

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

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May 22, 2016

9:00 & 11:00 AM

THE HOLY TRINITY



"O Lord our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth!" Today we celebrate the name of God: holy blessed Trinity. There is no other day quite like this one in the church's year. There is no other god like ours. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

POSTLUDE

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, abounding in steadfast love toward us, healing the sick and raising the dead, showering us with every good gift.

☩ **Amen.**

☞ Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

☞ Just and gracious God,

☩ ***we come to you for healing and life. Our sins hurt others and diminish us; we confess them to you. Our lives bear the scars of sin; we bring these also to you. Show us your mercy, O God. Bind up our wounds, forgive us our sins, and free us to love, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.***

☞ The apostle Paul assures us: “When we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ, nailing the record of our sins to the cross.” Jesus says to you, ☩ “Your sins are forgiven.” Be at peace, and tell everyone how much God has done for you.

☩ **Amen.**

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Come, Thou Almighty King

ELW 408

GREETING

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

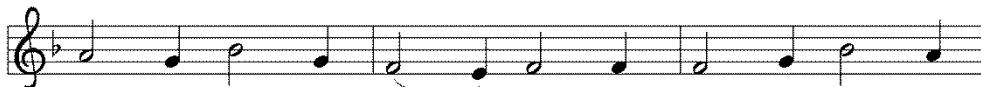
☩ ***And also with you.***



1 All glo - ry be to God on high, who has the world be -
 2 O Fa - ther, for your lord - ship true we give you praise and
 3 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's
 4 O Ho - ly Spir - it, per - fect gift, who brings us con - so -



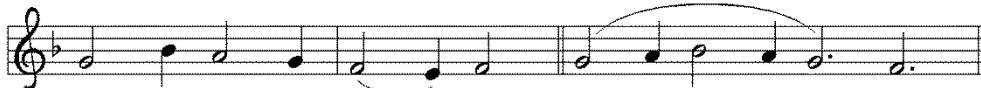
friend - ed; to us no harm shall now come nigh, the
 hon - or; we wor - ship you; we trust in you; we
 au - thor, re - deem - er of your wan - d'ring ones, and
 la - tion: to men and wom - en saved by Christ as -



strife at last is end - ed. God shows good-will to
 give you thanks for - ev - er. Your will is per - fect,
 source of all true plea - sure; O Lamb of God, O
 sure your in - spi - ra - tion. Through sick - ness, need, and



one and all, and peace when trou - bled sin - ners call. Thank
 and your might re - lent - less - ly con - firms the right; your
 Lord di - vine, con - form our lives to your de - sign, and
 bit - ter death, grant us your warm, life - giv - ing breath; our



God for grace and mer - cy!
 lord - ship is our bless - ing.
 on us all have mer - cy.
 lives are in your keep - ing. A - - your men.

Text: Nikolaus Decius, 1485–1550; tr. composite
 Music: ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HÖH, plainsong; adapt. Nikolaus Decius
 Text st. 1 © 2006 Augsburg Fortress; sts. 2–4 © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty Creator and ever-living God:

G *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

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

In the Bible, wisdom has many faces. It is portrayed in terms sometimes human and sometimes divine. Often, it is personified as feminine. In this passage, Woman Wisdom is depicted not only as the first creation of God but also as God's helper, rejoicing in God's creation, especially in human beings.

Does not wisdom call, and does not understanding raise her voice? ²On the heights, beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand; ³beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries out: ⁴"To you, O people, I call, and my cry is to all that live. ²²The LORD created me at the beginning of his work, the first of his acts of long ago. ²³Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the beginning of the earth. ²⁴When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water. ²⁵Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth— ²⁶when he had not yet made earth and fields, or the world's first bits of soil. ²⁷When he established the heavens, I was there, when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, ²⁸when he made firm the skies above, when he established the fountains of the deep, ²⁹when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the waters might not transgress his command, when he marked out the foundations of the earth, ³⁰then I was beside him, like a master worker; and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him always, ³¹rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in the human race.

A The word of the Lord.

G *Thanks be to God.*

PSALM 8



Psalm 8:2

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year C* © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

¹O LORD our Lord,

how majestic is your name in all the earth!

²you 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. **R**

³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,
⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them? 

⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.
⁶You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:
⁷all flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts of the field,
⁸the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.
⁹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth! 

SECOND LESSON

Romans 5:1-5

Paul describes the life of faith with reference to God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Even now, we have peace with God through Jesus, and our hope for the future is grounded in the love of God that we experience through Christ's Holy Spirit.

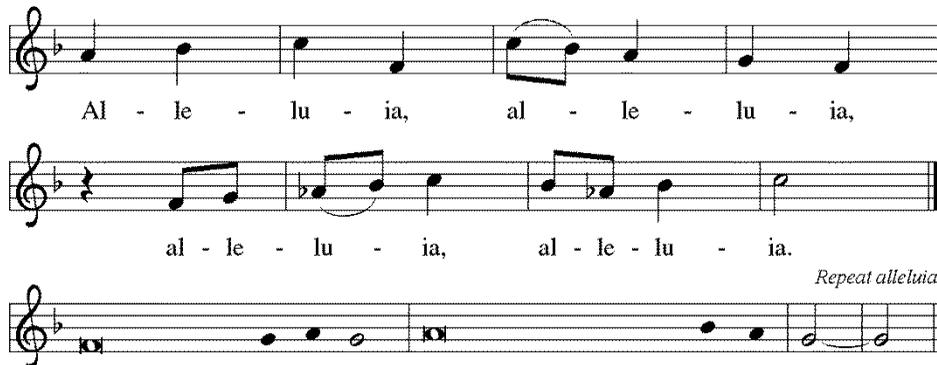
Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our
hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing
that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces
hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts
through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

 The word of the Lord.

 **Thanks be to God.**

(stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

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

 The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL

John 16: 12-15

Jesus' ongoing presence with the disciples will be borne by the coming Spirit, who will guide them and communicate to them Jesus' will and glory.

Jesus said,] ¹²"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

☞ 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

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ELW 834

BLESSING OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES (9:00 AM)

(see bulletin page 11)

High School: Victoria Bratcher, Siany Edwards, Maisy Fletcher, Sydney Kinish, Naomi Kirkvold, Jacob Martens, Samantha Schueler, Elise Siffring, Rosemarie Stenfeldt, Alec Stouffer, Ben Svacina, Hannah Workman

College: Becky Brusky, Erin Steffen, Amanda Schneiderman

HOLY BAPTISM (11:00 AM)

Mary Josephine Grace Klinker

(see page 227)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: ☞ Hear us, O God

☞ **your mercy is great!**

(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 Quinn Kay Wardell, daughter of Kyle and Katie; for the baptism of Mary Josephine Grace Klinker, daughter of Adam and JoDee ; 2016 high school and college graduates

Illness: Pauline Brager, Ellie Carlson, Evelyn Christensen, Audrey Cotton, Donald Hirsh, Ralph Morse, Cyndy Sacks, Millie Schmidt

Other Prayers: *Those serving in the military* – Amy Dyer, Michael McNeill, Scott Meyer, Daniel Milstead, Sheldon Skovgaard, Michael Vutov and Joel Woosley

Other Prayers: *Those serving in mission* – Rev. Chandran Paul Martin, India; Rev. John Lunn, Tanzania; Rev. Justin Eller, Bolivia; Lindsay Mack, Mexico; 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

Hymn to the Trinity

Dale Wood

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

- ☐ ***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

OFFERING PRAYER

- ☐ God of mercy and grace,
- ☑ ***the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.***
Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

