



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

March 30, 2025

Fourth Sunday in Lent

10:00 am

INSTRUMENTAL

Lord, I Need You

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

C **Blessed be God's name forever. Amen.**

P Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God of new beginnings,

C **we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. 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.**

READING 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

L A reading from the fifth chapter of 2nd Corinthians.

One way to describe the gospel is the promise that in Christ everything is transformed into newness. All mistakes, all deliberate sins, all old history is reconciled with Christ's resurrection. This is Paul's strong message to the congregation in the city of Corinth.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

L Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

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

(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.**
- 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.**
- C So we share in this bread of life, and we drink of His sacrifice as a sign of our bonds of grace around the table of the King.**
- 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 God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the 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.

Healing Prayer is available under the balcony during Communion if you desire prayer.

COMMUNION SONG *ELW 448* *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound* NEW BRITAIN

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares I
 4 The Lord has prom - ised good to me; his

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace has brought me
 word my hope se - cures; he will my shield and

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.

COMMUNION SONG *I Am the Bread of Life* Suzanne Toolan

VERSE

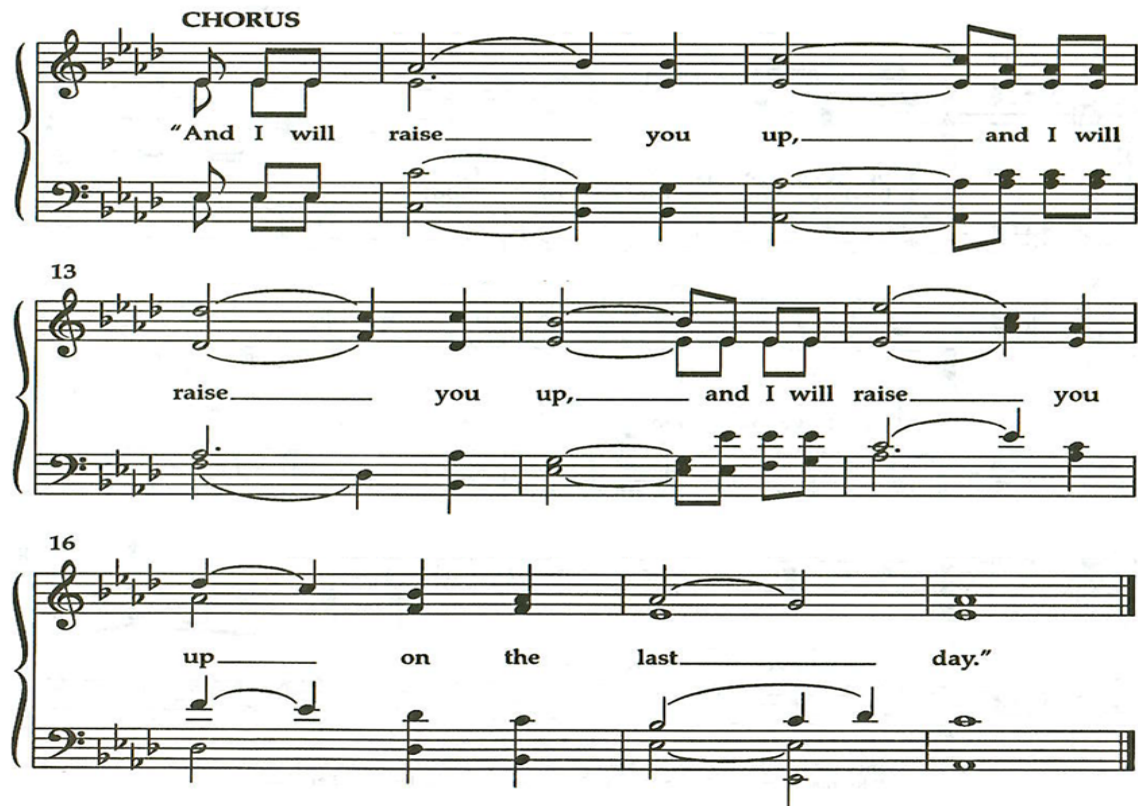
1. I am the Bread of life. You who
 2. The bread that I will give is My
 3. Un - less you eat of the
 4. I am the Res - ur - rec - tion, of the
 5. Yes, Lord, I be - lieve that

