

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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

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

March 1, 2020

9:00 & 11:00 AM

FIRST SUNDAY of LENT



*Today's gospel tells of Jesus' temptation in the desert. His forty-day fast becomes the basis of our Lenten pilgrimage. In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This catechetical focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.*

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*“Come, Now is the Time to Worship”*

Joyful Sounds Choir

*(stand)*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, who is present, who gives life, who calls into existence the things that do not exist.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** If you were to keep watch over sins, O Lord, who could stand? Yet with you is forgiveness, and so we confess.

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

- P** Gracious God,
- C** **have mercy on us.**  
**We confess that we have turned away from you,**  
**knowingly and unknowingly.**  
**We have wandered from your resurrection life.**  
**We have strayed from your love for all people.**  
**Turn us back to you, O God.**  
**Give us new hearts and right spirits,**  
**that we will find what is pleasing to you**  
**and dwell in your house forever. Amen.**
- P** Receive good news: God turns to you in love. *“I will put my spirit in you, and you shall live,”* says our God. All your sin is forgiven in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, who is the free and abounding gift of God’s grace for you.
- C** **Amen.**

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”*

**ELW 504**

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

## KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

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

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men, a - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☞ Lord God, our strength,  
☞ **the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## WORD

(sit)

### FIRST READING

**Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7**

*Human beings were formed with great care, to be in relationship with the creator, creation, and one another. The serpent's promise to the first couple that their eyes would be opened led, ironically, to the discovery only that they were naked.*

**T**he Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. <sup>16</sup>And the Lord God commanded the man, “*You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; <sup>17</sup>but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.*” ...

<sup>3:1</sup>Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, “*Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?’*” <sup>2</sup>The woman said to the serpent, “*We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; <sup>3</sup>but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’*” <sup>4</sup>But the serpent said to the woman, “*You will not die; <sup>5</sup>for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.*” <sup>6</sup>So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. <sup>7</sup>Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

☞ The word of the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 32 (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,  
and whose sin is put away!

**<sup>2</sup>Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**

<sup>3</sup>While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,  
because of my groaning all day long.

**<sup>4</sup>For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**

<sup>5</sup>Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my guilt.  
I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.”

Then you forgave me the guilt of my sin.

**<sup>6</sup>Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in time of trouble;  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not reach them.**

<sup>7</sup>You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;  
you surround me with shouts of deliverance.

<sup>8</sup>**“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should go;  
I will guide you with my eye.**

<sup>9</sup>Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not stay near you.”

<sup>10</sup>**Great are the tribulations of the wicked;  
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**

<sup>11</sup>Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;  
**shout for joy, all who are true of heart.**

## SECOND READING

Romans 5:12-19

*Through Adam’s disobedience, humanity came under bondage to sin and death, from which we cannot free ourselves. In Christ’s obedient death, God graciously showers on us the free gift of liberation and life.*

**J**ust as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—<sup>13</sup>sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. <sup>14</sup>Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

<sup>15</sup>But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man’s trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. <sup>16</sup>And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. <sup>17</sup>If, because of the one man’s trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

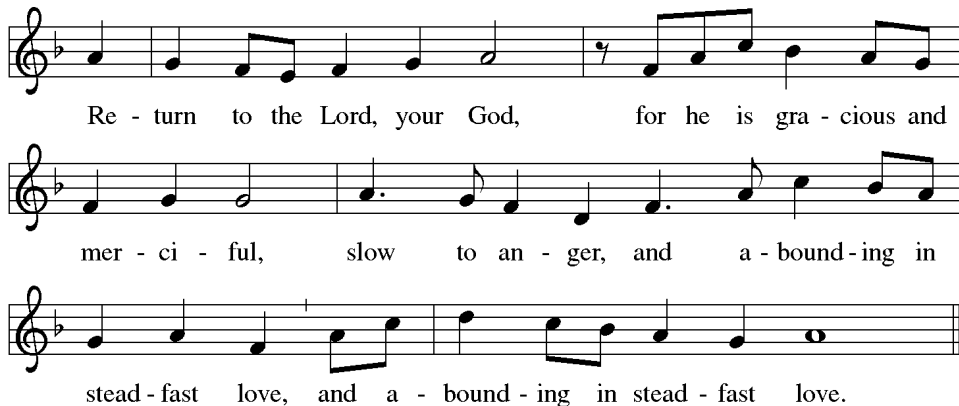
<sup>18</sup>Therefore just as one man’s trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man’s act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. <sup>19</sup>For just as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.

