

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

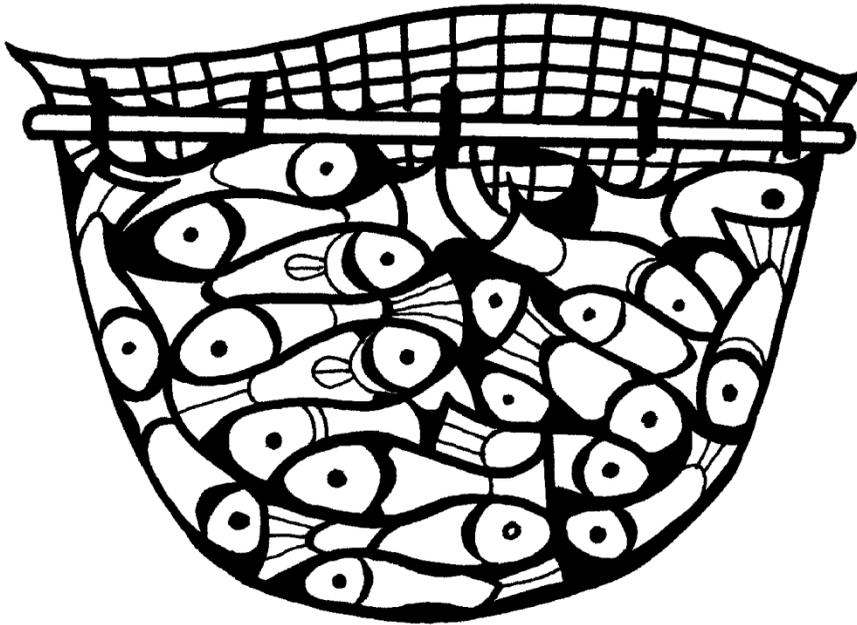
Olaf Roynesdal, Senior Pastor
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor
Inba Inbarasu, Visitation Pastor

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

February 10, 2019

9:00 & 11:00 AM

FIFTH SUNDAY after EPIPHANY



The fifth Sunday after Epiphany continues to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal the glory of the Lord. "Who will go for us?" queries the voice of the Lord. A man of unclean lips, a former persecutor of the church of God, and three fishermen who couldn't catch a thing. More surprising still, perhaps, is the fact that we are also called.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – who creates us and forms us, who redeems us and calls us, who unites us and sends us.

G Amen.

P Gathered in God’s presence, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P Mighty and loving God,

G we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We seek our own way.

We divide the body of Christ.

In your mercy, cleanse us and heal us.

Let the words of our mouths, the thoughts of our hearts,

and everything that we do

be filled with faith, hope, and love. Amen.

P Hear the voice of Jesus: *“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me to proclaim release to the captives.”* In the name of ☩ Jesus Christ, I proclaim to you that your sins are forgiven and you are released. The joy of the Lord is your strength, and the gifts of the Holy Spirit are yours forever.

G Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name!”

ELW 634

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

G And also with you.

GLORIA

Assisting minister

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

we wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Most holy God,

C the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

JOYFUL SOUNDS CHOIR

“Shine, Jesus, Shine”

Graham Kendrick

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]

Isaiah says, Here am I; send me.

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.”

⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!” [⁹And he said, “Go and say to this people:

‘Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.’ ¹⁰Make the mind of this people dull, and stop their ears, and shut their eyes, so that they may not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and comprehend with their minds, and turn and be healed.”

¹¹Then I said, “How long, O Lord?” And he said: “Until cities lie waste without inhabitant, and houses without people, and the land is utterly desolate; ¹²until the Lord sends everyone far away, and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land. ¹³Even if a tenth part remain in it, it will be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak whose stump remains standing when it is felled.”

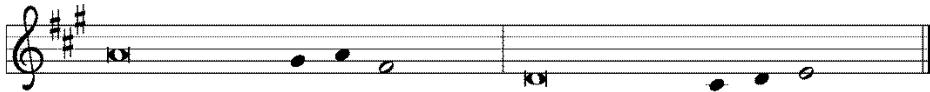
The holy seed is its stump.]

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 138

(Choir sings lines in regular print, All may sing lines in **bold print**)



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

²**I 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 a- | bove all things.**

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

⁴**All 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.

⁶**The 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.

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

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Paul delivers in a nutshell the story of the gospel that was given to him. In the lineage of the Christian faith, we have received the good news of God's love from generations of believers before us, and we continue to tell this story to the world.

