

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

July 07, 2019

9:00 & 11:00 AM

FOURTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



God is the source of our nourishment. Our Lord's invitation to "take and eat ... take and drink" is a repeated one. In the Lord's supper, in the word read and proclaimed, in the assembly of the people of God, the dominion of God has come near. Rejoice! Your name is written in heaven.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

P Seeking reconciliation with God and neighbor, let us remember the gift of baptism and confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P God of mercy,

C we confess that we have sinned against you,
against one another,
and against the earth entrusted to our care.

We are worried and distracted by many things,
and we fail to love you above all else.

We store up treasures for ourselves
and turn away from our neighbors in need.

Forgive us, that we may live in the freedom of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P When we were laid low by sin and guilt, God made us alive together with Christ, forgiving us † all our trespasses by taking our sins to the cross. For freedom Christ has set us free: Rejoice in this good news!

C Amen.

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Gracious God, the Father of our Lord Jesus,
- C** you are the city that shelters us, the mother who comforts us. With your Spirit accompany us on our life’s journey, that we will spread your peace in all the world, through your Son Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Isaiah 66:10-14

Those who returned from the exile found that the hopes for the glorious restoration of Judah were not completely fulfilled. For these disappointed people, the prophet envisions salvation in the image of a nursing woman. Mother Jerusalem and a mothering God remind the community how they are sustained and supported.

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her — ¹¹that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast; that you may drink deeply with delight from her glorious bosom. ¹²For thus says the LORD: I will extend prosperity to her like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm, and dandled on her knees. ¹³As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem. ¹⁴You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bodies shall flourish like the grass; and it shall be known that the hand of the LORD is with his servants, and his indignation is against his enemies.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 66:1-9 (*read responsively*)

¹Be joyful in God, all you lands; be joyful, all the earth.

²**Sing the glory of God's name; sing the glory of God's praise.**

³Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!

Because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.

⁴**All the earth bows down before you,
sings to you, sings out your name."**

⁵Come now and see the works of God,
how awesome are God's deeds toward all people.

⁶**God turned the sea into dry land,
so that they went through the water on foot,
and there we rejoiced in God.**

⁷Ruling forever in might, God keeps watch over the nations;
let no rebels exalt themselves.

⁸**Bless our God, you peoples; let the sound of praise be heard.**

⁹Our God has kept us among the living
and has not allowed our feet to slip.

SECOND READING

Galatians 6:1-16

In the close of his letter to the Galatians, Paul encourages them to live as people made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ. Here Paul offers practical advice about how believers exercise common concern for one other in "the family of faith."

My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. ²Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. ³For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. ⁴All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. ⁵For all must carry their own loads.

⁶Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.

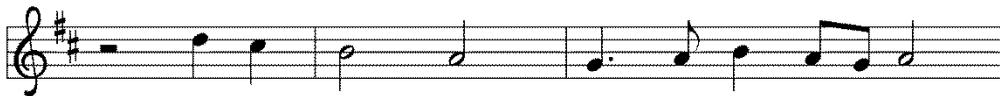
⁷Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

¹¹See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! ¹²It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised — only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. ¹⁴May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! ¹⁶As for those who will follow this rule — peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

G Glory to you, O Lord!

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 10:1-11,16-20

Jesus commissions harvesters and laborers to go where he would go and do what he would do. Risking hardship and danger in exchange for the experience of great joy, they offer peace and healing as signs that the reign of God is near.

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ²He said to them, *"The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. ⁵Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' ⁶And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. ⁷Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' ¹⁰But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say ¹¹'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.'* ...

¹⁶*Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me."*

¹⁷*The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!"*
¹⁸*Jesus said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."*

P The Gospel of the Lord.

G Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN'S BLESSING (9:00 AM)

Children (aged 3 years through 5th grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, they may either follow the teacher upstairs for an extended children's sermon (joining us again later in time for Communion) or they may return to their seat and use the Spark Bible and/or activity bags during the regular sermon.

