

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

Olaf Roynesdal, Senior Pastor
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor
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June 21, 2020

9:00 AM

THIRD SUNDAY after PENTECOST



God does not promise that the path of the disciple will be easy. Jeremiah feels the pain of rejection from those who do not want to hear what he has to say. Jesus declares that his words may bring stark division. Even so, we need not be afraid for God accounts for each hair on our heads. Though we may experience rejection, frustration, division, and death, God's grace and love make us a new creation each day. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Mark Jones, Organist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

C Amen.

P Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P Reconciling God,

C we confess that we do not trust your abundance,
and we deny your presence in our lives.

We place our hope in ourselves
and rely on our own efforts.

We fail to believe that you provide enough for all.

We abuse your good creation for our own benefit.

We fear difference and do not welcome others
as you have welcomed us.

We sin in thought, word, and deed.

By your grace, forgive us;

through your love, renew us;

and in your Spirit, lead us;

so that we will live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

P Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through ✠ Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

1 This is my Father's world,
and to my list'ning ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
his hand the wonders wrought.

2 This is my Father's world;
the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world;
he shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him pass;
he speaks to me ev'rywhere.

3 This is my Father's world;
oh, let me not forget
that, though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world;
why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king, let heaven ring;
God reigns, let earth be glad!

Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901

APOSTOLIC GREETING

- ☐ The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- ☑ And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ Teach us, good Lord God,
- ☑ to serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 20:7-13

Jeremiah accuses God of forcing him into a ministry that brings him only contempt and persecution. Yet Jeremiah is confident that God will be a strong protector against his enemies and commits his life into God's hands.

Oh Lord, you have enticed me, and I was enticed; you have overpowered me, and you have prevailed. I have become a laughingstock all day long; everyone mocks me. ⁸For whenever I speak, I must cry out, I must shout, “*Violence and destruction!*” For the word of the Lord has become for me a reproach and derision all day long. ⁹If I say, “*I will not mention him, or speak any more in his name,*” then within me there is something like a burning fire shut up in my bones; I am weary with holding it in, and I cannot. ¹⁰For I hear many whispering: “*Terror is all around! Denounce him! Let us denounce him!*” All my close friends are watching for me to stumble. “*Perhaps he can be enticed, and we can prevail against him, and take our revenge on him.*” ¹¹But the Lord is with me like a dread warrior; therefore my persecutors will stumble, and they will not prevail. They will be greatly shamed, for they will not succeed. Their eternal dishonor will never be forgotten. ¹²O Lord of hosts, you test the righteous, you see the heart and the mind; let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. ¹³Sing to the Lord; praise the Lord! For he has delivered the life of the needy from the hands of evildoers.

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

PSALM 69:7-18 (read responsively)

⁷Surely, for your sake I have suffered reproach,
and shame has covered my face.

**⁸I have become a stranger to my own kindred,
an alien to my mother's children.**

⁹Zeal for your house has eaten me up;
the scorn of those who scorn you has fallen upon me.

**¹⁰I humbled myself with fasting,
but that was turned to my reproach.**

¹¹I put on sackcloth also,
and became a by word among them.

**¹²Those who sit at the gate murmur against me,
and the drunkards make songs about me.**

¹³But as for me, this is my prayer to you, at the time you have set, O LORD:
“In your great mercy, O God, answer me with your unfailing help.

**¹⁴Save me from the mire; do not let me sink;
let me be rescued from those who hate me and out of the deep waters.**

¹⁵Let not the torrent of waters wash over me, neither let the deep swallow me up; do not let the pit shut its mouth upon me.

¹⁶**Answer me, O LORD, for your love is kind;
in your great compassion, turn to me.**

¹⁷Hide not your face from your servant;
be swift and answer me, for I am in distress.

¹⁸**Draw near to me and redeem me;
because of my enemies deliver me.**

SECOND READING

Romans 6:1b-11

In baptism we were incorporated into the reality of Christ's death and resurrection. We have been made new in Christ through his death and resurrection to live freed from sin.

Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For whoever has died is freed from sin. ⁸But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

☒ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

(stand)

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. Matthew.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord!**

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 10:24-39

Jesus warns his disciples that their ministry in his name will meet with opposition. However, he assures them that they need not fear for the truth will come to light. Life is found in Christ.

Jesus said to the twelve: ²⁴“A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; ²⁵it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

²⁶“So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. ²⁷What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. ²⁸Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. ²⁹Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. ³⁰And even the hairs of your head are all counted. ³¹So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

³²“Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; ³³but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

³⁴“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. ³⁵For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law; ³⁶and one’s foes will be members of one’s own household. ³⁷Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. ³⁹Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.”

☞ 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

“Children of the Heavenly Father”

ELW 781

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Children of the heav'nly Father
safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven
such a refuge e'er was given. | 3 Neither life nor death shall ever
from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth,
and their sorrows all he knoweth. |
| 2 God his own doth tend and nourish,
in his holy courts they flourish.
From all evil things he spares them,
in his mighty arms he bears them. | 4 Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne'er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely
to preserve them pure and holy. |

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958
Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

☐ With the whole church, let us 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.**

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)

Illness: Christine Bachman, sister of John Natvig, Richard Bock, Carol Coffey, Don Burton, Joe Doremus, Rodney Edwards, Samuel Garrett, Sherry Henneman, mother of Scott Henneman, Dolores Hiatt, Beth & Richard Holzer, family of James Holzer, Roseann Klug, mother of David Klug, Marcie Lafleur, Joan Nelson, Gary Rodene, Sheri Tipton, Ed & Darlene White, Kimberly Wilson, Joanne Worm

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: *Seminarrians*—Adam Klinker, Katie Larson, Justin Perkins

WE SHARE GOD'S PEACE

- ☐ The peace of Christ be with you always.
- ☑ **And also with you.**

As we share the peace today – and you do so in your home – You are invited you to contact a fellow member by phone, email or letter. You can do that today or any time during the week. Pick someone from the church directory. We could email each other or call each other during this time when we cannot meet. Then each week select another person to contact. Try to make it someone you don't really know and get acquainted with them. Always be sure to leave your address, email, and phone number on your message in case they do not have a directory. Talk to people you know and get the names and addresses of those who might not have directories and try to contact them. By the time we meet again we will have made many new friends.

MEAL

(sit)

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

Please Support the overall ministry of Kountze Memorial during these difficult times. If you are able, please mail in your offering or donate on-line. Thank you!



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Albinoni Sonata No. 11”

arr. David Baldwin
Douglas C. Carlsen, trumpet

THE TABLE IS PREPARED

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(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** God of goodness and growth,
- C** all creation is yours, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. Water and word, wine and bread: these are signs of your abundant grace. Nourish us through these gifts, that we will proclaim your steadfast love in our communities and in the world, through Jesus Christ, our strength and our song. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

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

PREFACE FOR TIME AFTER PENTECOST

- ☐ It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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 Friends of Jesus, come to his table.

C **We receive nourishment for our journey.**

(sit)

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.

(stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- ☞ Dearest Lord Jesus,
- ☞ **we believe that you are present in the Lord’s Supper. We love you above all things, and we earnestly desire to receive you. Since we cannot at this moment receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into our hearts. We embrace you as if you are already there and we unite ourselves wholly to you. Never permit us to be separated from you. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

- ☞ Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Almighty God, Father, Son ✠, and Holy Spirit bless you now and keep you in eternal love.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

HYMN

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

ELW 674

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Let us talents and tongues employ,
reaching out with a shout of joy:
bread is broken, the wine is poured,
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.</p> <p><i>Refrain</i>
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,
pass the Word around: loaves abound!</p> | <p>2 Christ is able to make us one,
at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless,
love in word and in deed express. <i>Refrain</i></p> <p>3 Jesus calls us in, sends us out
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,
gives us love to tell, bread to share:
God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere! <i>Refrain</i></p> |
|---|--|

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

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DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace. Jesus Christ is with you always.
- ☞ **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Mark Jones, Organist

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 until further notice. In the meantime, join us for Worship on Cox channel 13 or live streamed at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/live-streaming/>



