

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

June 11, 2017

9:00 & 11:00 AM

THE HOLY TRINITY



Though the word trinity is not found in the scriptures, today's second reading includes the apostolic greeting that begins the liturgy: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. In the gospel Jesus sends his disciples forth to baptize in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. More than a doctrine, the Trinity expresses the heart of our faith: we have experienced the God of creation made known in Jesus Christ and with us always through the Holy Spirit. We celebrate the mystery of the Holy Trinity in word and sacrament, as we profess the creed, and as we are sent into the world to bear witness to our faith.

PRELUDE

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

℘ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, full of compassion and mercy, abounding in steadfast love.

☩ **Amen.**

℘ Trusting God's promise of forgiveness, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

℘ Eternal God our creator,

☩ ***in you we live and move and have our being. Look upon us, your children, the work of your hands. Forgive us all our offenses, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty desires. By your grace draw us near to you, our refuge and our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

℘ Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit given to us. In the mercy of almighty God, Christ died for us while we still were sinners; and for his sake, God ☩ forgives you all your sins.

☩ **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!

ELW 413

GREETING

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

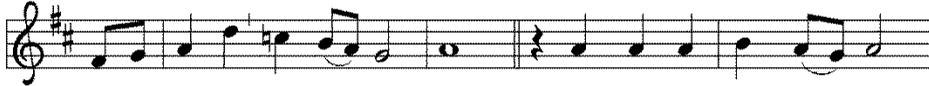
☩ ***And also with you.***

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



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.

Refrain



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

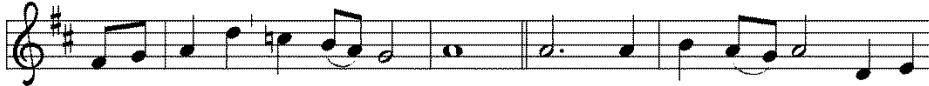


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 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.



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



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was



slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



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



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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ Almighty Creator and ever-living God:
- ☑ ***we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.***

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

This first creation story reached its current form during the crisis of the Babylonian exile of the people of Israel. God, not their captors' god Marduk, was responsible for their existence. God created women and men as rulers over creation, to preserve and protect it. God also rested on the seventh day, hallowing that day forever as the Sabbath.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, "Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, "Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, "Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth." And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth."

²⁷So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it;

and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.”²⁹ God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food.³⁰ And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so.³¹ God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1} Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude.² And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done.³ So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

^{4a} These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

Ⓐ The word of the Lord.

☩ **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 8 (read responsively)

¹ O Lord our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

² *you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children; you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.*

³ When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

⁴ *what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them, human beings that you should care for them?*

⁵ Yet you have made them little less than divine; with glory and honor you crown them.

⁶ *You have made them rule over the works of your hands; you have put all things under their feet:*

⁷ all flocks and cattle,

even the wild beasts of the field,

⁸ *the birds of the air, the fish of the sea, and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.*

⁹ O Lord our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Paul closes a challenging letter to the Corinthians with an appeal to Christian fellowship grounded in the triune harmony of Christ's grace, God's love, the Spirit's partnership.

Paul writes: ¹¹ Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹² Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

¹³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

Ⓐ The word of the Lord.

☩ **Thanks be to God.**

(stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 28:16-20

After his resurrection, Jesus summons his remaining disciples and commissions them to baptize and teach all nations in the name of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

☐ 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 Hall

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

God, Whose Almighty Word

ELW 673

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: **P** 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: David Carlsen, Dee Hiatt, Norman How (father of Suzanne How), Ruth Larsen, Dee Luchsinger, Grace Penrod, Charlie Wachholtz, Vernon Ward, Joanne Worm

Sympathy: To the family and friends of Margaret Keholm

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

P 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

How I Trust Him

Arr. Mark Hayes
Paul Rath, Soloist

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW 184

Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

- ☐ Merciful God,
- ☑ ***you open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it. We pray this 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 first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. 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 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. Ho -
san-na. 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 four 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. Ho -', 'san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who', and 'comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.'

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

- ☞ Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
☞ *Our Lord's body let us take together.*

(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.

*O Word of God Incarnate
Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*

ELW 514
ELW 517

(stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- ☐ Jesus Christ, host of this meal,
☑ ***you have given us not only this bread and cup, but your very self, that we may feast on your great love. Filled again by these signs of your grace, may we hunger for your reign of justice, may we thirst for your way of peace, for you are Lord forevermore. Amen.***

SENDING

BLESSING

- ☐ May God, whose power working in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine, grant you the gifts of faith and hope. Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
☑ ***Amen.***

HYMN

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

ELW 414

DISMISSAL

- ☐ Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve.
☑ ***Thanks be to God.***

POSTLUDE

☩ ☩ ☩

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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.