Now I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ²through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, ⁴and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, ⁵and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. ⁷Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. ⁸Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. ⁹For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. ¹⁰But by the grace

of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. ¹¹Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

C 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. Luke.

C Glory to you, O Lord!

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 5:1-11

Jesus' teaching of God's word has begun to draw great crowds. For Simon, James, and John, Jesus' teaching inspires hospitality, then obedience, and then risk. After Jesus' creative power is revealed, fear and amazement lead these three fishermen to leave everything behind in order to become apostles.

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, ²he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. ³He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. ⁴When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." ⁵Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." ⁶When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. ⁷So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. ⁸But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" ⁹For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; ¹⁰and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." ¹¹When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C 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 Inbarasu

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

"You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore"

ELW 817

THE APOSTLES' CREED

☐ God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

☑ **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 INTERCESSION

Response: **☐** Lord, in your mercy,
☑ **hear our prayer**

(In our prayers today, during a time of silence, pray for those listed below and for others according to their needs)

Sympathy: to the family and friends of Don Palmer

Illness: Don Burton, Dwaine Carlsen, Ralph Diggins, Jr. Green, Joan Nelson, Carolyn Nippert, David Penning, Bob Ringo, Gary Rodene, Judy Stuart, Marlys Thomas, JoAnne Worm, friend of Janet Diggins, Ed & Darlene White

Other Prayers: *Those serving in the military* – Amy Dyer, Brennan Hron, Michael McNeill, Daniel Milstead, Cody Ray, 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; Meghan Brown Saavedra, Mexico; Our sister congregation, the American Church in Berlin

WE SHARE GOD’S PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C 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 congregation 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.



MUSICAL OFFERING

“I Will Make You Fishers of Men”

Dave and Jean Perry

THE TABLE IS PREPARED

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring”

ELW 691



- 1 Ac - cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up - on your ta - ble.
- 2 The vines were plant - ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea - sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be - fore you.

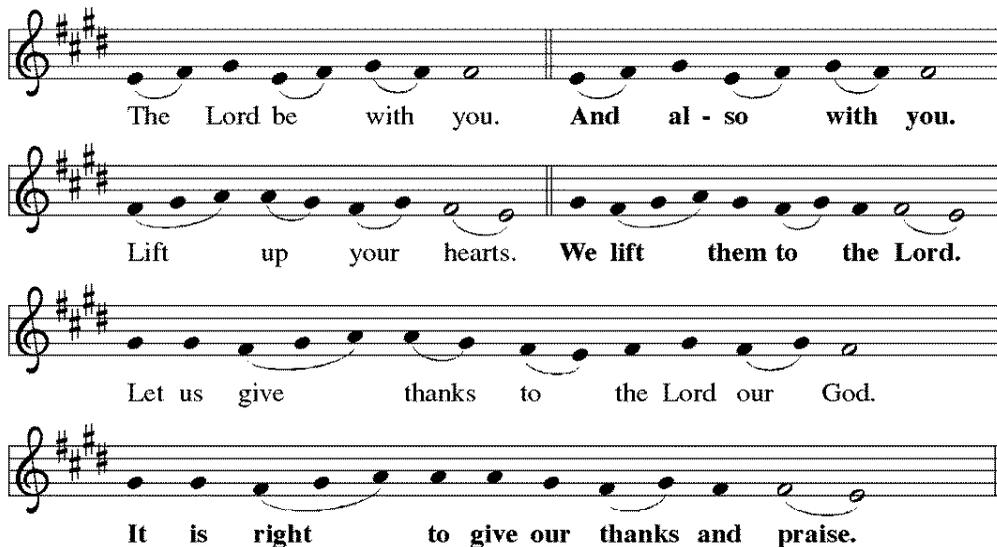


We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble.
What once was com - mon, dail - y food be - comes a ho - ly trea - sure.
Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum - bly we a - dore you.

OFFERING PRAYER

- P** God of all creation,
C all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we will be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