SERMON

Pastor Roynesdal

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

"O Zion Haste"

ELW 668

THE APOSTLES' CREED

- P** God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- C** **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:** **P** Lord, in your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

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

Illness: the Barber family, Richard Bock, Don Burton, Ralph Diggins, Joe Doremus, Rev. Harry Fink, Junior & Marvel Green, Eunice Grunberg, Dolores Hiatt, Mae Johnston, Marcie Lafleur, Joan Nelson, Jean Nippert, Gary Rodene, Merlyn Ulrich, Marilyn Van Bibber, 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; the Wittenberg Center and Dan & Ginny Rath, international translators

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

“The Lord Reigns”

Eugene Butler

Jon Anderson, *baritone*

Annette White, *pianist*

THE TABLE IS PREPARED

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

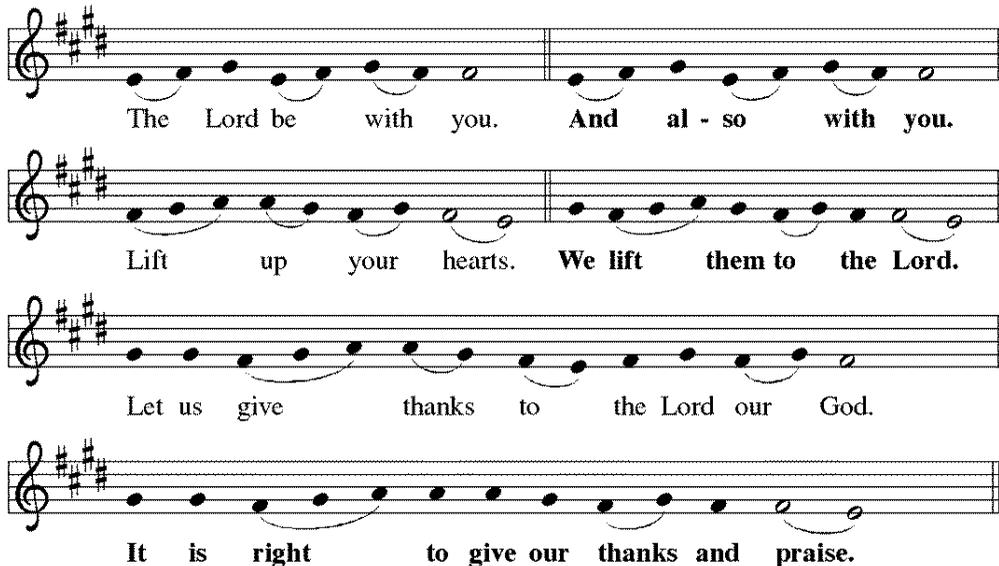
ELW 184

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.

OFFERING PRAYER

- P** Blessed are you, Lord God,
C for the greening earth given for all, for the talents we are given to share, and for this bread and wine. Transform us to be the body of Jesus Christ, that, feasting on this food and drink, our lives will reflect your generosity; through Christ our 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 SUNDAYS

SANCTUS



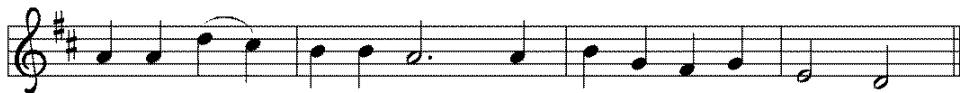
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



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 God invites you to this table of bounty.

