

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

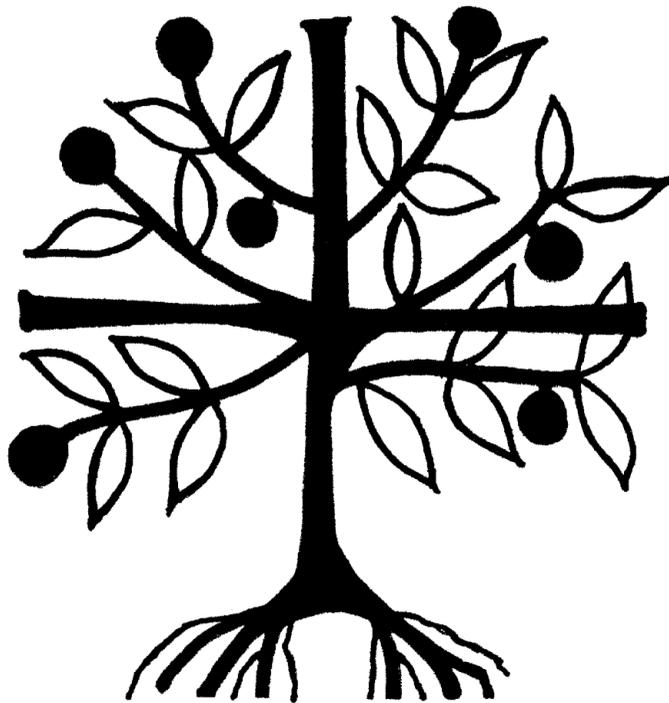
Dean W. Bard, Interim Senior Pastor
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor
Paul H. Moessner, Interim Associate Pastor
Inba Inbarasu, Visitation Pastor

2650 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68131-3616
402-341-7761
www.kmlchurch.org

March 05, 2017

9:00 & 11:00 AM

FIRST SUNDAY in LENT

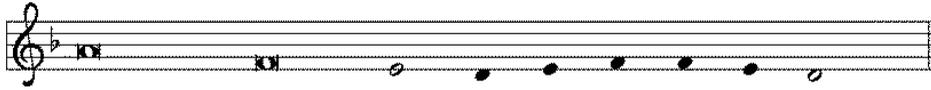


Forty is, in the Bible, a very big number. We read stories like forty days of rain on Noah, or forty years of wilderness wandering, or the forty days between the Resurrection and the Ascension. It does not fit patterns of moon cycles. Perhaps students of human bio-rhythms can suggest why that number—days or years—describes a season of transition.

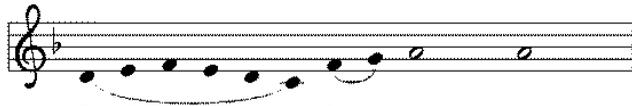
Christ-followers connect Jesus' experience in the wilderness, described in our Gospel, to the season of Lent, which is forty days plus Sundays. This method of marking the season is not to make Lent longer, rather because we limited humans always need the day of Resurrection (Sunday). Traditionally a time of intense preparation for those who would be baptized in the Easter Vigil, today we experience Lent as a time of special focus to help us learn (or relearn) what is truly at the heart of our faith.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this ho-ly house, and for all who of-fer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ Lord God, our strength,
- ☑ ***the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.***

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

“The devil made me do it.” That is not just an old comedy shtick. At the core of human identity we ask where we fit in. We ask what control we have over our environment, over life itself. Even if one considers Genesis to be mere fable, we find here basic questions about human identity, control, and blame. As Christians—along with our brothers and sisters in the other two Abrahamic religions—we believe these stories help us see who we really are, what has been described as the “crooked timber of our humanity”.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the Lord God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden’?” ²The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’” ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.” ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

A The word of the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

PSALM 32 (read responsively)

¹Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!

²***Happy are they to whom the Lord imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!***

³While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.

⁴***For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.***

⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.

