

Kendall Lytle

Remarks at 05.29.21 Service on the Anniversary of George Floyd's Murder

Binkley Baptist Church, Chapel Hill, NC

Good Afternoon everyone, and thank you so much for taking your time to lend your voice and participation towards the fight for Black Lives. Thank you to Binkley Baptist Church for providing this space for the community to come and show their support to Black Lives Matter. Your ally ship does not go unnoticed, and I pray that there are more allies like you for as long as this fight continues.

The murder of George Floyd was a wake up call for many people. It was a visual representation of how this country truly treats people of color. Some may call it a "sacrifice" for the cause. But, I don't like to call it that. Because in the end, George Floyd did not have to die for the world to open their eyes to police brutality and the continued racism and discrimination towards people of color. We have full proof of the racism and discrimination that occurs in this country that dates back centuries. And in my opinion, the wrongful treatment of people of color by law enforcement has occurred since the occupation of law-enforcement was first established. So the fact that we have to continue proving to others that our lives matter is unacceptable.

Something has to give. That is why it is time to start putting action behind your words. An Instagram post or tweet is no longer enough to stop this demon. It is time to raise our voices, as people of color and as allies, against the vile treatment of people of color. We tend to forget that when we stand as one, we have the strength to overpower our opposers. And then when you add God to the mix, there's truly nothing we can do. So I say continue using your voices. Whether that be joining your local black organization, joining your local youth council, or even standing on some random street with a black lives matter sign to express your stance. If you haven't been told yet, your voice is helping fuel to the fire that is ending this tragic era. So, make use of it, I don't ever let anyone tell you otherwise. Thank you.