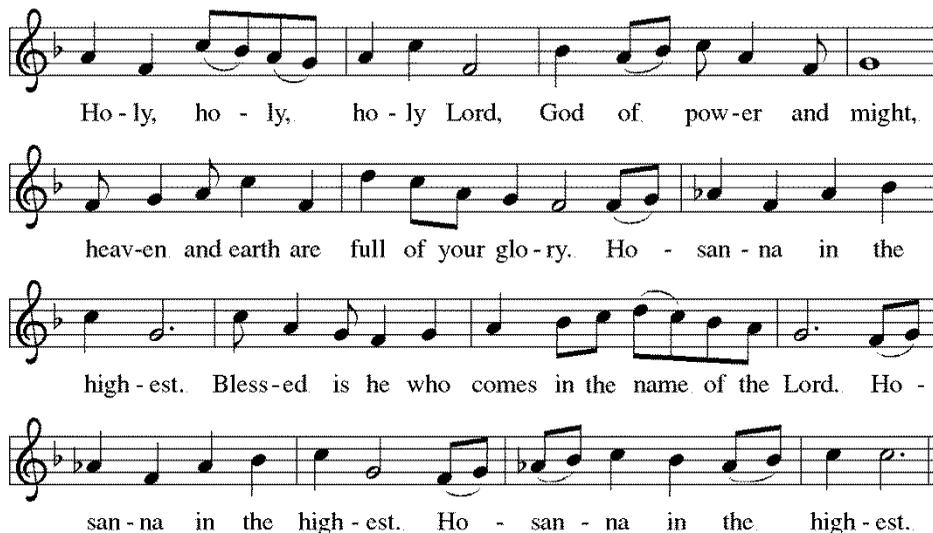
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
 heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

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.

*Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing
Now We Join in Celebration*

ELW 886
ELW 462

(stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P** O God, as a mother comforts her child,
- G** ***so you comfort your people, carrying us in your arms and satisfying us with this food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Send us now as your disciples, announcing peace and proclaiming that the reign of God has come near; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.***

SENDING

BLESSING

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
- G** ***Amen.***

HYMN

God, Whose Almighty Word

ELW 673

DISMISSAL

- P** Alleluia. Go in peace. Share the good news.
- G** ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia***

POSTLUDE

CONGRATULATIONS to the 2016 GRADUATES!

High School:

Victoria Bratcher - Millard West
Siany Edwards - Millard South
Maisy Fletcher
Sydney Kinish - Bellevue West High School
Naomi Kirkvold - Central High School
Jacob Martens
Samantha Schueler - Marian High School
Elise Siffring - Brownell-Talbot
Rosemarie Stenfeldt – Burke High School
Alec Stouffer - Westside High School
Ben Svacina - Bryan High School
Hannah Workman

Colleges/ Universities:

Becky Brusky – University of Nebraska Omaha
Erin Steffen – Bellevue University
Amanda Schneiderman - Creighton University

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CELEBRATION OF 2016 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES

- Ⓟ Today we celebrate those who are taking another step in their vocation. As the names of our 2016 Graduates are read, we ask that those who are present, along with their parents and immediate family, to please come forward.
- Ⓟ Parents, in Christian love you presented your children for Holy Baptism. As these young men and women journey further in their God-given calling, we now ask you reaffirm the promises you made at baptism. Will you continue to pray for your children and to nurture their faith? If so answer, *“I do and I ask God to help and guide me.”*
- Ⓟ Congregation, do you promise to support and encourage these parents in the keeping with the covenant of baptism? If so, answer, *“We will with God’s help and guidance.”*
- Ⓟ Graduates, do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism:
To live among God’s faithful people,
To come to the word of God and the Holy Supper,
To strive to grow in faith and prayer so that you might
Trust God, Proclaim Christ through word and deed, Care for others and the world God made,
and Work for justice and peace in all the world;
If so, answer, *“I do and I ask God to help and guide me.”*

APOSTLES' CREED

- Ⓟ Let us confess the faith in which we were baptized:
- ☑ ***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.***

PRAYER

☐ Let us pray: God of creation, we ask for your blessing on these young people as they enter a new period in their lives. By the Holy Spirit, grant them your gifts: confirm their faith, guide their lives; give them strength in serving, give them patience in suffering, and bring them to eternal life.

☑ ***Amen.***

PRESENTATION OF QUILTS

☐ The members of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church present each of you with a quilt. Each stitch represents the love that God has given us to share with one another. At this time, we ask your parents to take these quilts and place them around you. May the quilt remind you of our commitment to support and equip you in carrying out the promises made in baptism.

PRAYER

☐ Let us pray: O God, we bless you and thank you for giving our lives meaning and a vocation. Through you, we receive the gifts of love, joy, and forgiveness. May these quilts will be a reminder of the warmth of family, this faith community, and of your never failing love, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

☑ ***Amen.***

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES

☐ It is my pleasure to present to you our 2015 High School Graduates and their families.