I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord.” Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

⁶***Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.***

⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

⁸***I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;
I will guide you with my eye.***

⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.”

¹⁰*Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the Lord.*

¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the Lord;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

SECOND READING

Romans 5:12-19

"It's not fair! Why should someone else's failure cause me problems?" Individualism (the belief that the individual alone is the highest value) cannot explain why or how another person's problems should bother me. Saint Paul suggests one person's sin (the word "sin" is like aiming for the bullseye but missing the whole target) has widespread consequences. He also proclaims that God's grace, given uniquely through Jesus' death, has even greater power to make right again.

Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

A The word of the Lord.

G *Thanks be to God.*

(stand)

LENTEN VERSE

☞ Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

☞ Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

Matthew 4:1-11

At the beginning of his ministry, Jesus devotes himself to a special time of preparation. When we consider the human experience of temptation, we must remember that “awareness of” can be separated from “experience of.” The tree in the center of the Garden is of the knowledge of good and evil. One does not have to actually experience something in order to know it is not good. In fact, sometimes awareness makes the temptation more powerful.

As we consider this story, we remember Jesus is both human and divine. That does not mean he had it easier because he could slip into some divine-over-drive. These temptations came to Jesus in ways we humans experience them. He also was confronted by temptations far more powerful, and thus of far greater consequence.

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴But he answered, “It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written,

‘He will command his angels concerning you,’
and ‘On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’”

⁷Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

⁸Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; ⁹and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,
and serve only him.’”

¹¹Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

P The Gospel of our Lord

☞ Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN’S BLESSING (9:00 AM)

Children (aged 3 years through 5th grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, they may either follow the teacher upstairs for an extended children’s sermon (joining us again later in time for Communion) or they may return to their seat and use the Spark Bible and/or activity bags during the regular sermon.

SERMON

Pastor Moessner

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Restore in Us, O God

ELW 328

APOSTLES' CREED

☩ *I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.*

*I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 THE CHURCH

Response: Ⓟ Lord, in your mercy,
 ☩ **hear our prayer.**

(In our prayers today, during a time of silence, pray for those listed below and for others according to their needs)

Illness: Rev. Dennis Anderson, John Bogue, Pauline Brager, Shirleen Collett, Dorothy Cross, Edie Goodwin, Dee Hiatt, Sandy Johnson, Dee Luchsinger, June Sheftz, Dorothy Vancaster, Charlie Wachholtz, Darlene White

Sympathy: To the family and friends of John, brother of Jean Johnson

Other Prayers: *Those serving in the military* – Amy Dyer, Michael McNeill, Daniel Milstead, Sheldon Skovgaard, Michael Vutov, and Joel Woosley

Other Prayers: *Those serving in mission* – Rev. Chandran Paul Martin, India; Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson, Tanzania; Krystle Moraska & Ignacio Madrussan, Argentina; Lindsay Mack, Mexico; Justin Perkins (Young Adults in Global Mission), Argentina/Uruguay; Our sister congregation, the American Church in Berlin

THE PEACE IS SHARED

Ⓟ The peace of Christ be with you always.
☩ **And also with you.**

MEAL

(sit)

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

We glorify God in our giving. Our offering is an act of worship that makes the ministries of this church possible. We encourage everyone to give. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate in this portion of worship. If you would like, use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online or use the giving kiosk in the Fellowship Hall.



THE TABLE IS PREPARED

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Consecrated, Lord, Unto Thee

Lloyd Larson

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW 188

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 un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,
and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, 1670–1739

OFFERING PRAYER

- ☐ Merciful God,
- ☑ ***receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we may know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music features a simple, hymn-like melody with a mix of quarter and eighth notes.

(The Thanksgiving continues)

- ☐ It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...
...and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows five staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.', 'Ho - san - na in the high - est.', 'Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.', and 'Ho - san - na in the high - est.' The music features a simple, hymn-like melody with a mix of quarter and eighth notes.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

☩ *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 TO COMMUNION

☩ Behold the Lamb of God!