☒ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

*(stand)*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and  
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in  
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

☞ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

☞ **Glory to you, O Lord!**

## HOLY GOSPEL

**Matthew 4:1-11**

*Jesus experiences anew the temptations that Israel faced in the wilderness. As the Son of God, he endures the testing of the evil one.*

**J**esus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. <sup>2</sup>He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. <sup>3</sup>The tempter came and said to him, “*If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.*” <sup>4</sup>But Jesus answered, “*It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’*”

<sup>5</sup>Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, <sup>6</sup>saying to him, “*If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’*” <sup>7</sup>Jesus said to him, “*Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’*”

<sup>8</sup>Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; <sup>9</sup>and he said to him, “*All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.*” <sup>10</sup>Jesus said to him, “*Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’*” <sup>11</sup>Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

☞ The Gospel of the Lord.

☞ **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*(sit)*

## CHILDREN’S BLESSING (9:00 AM)

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

*(sit)*

## SERMON

Pastor Roynesdal

*(stand)*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

“*Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word*”

**ELW 517**

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

**P** With the whole church, let us 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)*

**Illness:** Richard Bock, Debbi Buike, office volunteer, Don Burton, Joe Doremus, Rodney Edwards, Samuel Garrett, Dolores Hiatt, Karrol Kamarath, Roseann Klug, mother of David Klug, Marcie Lafleur, Mary Olson, Gary Rodene, Rosemarie Schmidt, Sheri Tipton, 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, 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

**Other Prayers:** *Seminarians*—Adam Klinker, Katie Larson, Justin Perkins

## 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

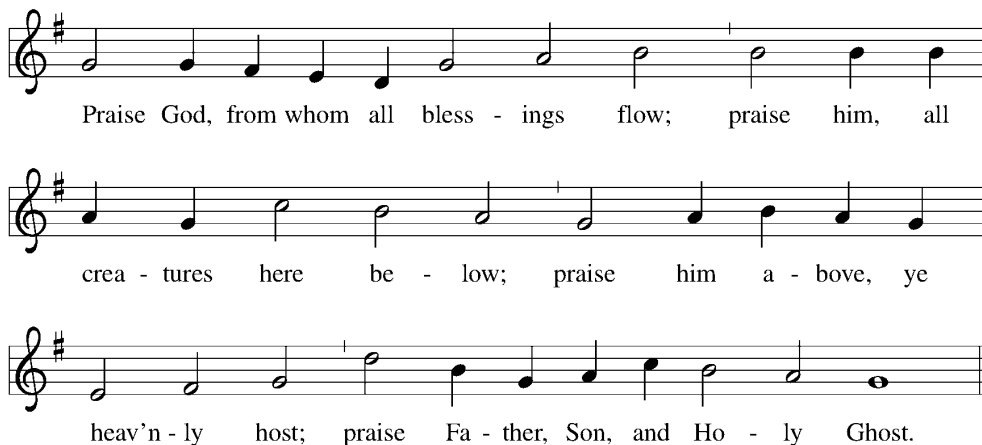
*“Consecrated, Lord to Thee”*

Lloyd Larson

### THE TABLE IS PREPARED

(stand)

### OFFERTORY HYMN



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise him, all  
crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye  
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