C **Come, the banquet is ready.**

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

“When I survey the Wondrous Cross”
“Jesus, keep Me Near the Cross”

ELW 803
ELW 335

(stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Gracious God,

C in this holy communion you have welcomed us into your presence, nourished us with words of mercy, and fed us at your table. Amid the cares of this life, strengthen us to love you with all our heart, serve our neighbors with a willing spirit, and honor the earth you have made; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P Live your lives in Christ, rooted and built up in him, and abound in thanksgiving; and the blessing of the holy Trinity, † one God, be upon you and remain with you forever.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

HYMN

“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

ELW 888

DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. Christ is sending you.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

† † †

The Kingdom Comes

A man experiencing homelessness enters the church on Sunday morning, and the pastor greets him. As though to provide some sort of evidence that he deserves to be there, the man reaches into his wallet and hands her a yellowed, worn-out-from-folding piece of paper. The pastor's eyes move from the man to the paper, and she reads, "Certificate of Perfect Sunday School Attendance at First Lutheran Church." It is his most prized possession, carried through every crisis on a difficult journey.

Decades before, Sunday school teachers in the classrooms of First Lutheran Church had loved and served a little boy. Planning lessons on Saturday evenings, teaching him stories and songs about God's love each Sunday morning, they planted in him a sense of belonging, of being beloved by God. The kingdom work they started in that little boy still stirs in him as he crosses the threshold of a church and reaches into his wallet, handing his certificate to the pastor.

When Jesus sends the seventy out to proclaim the good news of God in every town, he makes it clear that whether they are welcomed or rejected, they are to say plainly that "the kingdom of God has come near" (Luke 10:9). As we move about our lives, we are called to love and serve where we are, trusting that when we leave, the Spirit remains.

The work of the Spirit is not finished when we leave a place. The in-breaking of the kingdom does not depend on our remaining or being present to continue the work. God will keep breathing life into people long after we have moved on, maybe even years after Sunday school teachers have awarded stars and certificates. The love we offer and the stories and songs we teach are just some of the ways we declare that the kingdom of God has come near. The Spirit moves, and we get to participate!

Love. Serve. Proclaim the good news: The kingdom of God has come near!

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 |
| Noni Cambridge | 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 |
| Mark Jones | Organist |
| David Gerard | Saturday Accompanist |
| Sheri Lynn Tipton | Night Security Manager |
| Norma Pafford | Nursery Superintendent |
| Joyce Palmer | Director of the Weber Clinic |
| Susann Henry | Food Pantry Director |

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM

| | |
|--------------|---------------------------------|
| Lector | Kathy Englert |
| Ushers | Kathy Englert Theresa Gruber |
| Comm. Set-up | Donna Reinig |

SUNDAY, 9:00 AM

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| Comm. Asst. | Jill Gittler |
|-------------|--------------|

| | |
|----------------------|---|
| Lector | Karen Fannin |
| Ushers | Jeff Perkins Jim Comfort Joe Councill Dave Forrest John Georgeson Fred Wachal Chad Wachholtz Janice Falk |
| Greeters | Vickie Wichert Darlene Anderson Jinette Cswercko |
| Crucifer Acolytes | Britten Johnson Rahn Johnson John Groenjes |

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

| | |
|----------------------|--|
| Comm. Asst. | Deb Hinrichs Norm Sack |
| Lector | Lisa Chinn |
| Ushers | Julie O'Doherty Linda Hoagland Adam Klinker |
| Greeters | Myrna Carter |
| Crucifer Acolytes | Charlie Campbell Rachel Stouffer Communion Assistant |



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

July 6 & 7, 2019

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

THANK YOU to Bruce Nissen for playing organ this weekend while Mark Jones is away.

KOUNTZE CAFÉ Join us each Sunday for a hot breakfast buffet served from 8-11 AM prepared by Jim West and the 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:** No Forum **NEXT WEEK:** Compassion International with Pam Johnson

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by Marge Bock in memory of loved ones.

ETERNAL CANDLE is given in honor of our children, Rolf & Rachel's 25th Wedding Anniversary given by Albert & Ilse Grage.



UPDATE



If you did not order photos, your free 8 x 10 may have been delivered to the church. Check the Welcome Desk to see if yours has been delivered.

