is rush - ing and the riv - er is here.

39 feet a - danc - ing, the riv - er of God fills our hearts with cheer. The riv - er of God fills our

43 **1** **INSTRUMENTAL 2**
mouths with laugh - ter, and we re - joice for the riv - er is here.

47 **(1)**

52 **(1)** **2** **ENDING**
riv - er is here. Yes, we re - joice for the riv - er is here.