☩ *Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed. Amen.*

(sit)

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy
on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace. A - men.

(stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- ☞ Compassionate God,
☞ ***you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord. Amen.***

SENDING

DISMISSAL OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

BENEDICTION

- ☞ Jesus took on the form of a servant and was obedient to death, even death on a cross. May you follow his example and share in the resurrection.
- ☞ ***Amen.***
- ☞ In faithfulness to God, Jesus gave his life as a ransom for many. May you walk in love as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.
- ☞ ***Amen.***
- ☞ On the cross of Calvary Jesus bore our grief and carried our sorrows. May his passion bring us healing and peace.
- ☞ ***Amen.***
- ☞ Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.
- ☞ ***Amen.***

HYMN

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

ELW 618

DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
☞ ***Amen.***

POSTLUDE

☩ ☩ ☩

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Lent at Kountze

Theme: *We Are Church*

Noon Eucharist and Evening Prayer

Individual Healing and Absolution following each service

March 8 - We Are Church – Pastor Bard

March 15 - We Are One in Christ – Pastor Moessner

March 22 - We Are Holy – Pastor Hall

March 29 - We Are Catholic – Pastor Hall

April 5 - We Are Apostolic – Pastor Inbarasu

April 13 (Maundy Thursday) – Pastor Moessner

Confession and Absolution with Eucharist

Lunch - 11:15 - 12 PM

Dinner - 6 - 7 PM

Worship - 12:15 PM and 7 PM

Cost - Free-will Offering



This year, the Nebraska Synod is asking its congregations to use a curriculum resource which was developed and adopted by the Nebraska Synod Assembly in 2015, expressly for 2017. It is entitled WE ARE CHURCH, and it is an excellent emphasis. Through observing it, we will be united in prayer with Lutheran congregations from the panhandle to the Missouri River.

The materials are based on an important sentence found in the Nicene Creed which we often confess on festival Sundays. "We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church." That affirmation is broken down into five themes for the five weeks of Lent: I. We Are Church, II. We Are One in Christ, III. We Are Holy, IV. We Are Catholic, V. We Are Apostolic. Each week, one of our pastors will preach on the scripture lessons which accompany these themes. Wednesday Services will be Evening Prayer from our red worship book (reprinted in bulletin form, of course, for the convenience of worshipers). We are grateful that members of our choir and worship teams will help introduce this beautiful service to us.

Our sense is that this emphasis is particularly fitting now as we strengthen our sense of identity, moving toward an expanded mission in a wonderful new facility. Grounding and focus are so important, namely our grounding in Jesus Christ, the true Vine, and our focus on what it is to be Christ's faithful followers, members of his Body on earth.

Lenten devotional materials which are based on Martin Luther's works, in commemoration of the 2017 Reformation anniversary, are available at the Welcome Desk.



Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church is a congregation of the Nebraska Synod, in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), a part of the worldwide Lutheran Church body. We invite you to join us regularly for worship and for a variety of opportunities for growth and service. If you are a new resident in the community and are looking for a church home, we invite you to join this faith community. If you are new here, welcome. If you are “newly returned,” we rejoice with you. If you are a member of long-standing, we celebrate your ministry and your faithfulness.

WORSHIP + GROW + SERVE

HOLY COMMUNION All who are baptized and trust in Christ's



presence in Holy Communion are invited to commune at the Lord's Table today. Children not yet communing will receive a blessing. Ushers will direct you. Communion is by intinction: you will receive the Host in your hand; you may then dip the Host into the chalice. It is the understanding of the universal Church that those who wish to commune with bread only (especially for health reasons) have communed fully.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP We believe that all are welcome in worship and encourage families to worship together. Quiet activity bags and children's bibles and bulletins are available. We also provide a Quiet Room, just off the west side of the main sanctuary, that includes a variety of toys, games, and books for young children. Parents may watch the service via the TV screen.