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 September 17 & 24 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 or call the church office and let us know if you will need childcare.

PARKING Our west parking lot is 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.

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
Dave Forrest	Interim Congregational Life Coordinator
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.	Lorie Groenjes Lowell Harms Norm Sack
Lector	Ruth Henneman
Ushers	Bob Woodworth Glenn Anderson Daniel Collett Marcy Madison Mark Mahaffey Gary Westerman Ted Kaasch
Greeters	Sharon Anderson Shirleen Collett Karen Wolf
Crucifer	Bailey Gittler
Acolytes	Kenyon Martis Madelyn Hinrichs

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Ashley Sum Deb Hinrichs
Lector	June Anderson
Ushers	Linda Johnson Ken Johnson Lee Johnson Julie O'Doherty Norm Sack
Greeters	Rosemary Tessin Julie King
Crucifer	Morgan Stouffer
Acolytes	Rachel Stouffer Lydia Baum

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: Synod Assembly Review **NEXT WEEK:** Congregational Meeting

YOUNG MOTHERS Join us on 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.

BAPTISM SEMINAR Sunday, 6/11, 12 PM. We will meet in the church office conference room and then Pr. Hall will lead the participants to the Nave to walk through the liturgy. To register, please call the church office (402-341-7761).

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God in honor of Mark and Tarna Kidder's 22nd wedding anniversary.

ETERNAL CANDLE is given to the Glory of God in honor of Bob & Sandy Fonda's 49th wedding anniversary.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES TODAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL Join us on the 2nd floor (Room 205) for Summer Sunday School Fun (children K—8th grade) from 10:10—10:50 AM. KMLC invites all children (K-8) to the Summer Sunday School Session, "Hero Central." We will go on a hero's adventure that includes energetic music, Bible fun, amazing science experiments, delicious snacks, games, crafts and more! Each week we will learn, then explore the Bible verse Psalm 34:14b, "Do good! Seek peace and go after it!" in fun and exciting ways that will be sure to stay with your child through the week.

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

YOUTH MISSION TRIP VIDEOS 2012—2016 If you went on a Youth Mission Trip in the years 2012—2016, we have a trip video for you in the church office. Please come and pick it/them up at your earliest convenience.

HERITAGE SERIES Wednesdays, 6/14 - 7/19, 6 PM. We will read a new and well-respected biography of Luther: Martin Luther: Visionary Reformer by Scott H. Hendrix (Emeritus Professor of Church History at Princeton Theological Seminary). While not

required, participants are encouraged to buy or otherwise obtain a copy of the book so they can read along with the group. An online source to purchase a copy (or electronic version) of the book can be found at Amazon.com for about \$20. All are welcome.

MEN'S LUNCHEON All Men of KMLC Invited. This Month we'll welcome Pastor John Gok Badeng of the Nile Lutheran Church to discuss wedding traditions of South Sudan and related customs. Please RSVP to the church office or Dave Forrest by Monday, June 12 at noon (402-341-7761 or dave@kmlchurch.org).

SPECIAL VESPERS FOR ALZHEIMER AWARENESS AND ALL CARETAKERS Wednesday, 6/21, 7:00 PM. A special spoken liturgy will be offered for caregivers of parents and family members enduring long-term, chronic illness. All are welcome. Kountze Memorial will join other congregations around the city to provide a place for prayer and remembrance for those who are diagnosed with Alzheimer's or other long-term illnesses and their caretakers. As with all our worship opportunities, this is an event for the community as well. Please invite a friend or family member who may find the opportunity to pray and find comfort in one another enriching.

The Holy Trinity calls us into relationship with God and all creation.



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	Genesis 1:1–2:4a	God creates sky and earth
Monday	Matthew 28:16-20	Sending the disciples
Tuesday	Job 38:1-38	God speaks of creation
Wednesday	Psalms 8	Wonderful name of the Lord
Thursday	Nehemiah 9:5-6	God gives life to everything
Friday	2 Corinthians 13:11-13	Live in peace
Saturday	Psalms 148	Creation, praise the Lord!
Sunday	Matthew 9:35–10:23	The sending of the twelve

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

“Go to the people of all nations and make them my disciples. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, and teach them to do everything I have told you. I will be with you always, even until the end of the world.” **Matthew 28:19-20 (CEV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING:

A Prayer for the Week:

God of creation, thank you for caring for us. Lord Jesus, thank you for being with us. Holy Spirit, thank you for your daily help. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Triune God, thank you for all you make and all you give. May we praise your great name as long as we live! Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God the Creator, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. (2 Corinthians 13:13)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- What part of God’s creation do you enjoy most? Why?
- God has asked us to take care of all that has been created. How do you help do this?
- Read the Scripture Verse for this week. Tell about how others have taught you about Jesus. How have you communicated the love of God to others?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Matthew 28:16-20.

