

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

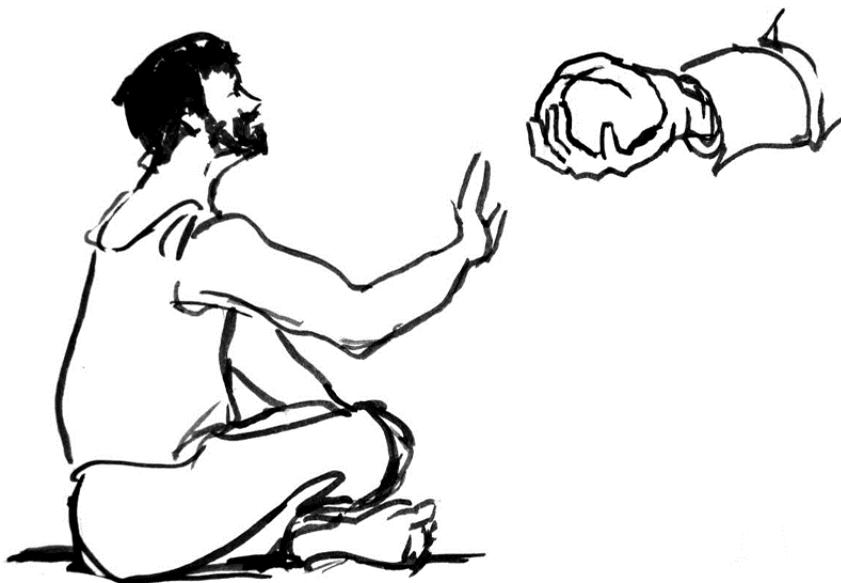
Olaf Roynesdal, Senior Pastor  
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor  
Inba Inbarasu, Visitation Pastor

2650 Farnam Street  
Omaha, NE 68131-3616  
402-341-7761  
[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

March 10, 2019

9:00 & 11:00 AM

FIRST SUNDAY in LENT



*These forty days called Lent are like no other. It is our opportune time to return to the God who rescues; to receive the gifts of God's grace; to believe with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus; and to resist temptation at every turn. This is no small pilgrimage on which we have just embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. The nearness of the Lord, in bread and wine, water and word, will uphold and sustain us.*

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(stand)*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – who gathers us in the wilderness to redeem us, anoint us, and make us new.

**C** Amen.

**P** In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin, and receive God’s promise of mercy.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

**P** God at the margins,

**C** **We have wandered far from your home; again and again, we lose our way. We turn inward, afraid of the world around us. We forget that you have saved your people before and promise to do so again. Do not remember the deeds of our past, but turn our faces toward the future, where your forgiveness is sure, your welcome is clear, and your love overflows. Amen.**

**P** Like a hen who gathers her chicks, God embraces you in tender care. Like manna in the desert, God feeds you with surprising mercy. Like a loving parent, God runs to meet you again this day, forgiving your sins for the sake of † Christ, leading you from death into life.

**C** Amen.

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”*

**ELW 504**

## 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.

**C** **And also with you.**

# KYRIE

**P** In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**C**   
Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord .

**C**   
Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**C**   
Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**C**   
Lord, have mer - cy.

**P** Help, save comfort and defend us gracious Lord.

**C**   
A - men, a - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Almighty God,

**C** you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we will walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## WORD

*(sit)*

### FIRST READING

**Deuteronomy 26:1-11**

*The annual harvest festival, called the Feast of Weeks, provides the setting for this reading. This festival celebrates the first fruits of the produce of the land offered back to God in thanks. In this text, worshipers announce God's gracious acts on behalf of Israel.*

**W**hen you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, <sup>2</sup>you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. <sup>3</sup>You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, “*Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.*” <sup>4</sup>When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, <sup>5</sup>you shall make this response before the Lord your God: “*A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous.* <sup>6</sup>*When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us,* <sup>7</sup>*we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.* <sup>8</sup>*The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders;* <sup>9</sup>*and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey.* <sup>10</sup>*So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.*”

You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. <sup>11</sup>Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 91:1-2, 9-16

*(read responsively)*

<sup>1</sup>You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,  
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—

<sup>2</sup>**you will say to the LORD, “My refuge and my stronghold,  
my God in whom I put my trust.”**

<sup>9</sup>Because you have made the LORD your refuge,  
and the Most High your habitation,

<sup>10</sup>**no evil will befall you,  
nor shall affliction come near your dwelling.**

For God will give the angels charge over you,  
to guard you in all your ways.

