

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

November 10, 2019

9:00 & 11:00 AM

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY after PENTECOST



GATHERING

PRELUDE

PRE-K CHOIR (11 AM)

*“My God Is So Great”
“This Little Light of Mine”*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

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

**We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

**Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,
so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

LITANY OF THANKSGIVING FOR VETERANS

- P** Today—and this Monday—we pause to remember those who go to war in our name.
- G** **We give thanks for courage, for love of country, for those who to bring us peace to our world.**
- P** Remind us, Lord God, that the goal of any war is justice and peace.
- G** **On this day, we pause here at worship to give thanks to god for veterans.**
- P** And seek to bind up the wounds of those who served.
- G** **Enable us to know how to comfort, how to bind up their wounds.**
- P** And remind us, Dear God, that the widow, the orphan, the widower, and the veteran—all know the cost of war.
- G** **Challenge us to love the warrior but hate the cost of war.**
- P** And we pray for a time when peace will reign and swords become plowshares once more, that war be known only in history books.
- G** **And we give thanks, Gracious God, that you remain with us as we celebrate the service of all who dared to go forth in our name.**
Remind us that such service is not a movie, an adventure, nor something to be glorified.
Remind us that war is a failure by us to overcome hatred with love, injustice with righteousness, violence with peace.
We give thanks for those who protect us from such failures.
May we truly be your people and be makers of peace. Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

ELW 888

APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P** The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- G** **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ Gracious God,

☞ **I resolve to put you first in my life. I recognize that you have blessed me with all that I have and all that I am. As your steward, I resolve to sacrifice when necessary but always to do so out of a spirit of sincere love, just as your Son, Jesus, did for me. I humbly accept the challenge to share from my means rather than from my excess. I resolve, to be generous with my time, talent and treasure, giving in proportion to the gifts I have been given. I will confidently live each day with a spirit of true peace and joy in knowing that I am doing your will. Amen.**

PRE-K CHOIR (9 AM)

*“My God Is So Great”
“This Little Light of Mine”*

WORD

(sit)

PSALM 116:1-12 *(read responsively)*

¹I love the LORD, because he has heard the voice of my supplication,
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.

²**The cords of death entangled me; the grip of the grave took hold of me;
I came to grief and sorrow.**

³Then I called upon the name of the LORD:
"O LORD, I pray you, save my life."

⁴**Gracious is the LORD and righteous;
our God is full of compassion.**

⁵The LORD watches over the innocent;
I was brought very low, and he helped me.

⁶**Turn again to your rest, O my soul.
for the LORD has treated you well.**

⁷For you have rescued my life from death,
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.

⁸**I will walk in the presence of the LORD
in the land of the living.**

⁹I believed, even when I said, "I have been brought very low."
In my distress I said, "No one can be trusted."

¹⁰**How shall I repay the LORD
for all the good things he has done for me?**

¹¹I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call upon the name of the LORD.

¹²**I will fulfill my vows to the LORD
in the presence of all his people.**

READING**2 Corinthians 9:6-15**

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. ⁹As it is written, *"He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever."*

¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; ¹²for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. ¹³Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, ¹⁴while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. ¹⁵Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

"God's Word Is Our Great Heritage"

ELW 509

God's word is our great her - i - tage and shall be ours for - ev - er;

to spread its light from age to age shall be our chief en - deav - or.

Through life it guides our way; in death it is our stay. Lord, grant while

time shall last your church may hold it fast through-out all gen - er - a - tions.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C Glory to you, O Lord!

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 21:1-4

Jesus looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; ²he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. ³He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; ⁴for all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live."

☞ 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

1

☞ Merciful Father,

☞ we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

2

☞ Holy God, gracious and merciful,

☞ you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

3

☞ Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things,

☞ Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of that that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

4

☞ Receive O God,

☞ our bodies and souls and all our talents, together with this offering we bring before you. For you have bought us to be your own, that we may live for you. Amen.