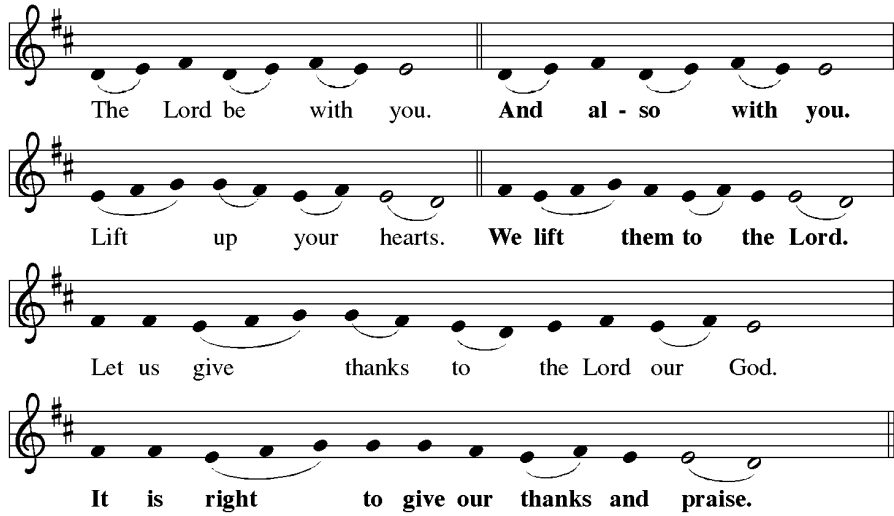
### OFFERING PRAYER

**P** Holy and generous host,

**C** you set a table where we feast as friends. Prepare us to witness to your goodness with every gift you have given us to share, that all people will know your peace through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.



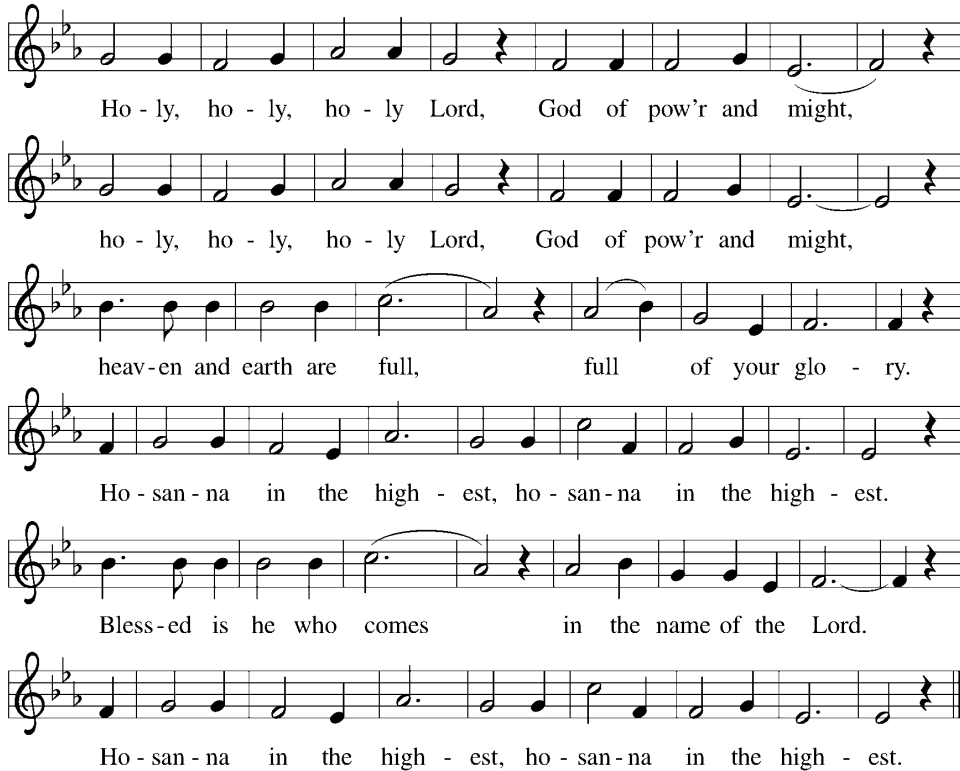
## HOLY COMMUNION



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

## PREFACE FOR LENT

### SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est, 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

☑ **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

☐ God's love is poured out in Christ for you.