NURSERY is available from 9 AM—noon for children 0—2 years. Please ask an usher if you are unsure as to where our nursery is and would like to use it.

ATTENDANCE CARDS Please fill out the cards found in your bulletin. If you are a guest, please fill out the additional information, so we can meet your needs. Then, put the cards in the offering plates. Thanks.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND LISTENING DEVICES are available. Please speak to an Usher if you would like to have a large print bulletin or to use a listening device.

WELCOME DESK Our Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall has become a center for hospitality with volunteers on hand each Sunday to help with event information, sign-ups, payments, answering questions, etc. Be sure to check out this resource if you have questions and to stay up to date on events and activities happening at Kountze Memorial. If you'd like to volunteer to help at the Welcome Desk, please contact Ian (402-341-7761 or ian@kmlchurch.org). Amanda Zasada and Sheri Tipton are also available if you need help on Sunday mornings in the church office.

ALTAR FLOWERS & ETERNAL CANDLE If you would like to provide altar flowers or the eternal candle in honor or memory of someone or some special event, please put your name on the flower chart in the Narthex by the drinking fountain. Altar flowers are \$20 and the eternal candle is \$7.50.

NEW MEMBER CLASS Are you interested in learning more about Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church? If so, please let us know on the registration card in your bulletin and we'll let you know when the next class will take place. The next class will be held on April 30 & May 7 from 12—2 PM. Please plan to attend both sessions. Lunch will be served. If you have questions, please talk to one of our Pastors. We look forward to hearing from you.

E-NEWS AND E-NEWSLETTER If you would like to receive our weekly e-news and monthly e-newsletter, add your e-mail address to the card in your bulletin or text your e-mail address to 22828.

KOUNTZE STAFF

- Pr. Dean W. Bard Interim Senior Pastor
- Pr. Ashley Hall Associate Pastor
- Pr. Paul Moessner Interim Associate Pastor
- Pr. Inba Inbarasu Visitation Pastor
- Kristin Boe Interim Christian Education Coordinator
- Ian Hartfield Director of Congregational Life
- Debbie Bogue Office Manager
- Amanda Zasada Administrative Assistant
- Lauri Askew Staff Treasurer
- Sheri Rose Financial Secretary
- John Bogue Building Superintendent
- Tim Walker Chef
- Søren Johnson Assist. Bldg. Superintendent
- Barbara Carlsen Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
- Danny Bos Handbell Director/Assist. to the Bldg. Superintendent
- Mark Jones Organist
- David Gerard Saturday Accompanist
- Sheri Lynn Tipton Night Security Manager
- Norma Pafford Nursery Superintendent
- Joyce Palmer Urban Ministries Coordinator

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SUNDAY, 9:00 AM

- Comm. Asst. Tarna Kidder
Liz Pemberton
- Lector Susie Henry
- Ushers Glenn Anderson
Dan Collett
Ted Kaasch
Mark Mahaffey
Gary Westerman
Bob Woodworth
Marcy Madison
- Greeters Sharon Anderson
Shirleen Collett
Edie Goodwin
Karen Wolf
- Crucifer _____
- Acolytes _____

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

- Comm. Asst. Ashley Sum
- Lector Deb Hinrichs
- Ushers Adam Klinker
Linda Hoagland
David Jesberg
Dudley Syre
- Greeters Julie King
Rosemary Tessin
- Crucifer _____
- Acolytes _____

TODAY AT KOUNTZE

KOUNTZE CAFÉ Join us on Sundays for a hot, breakfast buffet served from 8-11 AM prepared by Chef Tim and his volunteers. The suggested donation for breakfast is, \$5 adults, \$2.50 children 12 and younger.

ADULT FORUM Join us Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM.