KOUNTZE

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June 21, 2020

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

The Kountze Food Pantry will continue to operate out of the garage door at least until July 31st. We believe the open air environment is better to protect volunteers and guests from the virus. We will reevaluate at that time. We are seeing an upward trend in numbers of guests at the pantry. Fortunately, the Food Bank for the Heartland received a large influx of donations, and is temporarily providing food to Kountze for free, or mostly free, since April 28th. We also received \$3,175.00 during the Omaha Gives event. As always, the Pantry is in need of toilet tissue. If you can donate a package or two, it will be greatly appreciated! When volunteering, please sign up for available slots at the link below.

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



Attendance and Giving

Online Attendance: 186

Pantry Guests Served: 600

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 32

Offering:

\$11,213.00 (Regular) \$1,688.05 (Specials)

\$1,087.00 (Phase 2)

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

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Kelcey Renae Fike and Randall Fike by Mary Jo Fike; in memory of Barbara Saklar by Tracey Saklar, Kris Placzek, and family; in honor of LeClare Steffen on her 97th birthday (6/20) by her son, Thomas.

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God in memory of my dad, Don Nippert, by Marv & Kris Olson



Christ gives us a new life.

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

Sunday	Matthew 10:24-39	The call and cost of discipleship
Monday	Jeremiah 20:7-13	Jeremiah denounces his persecutors
Tuesday	Romans 6:1b-11	Dying and rising with Christ
Wednesday	Genesis 21:8-21	Hagar and Ishmael are sent away
Thursday	Psalms 86:1-10, 16-17	Save me, Lord
Friday	Ephesians 4:17-24	The old and the new life
Saturday	Psalms 69:7-18	God can be trusted
Sunday	Matthew 10:40-42	Receiving and serving others

taking
faith
home

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Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in the newness of life. **Romans 6:4 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Merciful God, help us to trust that all that we are and hope to be is found in the new life we have through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, all good things come from you; thank you for your goodness that gives us food to eat this day. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God draw near to you and free you from your fears through Christ your Lord. (Psalm 69:18)

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

- ☐ What is something you would like to accomplish in the next year?
- ☐ What is it about that accomplishment that is important to you?
- ☐ Why do you think Jesus wants us to value a relationship with him above all things?

Read: Matthew 10:24-39.

Core values are important because they define what we stand for and who we are. Jesus indicates that following him is non-negotiable and an all-or-nothing proposition. Sometimes we must let go of what we treasure in life to gain what really counts in God's kingdom. In the process, Jesus gives a number of stark contrasts, many of which are hard to hear. Following Jesus will lead some to be rejected by family, which was a reality in first century Christianity and can be true today, too. Acknowledge Jesus and he will acknowledge you. Deny him and he will deny you. In the midst of these tough passages is Jesus' repeated theme of not being afraid (vv. 26, 28, and 31). Jesus warns us not to deny him before others, but Peter does three times before Jesus' crucifixion (Matthew 26:69-75). What Peter learns is that mercy, not judgment is the ultimate core value in the kingdom. God's mercy takes away our fear. Jesus calls us to make a difference and to rely on him. We all falter. Jesus doesn't. This is the newness of life that the Apostle Paul identifies (Romans 6:4) for the baptized that stands out for its dramatically different way of living. How does God's mercy help you not to be afraid?

Pray: **Dear God, may our life in Christ give us peace and good courage as we live each day with others. Amen.**

Sunday is Father's Day. Take time to offer prayers of thanksgiving and support for fathers and all men as they seek to be caregivers to those around them. Begin your prayers by saying, "Dear God, thank you for (name) . . ." Contact or visit those for whom you have prayed and/or send them a card as a sign of your appreciation and thankfulness.

Baptism involves the mystery of God's work that claims us as God's own in Christ. Think about or tell a story about your baptism or that of someone else. Fill a bowl with water. Dip your fingers into the water. Make the sign of the cross on your forehead or that of another person. *Say:* **May God bless you with new life in Christ each and every day.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Jeremiah 28:5-9; Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18
Romans 6:12-23; Matthew 10:40-42