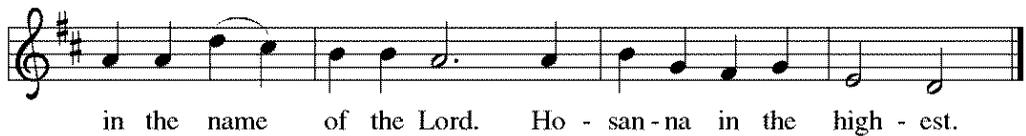
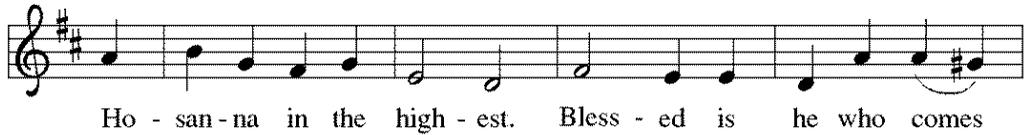
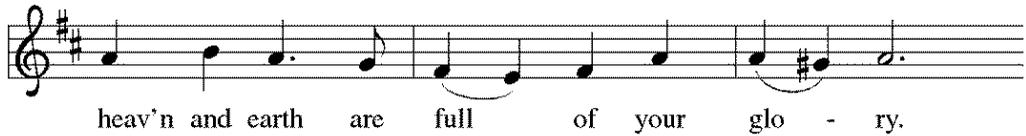


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE FOR EPIPHANY

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SANCTUS



THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us all to pray:

C **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to the table.

C **Feast on God's abundant Life for you.**

THE DISTRIBUTION

*All baptized Christians who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and his Real Presence in, with and under the bread and wine, are welcome to the Lord's Supper. We believe that this is the Lord's table and is he who invites you. So you who are strong in faith, come with gratitude. You who feel weak in faith, come to be strengthened. And you who feel you have no faith, come so that the God of steadfast love will touch your heart with hope and joy. The form of distribution is **intinction**, you will receive the consecrated bread and you may then dip it in the wine. Gluten free bread is available; simply request it.*

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

ELW 471

"Blessed Assurance "

ELW 638

(stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P** We give you thanks, Almighty God,
C that you have fed us at your banquet table with bread and wine beyond compare, the very life of Jesus Christ for us. Send your Holy Spirit with us now, that we will set the captive free, use your gifts to build one another up, and in everything reflect your glory revealed in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

- P** The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the † Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

HYMN

"We Are Called"

ELW 720

DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace. Jesus Christ is your light.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

† † †

KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Olaf Roynesdal	Senior Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Pr. Inba Inbarasu	Visitation Pastor
Kristin Boe	Christian Ed Coordinator
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Sarah Jewell	Administrative Assistant
Steve Jacobson	Staff Treasurer
Judi Boe	Financial Secretary
Jim Smejkal	Bldg. Super./Dir. of Cong. Activities
Søren Johnson	Custodian
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Donna Moessner	Dir. of Children's Music
Danny Bos	Custodian
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Sheri Lynn Tipton	Night Security Manager
Norma Pafford	Nursery Superintendent
Joyce Palmer	Urban Ministries Coordinator

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM

Lector	Paul Revord
Ushers	Paul Revord
	Mary Jo Fike
Comm. Set-up	Mary Jo Fike

SUNDAY, 9:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Adam Klinker
	Jeff Perkins
	Liz Pemberton
Lector	Jon Natvig
Ushers	Rodney Nord
	Donna Crouse
	Ralph Diggins
	Brad Madison
	Dan Troxel
	Sharon West
	Dean Winther
	Bob Johnson
Greeters	Colleen Lenners
	Bev Troxel
	Lois Sorensen
Crucifer	Madelyn Hinrichs
Acolytes	Brooks Hinrichs
	Kaitlyn Munquia

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Ann Miller
	Deb Hinrichs
Lector	Judith Poffenbarger
Ushers	Norm Sack
	Ken Johnson
	Linda Johnson
	Lee Johnson
Greeters	Barb Chrisman
	Jo Kayton
Crucifer	Charlie Campbell
Acolytes	Hadley Rief
	Henry Rief



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

February 9 & 10, 2018

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 worshipping, growing, and serving in downtown Omaha for over 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.

TODAY AT KOUNTZE

KOUNTZE CAFÉ Then join us each Sunday morning for a hot breakfast buffet served from 8:00—11:00 AM prepared by our kitchen crew. The suggested donation for the hot breakfast is \$5 adults, \$2.50 children 12 and younger.

ADULT FORUM Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **THIS WEEK:** Paul Sum presents of Roof Renovations **NEXT WEEK:** Adam Klinker presents on Seminary Visit to Germany

ALTAR FLOWERS and ETERNAL CANDLE are given to the glory of God in memory of Joyce Hahn by husband, Wayne Hahn and family.

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES TODAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL Join us each Sunday on the 2nd floor for Sunday School. Preschool 1 (2-4 yrs) meets from 9:00—10:00 AM (child care for those too old for the nursery). Sunday School (2 yrs—8th grade) is held from 10:10—10:50 AM.

