

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

April 16, 2017

7:30, 9:00, & 11:00 AM

RESURRECTION of OUR LORD



Expectations...Hopes...Dreams...Reality... As the women approached the tomb on that first Easter, they expected only a bit of bitter consolation to their dashed dreams. They knew the reality of death. Their Lord, the man they thought was the answer to their hope that God would make the world right again, had been executed—a cruel death. Their only consolation seemed to be a chance to touch a stone-cold grave.

They found, however, that God's reality is different. They would find Jesus alive—but neither in a grave, nor in places religious people expect. They will find the living Jesus out where real people experience real needs, out where they can share Good News of real hope.

PRELUDE

Kountze Brass

K. Craig Bircher, Scott Quackenbush, Trumpet
Jason Stromquist, Jay Wise, Trombone
Ken Yoshida, Timpani and Percussion

MUSICAL OFFERING (9 & 11 AM)

GATHERING

Easter Alleluia

R. Rice

Kountze Youth Choir

Alleluia.

This is the day the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad.
Alleluia.

The stone rejected by the builders
has become the cornerstone.
Alleluia.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;
his love endures forever.
Alleluia.

(stand)

LITANY OF CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS

- ¶ We gather at the invitation of the God who is Creator, Redeemer, Giver of Life;
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
- ¶ Christ is risen.
- ¶ **Christ is risen, indeed.**
- ¶ But what does that have to do with our existence today?
For our frustrated plans and our sinful ways...
- ¶ **Christ is risen, bringing forgiveness, offering the will and the strength to change!**
- ¶ For our world filled with hatred, dividing nations and religions, communities and families...
- ¶ **Christ is risen, with reconciling love that brings true peace.**
- ¶ For our society with persisting poverty, physical disease and emotional distress...
- ¶ **Christ is risen, offering the will for justice and service, compassion and healing.**
- ¶ For our very personal sorrow, loneliness, and despair...
- ¶ **Christ is risen giving us comfort, joy, and hope.**

Silence is kept for personal reflection.

- ¶ Hear the Good News: Jesus said, "I have come that you might have life
and have it abundantly." Christ is risen.
- ¶ **Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
 3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!
 4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!
 un - to Christ, our heav'n-ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!
 who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!
 now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!
 praise him, all you heav'n-ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!
 sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!
 where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1–3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, st. 4
 Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

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.***

1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
 2 E - ter - nal is the gift he brings,
 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with daunt - less love;
 4 A - dor - ing prais - es now we bring

in there - fore our heart with rap - ture bounds: "Christ has
 set heart and will on things a - bove sing: "Christ has
 and with the heav'n - ly bless - ed sing: "Christ has

tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Sing, choirs of
 tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!" Now still he
 con - quer through your tri - umph; grant grace suf -
 tri - umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!" Be to the

an - gels, loud and clear! Re - peat their song of glo - ry
 comes to give us life and by his pres - ence stills all
 fi - cient for life's day that by our lives we tru - ly
 Fa - ther, and our Lord, to Spir - it blest, most ho - ly

here: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 strife. "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 say: "Christ has tri - umphed! He is liv - ing!"
 God, all the glo - ry, nev - er end - ing!

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

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876–1947, alt.
 Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623
 Text © 1958 Service Book and Hymnal, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O God,
C you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

GOSPEL PROCESSION

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

A musical score in G major, common time. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics "Al - le - lu - ia." are followed by a short melodic phrase, and then "Lord, to whom shall we go?"

A musical score in G major, common time. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics "You have the words of e - ter - nal life." are followed by "Al - le - lu - ia."

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

A musical score in G major, common time. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics "Glo - ry to you, O Lord." are written below the staff.

GOSPEL

Matthew 28:1-10

Each of the four Gospels tells of Jesus' resurrection. It is hard to fit all the details into one smooth story. If the disciples had been making up a story, they would have taken time to be sure their versions matched. The message of Jesus' resurrection sends us out. Where is the living Jesus sending me?

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

P The Gospel of our Lord

A musical score in G major, common time. The melody consists of eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics "Praise to you, O Christ." are written below the staff.

(sit)

SERMON

All are welcome in worship and we encourage families to worship together. Quiet activity bags, children's bibles, and bulletins are available for your child/ren. If you prefer, a Quiet Room just to the west of the main sanctuary with a TV, toys, games, and books for young children is available for your use. The Nursery is available from 9 AM-noon for children 0-2 years. Please ask an usher where the rooms are if you are unsure of the location and would like to use one of them.

