



KIMBALL MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

101 VANCE ST. KANNAPOLIS, NC 28081

September 7, 2025

13th 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.**

GATHERING SONG

Lift High the Cross

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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. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

LET'S TALK

Children's Time

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro - claim till

all the world a - dore his sa - cred name.

1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our cap - tain trod,
2 All new - born ser - vants of the Cru - ci - fied

Refrain

our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.
bear on their brows the seal of him who died.

READING Deuteronomy 30:15-20

L A reading from the thirtieth chapter of Deuteronomy.

Moses speaks to the Israelites, who are about to enter the land promised to their ancestors. In this passage, he lays out the stark choice before them: choose life by loving and obeying the LORD; or choose death by following other gods.

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶ If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷ But if your heart turns away and you do not hear but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸ I declare to you today that you shall certainly perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹ I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰ loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him, for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.”

L Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Luke 14:25-33

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus speaks frankly about the costs of discipleship. Those who follow him should know from the outset that completing the course of discipleship will finally mean renouncing all other allegiances.

Now large crowds were traveling with Jesus, and he turned and said to them, ²⁶ “Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷ Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸ For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹ Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰ saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹ Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³² If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³ So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor John Futterer

SONG OF RESPONSE

Cry of My Heart

Terry Butler



It is the cry of my heart to fol - low You. It is the cry of my heart to be close to You.



It is the cry of my heart to fol - low all of the days of my life.



It is the cry of my heart to fol - low You. It is the cry of my heart to be close to You.



It is the cry of my heart to fol - low all of the days of my life.



Teach me Your ho - ly ways, oh Lord, so I can walk in Your truth.
O - pen my eyes so I can see the won - der - ful things that You do.



Teach me Your ho - ly ways, oh Lord, and make me whol - ly de - vot - ed to You.

O - pen my heart up more and more and make it whol - ly de - vot - ed to You.



Oh! Oh! Whoa!

Oh! Oh! Whoa!



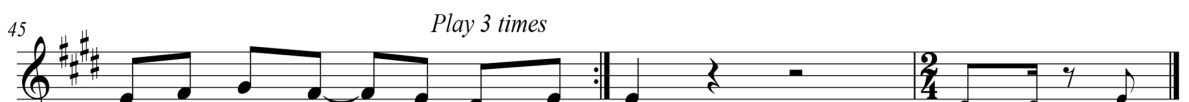
It is the cry of my heart to fol - low You. It is the cry of my heart



to be close to You. It is the cry of my heart to fol - low all of the days of my life.



All of the days of my life.



All of the days of my life._____

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 INTERCESSION

A Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

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

Prayer petitions will conclude: "God of grace."

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

P We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.

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.

OFFERING

The offering plates are in the narthex for your use. You may also place your offering in the plate at the communion rail when you come to the altar for communion. Please ask an usher if you have any questions.

OFFERTORY

Dwell in Me

Marty Parks

Unison

1. Dwell in me, dwell in me; Word of
(2. Breathe on) me, breathe on me; Ho - ly

Je - sus, dwell in me. Till Your face is all I
Spir - it, breathe on me. Be my pas - sion, set me

continued...

see. free. Word of Je - sus, dwell in me. 2. Breathe on
Ho - ly Spir - it, breathe on me.

Repeat ending

Song ending

me. Ho - ly Spir - it, breathe on me.

OFFERING PRAYER

P Let us pray. Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

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

Come to the Table

Cloninger, Nystrom

VERSE



Where You go, I'll go; Where You stay, I'll stay; When You move, I'll move.

I will fol - low. Oh, oh, oh.

1. All Your ways are good, all Your ways are sure; I will trust in You a - lone.
2. Light in - to the world, Light in - to my life— I will live for You a - lone.

High - er than my sight, high a - bove my life; I will trust in You a - lone.
You're the One I seek, know - ing I will find all I need in You a - lone..

CHORUS

In You a - lone. Where You go, I'll go; Where You stay, I'll stay;
When You move, I'll move. I will fol - low You. Whom You love, I'll love;

Last time to Coda

How You serve, I'll serve; If this life I lose, I will fol - low You, yeah.

I will fol - low You, yeah. In You, there's life ev - er - last - ing.

In You, there's free - dom for my soul. In You, there's joy, un - end - ing joy;

D.S. al Coda

And I will fol - - low.

CHORUS

I will fol - low. Where You go, I'll go; Where You stay, I'll stay;
When You move, I'll move. I will fol - low You. Whom You love, I'll love;
How You serve, I'll serve; If this life I lose, I will fol - low You, yeah.

I will fol - low You, yeah. I will fol - low You, yeah. I will fol - low You,

yeah.