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Jesus Sat and Watched the Crowd”

tune: “Gethsemane” ELW 609

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Jesus sat and watched the crowd
At the temple treasury.
Some that day were rich and proud,
Making sure that all could see
Their great generosity.
Their great generosity.</p> <p>2 Then a widow came along
Who had nothing she could spare.
Yet her faith in God was strong
And she gave as few would dare:
All she had, she chose to share.
All she had, she chose to share.</p> | <p>3 Just a penny, nothing more,
Yet Christ said her gift was best.
What a risk, for one so poor!
What rich faith her gift expressed!
Trusting, giving, she was blest.
Trusting, giving, she was blest.</p> <p>4 Lord, you see the way we live;
All within our hearts, you know.
Like that widow, may we give.
Trusting you, our gifts will grow
And our joy will overflow.
And our joy will overflow.</p> |
|--|--|

Mark 12:41-44 and Luke 21:1-4 Tune: H.A. Cesar Malan, 1827 Text: Copyright © 2000 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Used by permission

HOLY BAPTISM (11 AM)

see ELW pg 227

*Treaden Robert Allison
Margarita Araceli Valquier*

THE APOSTLES' CREED (9 AM)

- 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.

(stand)

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)

Thanksgiving: for the baptism of Gemma Sue Kay Bottolfson, daughter of William & Fawn Bottolfson; for the baptism of Traeden Robert Allison, son of Larry & Jaci Allison; for the baptism of Margarita Araceli Valquier, daughter of Leon & Sheila Valquier

Illness: Richard Bock, Joe Bonfante, Don Burton, Joe Doremus, Rodney Edwards, Rev. Harry Fink, Samuel Garrett, Dolores Hiatt, Rosann Klug, mother of David Klug, Marcie Lafleur, Chris Meyer, son of Lynn & Nancy Meyer, Mary Olson, Joan Nelson, Jean Nippert, Gary Rodene, Jerry Warner, 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; Rev. Rachel Ringlaben, 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 give our offerings for so many reasons – guilt – joy – obligation – gratitude – obedience – hope – control – thankfulness. God calls us to examine everything that we have; after all, our money and possessions are really gifts from God. God calls us to use them wisely – to share them openly – to give them generously. So thank God for this celebration of giving. We pray God will receive our offerings and release us from the foolish temptation to believe that it is best spent on ourselves. If you would like, use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online.



MUSICAL OFFERING

“How Can I Keep From Singing”

arr. Mark Schweizer

THE TABLE IS PREPARED

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Giving God, We Pause and Wonder”

**Giving God, we pause and wonder: What would happen if we tithed —
If we gave our gifts, Creator, Hearts and hands all opened wide?
We might learn, by gladly sharing, Not to trust in things we own
But to risk — it's part of caring — And to trust in you alone.**

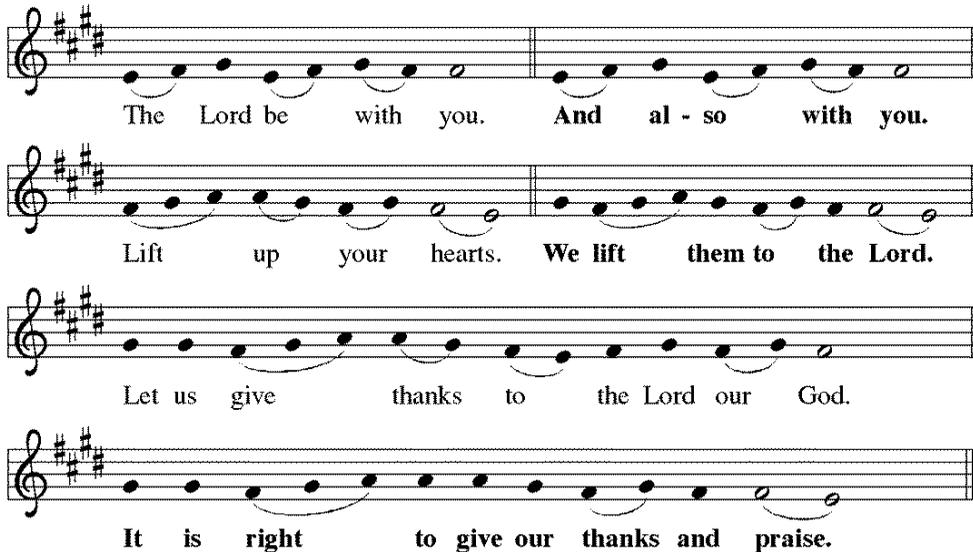
**God, we know we cannot pay you For your love in Christ your Son.
Gifts and tithes are just a "thank you" — Ways to pass your blessings on.
We have learned that, in our sharing, We receive more than we give.
By your Spirit, make us daring In this joyful way to live.**