JOYFUL SOUNDS CHILDREN'S CHOIR Join us each Sunday from 9:00—9:30 AM. All children (K—5th grade) who want to praise our Lord by singing, meet in the Joyful Sounds Studio on the 2nd floor.

HIGH SCHOOL FORUM Join us each Sunday in the Youth Center at 10:10 AM. Our Youth Forums this winter and spring will focus on vocations. Kountze Members will speak to you about their profession, the education necessary to attain the profession, and the work involved. They will also speak about how their faith in God impacts their vocation. Most important, there will be time for you to ask questions about the work they do.

(Continued on page 2)

February 10 Sunday

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)
 9:00 AM Joyful Sounds Children's Choir (gr K-5)
 10:10 AM Adult Forum
 10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
 10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)
 12:00 PM Book Group

February 11 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

February 12 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

February 13 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group
 12:15 PM Worship
 6:00 PM Confirmation Dinner
 6:30 PM Confirmation
 7:30 PM Worship

February 14 Thursday

Council Reports Due
 Valentine's Day

9:30 AM WELCA Board Meeting

11:30 AM Property Committee

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

February 15 Friday

Good News Deadline

February 16 Saturday

9:30 AM Women's Prayer Group

10:30 AM Funeral Service—Don Palmer

5:00 PM Worship

February 17 Sunday

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)

No Joyful Sounds Children's Choir (gr K-5)

10:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks

10:10 AM Adult Forum

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)

10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)

10:10 AM Endowment Board

10:30 AM Executive Committee

TODAY AT KOUNTZE *(continued from page 1)*

February 10 Small Business—**Dave Penning**, Owner of Dad's Carpet Cleaning

February 17 Construction—**Paul Sum**, Retired Contractor, Prairie Construction

February 24 Prosecutorial Law—**Mike Jensen**, District Attorney; **Ann Miller**, District Attorney, Douglas County Nebraska

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.

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.

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.

NEW MEMBER CLASS If you are interested in joining our congregation, the next class will be held September March 17 & 24 from 12:15—2:00 PM. 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 when you register.

CAMPUS MINISTRY NEWS On Sunday, February 17, 3:00 - 5:30 PM, we are invited to EVENSONG, an annual celebration highlighting Lutheran Campus Ministry in the Omaha metro colleges and universities at St. Timothy Lutheran Church (93rd & Dodge). Enjoy wonderful food and beverages, take part in the silent auction, and join a

student-led worship service of Holden Evening Prayer. If you sing or play an instrument, you can join others for special music. For more information call Campus Pastor Jim Holthus at 218-760-2028 and leave a short message."

KMLC COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS The KMLC Scholarship Program makes scholarship funds available to any eligible college-bound student member. Active members of Kountze Memorial planning or continuing to attend ANY college, university or seminary may submit an application. Additional eligibility requirements are noted on the application. Applications can be picked up after the first of the year in the Church Office, or downloaded at www.kmlchurch.org. Applications are due March 1. **Any applications received after this date will not be accepted.** Please note: Scholarships are not automatically renewable, and recipients must re-apply each year. If you have any questions, contact the church office at 402-341-7761.

NATIONAL LUTHERAN CHOIR Saturday, March 2, 8:00 PM, St. Cecilia Cathedral | Kountze Memorial, together with St. Cecilia and other donors will be sponsoring The National Lutheran Choir in concert on Saturday, March 2, 8:00 PM at St. Cecilia Cathedral (701 N 40th St). The Choir will be singing "The Holy Spirit Mass, Together in Hope" which was written in commemoration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Under the direction of nationally known conductor, composer and organist Dr. David Cherwien, the 60-member National Lutheran Choir's artistry is rooted in its mission to strengthen, renew and preserve the heritage of sacred choral music. And it does so through the highest standards of performance and literature.

ALL LAY EUCHARISTIC MINISTER GATHERING 10:10 AM, Sunday, March 3 | All Lay Eucharistic Ministers, and those interested in learning more about this ministry to bring the Eucharist to the sick and homebound, are invited to this organizational meeting.

THE GOSPEL AND THE KINGDOM FOLLOW-UP Our very successful series this last August that brought members from Kountze Memorial, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, and First Central Congregational into conversation about what it is to be large, vibrant, historic churches in the downtown/neartown area will continue. A leadership team to form and guide future events will be created with two members from each congregation. If you would like to be a part of future events, please stay posted for more information or contact Pr. Hall.

