

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
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www.kmlchurch.org

August 4, 2019

9:00 & 11:00 AM

EIGHTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



Today's texts offer instructions and encouragement for all who are occasionally overwhelmed by the "unhappy business" of life. Jesus urges us to take care and be on guard against all kinds of greed. We who have died with Christ in holy baptism have also been raised with him and are encouraged to elevate our thinking, seeking the "things that are above." To that end we seek the sustenance of the Lord's Supper and the encouragement of God's word.

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.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

ELW 705

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 Benevolent God,

C you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. ...

¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind. ...

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹—and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 49:1-12 (*read responsively*)

¹Hear this, all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell in the world,
²**you of high degree and low,
rich and poor together.**

³My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.

⁴**I will incline my ear to a proverb
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

⁵Why should I be afraid in evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,

⁶**the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess,
and boast of their great riches?**

⁷One can never redeem another,
or give to God the ransom for another's life;

⁸**for the ransom of a life is so great
that there would never be enough to pay it,**

⁹in order to live forever and ever
and never see the grave.

¹⁰**For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**

¹¹Their graves shall be their homes forever,
their dwelling places from generation to generation,
though they had named lands after themselves.

¹²**Even though honored, they cannot live forever;
they are like the beasts that perish.**

SECOND READING

Colossians 3:1-11

Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes in order to put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God's love in Christ.

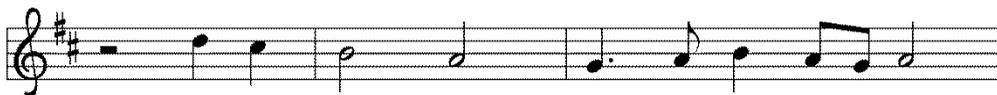
So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

☞ 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.

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord!**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 12:13-21

In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against indentifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵And Jesus said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.' ²⁰But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God."

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

(sit)

CHILDREN'S BLESSING (9:00 AM)

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

SERMON

Pastor Roynesdal

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Take My Life, That I May Be”

ELW 685

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.**

(stand)

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 Bill Christensen

Illness: Richard Bock, Don Burton, Joe Doremus, Rev. Harry Fink, Junior & Marvel Green, Eunice Grunberg, Dolores Hiatt, Mae Johnston, Marcie Lafleur, Joan Nelson, Jean Nippert, Gary Rodene, Jerry Warner, family of Shirley Dietrich, Ed & Darlene White,

Other Prayers: *Those serving in the military* – Amy Dyer, Brennan Hron, Wyatt Johnson, 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

FAREWELL AND GODSPEED (9:00am)

- ☐ Adam and JoDee, William, Henry and Mary, as you leave Kountze Memorial to serve at Augustana Lutheran Church in Genoa, Nebraska we wish to bid you farewell and Godspeed.

A reading from Exodus: The LORD said, "I am going to send an angel in front of you, to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared." (*Exodus 23:20*)

A reading from Isaiah: Thus says the LORD, who created you, O Jacob, who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. (*Isaiah 43:1-3*)

- ☐ In holy baptism our Lord Jesus Christ received you and made you members of his church. When you came to this congregation we rejoiced to welcome you into the mission we share as the people of God. In this community you have come to know and to share in God's loving purpose for you and for all creation. God has blessed you in this community, and God has blessed us through you.
- ☐ We encourage you to continue to receive and share God's gifts at Augustana Lutheran Church in Genoa, united with us in the body of Christ and the mission we share. We will keep you in prayer as you serve and complete your studies for ordained ministry.

☐ Gracious God,

- ☑ **We thank you for the work and witness of your servants Adam, JoDee, William, Henry and Mary, who have enriched our congregation and shared their gifts with us. Now bless and preserve them at this time of transition. Day by day, guide them and give them what is needed, friends to cheer their way, and a clear vision of that to which you are now calling them. By your Holy Spirit be present in their pilgrimage, that they may travel with the one who is the way, the truth and the life, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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

“Jesus, Lover of my Soul”