Biblical References: Malachi 3:8-10; Romans 15:25-26; 1 John 4:7-8 Text: Copyright © 2005 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved. Copied from *Songs of Grace: New Hymns for God and Neighbor* by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (Upper Room Books, 2009).

OFFERING PRAYER

- ☐** Merciful Father,
- ☑** we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus 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 keeps adding places to the table.

C **Come to the banquet that has no end!**

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.

(sit)
HYMNS DURING COMMUNION "Agnus Dei"



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

ELW 471

"Blessed Assurance"

ELW 638

"Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus"

ELW 501

(stand)
PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P** We thank you, Lord God our host,
- C** for inviting us here to taste the future when you will feed all the hungry at your table. Keep this hope alive in us and in our communities, so that we will bring hope to a suffering world, in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

SENDING

(sit)

BLESSING

- ☞ Signed and sealed by the Holy Spirit, you are Christ’s message of love for this troubled world, written by the same Sender. May our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, ✝ comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

HYMN

“The Numberless Gifts of God’s Mercies”

ELW 683

DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace. Set your hope on Jesus Christ.
☛ Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

✝ ✝ ✝

From Sundays and Seasons.com. ©2019 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006828. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-705181. New Revised Standard Version Bible, ©1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Evangelical Lutheran Worship ©2006 Augsburg Fortress. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26828. CCLI License #1511530.

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
Kayla Slight	Housekeeper
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	Paul Revord
Ushers	Paul Revord Mary Jo Fike
Comm. Set-up	Mary Jo Fike

SUNDAY, 9:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Jill Gittler Mark Oldaker Marylin Oldaker Dan Collett
Lector	Rick Kolkman
Ushers	Donna Crouse Bob Johnson Rodney Nord Dan Troxel Sharon West Dean Winther Brad Madison
Greeters	Darlene Anderson Bev Troxel Lois Sorensen
Crucifer	Anna Kidder
Acolytes	Lawton Rees John Groenjes

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Ashley Sum Norm Sack
Lector	Donna Moessner
Ushers	Linda Hoagland Julie O'Doherty
Greeters	Barb Chrisman
Crucifer	Charlie Campbell
Acolytes	Hadley Rief Henry Rief



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

November 9 & 10, 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:** ELCA: Faith, Sexism and Justice: A Call to Action **NEXT WEEK:** ELCA: A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment

BOOK GROUP This Sunday, November 10, 12:00 PM.

BLANKETS FOR REFUGEES Nancy Meyer has been made aware of a great need for blankets for the refugees. If any of you have a good used blanket or buy a new blanket for these local refugees, that would be wonderful! You can bring them to the Welcome Center area of the Fellowship Hall by the end of November. Thank you and God bless!

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God in honor of Jane Kidder's 14th birthday given by Mark & Tarna Kidder

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES TODAY

JOYFUL SOUNDS CHILDREN'S CHOIR Join us each Sunday from 9-9:30 AM. All children (K-6th grade) who want to praise our Lord by singing, meet in the Joyful Sounds Studio on the 2nd floor. The choir will be singing this Sunday during Worship

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

HIGH SCHOOL FORUM Join us each Sunday in the Youth Center at 10:10 AM.

November 10 Sunday

7:45 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
 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-6)
 10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)
 10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
 10:10 AM Adult Forum
 12:00 PM Book Group

November 11 Monday

Veterans Day
 10:00 AM Pantry

November 12 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

November 13 Wednesday

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

November 14 Thursday

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

November 15 Friday

Good News Deadline
 6:00 PM Thanksgiving Potluck

November 16 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

November 17 Sunday

7:45 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
 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-6)
 10:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks
 10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)
 10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
 10:10 AM Adult Forum
 10:30 AM Executive Committee

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.

