

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

August 20, 2017

9:00 & 11:00 AM

ELEVENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



Who is in? Who is out!?! And... Who gets to decide? To be sure, our existence requires us to make choices—of actions, of words, of thoughts—that will enhance or will harm. That does include other people. But how do we look at others who are different? And how does all that relate to my personal sense of self-worth and security? What answers do I see in the prophet's big picture? ... in Jesus' very personal actions?

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

The Church's One Foundation

ELW 654

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.

Refrain
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.

Final refrain
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

- ☐ God of all peoples,
- ☑ ***your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

MUSICAL OFFERING

Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me

arr. K. Lee Scott
Kountze Youth Choir

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be;
 Help me now thy grace to see, I would be like thee;
 And, with words that help and heal, thy life would mine reveal;
 And, with actions bold and meek, For Christ, my Savior, speak.

..... Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would be like thee!

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

The book of the prophet Isaiah begins with warning and concludes with expansive promise. The “People” chosen to bring God’s redeeming grace to all people have failed this privilege and task. (See 1:2-3; and Genesis 12:1-3) Nevertheless, God’s righteousness—God’s intention that all creation, all persons be restored—will prevail. The Temple—for us, church—easily becomes a place of exclusion, even hatred, against others. In contrast to that human sin, God proclaims that His House is to be where all can gather. Holding this passage alongside the news of this past week, what is God telling us?

Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant—⁷these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. ⁸Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

A The word of the Lord.

G *Thanks be to God.*

PSALM 67 (read responsively)

¹May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God’s face shine upon us.

²***Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.***

³Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁴***Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.***

⁵Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.

⁶***The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.***

⁷May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.

SECOND READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-33

We easily read the Bible as a mixed message: Judgment! Welcome! Which is it? The Apostle Paul wrestles with that, especially as it affects, on the one hand, the “chosen-ness” of his race and faith and, on the other, his clear experience that those outside also receive the outpouring of God’s Spirit of Grace. [We remember that Biblical reference to Israel is not the same as, though related to, today’s political entity named Israel.] In today’s reading, he concludes what we might call his attempt to provide a logical and theological answer to this dilemma. In essence, he is saying: God only knows, so let’s sing the Doxology!

Paul writes: ¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ^{2a}God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew.

²⁹For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³²For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all. ³³O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways!

A The word of the Lord.

G *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.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

G *Glory to you, O Lord.*

GOSPEL

Matthew 15:21-28

Why does Jesus treat this woman in this way!? Maybe he knows what the outcome will be and is simply testing her faith. For those of us who have experienced the absence—or the anger—of God, that answer may not be sufficient. At a minimum, we read this story as partial fulfillment of Isaiah’s picture of God’s preferred and promised future. And, we must read this story as Jesus’ condemnation of the exclusionary identity politics in our nation and world today.

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²²Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” ²³But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” ²⁴He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” ²⁵But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” ²⁶He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁷She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” ²⁸Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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 Moessner

⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. ⁷But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. (II Corinthians 4:6-7)

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

ELW 504

APOSTLES' CREED (9:00 AM)

**☩ 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.***

HOLY BAPTISM (11:00 AM)

Skylar Susan-Jewell Kaasch

(see page 227)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: **P** Lord, in your mercy,
G *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 Skylar Susan-Jewell Kaasch, daughter of Ted & Jessica; for the baptism of Olivia Louise Kosola, daughter of Ryan & Tanya

Illness: Betty Bass, Dee Hiatt, Virginia Jensen, Bob Jones (father of Allison Albright), Rosemarie Schmidt, Jody Sotello (cousin of Shirley Dietrich)

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.
G *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

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

Paul Manz

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 lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.', 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.', 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The music consists of simple eighth and quarter notes with some ties.

(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.' The music features a variety of note values including eighth, quarter, and half notes, with some rests.

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

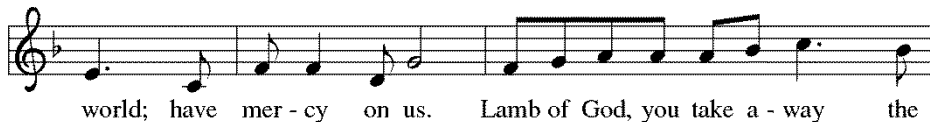
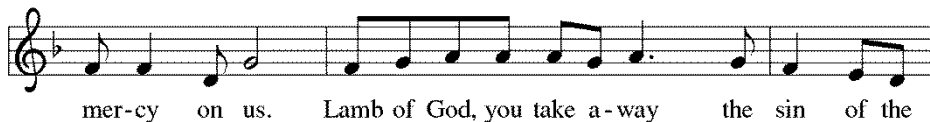
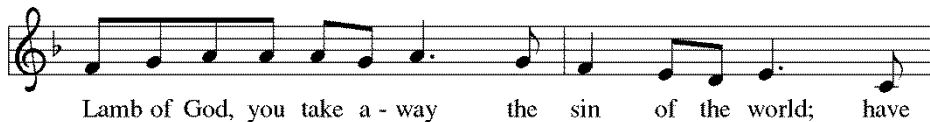
☒ Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.