THIS WEEK: Building Update **NEXT WEEK:** Pr. Bob Johnson, Reflections on Ministry

YOUNG MOTHERS Join us on Sunday mornings for some fresh brewed fun in the Fellowship Lounge between worship services for “Frappy Hour.” Come meet other young mothers in the congregation for coffee, conversation, fellowship and fun. For more information, contact Meeghan Hartfield at ma_hartfield@yahoo.com or call 402-212-8145.

MIDDLE AND HIGH SCHOOL PROGRESSIVE DINNER This Sunday, 3/5, 4 - 8 PM.

ETERNAL CANDLE is given to the glory of God in memory of Russell Bonneau by daughters, Karen & Shirley

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES TODAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL Join us each Sunday for Sunday School on the 2nd floor for children 2 years—8th grade. Preschool 1 (2-4 yrs) meets from 9—10 AM (child care for those too old for the nursery). Sunday School (2 yrs—8th grade) is held from 10:10—10:50 AM.

HIGH SCHOOL FORUM Join us each Sunday week in the Youth Center at 10 AM.

YESTERDAY'S YOUTH Tuesday, 3/7, 12:00 PM Our speaker will be Daniel West from Westlawn/Hillcrest Funeral Home. He will be discussing services that are offered and answer any questions that we might have. The cost of lunch is \$4. Please RSVP to the church office. Call Sheri Tipton (402-415-6033) with questions. All are welcome.

TRAINING FOR NEW ACOLYTES AND CRUCIFERS Wednesday, 3/8, 5:45 PM. Interested youth, who would like to serve as acolytes and current acolytes interested in serving as crucifer, should plan to attend this training. Crucifers and acolytes are needed for both 9 AM and 11 AM worship services.

ADULT BAPTISM SEMINAR If you are an adult who has not been baptized and would like to receive Holy Communion as a regular member of the Church, you are welcome to a small and brief seminar with Pr. Hall in the office conference room on Sunday, 3/12 at noon. This will be an opportunity to discuss the meaning of baptism and its place in the communal life of the Church. To register, please call the church

The temptation story identifies Jesus as the Son of God.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. We invite you to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passages.

Table with 3 columns: Day, Bible Reference, and Reading Text. Rows include Sunday through Saturday.

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Jesus answered, "The Scriptures say: 'No one can live only on food. People need every word that God has spoken.'" Matthew 4:4 (CEV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord God, give us a hunger for your Word, the Bread of Life. Amen. (Matthew 4:4)

Mealtime Prayer:

Loving God, thank you for giving us daily bread. Make us hungry not only for food, but for your Word, the true source of life. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord Jesus bring you peace when you are afraid; may the Lord your God protect you in time of trouble and give you a song of joy in your heart. (Psalm 32:7)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Tell about a time when you felt tempted in some way.
• Even the devil can quote the Bible (Matthew 4:6). What is the difference between how the devil uses Scripture and how Jesus uses it?
• Jesus' temptation story immediately after his baptism shows what Jesus came to do and who he is by being victorious over the devil and all the powers of evil. How does Jesus' victory help us in our temptations?

DEVOTIONS

Jesus says that our life depends not only on eating food, but on every word that God speaks. This week, connect God's Word at mealtime by beginning each meal with a Bible reading. Use the "Daily Bible Readings" from Taking Faith Home or choose a favorite Bible passage (use a storybook Bible if children are present) to read each day. Conclude by saying, "I am a beloved child of God," as a reminder of your identity in Christ.

SERVICE

Just as food feeds the body, so God's Word feeds the soul. An important act of service is to share the word of God with another person. Identify someone—a child, friend, or relative—with whom you can read a Bible passage and discuss its meaning for your lives. Use Taking Faith Home as a resource for the time together by including caring conversations, selecting a Bible passage, and ending with prayer.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The season of Lent begins with Jesus in the wilderness and journeys toward the cross and empty tomb. The church has used this time to prepare for baptisms and for the baptized to be renewed in their discipleship. During the 40 days of Lent, commit to use the Daily Bible Readings and Prayer for the Week from Taking Faith Home. Some other options to consider include the following:

- Daily silence to reflect on God's presence in your life.
• Times of fasting by eating simpler meals with water or skipping meals.
• Limit the use of television, computer games, and social media to focus more attention on God's grace in your life.
• End each day by using A Blessing to Give.
• Have meals together with others and offer a Mealtime Prayer.
• Contribute to the needs of the hungry and homeless.