NURSERY is available from 9 AM—noon for children 0—2 years. Please ask an usher if you are unsure as to where our nursery is and would like to use it.

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, January 19 & 26, 2020, 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 February 2. Please indicate your attendance plans on your attendance card or call the church office by January 12 and let us know if you will need childcare when you register.

THANKSGIVING POTLUCK DINNER! Friday, November 15, 6:00 PM. All members of Kountze are invited to join in a Thanksgiving Potluck. Bring your favorite Thanksgiving side or dessert to share with others. Turkey and drinks provided.

MEN'S LUNCHEON Thursday, November 21, 11:30 AM (Please RSVP by October 19). Suggested donation is \$10.00. Our speaker will be Steve McCoy who is director of the Omaha Airport Authority. You never know what is going to be on the menu but you can bet it will be good. Please RSVP to the church office or jim@kmlchurch.org the Tuesday prior to the lunch.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE We will celebrate a DAY OF THANKSGIVING on Saturday, November 23 and Sunday, November 24. A special offering will be received, to be divided between the Kountze Food Pantry and the

Weber Healing Gift Free Clinic. Food (canned and box goods) will be presented during the worship service. **THANKSGIVING DINNER WITH ST. PETER'S** Will be held on Thanksgiving Day, November 28, 11:30 AM to 1:30 PM. Co-sponsored with and held at St. Peter's Catholic parish (709 S 28th St.) Preparations are under way for our annual Thanksgiving luncheon. Volunteers are needed to: a) set up the night before; b) donate pies/desserts; and, c) serve food, greet, and/or clean tables during the meal. This event brings so many people in our community together in a spirit of Christian love and fellowship. Please join us, either to volunteer or as a guest; all are welcome. In 2018 we served over 400 guests for Thanksgiving Dinner! You can sign up to help on the bulletin insert.

ADVENT FAIR Save the date for our Advent Fair on Sunday, December 1, between 10:00 AM and 12:30 PM. Make a variety of Christmas crafts. Fun for the entire family!

ALTERNATE GIFTS Watch for the Alternate Gift insert that will be in your bulletins beginning December 1. Find a cause or organization that would be the best gift for your friends and family. We will also offer hand-made and fair trade gift items on two of the Sundays in Advent. The BeadforLife jewelry made from recycled paper will be available for purchase on December 8, and the hand-made Christmas ornaments made by women in Vietnam will be available on December 15. As always, we will have goats, chicks, UN refugee tents as well as support for Kountze Pantry and the Weber Free Healing Clinic, along with other favorite gifts from recent years. Enjoy an easy way to get your gift shopping done and join us in doing God's work at the same time!

KOUNTZE FOOD PANTRY The Kountze Food Pantry could really use donations of toilet paper. We would love to have this vital item available for our guests, but the expense is significant and we have not had the funds available. Any contribution you can make would be greatly appreciated. The Family Fare receipts have been pouring in. Let's keep up the good work! The Food Pantry will qualify for \$1,000 before we know it!

HOLIDAY MEAL BAGS FOR KOUNTZE PANTRY Our Food Pantry holiday meal bags will be distributed in December; 300 in total. This year's holiday food items include:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| fully cooked ham (3 lb) | cranberries jellied/whole (14 oz) |
| corn (15 oz) | stuffing (13 oz) |
| green beans (15 oz) | mashed potatoes (13 oz) |
| pineapple tidbits/chunks (20 oz) | cream mushroom/cream chicken (10 oz) |
| fruit cocktail/mixed fruit (14 oz) | quart shelf sustainable milk. |

These items will be placed in a reusable tote with a Christmas card and a prayer square. The approximate cost of the 2019 holiday meal bag is \$25. The food items have been changed from previous years to help maintain the cost yet provide additional food items. This project is accomplished by the generous support of Kountze Memorial and Saint Michael Lutheran members and friends. You are invited to make a financial contribution for this annual holiday give away. Your gift can be given through the offering, please designate to the holiday meal bags or through the on-line giving page (<https://www.kmlchurch.org>). Should you have any questions or want to discuss ways to support the pantry, please contact Susann Henry, director of the Food Pantry. You can contact Susie at 402-341-7761 or susannfrances@gmail.com

