



KIMBALL MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

101 VANCE ST. KANNAPOLIS, NC 28081

March 15, 2026

Fourth Sunday in Lent

8:30 am

WELCOME

✠ CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

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

C **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

P God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C Amen.

PSALM 23

READING Ephesians 5:8-14

L A reading from the fifth chapter of Ephesians.

Because we now live in the divine light which is Jesus Christ, we conduct our lives in ways that reflect the light of Christ, so that our activity is truly pleasing to God.

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light,⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true.¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord.¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them.¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly,¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible,¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

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

SCRIPTURE SONG

You Who Are Thirsty

Barbara Ross

CHORUS



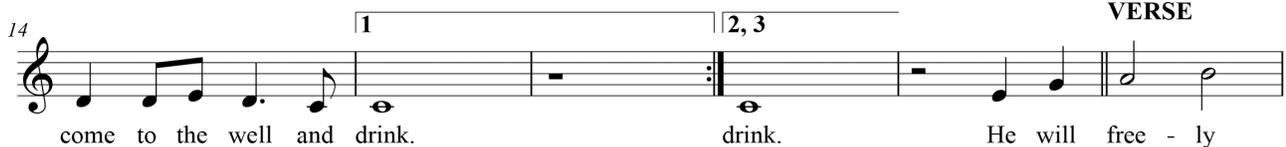
You who are thirst - y come to the well and drink from wa - ters flow - ing.



You who are hun - gry, come to the bread and eat of His hol - i - ness.



You who are tired, find rest. You who are weak, find strength. You who are thirst - y,



come to the well and drink. drink. He will free - ly



feed all of them who are weak. He will quench the right - eous thirst of



all who hum - - bly seek. *Fine* *D.C. al Fine*

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.

Refrain

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.

Refrain

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 Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Come to the table; taste and see.

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.

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. Gluten-free is available on request. However you choose to receive Communion this morning, know that we are glad you're here for this Sacrament!

COMMUNION SONG

Spirit Song

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POST COMMUNION BLESSING

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

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 **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF DAY

A Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

LET'S TALK

Children's Time

VERSE

1. Oh let the Son of God en - fold you with His Spir - it and His
 2. Oh come and sing this song with glad - ness as your hearts are filled with

love; Let Him fill your heart and sat - is - fy your soul. Oh let Him
 joy; Lift your hands in sweet sur - ren - der to His name. Oh give Him

have those things that hold you, and His Spir - it like, a dove, will des - cend up - on your
 all your tears and sad - ness; Give Him all your years of pain, and you'll en - ter in - to

CHORUS

life and make you whole. Je - sus, oh Je - sus,
 life in Je - sus' name.

come and fill Your lambs. Je - sus, oh Je -

sus, come and fill Your lambs.

GOSPEL John 9:1-41

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

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus heals a man born blind, provoking a hostile reaction that he regards as spiritual blindness to the things of God.

As Jesus walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” ³ Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, ⁷ saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” ⁹ Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” ¹¹ He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” ¹² They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.” ¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.” ¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, “Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?” ²⁰ His parents answered, “We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.” ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.” ²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” ²⁵ He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” ²⁶ They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” ²⁷ He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” ³⁰ The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.”

continued....

³⁴ They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out. ³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” ³⁶ He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” ³⁷ Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” ³⁸ He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.” ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Deacon Liz Fisher

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.

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.

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Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your
pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.
Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me
with your free Spir - it. Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God,
and re - new a right spir - it with - in me.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

A Please kneel or be seated for the Prayers of Intercession.

Prayer petitions will conclude: "Hear us, O God."

The congregation's response is: "Your mercy is great."

P Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad. The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

C Amen.

SENDING SONG

Come and Fill Me Up

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DISMISSAL

A Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE

I can feel You flow - in' thru me. Ho - ly Spir - it, come and fill me up.

5

Come and fill me up. Love and mer - cy

10

fill my sens - es. I am thirs - ty for Your pres - ence, Lord.

14

CHORUS

Come and fill me up. Lord, let Your mer - cy wash a - way

19

all of my sin. Fill me com - plete - ly with Your love once a - gain.

24

I need You, I want You. I love Your pres - ence.

29

ENDING

I need You, I want You. I love Your pres - - - ence.