

Special Notice

In compliance with government regulations restricting large gatherings we have canceled all worship services (Saturday, Sunday and Wednesdays), Sunday School, all meals, and other church activities at least through April 30. In the meantime, join us for Worship on Cox channel 13 or live streamed at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/live-streaming/>



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
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Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

April 26, 2020

Alleluia!

Kountze Food Pantry Volunteers

**Mondays, 7:30 - 9:00 AM; 9:00 - 11:00 AM;
11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

Fridays, 5:00 - 8:00 PM—note additional day & time (Friday Pantry hours are 6:00 - 8:00 PM).

The Kountze Food Pantry is still operating at full force during these challenging times. We can only continue to operate if we have volunteers to serve. It has been inspiring to see how many people are willing to serve in the community. Just a reminder to sign-up online so Kountze can limit the number of volunteers in the building at one time, in order to comply with social distancing guidelines. The early shift from 7:30-9:00 AM is for unloading trucks and shelf stocking exclusively. 9:00-11:00 AM is for bag filling and serving guests. 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM is for filling bags for Friday night, and serving guests. Please sign up for the time that works best for you. Thank you for your continued support!

<https://form.jotform.com/200834787701155>

LYSO (Lutheran Youth Serve Omaha)

June 8—12

8:30—Noon

Grades K-12

Lutheran Youth Serve Omaha, or LYSO, is Vacation Bible School with a twist. It features faith formation, servant-hood, fellowship and fun! Children and youth will gather at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church for breakfast and devotions. Everyone is then divided by grade and sent out into the community to serve at sites around the Omaha-Metro area. Upon returning to Kountze, the youth will join together for reflection and a closing worship. Email Kristin Boe at kristin@kmlchurch.org with questions. Registration coming soon!

Shoppers Needed for deFreese Manor Residents

For the time being, deFreese Manor will not be taking residents on the bus to the grocery store. However, residents still need groceries. If you like grocery shopping and would be able to help in this way, please contact Sharon West at 402-212-4531 or swest@defreese Manor.org

Today at Kountze

Sunday School

This Sunday I will post a video of the Children's sermon on this page (KMLC Parent Group). In addition, I will be providing some printable activities that relate to the lesson. Take a picture of your child's work and post it in the comments. Let's stay as connected as possible while we can't gather together. Stay tuned for more fun activities! In Peace, Kristin

Youth Forum will be at 10:30 AM via Zoom. Contact Mike Jensen at mwjensen@yahoo.com for details.

Attendance and Giving

Online Attendance: 345

Pantry Guests Served: 372

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 31

Offering:

\$16,030.00 (Regular) \$9,259.74 (Specials)

\$777.00 (Phase 2)

Our eyes have been opened to see the Lord.

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

Sunday	Luke 24:13-35	Road to Emmaus
Monday	Acts 2:14a, 36-41	The first converts
Tuesday	1 Peter 1:17-23	A call to holy living
Wednesday	Matthew 8:5-13	Jesus heals a centurion servant
Thursday	Matthew 9:2-7	Jesus heals a paralytic
Friday	Matthew 14:13-21	Feeding the five thousand
Saturday	Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19	Thanksgiving for illness recovery
Sunday	Matthew 3:1-12	Christ the shepherd



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They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” **Luke 24:32 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Holy God, may your word and the community of faith open our eyes and our hearts to your living presence within us and among us through the risen Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, just as the disciples on the road to Emmaus had their eyes opened to you through the breaking of bread, open our eyes now with thankful hearts for this meal. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of hope open your eyes to the presence of the risen Lord and fill you with joy.

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

- When and where have you felt God’s presence?
- Have you ever had an experience where you didn’t recognize the impact until later? Explain.
- What Bible story or Bible verse or song helps you feel the presence of God?

Read: Luke 24:13-35.

We have within us the desire for the divine in our lives. As Christians, we want to see Jesus as Lord. We want to have our hearts burning within us. That may have happened weeks ago on Easter Sunday in worship with all the pageantry, song, and community gathered together to “break bread” (v. 35). Interestingly, for the disciples on the road to Emmaus, even though they had the risen Lord with them and he was teaching them the Scriptures, it was not until the breaking of the bread that he was revealed to them and they acknowledged that their hearts had been burning within them. Perhaps the sense of the divine in our lives is best recalled in retrospect. We are not in control of the divine in our lives. God is. The Holy Spirit uses human stories, the Bible, and the breaking of bread in community to create the burning in our hearts that we want to recall and talk about again and again. This is what happened to the disciples on the road to Emmaus. When has your heart burned with the sense of God’s presence in your life?

Pray: **Creator God, give us eyes to see and hearts that burn for the joy of your presence through Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Peter tells the first converts to “Repent, and be baptized” (Acts 2:38a). Baptism is not something we often talk about in our daily lives. If you know of someone who has been thirsting to know about baptism, be willing to have that conversation and seek out the help of others, if needed.

The acronym **ACTS** (**A**doration, **C**onfession, **T**hanksgiving, **S**upplication) was introduced during Lent as a way to experience prayer in our daily lives. Add a little extra movement to your prayers this week and make the shape of each letter as you pray: (**A**) I praise God for..., (**C**) forgive me for..., (**T**) I thank you for..., (**S**) I pray for, and finish with amen.

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS: Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 23
1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10