

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

July 31, 2016

9:00 & 11:00 AM

ELEVENTH SUNDAY of PENTECOST



Today's texts offer instruction and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's supper and the encouragement of God's word.

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

Earth and All Stars!
Verses 1, 3, & 5

ELW 731

GREETING

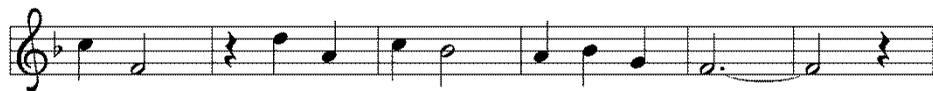
☞ The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all!

☞ ***And also with you.***

HYMN OF PRAISE



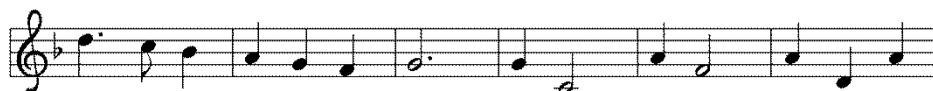
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



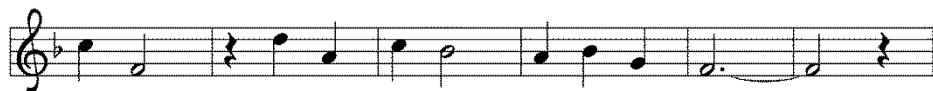
free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God,
 for the Lamb who was slain has be - gun his reign.
 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Benevolent God,
G *you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.*

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. ¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

A The word of the Lord.

G *Thanks be to God.*

PSALM 49:1-12 (*read responsively*)

¹Hear this, all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell in the world,

²*you of high degree and low,
rich and poor together.*

³My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

⁴*I will incline my ear to a proverb
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.*

⁵Why should I be afraid in evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

⁶*the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess,
and boast of their great riches?*

⁷One can never redeem another,
or give to God the ransom for another's life;

⁸*for the ransom of a life is so great
that there would never be enough to pay it,*

⁹in order to live forever and ever
and never see the grave.

¹⁰*For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.*

¹¹Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to generation,

though they had named lands after themselves.

¹²*Even though honored, they cannot live forever;
they are like the beasts that perish.*

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:1-11

Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes in order to put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.

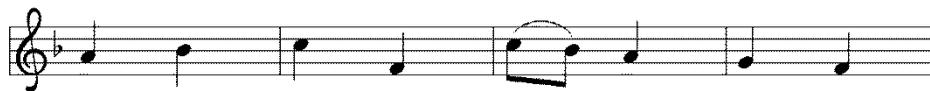
So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. ⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

A The word of the Lord.

G *Thanks be to God.*

(stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

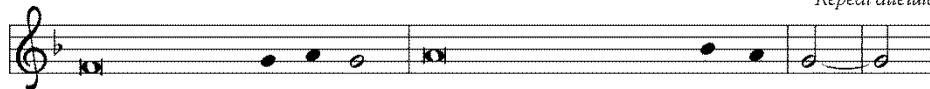


Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Repeat alleluia



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

G *Glory to you, O Lord.*

GOSPEL

Luke 12:13-21

In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.

Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me."¹⁴ But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?"¹⁵ And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions."¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly."¹⁷ And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?'¹⁸ Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.'¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'²⁰ But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?'²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

P The Gospel of our Lord

G *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 White

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Jesus, Priceless Treasure

ELW 775

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: Vera Bang, Kaye Bock, Evelyn Christensen, 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. Sarah & Adam Erickson, Cambodia; Dr. Steven & Bethany Friberg, Tanzania; Rev. Linda Johnson Seyenkulo, Liberia; Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson, Tanzania; Justin Perkins, YAGM 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

Hope's Song

Phil Vischer & Tom Hodge, Words
Phil Vischer & Kurt Heinecke, Music
Lynn Schneiderman, Soloist

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

Praise God, from Whom All 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 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 a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some slurs. The lyrics are printed below each staff, aligned with the notes.

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in a single system. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is more complex than in the first section, featuring eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are printed below each staff, aligned with the 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

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

(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.

*Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor
Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*

ELW 475
ELW 470

(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

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

ELW 536

DISMISSAL

☐ Go in peace. Proclaim the good news.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2016 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006828. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-705181. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Evangelical Lutheran Worship Copyright 2006 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26828. CCLI License #1511530.