☑ **We open ourselves to receive it.**

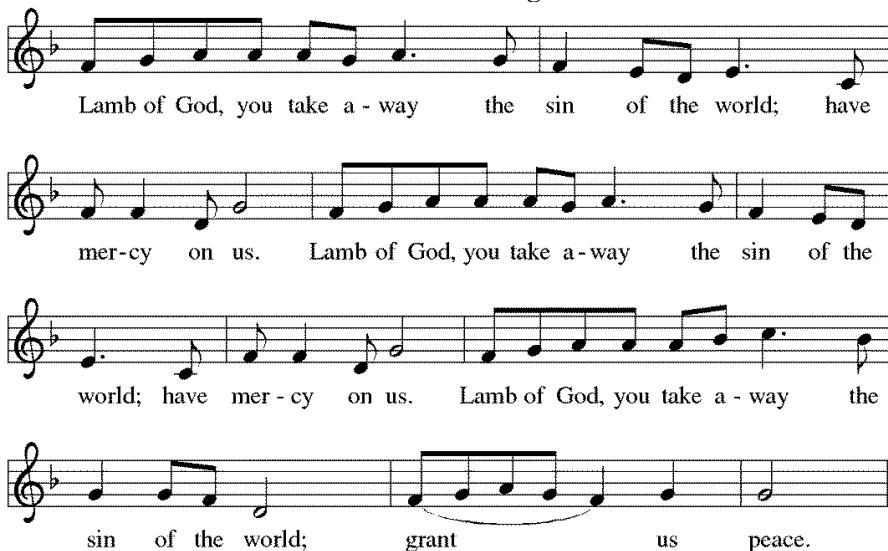
### THE DISTRIBUTION

*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.

*“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”*  
*“Our Father, We Have Wandered”*

**ELW 742**  
**ELW 606**

(stand)

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- ☞** We thank you, living God,  
**☞** for the body and blood of your Son, which sustains us in the wilderness and the garden alike. As Christ has loved us in this feast, so send us to love Christ in our neighbors. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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# SENDING

*(sit)*

## DISMISSAL OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

### BLESSING

- ☐ Now is the acceptable time. Now is the day of salvation. The Holy God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit bless you, unbind you, and send you in love and in peace.

### THREE-FOLD AMEN

### HYMN

*“Bless Now, O God, the Journey”*

**ELW 326**

### DISMISSAL

- ☐ Go in peace. Share the good news.  
☑ **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 Custodian
Søren Johnson	Housekeeper
Kayla Slaughter	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Children's Music
Donna Moessner	Organist
Mark Jones	Saturday Accompanist
David Gerard	Night Security Manager
Sheri Lynn Tipton	Nursery Superintendent
Norma Pafford	Director of the Weber Clinic
Joyce Palmer	Food Pantry Director
Susann Henry	Exec. Dir. Kountze Commons
Taylor Brown	

### 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 Scott Henneman Jane Ross Darlene Anderson
Lector	Pamela Johnson
Ushers	Glenn Anderson Dan Collett Gary Westerman Bob Woodworth Ted Kaasch Marcy Madison
Greeters	Sharon Anderson Carole Woodworth Karen Wolf
Crucifer	John Groenjes
Acolytes	Dannika Rees Kaitlyn Munguia

### SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Deb Hinrichs Norm Sack
Lector	Bruce Nissen
Ushers	James Holzer Linda Hoagland Julie O'Doherty
Greeters	Julie King Rosemary Tessin
Crucifer	Charlie Campbell
Acolytes	Hadley Rief Henry Rief



# KOUNTZE

## Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street  
402-341-7761

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

**February 29 & March 1, 2020**

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 worshiping, 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:** The Creed: He Suffered and Died **NEXT WEEK:** No Forum (Fellowship)

### CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES TODAY

**JOYFUL SOUNDS CHILDREN'S CHOIR** Join us each Sunday from 9-9:30 AM. All children (K-6<sup>th</sup> grade) who want to praise our Lord by singing, meet in the Joyful Sounds Studio on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

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

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



**March 8, 2020**

Be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed Saturday night, March, 7.

### **March 1 Sunday**

Homebound Communion

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-8<sup>th</sup> gr)

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

10:10 AM Adult Forum

### **March 2 Monday**

10:00 AM Pantry

### **March 3 Tuesday**

11:00 AM Devotions @ deFreese Manor

12:00 PM Yesterday's Youth

### **March 4 Wednesday**

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

11:00 AM Lenten Lunch

12:15 PM Worship

5:30 PM Lenten Dinner

6:30 PM Worship

7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

### **March 5 Thursday**

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### **March 7 Saturday**

4:30 PM Blood Pressure Checks

5:00 PM Worship

### **March 8 Sunday**

Daylight Savings—spring ahead 1 hour

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-8<sup>th</sup> gr)

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

10:10 AM Adult Forum

12:00 PM Book Group

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**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, April 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 May 3. Please indicate your attendance plans on your attendance card or call the church office by April 12 and let us know if you will need childcare when you register. We are also planning a Saturday New Member Class for those not able to attend on Sundays. Please mark April 18 & 25 from 3:00—4:15 PM on your calendars and mark your attendance card if you plan to attend. New members will be received on Saturday, May 2.

