

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

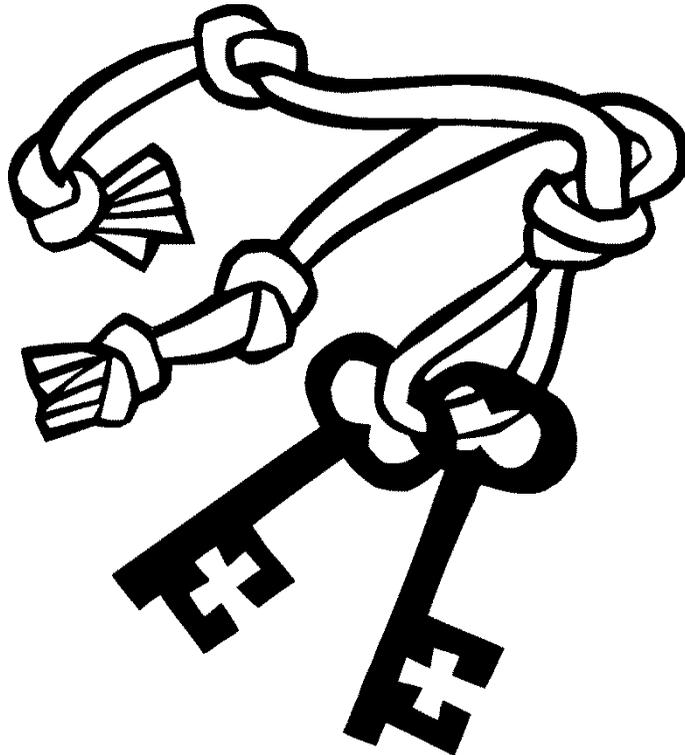
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor
Paul H. Moessner, Interim Associate Pastor
Inba Inbarasu, Visitation Pastor

2650 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68131-3616
402-341-7761
www.kmlchurch.org

August 27, 2017

9:00 & 11:00 AM

TWELFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



Identity theft is a big topic. It may be easy to ignore any danger. Those who go through this relatively recent phenomenon tell how difficult and troublesome the experience is, financially and emotionally. Our readings today suggest thoughts about personal identity. How do we develop a sense of "who I am"? What threatens to break us down? What builds and rebuilds us?

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

Rise, O Sun of Righteousness

ELW 657

GREETING

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

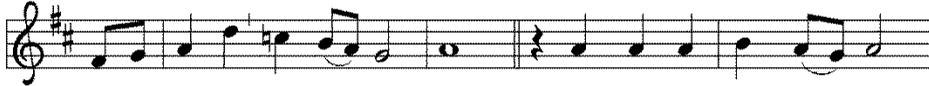
☑ ***And also with you.***

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

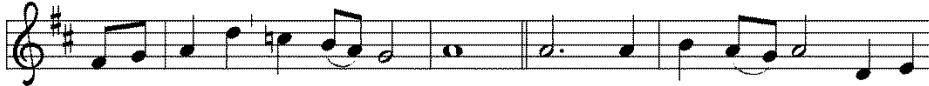


strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

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

- ☐ O God, with all your faithful followers of every age,
- ☑ ***we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Isaiah 51:1-6

Pictures from the total eclipse this past week suggest that the intricate nature of the universe will continue beyond human ability to imagine. Other images, such as changing ice flows and migrating polar bears, ask us to consider what humans are doing to nature. The prophet articulates this contradiction: "...desert like a garden of the Lord..." "...the earth will wear out like a garment..." Which way are we to go? Can we heed the prophet's challenge to "pursue righteousness"? Can we trust the one who promises to send "my justice for a light to the peoples"?

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. ²Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. ³For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

⁴Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. ⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

A The word of the Lord.

G *Thanks be to God.*

PSALM 138 (read responsively)

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SECOND READING

Romans 12:1-8

So what? Therefore! Saint Paul's writings generally start by proclaiming what God has done for us. Yet the Apostle does not remain in the theoretical. What does God's grace mean for daily living? The Christ-followers in Rome knew about sacrifice—to various gods; to the Emperor especially. Those sacrifices, however, involved death. Through Christ's sacrificial death and miraculous resurrection we now get to make a sacrifice that is living. Thinking of myself with "sober judgment" and God's will to make the world right again, what is God calling me to do? Do I try to "crawl off the altar"?

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

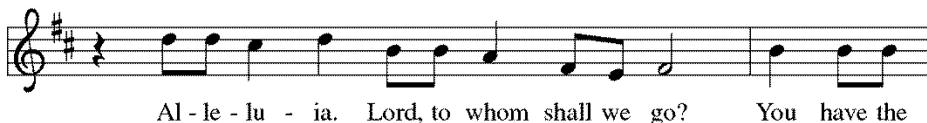
³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Ⓐ The word of the Lord.

