

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

Dean W. Bard, Interim Senior Pastor
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor
Inba Inbarasu, Visitation Pastor
www.kmlchurch.org

2650 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68131-3616
402-341-7761
Fax: 402-341-4841

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5:00 PM

TENTH SUNDAY of PENTECOST



Persistence in prayer evoked the admiration of Jesus and wins the attention of the Lord when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus the Lord—is to be rooted in prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God's own. "When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me."

PRELUDE

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, abounding in steadfast love toward us, healing the sick and raising the dead, showering us with every good gift.

☞ ***Amen.***

☞ Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

☞ Just and gracious God,

☞ ***we come to you for healing and life. Our sins hurt others and diminish us; we confess them to you. Our lives bear the scars of sin; we bring these also to you. Show us your mercy, O God. Bind up our wounds, forgive us our sins, and free us to love, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.***

☞ The apostle Paul assures us: “When we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ, nailing the record of our sins to the cross.” Jesus says to you, ☩ “Your sins are forgiven.” Be at peace, and tell everyone how much God has done for you

☞ ***Amen.***

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty
Verses 1 & 5

ELW 533

GREETING

☞ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

☞ ***And also with you.***

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ Almighty and ever-living God,

☞ ***you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Genesis 18:20-32

In today's reading, Abraham undertakes the role of a mediator between God and sinful humanity. Appealing to God's justice, Abraham boldly asks for mercy for the city of Sodom, for the sake of the few righteous people who are in it, including Abraham's nephew, Lot.

Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! ²¹I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know." ²²So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. ²³Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" ²⁶And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." ²⁷Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." ²⁹Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." ³⁰Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." ³¹He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." ³²Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

A The word of the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God

PSALM 138 (read responsively)

¹I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

²*I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.*

³When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.

⁴*All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words of your mouth.*

⁵They will sing of the ways of the LORD,
that great is the glory of the LORD.

⁶*The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty from afar.*

⁷Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

⁸*You will make good your purpose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.*

SECOND READING

Colossians 2:6-19

Paul warns his congregation in Colossae about "the empty lure" of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection, which is enacted in baptism.

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. ⁸See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹²when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, ¹⁴erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it. ¹⁶Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. ¹⁷These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. ¹⁸Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, ¹⁹and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

A The word of the Lord.

G *Thanks be to God*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

G *Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

G *Glory to you, O Lord.*

GOSPEL

Luke 11:1-13

In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to child-like trust and persistence in prayer.

Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."² He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come.³ Give us each day our daily bread.⁴ And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial."⁵ And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread;⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.'⁷ And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.'⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs."⁹ "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you."¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened."¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish?¹² Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion?¹³ If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

☞ the Gospel of our Lord

☞ ***Praise to you, O Christ***

SERMON

Pastor Hall

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

If You But Trust in God to Guide You

ELW 769

HOLY BAPTISM

Lillian Clara Dey

(see page 227)

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)

Thanksgiving: For the baptism of Lillian Clara Dey, daughter of Benjamin & Anne

Illness: Vera Bang, Kaye Bock, Evelyn Christensen, Myrna Esluer, Edward White

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

Other Prayers: *Those serving in mission* – Rev. Chandran Paul Martin, India; Rev. John Lunn, Tanzania; Rev. Justin Eller, Bolivia; Lindsay Mack, Mexico; 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

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN *Praise God, from All Whom Blessings Flow*

- Ⓟ ***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

OFFERING PRAYER

- Ⓟ God of mercy and grace,
- 🔊 ***the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. Amen.***

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- ℘ The Lord be with you.
- ☩ ***And also 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.***
- ℘ It is indeed right, our duty and our joy
...and join their unending hymn.
- ☩ ***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.***

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

- ☩ Christ invites you to a place of honor at this banquet. Welcome to the feast.

HOLY COMMUNION IS SHARED

(stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- ℘ O God,
- ☩ ***as a mother comforts her child, so you comfort your people, carrying us in your arms and satisfying us with this food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Send us now as your disciples, announcing peace and proclaiming that the reign of God has come near; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

SENDING

BLESSING

- ☐ The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- ☒ ***Amen.***

HYMN

Abide, O Dearest Jesus
Verses 1, 3, & 5

ELW 539

DISMISSAL

- ☐ Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.
- ☒ ***Thanks be to God.***

POSTLUDE

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