Joseph M. Martin
Paul Rath, *soloist*

THE TABLE IS PREPARED

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

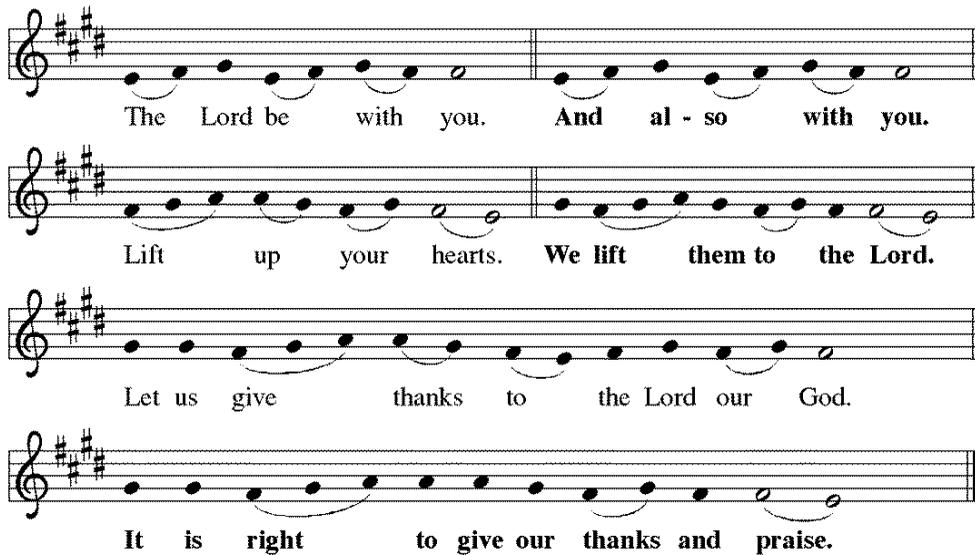
ELW 184

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.

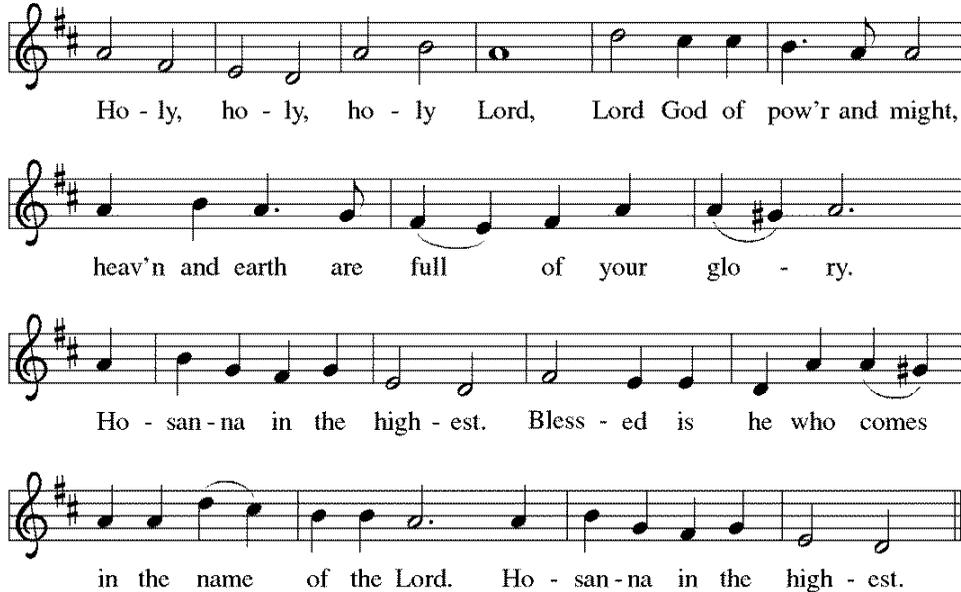
HOLY COMMUNION



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

"Blessed Assurance"

ELW 638

"In Christ There is No East or West"

ELW 650

(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

DISMISSAL OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

BLESSING

- ☐ 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

“God, Whose Gving Knows No Ending”

ELW 678

DISMISSAL

- ☐ Go in peace. Christ is sending you.
☑ **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
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.	Mark Oldaker Marylin Oldaker Jill Gittler Susie Henry Liz Pemberton
Lector	Rick Kolkman
Ushers	Rodney Nord Donna Crouse Brad Madison Dan Troxel Sharon West Dean Winther Bob Johnson
Greeters	Bev Troxel Lois Sorensen Colleen Lenner
Crucifer Acolytes	Carter Waccholtz John Groenjes Kaitlyn Munguia

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Ann Miller Lowell Harms
Lector	Ruth Pera
Ushers	Norm Sack Ken Johnson Linda Johnson Lee Johnson
Greeters	Barb Chrisman Jo Kayton
Crucifer Acolytes	Charlie Campbell Hadley Rief Henry Rief



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

August 3 & 4, 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

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 Program; Fellowship Time and Farewell to the Klinker **NEXT WEEK:** RISE with Jeremy Bouman