Ⓑ **Thanks be to God.**

(stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



- ☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.
- ☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:13-20

We might consider this portion of the Gospel story to be approaching a turning point. Geographically, Jesus is just about at the northernmost point of his travels, soon to turn back south toward Jerusalem. Theologically, the people are still trying to figure out who this man from Nazareth really is. Is he the promised Messiah (Christ)? If so, is he going to do what they really want—and in the method they expect? We may understand, further, that Jesus is also wrestling with his own sense of purpose. People still need his miracles; but that is not the whole story. Does Jesus really want to turn away from popular acclaim and go the way of suffering and sacrifice?

*Church history has debated what Jesus really meant when he said, “... on **this** rock I will build my church...” Some take it to mean Simon Peter, for Jesus has given him a new name, which means “rock”. Others say “this rock” refers to the faith statement identifying Jesus as Messiah and Son of God.*

Picturing myself in the story, how would I be responding to Jesus’ questions: What do the people around me say about Jesus? What do I say about Jesus? What do I really mean?

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”¹⁴ And they said, “Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”¹⁵ He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?”¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.”¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father in heaven.¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.”²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

- ☐ 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 Moessner

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

O Savior, Precious Savior

ELW 820

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)

Cooper Douglas Reimers

(see page 227)

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)

Thanksgiving: For the baptism of Cooper Douglas Reimers, son of Scott & Ree

Illness: Dee Hiatt, Virginia Jensen, Bob Jones (father of Allison Albright), Rosemarie Schmidt

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; 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

You Will Shine

Alisa Bair
Janet Diggins & Donna Moessner

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 features simple, flowing lines with some ties and slurs.

(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 more rhythmic and melodic style with many eighth and sixteenth notes.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- ☒ *Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.*

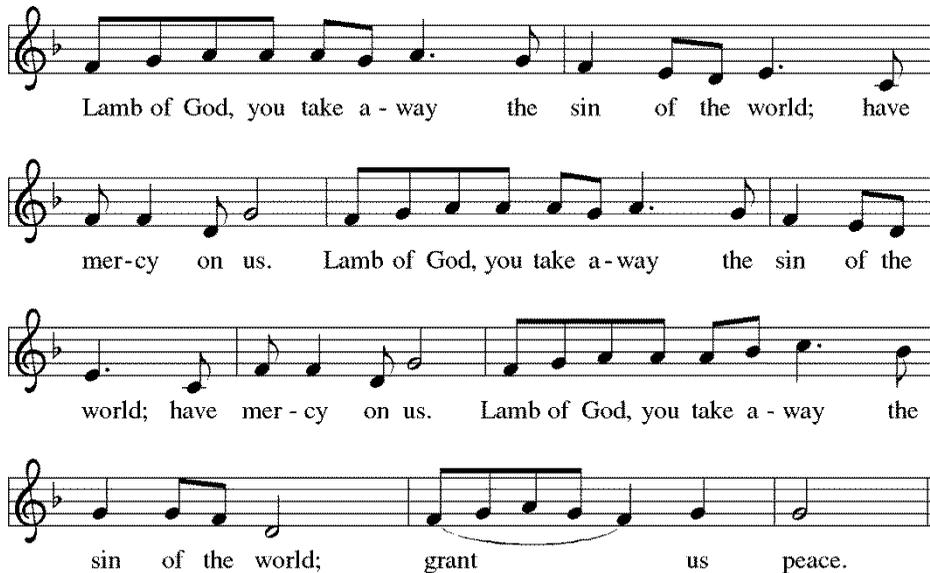
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- ☐ 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.

*Lord, Be Glorified
How Great Thou Art*

ELW 744
ELW 856

(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

We Are Called

ELW 720

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



KOUNTZE STAFF

- Pr. Paul Moessner Interim Associate Pastor
- Pr. Ashley Hall 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
- Tim Walker Chef
- Søren Johnson Assist. Bldg. Superintendent
- Barbara Carlsen Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
- Donna Moessner Director of Children's Music
- 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. Steve Jacobson
- Jeff Senn
- Bob Woodworth
- Lector Becky Brusky
- 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 Bailey Gittler
- Acolytes Carly Cameron
- Abby Rigas

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

- Comm. Asst. Lowell Harms
- Deb Hinrichs
- Lector Bruce Anderson
- Ushers Norm Sack
- Ken Johnson
- Linda Johnson
- Lee Johnson
- Julie O'Doherty
- Greeters Barb Chrisman
- Jo Kayton
- Crucifer Lily O'Kane
- Acolytes Nick Barrett
- Lydia Baum

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: Congregational Meeting **NEXT WEEK:** No Forum (Labor Day)

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING This 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 were made before Pastor Bard departed KMLC, by agreement with Pastor Roynesdal, and are being held as scheduled.

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

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the Glory of God by Patt & Joe Council in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary (8/19)

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES TODAY

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

HANDBELLS Our handbell choir prepares music to be included at a Sunday worship service once a month. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings at 6 PM. You don't need to know how to play bells to join. Rehearsals begin on Wednesday, 8/30. If you are interested in more info about the handbell choir, contact Handbell Choir Director, Danny Bos (402-341-7761).