**KOUNTZE FOOD PANTRY** In February the pantry can once again use donations of toilet tissue. We do strive to make sure every Pantry guest receives one roll. Please leave your donations in the crate located in Fellowship Hall. Your gifts are mightily appreciated! Please consider volunteering for one of the regular shifts from 9:00—11:00 AM or 11:00AM—1:00 PM. The green sign-up book is in Fellowship Hall, meeting room A, by the kitchen.

**YESTERDAY'S YOUTH** Tuesday, March 3, 12:00 PM. \$4.00 for lunch. All ages are welcome! Our speaker this month will be long-time Kountze member, Dr. Jerry Fischer. You won't want to miss this! Dr. Fischer will be talking about the coronavirus and answer questions on other topics of interest. Lunch will be served at noon. Please RSVP to the church office by Friday, February 28. If you have questions, please call Sheri Tipton at 402-415-6033. Hope to see you there!

**COLLEGE OF SAINT BENEDICT/SAINT JOHN'S UNIVERSITY CHAMBER CHOIR** of Collegeville, Minnesota, will perform a Concert of Sacred and Secular Music on Tuesday, March 3 at 7:30 PM at Christ the King Parish (654 S 86th St). Free Admission but free will donations requested and welcomed. Conductor, Axel Theimer, a native of Austria and a former member of the Vienna Boy's Choir. He has been on the music faculty at Saint John's University and College of Saint Benedict since 1969.

**TABLE GRACE ANNUAL FUNDRAISER** Nourishing Hungry Bodies and Souls "Voices of Empowerment" with MC D. Kevin Williams on Friday, March 6, from 5:30—8:30 PM at St. Thomas Lutheran Church (17007 Q St). Heavy hors d'oeuvres, music, live and silent auction. This year's fundraiser is in memory of Tom Tentis. Individual tickets are \$80 or sponsor a table (includes 8 tickets) for \$640—\$20,000. Tickets are available at [tickets@tablegraceministries.com](mailto:tickets@tablegraceministries.com) or call Simone at 402-965-1276. Reserve table or tickets by March 3.

**THE SPIRE CHAMBER ENSEMBLE**, under the baton of Founder and Artistic Director Ben A. Spalding, will perform the Bach Mass in B Minor on Friday, March 6, from 7-9 PM at St. Cecilia Cathedral (701 North 40th Street). The concert is free and open to the public. Now in their 10<sup>th</sup> season, Spire is one of the preeminent choral-

orchestral chamber ensembles in the United States. The virtuoso choir and orchestra of distinctive solo artists are committed to the highest level of ensemble performance. Spire Chamber Ensemble inspires, educates, and enriches the Kansas City metropolitan community through the transformational power of great choral music performed at the highest artistic level. Be sure to add this to your calendar of events!

**LYSO** June 8-12, 2020, from 8:30-Noon. Grades K-12. Mark your Calendar for this exciting summer ministry opportunity at Kountze Memorial. JOIN US!! Invite your friends.

**FIRST COMMUNION CLASSES** March 22 & 29, 12:15 PM. Communion is open to all baptized Christians. Those children who are already communing or those children interested in receiving Holy Communion are invited to a First Communion class. We will begin with lunch in the conference room followed by instruction in the Nave with Pastor Hall. Participants will receive their First Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 9 at 7:00 PM. A good guide for determining when your children are ready to receive Communion is when they begin to ask about receiving it during the liturgy. Please register with the church office at 402-341-7761 or [info@kmlchurch.org](mailto:info@kmlchurch.org).