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!

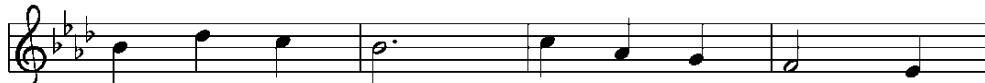
ELW 377



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
3 Je - sus the vine, we are the branch - es;
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent;
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:
heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple;
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorm us in light.
sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Refrain
Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.

Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926

Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987

Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

Music © 1969 *Contemporary Worship I*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

NICENE CREED

**C We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. 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 birth of Dessie Lea Corona, daughter of Melody Diggins & Tony

Illness: Arlene Andersen, David Carlsen, Audrey Cotton, Dee Hiatt, Norman How (father of Suzanne How), Dee Luchsinger, Joanne Worm

Other Prayers: *Those serving in the military* – Amy Dyer, Brennan Hron, 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

Glad Easter Praises

Lloyd Larson

Middle/High School Choir, Adult Choir
Kountze Brass and Timpani

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW 184

*Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and the dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer now.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.*

OFFERING PRAYER

P

Be known to us, O Lord,

C *in the breaking of the bread, as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we may be your risen body in the world. Amen.*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp) and common time. The lyrics are as follows:

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 Thanksgiving continues)

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

SANCTUS

The musical notation consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and common time. The lyrics are as follows:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C ***Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

P Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

C ***Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.***

P Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C ***Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.***

P Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

C ***Amen.***

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 TO COMMUNION

St. John Chrysostom

- P Come, rich and poor together; let us celebrate this high festival.
Come, diligent and heedless; honor this feast.
Come, both you who have fasted and you who did not; rejoice together.
Come, the table is full; feast sumptuously.
Come, let no one go away hungry.
Come, enjoy the feast of faith; receive the riches of God's mercy.

C **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, grant us peace.

*Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!
At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing
The Day of Resurrection!
This Joyful Eastertide*

ELW 380
ELW 362
ELW 361
ELW 391

(stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P Life-giving God,
C ***in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we may show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.***

SENDING

Messiah

HALLELUJAH CHORUS

G. F. Handel

- ¶ Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
- For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth;
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
- The kingdom of this world is become,
The kingdom of our Lord, and of His
Christ,
and of His Christ.
- And He shall reign forever and ever.
- King of kings,
(Forever and ever, Hallelujah!
Hallelujah!)
And Lord of lords.
- And He shall reign, forever and ever.
- King of kings!
and Lord of lords!
- Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah

BLESSING

- ¶ May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
- ¶ **Amen.**

HYMN

Thine is the Glory

ELW 376

DISMISSAL

- ¶ Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- ¶ **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- ¶ You are the body of Christ raised up for the world.
Go in peace. Share the good news.
- ¶ **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE





Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church is a vibrant, historic faith community that welcomes all and provides ministries for all ages and walks of life. We are a "City-wide Church with a World-wide Ministry" and have been worshiping, growing, and serving in downtown Omaha for nearly 160 years. If you are new to Kountze Memorial, we invite you to visit the Welcome Desk in Fellowship Hall for more information about who we are and what we do.

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 + 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. Children not yet communing will receive a blessing. Instructions will be provided during worship. 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, children's bibles, and bulletins are available, as well as a Quiet Room, just off the west side of the main sanctuary, that includes a TV and a variety of toys, games, and books for young children.

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 All those attending worship are encouraged to fill out the card included in your bulletin and place in the offering plate.

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS AND LISTENING DEVICES Please speak to an usher if you would like a large print bulletin or an assisted listening device.

NEW MEMBER CLASS If you are interested in joining our congregation, the next class will be held 4/30 & 5/7 from 12—2 PM. Please plan to attend both sessions. Lunch will be served and childcare is provided. Please indicate your attendance plans on your attendance card.

PARKING As of Monday, 4/17, our west parking lot will be closed for total renovation. Parking is available in front of deFreese Manor, Douglas & 26th Avenue, Barnhart Press' gravel lot across Farnam Street, side streets east of the church, FBG parking lot at 26th & Harney.

E-NEWS & SOCIAL MEDIA 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. You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

TODAY AT KOUNTZE

KOUNTZE CAFÉ Join us on Sundays for a hot, breakfast buffet served from 8-11 AM (7-11 AM this Easter Sunday) 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: No Forum (Easter) **NEXT WEEK:** Reception for Confirmants

YOUNG MOTHERS Join us again next Sunday morning 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.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES TODAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL No Sunday School this Easter Sunday, but join us again next 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.