<sup>12</sup>**Upon their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.**

<sup>13</sup>You will tread upon the lion cub and viper;  
you will trample down the lion and the serpent.

<sup>14</sup>**I will deliver those who cling to me;  
I will uphold them, because they know my name.**

<sup>15</sup>They will call me, and I will answer them;  
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.

<sup>16</sup>**With long life will I satisfy them,  
and show them my salvation.**

## SECOND READING

## Romans 10:8b-13

*Paul reminds the Christians at Rome of the foundation of their creed, the confession of faith in the risen Christ as Lord.*

“**T**he word is near you, on your lips and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); <sup>9</sup>because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. <sup>10</sup>For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. <sup>11</sup>The scripture says, “*No one who believes in him will be put to shame.*” <sup>12</sup>For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. <sup>13</sup>For, “*Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.*”

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

(stand)

## LENTEN VERSE

“Thy Word”

**Chorus: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path  
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet And a light unto my path**

**Verse 1: When I feel afraid And I think I've lost my way  
Still You're there right beside me  
Nothing will I fear As long as You are near  
Please be near me to the end**

**Verse 2: I will not forget Your love for me and yet  
My heart forever is wandering  
Jesus be my guide And hold me to Your side  
I will love You to the end**

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**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

**C** Glory to you, O Lord!

## HOLY GOSPEL

**Luke 4:1-13**

*After being filled with the Holy Spirit at his baptism, Jesus is led in the wilderness. Through his responses to the temptations of the devil, he defines what it means to be called “the Son of God.”*

**J**esus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, <sup>2</sup>where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The devil said to him, “*If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread.*” <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered him, “*It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone.’*”

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. <sup>6</sup>And the devil said to him, “*To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please.*” <sup>7</sup>If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” <sup>8</sup>Jesus answered him, “*It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’*”

<sup>9</sup>Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “*If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here,*” <sup>10</sup>for it is written, “*He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,*” <sup>11</sup>and “*On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.*”

<sup>12</sup>Jesus answered him, “*It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’*” <sup>13</sup>When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

## CHILDREN'S BLESSING (9:00 AM)

Children (aged 3 years through 5<sup>th</sup> 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 Roynesdal

(stand)

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"*

ELW 517

(sit)

## HOLY BAPTISM

Pastor Hall  
See page 227

*Because Baptism is a worship experience, please do not take flash photos during the service. Photos may be taken after the service.*

## 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 La-Day, friend of Nancy Meyer; to the family and friends of Dorothy Boesenberg, grandmother of Dulcinea Boesenberg

**Thanksgiving:** for the baptism of Isabelle Jo Hansen and Annalise Mae Hansen, daughters of Matthew and Megan; for the baptism of Effie Viola Corona, daughter of Melody and Antonio

**Illness:** Don Burton, Ralph Diggins, Rev. Harry Fink, father of Stacy Martin, Jr. Green, Dolores Hiatt, Alan Larsen, Chris Meyer, son of Lynn and Nancy Meyer, Joan Nelson, David Penning, Bob Ringo, Gary Rodene, Dorothy Stanzel, Sheri Tipton, Marlys Thomas, Merlyn Ulrich, Ed & Darlene White, Carole Woodworth

**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

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 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 Walked Today Where Jesus Walked”

Ohara

## THE TABLE IS PREPARED

(stand)

## OFFERTORY HYMN

A musical score for an offertory hymn, consisting of four systems of music. Each system includes a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re - new a right spir - it with - in me. . Cast me not a - way from thy pres - ence: and take not thy Ho - ly".