### **ATTENDANCE & GIVING**

**Saturday Attendance:** 44

**Sunday Attendance:** 9:00: 189 11:00: 85

**Midweek - Noon:** 121 **Evening:** 172

**Total:** 611

**Pantry Guests Served:** 440

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 20

**Offering: 2/16**

\$18,264.54 (Regular) \$1,549.78 (Specials)  
\$822.00 (Phase 2)

**Offering: 2/23**

\$15,495.50 (Regular) \$2,058.75 (Specials)  
\$1,307.00 (Phase 2)

### **SPENDING TIME WITH AN OLD FRIEND**

Our midweek Lenten Worship will give us an opportunity to visit an old friend: The Lord's Prayer. Each week we will reflect on various petitions of this great prayer gaining insights from Martin Luther's Small Catechism. Pastor Roynesdal and Pastor Hall are looking forward to this special time and encourage you to come and hopefully gain a new perspective and a new appreciation for the prayer we say most often.

Our tentative Schedule will be as follows:

**Wednesday, March 4**

THE SECOND AND THIRD PETITIONS

"Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven."

**Wednesday, March 11**

THE FOURTH PETITION

"Give us this day our daily bread."

**Wednesday, March 18**

THE FIFTH PETITION

"And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors."

**Wednesday, March 25**

THE SIXTH PETITION

"And lead us not into temptation."

**Wednesday, April 1**

THE SEVENTH PETITION AND THE CONCLUSION

"But deliver us from evil. Amen."

Wednesday Services:

12:15 PM (with the Lord's Supper) and  
7:00 PM

Lenten Meals:

Lunch, 11:00 - Noon  
Supper, 5:30 - 6:30 PM

## Wanting to be like God.

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this

Sunday	Matthew 4:1-11	Temptation of Jesus
Monday	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7	First sin and its punishment
Tuesday	Romans 5:12-19	Adam and Christ
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Christ was raised to life
Thursday	1 Peter 4:7-11	Love wipes away many sins
Friday	Galatians 6:1-10	Bear one another's burdens
Saturday	Psalms 32	The joy of forgiveness
Sunday	John 3:1-17	For God so loved the world



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But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." **Genesis 3:4-5 (NRSV)**

### A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, help us to trust in our Lord Jesus Christ, to know him as your Son, that we may live in the protection of your care, keeping us from all harm. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear Lord, just as you freely fed Adam and Eve in the garden, we thank you for providing us with the fruit of the earth today. Amen.

### A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord be your hiding place; may God preserve you from all trouble and give you peace. (Psalm 32:7)

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

- Is it easy or difficult to talk about sin? Explain.
- Why do you think sin is not a popular word in today's culture?
- Sin is often seen as rebellion. It is also about being deceived. Give examples of how people deceive themselves in today's world.

*Read:* Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7.

The snake, part of God's own creation, was the first to create the temptation to move away from a trusting relationship with God. The world of sin is greater than what is experienced by humans. The snake gave a half-truth. Adam and Eve would learn the difference between good and evil; they just couldn't choose the good. The story of the "fall" is less about a fall from perfection and grace and more about a rebellion that wants to be like God. At some level, we may all want to be like God and to know the difference between good and evil. We tend to turn to our own prejudices, the preferred thinking that makes us most comfortable and most empowered. There are a lot of half-truths in our conversations, both public and private. A half-truth can be worse than a flat-out lie. Because it has the appearance of truth, it is more deceptive. We need a Savior who can turn us from our half-truth worlds that deceive and destroy life and relationships. We need Jesus. Can you think of a time when you heard a half-truth that deceived you? Explain.

*Pray:* **God of truth and grace, cleanse us from our sinful lives; give us glad hearts that know we have received grace upon grace, through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

When Jesus was tempted in the wilderness, he responded with words from Scripture, "Away with you, Satan! For it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him'" (Matthew 4:10). One way of serving God is to care for your neighbor. How do you worship and serve God by caring for your neighbor?

To establish a ritual during Lent, make a Lenten Candle Cross. Place six purple tea-light or votive candles in the shape of a cross, using a white seventh candle for the center. Each week, a candle will be lit during prayer time in your home. The acronym **ACTS** (Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication) will be introduced as a way to pray. This first week in Lent represents "A" for Adoration, meaning love, respect, and worship. [Light a purple candle]

*Pray:* **Dear God, we praise your name and worship you. I praise you for . . . , in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ, amen.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Genesis 12:1-4a; Psalm 121  
Romans 4:1-5, 13-17; John 3:1-17