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(Continued from page 1)

office (402-341-7761) or contact Pr. Hall at pastorhall@kmlchurch.org.

MAGDALENE OMAHA is an organization that seeks to help victims of sex trafficking rebuild their lives. Two events this March will help spread the word about Magdalene Omaha's mission as they prepare to open their first house for survivors of sex trafficking. On Sunday, March 12, from 3:00 to 5:00, Magdalene Omaha will be hosting a Community Panel Discussion on Sex Trafficking at Trinity Episcopal Church. Child care will be provided. On Sunday, March 26, at 4:00 the Omaha Children's Choir will be giving a concert in collaboration with Magdalene Omaha at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church. There will be a pre-concert lecture at 3:00. Both events are free, but donations are welcome.

KMLC MEN'S LUNCHEON Thursday, 3/16, 11:30 AM at Kountze Memorial. The cost for lunch is \$10. All Men of KMLC are invited. Watch the bulletin for more details. Please RSVP to the church office or to Ian Hartfield by Wednesday, 3/15 (402-341-7761 or ian@kmlchurch.org).

THIS WEEK AT KOUNTZE

March 5 Sunday

- 7:45 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:10 AM Adult Forum
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
10:10 AM Young Mothers "Frappy Hour"
10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)
2:00 PM Call Committee
3:30 PM MS/HS Youth Progressive Dinner (gr 6-12)

March 6 Monday

- 10:00 AM Pantry

March 7 Tuesday

- 9:00 AM Staff Meeting
12:00 PM Yesterday's Youth
5:00 PM Scholarship Committee

March 8 Wednesday

- 9:00 AM Sewing Group
11:15 AM Lenten Lunch
12:15 PM Worship
5:45 PM Acolyte & Crucifer Training
6:00 PM Lenten Dinner
6:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal
6:00 PM MS/HS Choir Rehearsal (note time change)
7:00 PM Worship

March 9 Thursday

- 9:30 AM WELCA Board Meeting
11:30 AM Property Committee
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

March 11 Saturday

- 5:00 PM Worship

March 12 Sunday

- 7:45 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:10 AM Adult Forum
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
10:10 AM Young Mom's "Frappy Hour"
10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)
12:00 PM Adult Baptism Seminar
12:00 PM Book Group
7:00 PM MS & HS Girl's Bible Study
9:00 PM LCM Worship @ CU (Halley Chapel)

Next Weekend's Lessons

Genesis 12:1-4a
Psalm 121
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17
John 3:1-17

Saturday Attendance: 46
Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 270 11:00: 123
Midweek - Noon: 101 Evening: 207
Total: 747
Pantry Guests Served: 326
Medical Clinic Guests Served: 49
Offering:
\$13,868.98 (Regular) \$482.06 (Specials)
\$3,179.00 (In the City for Good)

Lent at Kountze

Theme: We Are Church

Noon Eucharist and Evening Prayer - Individual Healing and Absolution following each service

- March 8 - We Are Church - Pr. Bard
March 15 - We Are One in Christ - Pr. Moessner
March 22 - We Are Holy - Pr. Hall
March 29 - We Are Catholic - Pr. Hall
April 5 - We Are Apostolic - Pr. Inbarasu
April 13 (Maundy Thursday) - Pr. Moessner
Confession and Absolution with Eucharist

Lunch - 11:15 - 12 PM
Dinner - 6 - 7 PM
Worship - 12:15 PM and 7 PM
Cost - Free-will Offering