EASTER ACTIVITIES Due to construction, we are taking the Easter festivities inside this year. We invite the children of Kountze to participate in an Easter activity following the 9 AM service. Join us in the Youth Room for crafts, treats, and fun. We hope to see you all there. We would love to celebrate Easter with you!

HIGH SCHOOL FORUM No Forum today but join us again in two weeks in the Youth Center at 10 AM.

MEN'S LUNCHEON Thursday, 4/20, 11:30 AM at KMLC. Cost \$10. We will learn about *remote satellite sensing* applied, for example to predicting food yields and potential famine. Presenter is Gary Johnson who has held research appointments internationally with various universities, NOAA, NASA, USAID, and the UN.

THE HEART OF CAMP GALA ensures that children have the ability to attend camp. First, Carol Joy Holling Camp has the policy that no child is turned away from attending camp because of their inability to pay. Each year the camp directly helps nearly 300 children attend camp who need financial assistance to attend, and this event helps us keep extending the invitation to more children. Carol Joy Holling Camp also subsidizes every child who attends by almost \$300 per child. This helps keep our fees competitive and in-line with what we believe most families can afford to provide a Christian-camping experience for their children. The Gala takes place on 4/22 at the La Vista Conference Center at Embassy Suites, La Vista 5 PM Cocktails and Silent Auction; 6:55 PM Invocation - Pr. Paula Lawhead; 7 PM Dinner and Awards. Cost is \$100. If you have any further questions, please contact Heather Abbott by emailing HAbbott@NLOM.org or call 402-944-2544. If you would like to donate to the silent auction or if you would like to donate to the event, please contact Heather Abbott or check the camp website at <http://caroljoyholling.org/gala>.

JOINT SERVICE OF COMMON PRAYER The Nebraska Synod and the Archdiocese of Omaha will participate in the joint commemoration at two events: the first will be held Monday, 5/1 at St. Cecilia's Cathedral (Bishop Maas will preach) and on Monday, 9/11

(Continued on page 2)

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SUNDAY, 7:30 AM

Comm. Asst.	Pam Johnson
Ushers	Donna Crouse
	Linda Johnson
	Julie O'Doherty
	Glenn Anderson
	Rodney Nord
Greeters	Carol Hyland
	Sharon Anderson
Crucifer	Mattie O'Kane
Acolytes	Kai Johnson
	Rahn Johnson
Book Bearer	Lily O'Kane
Banner Bearer	Carter Wachholtz

SUNDAY, 9:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Dan Collett
	Liz Pemberton
	Scott Henneman
	June Anderson
Ushers	John Georgeson
	Jim Comfort
	Joe Councill
	Janice Falk
	Lee Johnson
	Jeff Perkins
	Jeff Senn
	Fred Wachal
	Gary Westerman
	Dan Troxel
	Marvin Olson
	Bob Johnson
Greeters	Darlene Anderson
	Lennea Davis
	Lori Senn
	Carol Hyland
Crucifer	Søren Johnson
Acolytes	Angie Arispe
	Kelsey Svacina
Book Bearer	Bailey Gittler
Banner Bearer	Rob Comfort

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Deb Hinrichs
	Kevin Larkowski
Ushers	Ken Johnson
	Linda Johnson
	Lee Johnson
	John Albers
	Norm Sack
	Byron Line
	Tiffany Stouffer
	Monica Albers
Greeters	Peggy Johnson
	Myrna Carter
Crucifer	Johnny Albers
Acolytes	Abby Rigas
	Rachel Stouffer
Book Bearer	Morgan Stouffer
Banner Bearer	Alec Stouffer

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.

Sunday	John 20:19-31	Thomas sees and believes
Monday	Genesis 32:22-32	Jacob wrestles with God
Tuesday	Judges 6:36-40	Gideon and the fleece
Wednesday	2 Corinthians 5:1-10	We live by faith, not by sight
Thursday	Hebrews 10:35-11:2	The nature of faith
Friday	1 Peter 1:1-9	A living hope
Saturday	Psalm 16	Life centered on God
Sunday	Luke 24:13-35	On the road to Emmaus

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

You have never seen Jesus, and you don't see him now. But still you love him and have faith in him, and no words can tell how glad and happy you are to be saved. **1 Peter 1:8-9a (CEV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING:

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, bless us with faith in you. Help us to move from doubts to joy in the power of your death and resurrection. Amen.