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God: and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me. . Cast me not a -  
way from thy pres - ence: and take not thy Ho - ly

Spir - it from me, Re - store un - to me the joy of  
thy sal - va - tion: and up - hold me with thy free Spir - it.

## OFFERING PRAYER

**P** Generous God,

**C** you feed us with the harvest of the land, and you provide for our every need. Receive our gifts of money, imagination, and labor, and transform them into a feast that welcomes all, in Jesus Christ, our host and our guest. 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 LENT

## SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
heav'n 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.

## 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** Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

**C** **Lord, I am not worthy to receive you but only say the word and I shall be healed.**

## 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

*"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"*  
*"If You but Trust in God to Guide You"*  
*"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"*

**ELW 325**  
**ELW 769**  
**ELW 742**

(stand)

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*"The Nunc Dimittis"*



Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has  
been ful - filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion  
which you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:  
a light to re - veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your  
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son,  
and to the Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning,  
is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

# SENDING

## BLESSING

- ☞ Almighty God the Father, who fills the creation with abundance, Jesus Christ, who spreads his arms in forgiveness, and the Holy Spirit, who draws ever near to us, + bless you and bring you to life everlasting.

## THREE-FOLD AMEN

## HYMN

*“O Lord, throughout These Forty Days”*

**ELW 319**

## DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace. Serve Jesus Christ.  
☛ **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.	Lee Johnson
	Kevin Larkowski
	Adam Klinker
Lector	Paul Rath
Ushers	Glenn Anderson
	Dan Collett
	Ted Kaasch
	Mark Mahaffey
	Gary Westerman
	Bob Woodworth
	Marcy Madison
Greeters	Sharon Anderson
	Carole Meilahn
	Karen Wolf
Crucifer	Britten Johnson
Acolytes	Rahn Johnson
	Kaitlyn Munquia

### SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Lowell Harms
Lector	Kay Wise
Ushers	Adam Klinker
	Linda Hoagland
	Julie O'Doherty
Greeters	Julie King
Crucifer	Torin Edwards
Acolytes	Hadley Rief
	Henry Rief



# KOUNTZE

## Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street  
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131  
[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

**March 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:** What Is Private Confession? **NEXT WEEK:** No Forum

**BAPTISM SEMINAR** This Sunday, March 10, 12:15 PM (immediately following 11:00 AM service). Meet with Pr. Hall in the Nave immediately after the liturgy, and then he will walk through the baptism liturgy

## CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES TODAY

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** Join us each Sunday on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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—8<sup>th</sup> 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—5<sup>th</sup> grade) who want to praise our Lord by singing, meet in the Joyful Sounds Studio on the 2<sup>nd</sup> 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.

March 10 Broadcast Journalism—**Sarah Fili**, TV News Reporter, KETV

*(Continued on page 2)*

**March 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-8<sup>th</sup> gr)  
 12:00 PM Book Group  
 12:15 PM Baptism Seminar

**March 11 Monday**

10:00 AM Pantry

**March 12 Tuesday**

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

**March 13 Wednesday**

9:00 AM Sewing Group  
 11:00 AM Lenten Lunch  
 12:15 PM Worship  
 5:45 PM Lenten Dinner  
 7:00 PM Worship

**March 14 Thursday**

Council Reports Due

9:30 AM WELCA Board Meeting  
 11:30 AM Property Committee  
 4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic  
 4:30 PM Scholarship Committee

**March 15 Friday**

Good News Deadline

**March 16 Saturday**

9:30 AM Women's Prayer Group  
 March 16 Saturday  
 5:00 PM Worship

**March 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)  
 9:00 AM 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-8<sup>th</sup> gr)  
 10:30 AM Executive Committee  
 12:15 PM New Member Class

**TODAY AT KOUNTZE** *(continued from page 1)*

March 17	Pharmacology— <b>Larry Camenzind</b>
March 24	Information Technology or Computer Programming —Speaker TBD
March 31	Food Industry—Speaker TBD