☒ *Our Lord's body let us take together.*

(Sit)

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

Lamb of God



*All Are Welcome
Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

ELW 641
ELW 865

(stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P** Jesus Christ, host of this meal,
C *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

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED FOR PASTOR BARD

A Task Concluding

Promises of Release

- P** People of God, members of Kountze Memorial congregation, do you release Pastor Dean Bard from service as your interim senior pastor?
- C** *We do, and we give thanks to God for our ministry together.*
- P** Pastor Dean Bard, do you recognize and accept the completion of your ministry with Kountze Memorial?
- R** I do, and I give thanks to God for our ministry together.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Sending

BLESSING

- P** 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.
- C** *Amen.*

HYMN

Savior, Again to Your Dear Name

ELW 534

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

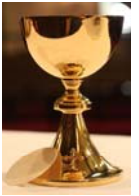
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Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church is a vibrant, historic faith community that welcomes all and provides ministries for all ages and walks of life. We are a "City-wide Church with a World-wide Ministry" and have been worshiping, growing, and serving 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



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
Donna Moessner	Director of Children's Music
Dave Forrest	Interim Congregational Life Coordinator
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Amanda Zasada	Administrative Assistant
Lauri Askew	Staff Treasurer
Sheri Rose	Financial Secretary
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.	Scott Henneman Dan Collett Jeff Perkins
Lector	Kevin Larkowski
Ushers	Rodney Nord Donna Crouse Ralph Diggins Brad Madison Dick Nelson Dan Troxel Sharon West Dean Winther Bob Johnson
Greeters	Carole Meilahan Bev Troxel Lois Sorensen Colleen Lenners
Crucifer	Angie Arispe
Acolytes	Kenyon Martis Anthony Bonacci

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Ashley Sum Deb Hinrichs
Lector	Ashley Sum
Ushers	Norm Sack Ken Johnson Linda Johnson Lee Johnson Julie O'Doherty
Greeters	Barb Chrisman Jo Kayton
Crucifer	Keelan Edwards
Acolytes	Rachel Stouffer Torin Edwards

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 now open on Saturday and Sunday for Worship. During the week 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.

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: Farewell and Godspeed to Pr. Bard **NEXT WEEK:** Congregational Meeting

CROWNED (A Men's Quartet) in Concert. This Sunday, 8/20, 3:00 PM here at Kountze Memorial. The members of this singing quartet are Danny Bos, Kevin Larkowski, Nick Pignatore (Kountze members) and Darron Sargent. They sing both a capella and with piano accompaniment. This is a free concert but a free-will donation would be appreciated. Come and hear!

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God in honor of Clara Kidder's 16th birthday given by Mark & Tarna Kidder; in honor of Don Nippert's birthday given by Marvin & Kris Olson

ETERNAL CANDLE is given to the Glory of God in memory of Anne Forslund's birthday by Christine Forslund.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES TODAY

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

HIGH SCHOOL SWIM PARTY Sunday, 8/20, 2:00 - 4:00 PM.

ADULT FAITH FORMATION - THE LORD'S PRAYER Camp Carol Joy Holling; Ashland, NE 8/26; 9 AM - 4 PM. This course will cover a general overview of Lutheran theology (Luther's theology in a nutshell) and a specific discussion of The Lord's Prayer. The cost is \$25 which includes lunch, snacks and beverages, and a copy of the 500th anniversary study edition of the Small Catechism. For more information, contact Pr. Paula Lawhead by phone at 402-944-2544 or by email at PLawhead@NLOM.org.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Next Sunday, 8/27, will be the fall congregational meeting to elect leaders for the Church Council and the Endowment Fund Board. Preparations for that meeting have been made before Pastor Bard departs KMLC, by agreement with Pastor Roynesdal, and held as scheduled.

ALL CHURCH PICNIC All KMLC Children, Families, Friends, and Neighbors are invited! Sunday, 8/27, 1-4PM at Vennalyst Park Pavilion (9100 N. 31st St). Meet and greet Rev. Dr. Olaf Roynesdal and Marcia. Please RSVP to the church office as soon as possible. Bring a dessert to share.

HANDBELLS Our handbell choir prepares music to be included at a Sunday worship

service once a month. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings at 6:00 PM. You don't need to know how to play bells to join. If you are interested in joining the handbell choir, contact the Danny Bos, Handbell Choir Director, at the church office (402-341-7761). Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, 8/30.

WOMEN'S FALL SALAD LUNCHEON will be Saturday, 9/16 at 11:30 AM in Fellowship Hall—no reservations are required and there is no cost. Come and enjoy delicious salads and a fun program with Mary Mayfield as she speaks about her Tanzanian experiences and shows her quilts and fabrics.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP SPONSORSHIP DINNER If you were a sponsor for the Youth Mission Trip this year, please reserve the date Sunday,

Let all people praise God.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Table with 3 columns: Day, Bible Reference, and Text. Rows include Sunday (Matthew 15:21-28), Monday (2 Kings 5:1-14), Tuesday (Isaiah 56:1-8), Wednesday (Acts 14:19-28), Thursday (Acts 15:1-21), Friday (Romans 11:25-36), Saturday (Psalm 67), and Sunday (Matthew 16:13-20).