YESTERDAY'S YOUTH Please join us on Tuesday, 9/5, at noon. You will not want to miss out on this interesting opportunity. Our speaker will be our very own Pr. Paul Moessner. A delicious lunch will be served. Cost is \$4. Please RSVP to the church office by Friday, 9/1. Any questions, call Sheri Tipton (402-415-6033). All ages are welcome!

ADULT CHOIR Come and join our amazing group of musicians who sing praise to God and have fun together. The Adult Choir will have its first meeting Wednesday, 9/6 from 7—8:30 PM. The choir will return to the worship service on Sunday, 9/10. If you are interested in being a part of this important way of worshiping, we would be very glad to welcome you. Past singing experience in high school or college is recommended. The director, Barb Carlsen, would like to hear you sing before joining the choir just to make sure that this group will blend with your type of voice. If you want more information

about choir or would like to reserve a time to sing for Barb, please call the church office at 402-341-7761.

SYNOD AND ARCHDIOCESE COMMON PRAYER Monday, 9/11, 7 PM. Please join us when we will host a service of Common Prayer for the Nebraska Synod and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Omaha. Bishop Brian Maas will welcome Archbishop George Lucas, who will preach. The Common Prayer service was created by the Vatican and the Lutheran World Federation to high light the ecumenical progress between us and the hope of greater reconciliation to come. The liturgy commits Lutherans and Roman Catholics to five common imperatives. Be sure to invite a friend to join you for this moving and historic event in our city and our world on the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. A reception will follow immediately after the service in the Fellowship Hall.

Jesus is God's Son.



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 16:13-20), Monday (John 1:43-51), Tuesday (John 11:17-27), Wednesday (Matthew 27:50-54), Thursday (Acts 9:20-31), Friday (Romans 12:1-8), Saturday (Psalm 138), and Sunday (Matthew 16:21-28).

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Then Jesus asked them, "But who do you say I am?" Simon Peter spoke up, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." Matthew 16:15-16 (CEV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, help us to show that we believe you are God's Son through what we think, say, and do today. Amen. (Matthew 16:16)

Mealtime Prayer:

Son of God, come be our guest, our thanks to receive and these gifts to bless. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord guide your way,

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Tell about a time when you had a different view from someone else.
• What are some of the different ideas people have about Jesus? Who do you say Jesus is?
• In the verses that follow Matthew 16:13-20, it is clear that Peter did not have the right understanding of Jesus as God's son. How can we still misunderstand who Jesus really is?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Romans 12:1.

The apostle Paul encourages Christians to offer their whole bodies in service to God. As part of your home devotional times this week, draw an outline of a body. Talk about how we can use different parts of our bodies (eyes, ears, hands, feet, etc.) to serve God and confess our faith in Jesus. Write your ideas on the paper. Display your drawing in your home and use it as a focal point for conversation, action, and prayer during the week.

SERVICE

Romans 12:6-8 lists a number of different gifts that God gives to God's people: telling others the good news (prophesy), helping others, teaching, encouraging, sharing or giving, leading, and showing kindness to others. Name the gifts you see in your family and friends. Talk about ways you can use these gifts to serve God in your family, community, and church.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Peter confessed his faith by stating that Jesus is the Son of the living God. Because of this confession, Jesus called him the "rock" upon which he would build his church. Place a rock in your living space or in a garden to remember the confession of Peter and the church throughout the centuries. Write the words "Jesus is the Son of God" on the rock.

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THIS WEEK AT KOUNTZE

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)

August 28 Monday

- 10:00 AM Pantry

August 29 Tuesday

- 9:00 AM Staff Meeting

August 30 Wednesday

- 12:15 PM Worship
6:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

August 31 Thursday

- 4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

September 2 Saturday

- Homebound Communion
4:30 PM Blood Pressure Checks
5:00 PM Worship

September 3 Sunday

- Homebound Communion
7:45 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

September 4 Monday

- Labor Day
OFFICE CLOSED

Table with 2 columns: Next Weekend's Lessons and Bible References. References include Jeremiah 15:15-21, Psalm 26:1-8, Romans 12:9-21, and Matthew 16:21-28.

Saturday Attendance: 63
Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 225 11:00: 154
Midweek - Noon: 5
Total: 447
Pantry Guests Served: 400
Medical Clinic Guests Served: 37
Offering:
\$18,112.66 (Regular) \$837.00 (Specials)
\$3,922.00 (In the City for Good)

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

(continued from page 1)
WOMEN'S FALL SALAD LUNCHEON will be held on

Saturday, 9/16 at 11:30 AM in the 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.

NEW MEMBER CLASS The next New Member classes are set for noon, 9/17 & 24 (please plan to attend both sessions), with new members to be received 10/1. The following New Member class is set for 1/14 & 21, 2018. If you have questions, please talk to one of the Pastors. 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 have food allergies or will need childcare.

YOUTH MISSION TRIP SPONSORSHIP DINNER If you were a sponsor for the Youth Mission Trip this year, please reserve the date Sunday, 9/17 at 5 PM for the sponsorship dinner.

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 PM just prior to the dedication of Kountze Commons.

KOUNTZE COMMONS The dedication of Kountze Commons will be held Sunday, 10/8 at 3 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!