July 7 Sunday

Homebound Communion
 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast
 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
 9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

July 8 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

July 9 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
 11:00 AM Devotions @ deFreese Manor

July 10 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group
 10:00 AM Kountze Commons Art Committee
 12:15 PM Worship

July 11 Thursday

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

July 13 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

July 14 Sunday

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast
 9:00 AM & 11 AM Worship
 9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
 10:10 AM Adult Forum
 10:30 AM Executive Committee
 12:00 PM Book Group

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 September 15 & 22 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 by Sunday, September 8 and let us know if you will need childcare when you register.

KOUNTZE FOOD PANTRY With July upon us the time for vacations has arrived, at least for the Pantry volunteers. Unfortunately, most of our guests do not get a break. Having an adequate number of volunteers is essential to the Food Pantry operation, and allows us to serve over 400 guests per week. If you can sign-up for a shift, your service would be greatly appreciated. Pantry is open every Monday. You can choose between 9:00—11:00 AM, or 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, or both. You do not need to have prior experience, just a willingness to put faith into action! Sign-up book is located in Meeting room A of the Fellowship Hall.

SEWING GROUP Our sewing group meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (July 10) at 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM or however long you can stay. The group sews quilts for Lutheran World Relief. Even if you can't sew, you can still help. The quilts are not quilted but are tied, so if you can tie a knot, you can help! Bring a sack lunch and join the ladies for fun, fellowship, and service.

BOOK GROUP Sunday, July 14 at 12:00 PM. July's book is "Lilian Boxfish Takes a Walk" by Kathleen Rooney. Join us for a discussion of this book. The novel's present time is New Years Eve 1984. Lillian Boxfish reminisces about her past on a walk through New York. Throughout the novel the narrative shifts back and forth in time. She remembers her job at Macy's in the 1930s to the present about her family. Join us and Lillian on her walk through New York!

PRAYER SHAWL GROUP This group meets on the 3rd Tuesday of each month (July 16) to knit or crochet prayer shawls. The Prayer Shawl Ministry is a world-wide group of people in churches of all denominations that make prayer shawls. These shawls are distributed to people who need the comfort of God's love. The purpose of the prayer shawl is to give someone a tangible example of God's love and care. If you knit or crochet, please feel free to join the group in their ministry.

STEPHEN MINISTRY meets on the 4th Sunday of each month at noon. What does Stephen Ministry provide? Someone who cares, supports, listens, shares. Who can benefit? Anyone going through difficult times who needs someone to care, listen, and share God's love with them on a one-to-one confidential basis. Want to know more? Contact Donna Reinig (402-558-6352), or one of our pastors.

CAROL JOY HOLLING 31ST ANNUAL QUILT AUCTION Saturday, July 27, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM. Join in this exciting day at Carol Joy Holling Camp on July 27 for our 31st Annual Quilt Auction! The day promises good food, great fun and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of Carol Joy Holling Camp. The auction and barbecue lunch will be held rain or shine. (We will use the Town Hall in case of rain.) Bring your friends and families! Kountze has donated several quilts to the auction. Be sure to check them out online at <http://cjh2019.piecd.com/index.cfm>

TIP TOP THRIFT SHOP NEEDS VOLUNTEERS The Tip Top Thrift Shop supports the Youth Emergency Services program and is their largest fundraiser. In order to continue this support, community volunteers are needed. The Thrift shop is located at 5910 Maple Street in Benson and needs volunteer workers on Tuesdays, thru Saturdays. There are three and six-hour shifts available. These shifts are 10 AM—1 PM, 1 PM—4 PM, or 10 AM—4 PM. If you are interested in helping at the Thrift Shop, stop in and fill out a volunteer application. If you have questions, call 402-680-2842.



CAROL JOY HOLLING CAMP EVENTS

40TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION on Saturday, July 13. Enjoy old and new camp activities like archery, zip line, making friends, boating, and much more from 10:00 AM until 4:00 PM. We will end the day with a community worship service at 4:00 PM. All those who register at CarolJoyHolling.org/anniversary before June 26 will receive an exclusive 40th Anniversary cuppie.