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

Saturday Attendance: 69
 Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 250 11:00: 105
 Midweek - Noon: 10
 Total: 434
 Pantry Guests Served: 332
 Medical Clinic Guests Served: 17
 Offering:
 \$19,169.50 (Regular) \$1,050.75 (Specials)
 \$9,535.00 (Phase 2)

**Disney CRUISE NIGHT
 AKA "PARENT'S NIGHT OUT"**



When: Saturday, November 30
 6:00—8:30 PM

Who: Children ages potty-trained to 10 yrs

Where: Kountze Youth Room

Host: Kountze Youth Group

Dinner: Pizza, Milk, and Juice

Activities: Puppet making & puppet theater, crafting Christmas ornaments, and a Disney movie

Cost: Free will donation of a small, new, unwrapped toy

RSVP: Church office and/or Mike Jensen via email at mwjensen@yahoo.com

We have hope for the future.

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

Sunday	Luke 20:27-38	Jesus speaks of the resurrection
Monday	Job 19:23-27a	I know my redeemer lives
Tuesday	2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17	Be faithful
Wednesday	Exodus 3:13-20	God promises to guide Moses
Thursday	1 Peter 1:3-12	A living hope
Friday	Acts 24:10-23	Paul defends himself
Saturday	Psalms 17:1-9	Prayer of an innocent person
Sunday	Luke 21:5-9	Suffering for Jesus' sake

© 2018 Vibrant Faith Ministries. All rights reserved.
Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow and edited by Vibrant Faith Ministries.
Go to www.vibrantfaithathome.org for more faith-forming activities.

taking
faith
home

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word. **2 Thessalonians 2:16-17 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Eternal Savior, thank you for the promise of the resurrected body that gives us eternal comfort and good hope. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we are thankful that through your steadfast love you give us food to eat and a living hope to feast upon now and always, through Christ our Lord, amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word. (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17)

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

- What is something that you look forward to?
- What is something that worries you about the future?
- Jesus and the New Testament make clear promises about the resurrection from the dead. Why is this important?

Read: Luke 20:27-38.

This passage is both encouraging and confusing. The encouragement is that Jesus affirms that God “is God not of the dead, but of the living” (v. 38). The confusing part is about marriage in heaven. However, this text is not really about marriage or a definitive theology of heaven. What happens here is that the Sadducees ask a trick question and Jesus gives them a trick answer to get to the real point. The Sadducees try to trick Jesus because they don’t believe in the resurrection (v. 27). Knowing this, Jesus goes to the real topic of bodily life after death by pointing out that their question is irrelevant: heaven is not what you are setting it up to be by your tricky question (vv. 35-36). Jesus uses the Sadducees’ preferred focus on Moses to point out that even Moses believed in life after death. Jesus uses their own biblical theology to point out what they refuse to see: through Jesus we have “eternal comfort and good hope” (2 Thessalonians 2:16-17). How does the Christian belief in the resurrection give you eternal comfort? How does it give you hope?

Pray: **Eternal God, we thank you that in the midst of struggles, suffering and death, through Christ our Lord we are given comfort, good hope, and everlasting life. Amen.**

2 Thessalonians is a letter of encouragement for Christians. It is about God’s love for us and the eternal comfort and hope given to us. Do you know of someone who needs to hear an encouraging word? Let them know you are thinking about them by calling, sending them a note, or visiting.

Jesus tells the Sadducees that life after death is different. To think about this, find a picture of a caterpillar and one of a butterfly or draw them. Talk about ways they are different (ex. caterpillars crawl and eat leaves, butterflies fly and drink nectar, etc.). They are the same animal even though the stages of life are different. We do not know what life will be like after death but Jesus tells us it will be different and we will be with God. “Now he is God not of the dead, but of the living; for to him all of them are alive” (Luke 20:38).

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS: Malachi 4:1-2a; Psalm 98
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13; Luke 21:5-19