**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 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.

**KMLC MEN'S LUNCHEON** Thursday, March 21, 11:30 AM (Please RSVP by March 19). Please join us at Kountze Memorial for the Men's Luncheon. We will have a presentation from ENOA (Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging). Mary Ann Eusebio, who is their Division Director; Information & Assistance/ADRC Program Coordinator, will share with us their different programs that help seniors in our communities. Please RSVP to the church office by Tuesday March 19 or to jim@kmlchurch.org

**LUTHERAN YOUTH CHOIR OF THE OMAHA AREA** Join this new creative, spiritual, musical, joyful, soulful, vibrant ensemble in sharing the Good News of God's abundant Love! This ensemble welcomes Middle School/High School singers and instrumentalists from all denominations. Join us as we Sing a New Song to the Lord! Rehearsals are March 24, April 7, 10, 28, and May 25 with the concert on May 29 at Kountze Memorial. Please email to let us know that you will joining us!!

**ORDER OF SAINT JOHN COMMISSIONING AND APPRECIATION LUNCH** Sunday, March 31.

Commissioning: 11:00 AM Worship Service Luncheon: 12:15 PM in the Fellowship Hall Cost: Free. The OSJ Sponsors are hosting an appreciation luncheon for all current OSJ members, alums, and parents. Acolytes will take part in a special commissioning during the 11:00 AM worship service. Then, we will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 12:15 PM for an appreciation luncheon and present the 2019 Outstanding Acolyte Award. A group photo will also be taken. Please plan to attend this event as we honor all those who serve in this very meaningful ministry. Make your reservations by calling or texting Jeff and Robin Perkins at 402-917-2461 by Sunday, March 24.

**FIRST COMMUNION CLASS** An introduction to Holy Communion for those children and youth receiving their First Communion on Maundy Thursday, will be held in a two-part session, on Sundays, March 31 & April 7 from 12:15-1:00 PM. More details to follow. Please register with the church office. For more information, contact Pr. Hall or Kristin Boe.

**LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE** On March 3, powerful tornadoes hit Alabama, Georgia and Florida, causing widespread destruction. At least 23 people have died in Lee County, Ala., and others are still unaccounted for. More than 1,000 homes have been damaged, and thousands of people have lost power. Lutheran Disaster Response is working with those in the impacted states, including partnering with congregations in the Southeastern Synod to respond with immediate relief. Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response designated for "U.S. tornadoes" will be used to help those affected by tornadoes until the response is complete. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support. If you would like to give to Lutheran Disaster Response, you can make your check out to Kountze and we'll direct it to Lutheran Disaster Response or send directly to Lutheran Disaster Response at Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gift Processing Center P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009. Please write "U.S. tornadoes" or "Where needed most" on your check's memo line.



**LENT AT KOUNTZE**

Wednesdays: March 13, 20, 27,  
April 3, 10 and Thursday,  
April 18 (Maundy Thursday)  
Lunch: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Dinner: 5:45 -6:45 PM  
Worship: 12:15 PM and 7:00 PM  
Cost: Free-will Offering

All KMLC children, youth, friends, and families are invited to join us for lunch and/or dinner Wednesdays during Lent. Come and celebrate your Lenten journey at Kountze Memorial this year! **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED** to help prepare the meals. If you can help for one or more meals, please speak with Marlys or Pastor Olaf.

**MENU FOR MARCH 13**

Tex-Mex Bar—Enjoy chicken or beef enchiladas, nachos, tacos, or salad and dessert!  
Come hungry and join us!

***We have the Spirit, yes we do! We have the Spirit, how about you?***

This play on words with the popular cheer reminds us of our Nebraska Synod's 2019 Lenten Theme, We are Church Together. The Holy Spirit uses us all in ways we haven't dreamed or imagined to be the Church Together.