3
 come to Me shall not hun - ger; and who be - lieve in Me shall not
 flesh for the life of the world, and if you eat of this
 flesh of the Son of Man, and drink of His
 I am the life. If you be - lieve in
 You are the Christ, the Son of

6
 thirst. No one can come to Me un -
 bread, you shall live for - ev - er,
 blood, and drink of His blood, you
 Me, e - ven though you die, in -
 God, 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 raise you up, and I will raise you up on the last day."

POST COMMUNION BLESSING

P The Body and Blood of Our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace.

C Amen.

SCRIPTURE SONG

Jesus Messiah

Reeves, Carson, Tomlin, Cash

VERSE



1. He be - came sin, who knew no sin; that we might be - come His
 (2.) bod y the bread, His blood the wine bro - ken and poured out,
 right - eous - ness; He hum - bled Him - self, and car - ried the cross.
 all for love. The whole earth trem - bled, and the veil was torn.
 Love so a - maz - ing, Love so a - maz - ing. Je - sus, Mes - si -
 ah; Name a - bove all names; Bless - ed Re - deem -
 er; Em - man - u - el. The Res - cue for sin - ners,
 the Ran - som from heav - en; Je - sus, Mes - si - ah, Lord of all.

Last time to Coda \oplus 1 2 **BRIDGE**

26 2. His All our hope is in You, all our hope

31 is in You; all the glo - ry to You, God, the Light of the

36 world. Je - sus, Mes - si

\oplus Coda **ENDING**

38 Je - sus, Mes - si - - ah, Lord of all.

41 The Lord of all! The Lord of all.

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.

PRAYER OF DAY

A Let us pray. God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, 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

GOSPEL Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about a son who ponders his father's love only after he has spurned it. The grace he receives is beyond his hopes. That same grace is a crisis for an older brother who believes it is his obedience that has earned his place in the father's home.

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." ³ So he told them this parable: ^{11b} "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.'

continued...

So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²² But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate. ²⁵ "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹ Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.' "

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor John Futterer

ANTHEM

Mercy Still

arr. Heather Sorenson

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.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

As able, you are invited to kneel or be seated for the prayers.

Prayer petitions will conclude: "God, in your mercy,"

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

P Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P God our tender parent, God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG

Lord, I Need You

Nockels, Carson, Reeves, Stanfill, Maher

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#) and a 4/4 time signature. It consists of ten staves of music with corresponding lyrics. The score is divided into sections: INTRO (measures 1-4), VERSE 1 (measures 5-10), CHORUS 1 (measures 11-15), VERSE 2 (measures 16-20), and VERSE 3 (measures 21-30). The lyrics are: 1. Lord, I come, I confess. Bow-ing here, I find my rest. And with-out You, I fall a-part. You're the one that guides my heart. Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev-'ry hour I need You. My one de-fense, my right-cous-ness; Oh, God, how I need You. 2. Where sin runs deep, Your grace is more. Where grace is found is where You are. And where You are, Lord, I am free. Ho-li-ness is Christ in me. Where You are, Lord, I am free. Ho-li-ness is Christ in me.

35 **CHORUS 1**

Lord, I need You, oh, I need You. Ev - 'ry hour I need You. My

40 *2nd time to Coda* Φ

one de - fense, my right - eous - ness; Oh, God, how I need You. So,

BRIDGE

teach my song to rise to You when temp - ta - tion comes my

48

way. And when I can - not stand, I'll fall on You.

51

Je - sus, You're my hope and stay. And when I can - not stand, I'll fall on

54 *D.S. al Coda*

You. Je - sus, You're my hope and stay. Lord, I

58 Φ *Coda*

Lord, I

CHORUS 2

need You, oh, I need You. Ev - 'ry hour I need You. My one de - fense, my

64

right - eous - ness; Oh, God, how I need You. My one de - fense, my right - eous - ness; Oh,

69

God, how I need You.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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