Verse 17 states that some of Jesus’ disciples worshiped him and some doubted. Jesus sent both his worshipping and doubting followers into the world to make disciples. He did not have the doubters improve on their faith before being sent. What does it mean to you that we have a Savior who sends us out into the world with both worshipping and doubting hearts to grow the church? How does this show God’s love and mercy for us? Conclude with the following prayer,

Dear gracious and merciful God, we thank you for calling us to be disciples of Jesus. We especially thank you for accepting both our worship and praise as well as our doubts and fears. Come, Holy Spirit, that we may serve you, our neighbors, and all of creation with love and care. Amen.

SERVICE

Read: Psalm 8.

Do an act of service by having a caring conversation with someone who works as a gardener, farmer, or anyone who works with God’s creation, including scientists. Ask how they experience God in the things they deal with daily and what wisdom they gain from their work? Wonder with them how the insignificance of our individual lives is countered by the gospel of Jesus Christ?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Read 2 Corinthians 13:11-13. In public worship verse 13 is called the “Apostolic Greeting” and is used at the beginning of many worship services. It is often overlooked that much of Christian liturgy comes directly from the Bible. The Bible is sung, prayed, and read in worship. Explore through your congregation’s resources or on the Internet the biblical foundations to the liturgy. Use “A Blessing to Give” with family and friends this week during devotions, bedtime, or when saying hello or good-bye. A shortened version could simply be, **“May the Lord Jesus Christ bless you and be kind to you.”**

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(continued from page 1)

19th ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD GATHERING AND JAZZ SERVICE Sunday, 6/25, 11:30

AM—1:30 PM. Join us for Jazz Music, Carriage Rides, Free Food, Inflatables, Carnival Games, Face Painting, Balloons, and more! Due to construction, we will hold this year’s event on 26th St. Bring the family and your friends!

KOUNTZE PANTRY VOLUNTEER HELP NEEDED MONDAYS - 9 - 11 AM OR 11 AM - 1 PM

If you have ever considered helping in the Kountze Food Pantry, now is the time to sign up. With school out and summer beginning, volunteers are taking time out for vacations and we need your help to fill when you are able. If you have questions or are available to help, please contact JP (joyce@kmlchurch.org) or call the church office (402-341-7761) and we’ll be glad to help. As always, the pantry is in need of Pork ‘n Beans, Pasta/Noodles, Pasta Sauce, Oatmeal, Corn, Pancake Syrup, Chicken, Tuna. Your time and monetary offerings are always welcome as well.

STEPHEN MINISTRY Are you adjusting to the death of a loved one, serious illness, changed marital status, or loss of a job? Would you like to have someone in your life who really cares? **Maybe a Stephen Minister can help.** Contact our Stephen Ministry leader, Donna Reinig—(402-558-6352) or one of our pastors.

THIS WEEK AT KOUNTZE

June 11 Sunday

- Holy Trinity
- 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 Sunday School Summer Fun (K-8th gr)
- 10:10 AM Young Mothers “Frappy Hour”
- 12:00 PM Baptism Seminar
- 12:00 PM Book Group
- 7:00 PM Girl’s Bible Study

June 12 Monday

- 10:00 AM Pantry

June 13 Tuesday

- 9:00 AM Staff Meeting

June 14 Wednesday

- 9:00 AM Sewing Group
- 12:15 PM Worship
- 6:00 PM Heritage Series

June 15 Thursday

- Council Reports Due
- 11:30 AM Men’s Luncheon
- 11:30 AM Property Committee
- 4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
- 7:00 PM Circle 5

June 17 Saturday

- 9:30 AM Women’s Prayer Group
- 5:00 PM Worship

June 18 Sunday

- Father’s Day
- 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast
- 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
- 9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
- 10:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks
- 10:10 AM Adult Forum
- 10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
- 10:10 AM Sunday School Summer Fun (K-8th gr)
- 10:10 AM Young Mothers “Frappy Hour”
- 10:15 AM Congregational Meeting

Next Weekend’s Lessons	Exodus 19:2-8a Psalm 100 Romans 5:1-8 Matthew 9:35--10:8 [9-23]
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Saturday Attendance: 89
Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 229 11:00: 139
Midweek - Noon: 8
Total: 465
Pantry Guests Served: 394
Medical Clinic Guests Served: 40
Offering:
\$17,671.65 (Regular) \$1,560.00 (Specials)
\$102,402.25 (In the City for Good)

Notice of Congregational Meeting
The Church Council calls a Congregational Meeting of Kountze Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church, Omaha NE to be held on Sunday, June 18, 2017, at 10:15 AM in the church sanctuary for the purpose of considering the Call of a senior pastor.