CHURCH ARCHIVES Are you interested in learning more about the History of Kountze? The archives committee is looking for volunteers to help preserve the history of Kountze. Over the next few years we would like to digitize a lot of the Church's records, meeting notes, youth trip reports etc. There are not formal set times if you can spare an hour or two after a worship service or maybe while a spouse is volunteering at pantry or sewing group we would love to have your help. For more information please contact the Church office or jim@kmlchurch.org.

DISCOVERY TRIP | July 16-27, 2019 | Moshi, Tanzania In November Jonna Holland and Carol Stoltenberg shared their Tanzania experiences with us at a Sunday morning Forum. Even though both of them had traveled quite a bit before, this was a special kind of trip, different and more meaningful than anything they had so far experienced. The people they met were so poor and yet so joyful and generous. If you would like to participate in the 2019 Discovery Trip to Tanzania, check out the details at [https://](https://files.constantcontact.com/8c919081201/da73c243-3f82-4e78-8696-03d37afe9824.pdf)

files.constantcontact.com/8c919081201/da73c243-3f82-4e78-8696-03d37afe9824.pdf. But BEWARE! This is a life changing adventure! Consider joining Carol on this trip of a lifetime and get the chance to see the "big 5" African animals on a Serengeti safari as well.

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

Saturday Attendance: 52

Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 255 11:00: 93

Midweek - Noon: 10 **Evening:** 21

Total: 431

Pantry Guests Served: 353

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 21

Offering: 1/21—1/27

\$19,335.19 (Regular) \$8,961.00 (Specials)

\$2,580.00 (Phase 2)

Offering: 1/21—1/27

\$17,022.54 (Regular) \$2,748.43 (Specials)

\$1,989.00 (Phase 2)

FYI: A 30 second commercial in last week's Super Bowl Game cost \$5,000,000. One commercial would make Kountze Memorial debt-free and cover the costs of fixing the sanctuary ceiling and stained glass windows!

Jesus calls his followers.

Sunday	Luke 5:1-11	Jesus calls the first disciples
Monday	Isaiah 6:1-13	The call of Isaiah
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	The call of Paul
Wednesday	Numbers 27:12-23	Joshua appointed Moses' successor
Thursday	James 1:17-18	God's gifts to us
Friday	Exodus 4:10-17	Moses' miraculous power
Saturday	Psalms 138	Praise the Lord with all your heart
Sunday	Luke 6:17-26	Sermon on the plain



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Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When [Peter, James, and John] had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him. **Luke 5:10b-11 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Generous God, you call us by name and send us out to tell of your extravagant love for us. Give us the faith, strength, and courage to be your followers. In Jesus' name, amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear Jesus, just as you filled the nets with fish, we thank you for filling us with this gift of food. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord's steadfast love and faithfulness strengthen your soul. (Psalm 138:2-3)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Name or think about some things you do well.
- How would you describe your "calling" in life?
- All Christians are called through their baptisms to be a follower of Jesus. How do you use your talents and interests to serve others and follow Jesus?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 5:1-11.

What does it mean to be "catching" people for Jesus? Would you be first in line to say, "Yes," to God? Peter didn't. Isaiah didn't. Moses didn't. Jeremiah didn't. Countless others in the Bible rushed to the end of the line, not the beginning. Thanks be to God that our calling to follow is based on God's call, not on our own decisions. The Apostle Paul puts it well in 1 Corinthians 15:9-10a: "Last of all, as to one untimely born, [Christ] appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am." Fortunately, Christianity is based on God's grace, not our choices. At the same time, God's call frees us to love our neighbor and share God's love with others. Like Peter, James, and John, we all join in the ministry of catching people in the net of Jesus Christ. Why is it important to trust God's call to us and not our own choices?

Pray: **Dear Jesus, we thank you for calling us as disciples to go out into the world to share God's love and grace. Amen.**

SERVICE

God uses ordinary people like those who catch fish, those who tend flocks, and those who harvest the fields to do the extraordinary work of helping others be gathered into the community of saints, the church. How can your ordinary talents and interests be used to share God's love with others?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In Isaiah 6:1-8, Isaiah was involved in worship when he received his call as a prophet. The word worship comes from "worth-ship" or being made worthy. We worship not only to praise God but to receive our worthiness as those loved and sent by God into the world. Jesus told us to personally worship through charitable giving, praying, and fasting (Matthew 6:1-18). Take time as a follower of Jesus to worship this week in your home. Set up a charity alms jar to put loose coins into, say the Lord's Prayer, and fast through a lunchtime.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26