Mealtimes Prayer:

Lord God, as our bodies are fed with good gifts from you, please bless us with Easter peace, joy, hope, and faith. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Risen Lord Jesus replace your doubts with faith, your worries with peace, and your sadness with joy.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Tell about a time when you experienced great joy.
- What do you think it was like for Thomas to wait a week longer than the other disciples to see Jesus?
- John 20:31 states that the gospel was written so that "you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name." How would you describe that life?

DEVOTIONS

The disciples did not rejoice at seeing Jesus until they saw his wounds. Thomas insisted on seeing and touching Jesus' wounds. Jesus' suffering and his resurrection belong together. The resurrected Christ still bears the scars of his crucifixion. Resurrection is not the undoing of Jesus' crucifixion. It points out that the suffering and death of Jesus is the defining moment not only of history, but for our own lives of faith. The disciples had an encounter with the risen Lord by seeing him and his wounds. How do we have a relationship to the risen Lord today without seeing him? Conclude your time of reflection by praying the words of the Apostles' Creed.

SERVICE

When Jesus first appeared to his disciples, Thomas was not with them. He must have felt like an "outsider," not having the same experience as his friends. Is there a person who is a newcomer to your school, community, or congregation who may feel like an "outsider" at times? Invite them to your home to share a meal, at school to eat lunch with them, or to a congregational function with you. Introduce them to others and help them feel more at home.

RITEAUX AND TRADITIONS

While his disciples were hiding in a locked room on the first Easter Sunday, the risen Lord Jesus appeared to them and said, "Peace be with you." When you gather as a family this week, "pass the peace" to one another with handshakes, kisses, or hugs. As you greet each other say, "**The Lord's peace be with you.**"

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(Continued from page 1)

at Kountze Memorial (Archbishop Lucas will preach). Times for the evening events will be finalized soon. In anticipation of commemorating the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation together, the Lutheran World Federation and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (of the Vatican) created a service of Common Prayer to be used in dioceses/synods around the world and it will be basis of our liturgy together. We encourage you to plan to attend one or both of these historical events.

KOUNTZE PANTRY NEEDS This week we need: Pork 'n Beans, Pasta/Noodles, Pasta Sauce, Oatmeal, Corn, Pancake Syrup, Chicken, Tuna. Your time and monetary offerings are always welcome as well. Please talk to JP if you have questions. Thanks.

STEPHEN MINISTRY What does Stephen Ministry provide? Someone who cares, supports, listens, shares. Who can benefit? Anyone going through difficult times who needs someone to care, listen, and share God's love with them on a one-to-one confidential basis. Want to know more? Contact Donna Reinig (402-558-6352) or one of our pastors.

THIS WEEK AT KOUNTZE

April 16 Easter Sunday

6:45, 8 & 10 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
7:00 - 11:00 AM Easter Breakfast
7:30, 9, & 11 AM Worship
8:00 AM MS/HS Choir Rehearsal
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:15 AM Fun Easter Activities

April 17 Monday

Office Closed

April 18 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
11:30 AM Property Committee
1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group
5:00 PM Building Committee

April 19 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship
5:00 PM Communion @ deFreese Manor
5:30 PM MS/HS Choir Rehearsal
6:30 PM Confirmation
7:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

April 20 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Luncheon
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
5:30 PM KETV Management Board
7:00 PM Circle 5

April 22 Saturday

9:00 AM Clinic Board
5:00 PM Worship

April 23 Sunday

7:45 & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
8:00 - 11:00 AM Breakfast
9:00 & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Confirmation
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks
10:10 AM Adult Forum
10:10 AM Outreach Committee
10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
10:10 AM Young Mothers "Frappy Hour"
10:30 AM Confirmation Pictures
12:00 PM Stephen Ministry
9:00 PM LCM Worship (Halley Chapel)

Next
Weekend's
Lessons

Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

Saturday Attendance: 51

Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 242 11:00: 157

MTW - Noon: 35

Total: 485

Pantry Guests Served: 340

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 42

Offering: Not available at time of printing.

PARKING LOT UNDER CONSTRUCTION

As promised, the west parking lot work will start on the Monday after Easter (4/17) and should be completed by July 4. In the meantime, alternate parking is available in front of deFreese Manor, Douglas & 26th Avenue, Barnhart Press' gravel lot across Farnam Street, side streets east of the church, FBG parking lot at 26th & Harney. Just a reminder about the meters in front of the church; the cost is 25 cents per hour until 9 PM Monday through Saturday. There is no charge after 9 PM Monday—Saturday or on Sundays.