THE KLINKER FAMILY IS MOVING TO GENOA! This Sunday, August 4, come say "Farewell and Godspeed" to the Klinker Family. As part of the next stage in his process toward ordination, Adam Klinker is being assigned by the synod to Augustana Lutheran Church in Genoa, Nebraska. He will be authorized to preach and preside in that community from one to three years as part of his contextual education while he also continues seminary course work. Adam, JoDee, William, Henry, and MaryJo will be moving into the parsonage in early August. We will send them forth with our blessing and continue to pray for them in the journey ahead. They will be missed at Kountze! Adam's assignment in Genoa is something of a "homecoming," as his grandfather was the town doctor there. You may also know that The Rev. Tom Holcomb served at Augustana in Genoa for many years.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God in memory of David Carlsen, given by Barb Carlsen

ETERNAL CANDLE is given to the glory of God in honor of our 64th wedding anniversary, given by Dean & Darlene Anderson

August 4 Sunday

Homebound Communion
 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

August 5 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry
 5:30 PM Congregational Life Meeting

August 6 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
 12:00 PM Yesterday's Youth

August 7 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

August 8 Thursday

11:30 AM Property Committee
 4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

August 10 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

August 11 Sunday

Blessing of Backpacks
 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
 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 Sundays, September 29 & October 6 from 12:15—2:00 PM. Please plan to attend both sessions. Lunch will be served and childcare is provided. New members will be received on October 13. Please indicate your attendance plans on your attendance card or call the church office by September 22 and let us know if you will need childcare when you register.

KOUNTZE FOOD PANTRY The Food Pantry is experiencing record numbers; so much so that the faithful volunteers are exhausted. Please consider helping on Monday mornings. We can really use people to set up before the pantry opens at 10:00 AM, and we have great need of door monitors from 11:00 AM—1:00 PM. These volunteers control the flow of traffic and assist guests with carrying their bags to their cars. Please contact Susie Henry at 402-596-9397 if you would like to get involved. We would love to have you!

YESTERDAY'S YOUTH Please join us for a delightful musical program on Tuesday, August 6, 12:00 PM with the very talented Kountze member, Nicole Campbell. A delicious lunch will be served. The cost for lunch is \$4. All ages welcome. This is certain to be a lovely afternoon! **Please RSVP to the church office no later than Friday, August 2.** If you have any questions, please call Sheri Tipton (402-415-6033). We're looking forward to seeing everyone there!

SAVE THE DATE—YESTERDAY'S YOUTH IN SEPTEMBER Thursday, September 12* (time TBD). All ages welcome. Please join us for a spectacular opportunity! We will be going to Camp Carol Joy Holling for fun and relaxation. We will travel by bus /(car if needed). Our day will include: •Bus tour of the beautiful campus, •Buffet lunch at the lovely Swanson Center (cost \$10.50), •A fun craft with the camp counselors, •Fishing and swimming, and •Fellowship, relaxing, and observing the beauty of the scenic lake and surrounding area. We

will depart from camp at 4:00 PM. Your non-refundable payment for lunch is due at the time of sign-up. You won't want to miss out on this memorable experience. Please note: sign-up deadline is Friday, August 16 – no exceptions! *Please note date change for Yesterday's Youth.

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! The children of Kountze are in need of your leadership, enthusiasm, and time. We are looking for volunteers in the pre-school room on the 2nd, 3rd, and 5th Sundays of the month, between 9:00 and 10:50 AM. Sunday School leaders are also needed. We are looking for a commitment of one Sunday each month for the school year. The lessons are scripted and all the materials are provided ahead of time. Sunday School is from 10:10 to 10:50 AM. Thank you for considering giving your time to the children of Kountze. No matter what your experience or expertise, we have a spot for you! To join our program, please contact Kristin Boe at kristin@kmlchurch.org.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS We are sending our teachers and students back to school with prayers and blessings. We welcome students and teachers of all ages to bring their backpacks, book bags, or briefcases to church on Sunday, August 11. Let's begin the new school year in prayer to celebrate God's gift of learning and bless those in their academic endeavors. In addition, we will have a **school supply drive for schools in the community**. Please bring notebooks, pens, pencils, rulers, glue, crayons, markers, colored pencils, and folders to church and place them in the bins provided. With a few supplies we can show the love of Jesus and help area youth begin the school year with confidence.

KMLC MEN'S LUNCHEON Thursday, August 15, 11:30 AM. At Kountze Memorial. The Kountze men's luncheon is held the third Thursday of every month at 11:30 AM. Suggested donation is \$10.00. Please RSVP to the church office by Tuesday, August 13.