ANNUAL QUILT AUCTION will be held on Saturday, July 27. We want friends like you to come and support CJH Camp programs through this event. The 350+ quilts will be on display and the silent auction starts at 9:00 AM. The live auction starts at 9:30 AM.

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

Saturday Attendance: 37

Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 191 11:00: 88

Midweek - Noon: 7

Total: 323

Pantry Guests Served: 363

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 30

Offering:

\$9,648.50 (Regular) \$1,805.66 (Specials)

\$1,381.00 (Phase 2)

Vacation Bible School!

Who: All members of Kountze are welcome. There will be activities for everybody! (Children must be accompanied by an adult.)

What: Worship, singing, crafts, service, fellowship, and more.

When: Friday, July 19, 6:00 to 8:00
Saturday, July 20, 9:00 to noon.

Where: Kountze Fellowship Hall

Dinner will be served Friday evening and a Continental breakfast served in the morning.

RSVP to the church office by calling 402-341-7761, or email Kristin Boe at Kristin@kmlchurch.org.

Care for others with gentleness.

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

| | | |
|-----------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Sunday | Luke 10:1-11, 16-20 | Jesus sends out the seventy |
| Monday | Isaiah 66:10-14 | God helps Jerusalem |
| Tuesday | Galatians 6:1-16 | Help each other |
| Wednesday | Proverbs 5:1-8 | The Lord sees everything |
| Thursday | 1 Peter 5:1-7 | Tending the flock of God |
| Friday | Titus 3:1-8 | Doing helpful things |
| Saturday | Psalm 66:1-9 | Shout praises to God |
| Sunday | Luke 10:25-37 | The good Samaritan |



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Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow and edited by Vibrant Faith Ministries.
Go to www.vibrantfaithathome.org for more faith-forming activities.

My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. **Galatians 6:1 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Merciful God, just as you have cared for us, help us to care for one another with gentleness, mercy, and peace. In Jesus name, amen.

Mealtimes Prayer:

You have blessed us, O God, with food to savor. Send us forth, your fields to labor. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Almighty God strengthen you with gentleness, peace, and mercy.

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

- If someone does something wrong to you, how do you respond to them?
- What is an example of caring for others with gentleness?
- Part of the mission of the church is to care for those already part of the church. How do those who are part of the church need your care?

Read: Galatians 6:1-16.

Luke 10 speaks of a mission to those who have not received the message of the kingdom Jesus brings. Galatians 6 speaks to how that same message of Jesus shapes the life within the body of Christ, the church. There is an important mission to care for those who have already received the Holy Spirit and are part of the “family of faith” (v. 10). It is important—but not easy—to give and to receive care that includes a need for correction. We are to do so with gentleness, not forgetting our temptations to sin (v. 15). The “law of Christ” (v. 2) is to carry another’s burdens. As the Lord is our Good Shepherd, we are to shepherd one another in all humility as part of the “new creation” (v. 15). To follow this rule or principle is to share peace and mercy with others (v. 16). When has someone gently and lovingly given you important correction and guidance in the Christian faith? How have you tried to offer that same gentle and loving care to others?

Pray: **Almighty God, thank you for your care and loving guidance. Help us to provide that same gentle and loving care to others. Amen.**

The theme of comfort and caring for others runs through the scripture readings for this week. In Isaiah 66:10-14, Galatians 6:1-6, and Titus 3:1-8 the words gentle, courtesy, care, and comfort appear. There are many who need gentle care, the courtesy of a helpful hand, the care of a loving act of kindness, and the comfort of a warm meal or clothing. Where in your own community do you see a need for this theme to become a reality? What can you do to help?

The congregation is a place of worship, the home is too. “Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise” (Psalm 66:1-2). How do you make a joyful noise and sing praise to God in your home? Choose a favorite hymn of praise and make up hand signs or use sign language for key words. Sing it while using the hand signs as a way to remember the words of praise this week as you worship in your home.

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS: Deuteronomy 30:9-14; Psalm 25:1-10
Colossians 1:1-14; Luke 10:25-37