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Let the nations celebrate with joyful songs, because you judge fairly and guide all nations. Psalm 67:4 (CEV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week: O God of the nations, give us joyful songs that we may praise your goodness and mercy forever. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer: Lord, we give you praise and gratitude for food and drink and family too; and also for a roof above, but most of all for your great love. Amen.

A Blessing to Give: May the Lord be gracious to you and bless you. May God's face shine upon you and give you peace. (Psalm 67:1)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Tell about a time you have felt left out.
• Read Matthew 15:21-28. Jesus and his disciples appear to exclude the Canaanite woman. Does this seem fair to you? Explain.
• Jesus said that the Canaanite woman had great faith. How would you describe the "great faith" of this woman?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Romans 11:1-2a and 29-36.

From Romans 9 to 11, Paul has been dealing with a very difficult question: Has God rejected the Jews, God's chosen people? Paul points out that all people have been disobedient so that God could show mercy to everyone. However, Paul is unable to fully answer his own question and concludes with verses 33-36, a doxology that praises the mystery and unsearchable ways of God.

SERVICE

Initially the Canaanite woman who came to Jesus for help wasn't made very welcome. In today's world with lots of mobility and immigration, it is easy to be defensive about people who are different from us. Make a financial contribution or volunteer on behalf of an organization that seeks to provide safe welcome for immigrants or refugees.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Praising God is an integral part of the Christian faith. Beyond our human understanding, including our understanding of God, the Bible encourages individuals and nations to praise God. Psalm 67 is an example of this directive. This theme is repeated in verses 3 and 5. As part of your daily routine this week, take time to praise God using Psalm 67. Try to commit verses 3 and 5 to memory: "Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you."

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THIS WEEK AT KOUNTZE

August 20 Sunday

- 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)
2:00 PM High School Swim Party
3:00 PM Men's Quartet - Crowned

August 21 Monday

- 10:00 AM Pantry
6:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic Board

August 22 Tuesday

- 9:00 AM Staff Meeting

August 23 Wednesday

- 12:15 PM Worship
5:30 PM KETV Management Board

August 24 Thursday

- 1:30 PM Circle 4
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

August 26 Saturday

- 5:00 PM Worship

August 27 Sunday

- 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
10:10 AM Congregational Meeting
12:00 PM Stephen Ministry
1:00 PM All Church Picnic (Vennelyst Park)

Table with 2 columns: Next Weekend's Lessons and Bible References. References include Isaiah 51:1-6, Psalm 138, Romans 12:1-8, and Matthew 16:13-20.

Saturday Attendance: 49
Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 195 11:00: 90
Midweek - Noon: 8
Total: 342
Pantry Guests Served: 383
Medical Clinic Guests Served: 32
Offering: (two weeks)
\$14,152.69 (Regular) \$2,955.79 (Specials)
\$2,823.00 (In the City for Good)
\$15,142.00(Regular) \$3,896.00 (Specials)
\$3,468.00 (In the City for Good)

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church
2650 Farnam Street, Omaha, NE
Announcement of Congregational Meeting
Sunday, August 27, 2017
10:10 AM, Fellowship Hall
For the Purpose of Electing
Congregational Leaders

(continued from page 1)

KMLC MEN'S LUNCHEON Thursday, 9/21, 11:30 AM at Kountze Memorial. All Men of KMLC Invited. Cost: \$10. Please RSVP to the church office or Dave Forrest (402-341-7761 or dave@kmlchurch.org) by Monday, 9/18 at noon. This Month: "Dubai—not Sunni, not Shia: Shoppers." We'll welcome Dr. Kenneth Wise, Kountze member and Creighton University emeritus professor of political science and international relations. Dr. Wise taught international politics at Creighton for 40 years and helped start a public policy think tank in the United Arab Emirates in 2004. He lived in Dubai from 2006-2013, where he continues to consult. Dr. Wise will share some thoughts about life in this Islamic country.

INSTALLATION OF PASTOR ROYNESDAL will be held on Sunday, 10/8 at 3:00 PM.

KOUNTZE COMMONS The dedication of the building will be held Sunday, 10/8 at 3:00 PM in partnership with Methodist Community Health Clinic and Lutheran Family Services, our two major community partners and tenants of the building. Mark your calendars for this exciting event!

KOUNTZE PANTRY GARDENING HELP NEEDED If you can help pick produce from our garden for the pantry, Chuck Campbell, Tootie Rohde, and Gordon Boe would appreciate your help. You can meet them at the garden at 6:30 AM on Sunday mornings and they'll put you to work!

KOUNTZE PANTRY If you have ever considered helping in the Kountze Food Pantry, now is the time to sign up. 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.