Since one of the goals is to unite congregations across the Nebraska Synod in common conversation during Lent 2019. It is a wonderful opportunity for us as individual disciples and as a congregation (together with the rest of the Synod) to explore what it means that we are the Church Together.

The schedule of Wednesday topics will be:

- March 13: "Gathered by the Holy Spirit"
- March 20: "Shaped by Word and Sacrament"
- March 27: "Diversity and Challenges"
- April 3: "Joys and Burdens"
- April 10: "We Are Connected"

**ATTENDANCE & GIVING**

**Saturday Attendance:** 30  
**Sunday Attendance:** 9:00: 180 11:00: 83  
**Midweek - Noon:** 98 **Evening:** 165  
**Total:** 556  
**Pantry Guests Served:** 300  
**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 21  
**Offering:**  
 \$28,081.04 (Regular) \$4,027.39 (Specials)  
 \$3,112.00 (Phase 2)

*Jesus speaks God's word faithfully.*

Sunday	Luke 4:1-13	The temptation of Jesus
Monday	Deuteronomy 26:1-11	A confession of faith
Tuesday	Romans 10:8b-13	Salvation is for all
Wednesday	Zechariah 3:1-10	The Lord clothes Joshua
Thursday	1 John 2:1-6	Christ helps us
Friday	Job 1:1-22	Job and his family
Saturday	Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16	The Lord is my fortress
Sunday	Luke 13:31-35	Jesus' sorrow over Jerusalem



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Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow and edited by Vibrant Faith Ministries.

**A Prayer for the Week:**

Dear God of truth, your word is true and in you only can we trust. Thank you for Jesus, the one whose trust in you is our hope and salvation. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

We thank you for this gift of food to satisfy us and to remind us of your care and saving presence. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May the Lord your God be with you in times of trouble and rescue you and honor you all the days of your life. (Psalm 91:15)

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

- What does it mean to be a good listener?
- What gets in the way of good listening?
- In Luke 4, the devil valued himself at the center of the universe. Jesus places God at the center. When we see ourselves as the most important part of a conversation, how does that influence how we listen to others?

*Read:* Luke 4:1-13.

This story is often called the “Temptation of Jesus.” That description focuses on Jesus’ ability to resist sin. However, the Hebrew word for “tempted” can also be translated as “tested.” This other translation is helpful since the story is more about testing Jesus to see what kind of messiah he plans to be, one who seeks personal power and prestige, or one who is faithful to the God of the Bible. When the focus is on temptation, we can easily miss how we, like the devil, can try to change Jesus into someone who serves our desires for personal importance. Both Jesus and the devil quote Scripture. We can use the Bible and our faith in unfaithful ways. Part of our sinfulness is to make Jesus into someone who serves our desires instead of the one who points us to worship and trust God to take care of our real needs. Think about or discuss how Jesus is our Savior by overcoming evil and idolatry (desire for personal power and glory) and by placing his trust in God.

*Pray:* **Dear God, we thank you that Jesus speaks your word faithfully; help us to listen to your word and trust in you. Amen.**

**SERVICE**

Romans 10:8b states, “ ‘The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart’ (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim).” Confessing faith in the Lord not only assures you of your salvation, but is a source of proclamation so that others may be encouraged to have faith in Christ. The Reformation theme of the priesthood of all believers includes our calling to tell others of the good news of Jesus Christ. Use your voice this week to affirm faith in Jesus. It may be as simple as a table grace, nighttime prayer, or blessing given to a family member or friend.

**RITUALS AND TRADITIONS**

During the forty days of Lent we do not hear the word “Alleluia” spoken or sung during worship. We reflect on repentance and what it means. In Luke 4, Jesus is led by the Spirit to go into the desert for a time of spiritual reflection. Time for spiritual reflection and devotions is a traditional part of the Christian life. Commit to a regular time in your home during Lent when you can read scripture and pray. Place this Taking Faith Home bulletin on a table where you can easily use it to do a portion of it each day.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Psalm 27  
Philippians 3:17-4:1; Luke 13:31-35