RALLY SUNDAY August 18, 2019, 9:00 service. The 2019/2020 Sunday School year begins August 18! Join us for prayers and a procession to the Upper Rooms for a blessing on our new year. In this Sunday School year, we will be focusing on the Scared Stories of the Bible. A Sacred Story is one in which God has the primary role. Using the Godly Play curriculum, we will tell the stories of how people met God in Creation, with the patriarchs, in the Exodus, at Sinai, in the Temple, in the Prophets' visions, by encountering Jesus, and more. To register for the Sunday School year, please go online to <https://form.jotform.com/91873872615165> to get registered. In addition, please join our Facebook page, KMLC Parent Group, for the latest information on Sunday School events. You can also find a link to the registration there. Please contact Kristin Boe at kristin@kmlchurch.org with any questions.

JOIN US IN SONG AND FUN! The Joyful Sounds Children's Choir will gear back up for our new season of singing, on Sunday, August 18, at 9 – 9:30 AM in the Joyful Sounds Studio on the 2nd floor of the Sunday School wing. Calling all children, kindergarten through sixth grade who love to sing and praise God, to please join us! Our choir sings once (and sometimes twice) a month at both worship services. We learn the Christmas program music to help anchor the Sunday School children's singing, beginning in October. Mark your calendars now: our Christmas Program will be at the 9 AM worship service, Sunday, December 15, 2019. Questions? Contact Donna Moessner, Director of Children's Music, donna@kmlchurch.org.

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

Saturday Attendance: 51
Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 177 11:00: 69
Midweek - Noon: 7
Total: 304
Pantry Guests Served: 446
Medical Clinic Guests Served: 37
Offering:
\$16,097.50 (Regular) \$2,022.00 (Specials)
\$1,548.50 (Phase 2)

Save the
Date!

Join us
for your Annual Meeting.
Don't miss it!

Sunday, August 25 | 10:10 AM | Fellowship Hall

Our God is the God of hope and promise.

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

Sunday	Luke 12:32-40	Seek treasures in heaven
Monday	Genesis 15:1-6	God's covenant with Abram
Tuesday	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	The meaning of faith
Wednesday	James 2:14-26	Faith without works is dead
Thursday	Romans 1:8-17	The power of the gospel
Friday	1 Timothy 6:11-19	The good fight of faith
Saturday	Psalms 33:12-22	Trust only in God
Sunday	Luke 12:49-56	Following Jesus causes division



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Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. **Hebrews 11:1 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, help us to trust the assurances you give us that we may lead lives of conviction shaped by your kingdom of grace. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Thank you for filling our bodies with food and our hearts with trust in you. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of steadfast love be upon you and give you hope. (Psalm 33:22)

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

- What does it mean when someone promises to do something for you?
- What is something you hope for? How is faith like hope?
- How does hope in God's promises give you strength and courage for each day?

Read: Luke 12:32-40.

In Luke you have the heart of God's care expressed directly and simply on the lips of Jesus: "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" (v. 32). It is immediately followed by strong marching orders: sell what you have and give to the poor; be ready for action; don't be in the dark; be alert because you don't know when the Son of Man is coming. Clearly, these words are not cause for fear, but for readiness for life in the kingdom. We are part of God's "little flock" that is cared for with abundant hope and promise from God. What more can we ask for? This life of faith does not lead to complacency but action, including the action of giving what you have to others. Doing that places your heart squarely in the kingdom because where your treasure is—where you invest your wealth—shapes your heart to be loyal to that cause (v. 34). When you want to feel the love of God in your heart, you give to causes consistent with Mary's description of God who "lifted up the lowly; he . . . filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty" (Luke 1:52b-53). In what ways can you give your treasure and have your heart renewed?

Pray: **God of hope and promise, we thank you for your words of comfort and assurance and for your words of action that celebrate life in your kingdom, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

In James 2:14-26 we learn that faith without works is dead and that works without faith is also dead. If you have not as yet seen the movie *Amazing Grace*, make time to do so—it illustrates how a person of faith, William Wilberforce, was used by God to change the world for the better! Who have been examples of faith through their actions to you? Write letters to these people, thanking them for their example.

In Luke 12:35, Jesus told his followers to be dressed for action and have their lamps lit to wait for him like servants waiting for their master to return from a wedding party. Gather a candle for each member of your family. When you sit down for meals this week, light the candles and say these words:

Leader: **Be dressed and ready for service and keep your lamps burning.**

Response: **For Jesus, our master, is coming.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23; Psalm 49:1-12
Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21