

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

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August 16, 2020

9:00 AM

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST**



*In Isaiah we hear that God's house shall be a house of prayer for all people and that God will gather the outcasts of Israel. The Canaanite woman in today's gospel is a Gentile, an outsider, who is unflinching in her request that Jesus heal her daughter. As Jesus commends her bold faith, how might our church extend its mission to those on the margins of society? In our gathering around word and meal we receive strength to be signs of comfort, healing, and justice for those in need.*

# 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.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1</b> We come to you for healing, Lord,<br/>of body, mind, and soul,<br/>and pray that by your Spirit's touch<br/>we may again be whole.</p> <p><b>2</b> As once you walked through ancient streets<br/>and reached toward those in pain,<br/>come, risen Christ, among us still<br/>with pow'r to heal again.</p> <p><b>3</b> You touch us through physicians' skills,<br/>through nurses' gifts of care,<br/>and through the love of faithful friends<br/>who lift our lives in prayer.</p> | <p><b>4</b> When nights are long with wakefulness,<br/>through days when strength runs low,<br/>grant us your gift of patience, Lord,<br/>your calming peace to know.</p> <p><b>5</b> We come to you, O loving Lord,<br/>in our distress and pain,<br/>in trust that through our nights and days<br/>your grace will heal, sustain.</p> |
|---|---|

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

## 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.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Refrain*

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,**

- 1** Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. ☑
- 2** Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. ☑
- 3** Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:  
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. ☑
- 4** For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. ☑

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ God of all peoples,
- ☑ **your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name will be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

*The prophet calls upon Israel to do justice in view of God's imminent intervention to save. Righteousness and obedience define who belongs to the Israelite community—not race, nationality, or any other category.*

Thus says the Lord:

Maintain justice, and do what is right,  
for soon my salvation will come,  
and my deliverance be revealed. ...

<sup>6</sup>And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,  
to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord,  
and to be his servants,

all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it,  
and hold fast my covenant—

<sup>7</sup>these I will bring to my holy mountain,  
and make them joyful in my house of prayer;  
their burnt offerings and their sacrifices  
will be accepted on my altar;

for my house shall be called a house of prayer  
for all peoples.

<sup>8</sup>Thus says the Lord God,  
who gathers the outcasts of Israel,  
I will gather others to them  
besides those already gathered.

□ The word of the Lord.

☒ Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 67 (*read responsively*)

<sup>1</sup>May God be merciful to us and bless us;  
may the light of God's face shine upon us.

<sup>2</sup>**Let your way be known upon earth,  
your saving health among all nations.**

<sup>3</sup>Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>4</sup>**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the nations on earth.**

<sup>5</sup>Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.

<sup>6</sup>**The earth has brought forth its increase;  
God, our own God, has blessed us.**

<sup>7</sup>May God give us blessing,  
**and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.**

## SECOND READING

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

*God has not rejected Israel. Rather, the call and gifts of God are irrevocable so that, while all have been disobedient, God has mercy upon all.*

**T**he Apostle Paul writes: <sup>1</sup>I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. <sup>2a</sup>God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. ...

<sup>29</sup>For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. <sup>30</sup>Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, <sup>31</sup>so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. <sup>32</sup>For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

☐ 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 15:21-28

*Jesus teaches his disciples that true purity is a matter of the heart rather than outward religious observances. Almost immediately, this teaching is tested when a woman considered to be a religious outsider approaches him for help.*

**J**esus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup>Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “*Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.*” <sup>23</sup>But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “*Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.*” <sup>24</sup>He answered, “*I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.*” <sup>25</sup>But she came and knelt before him, saying, “*Lord, help me.*” <sup>26</sup>He answered, “*It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.*” <sup>27</sup>She said, “*Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.*” <sup>28</sup>Then Jesus answered her, “*Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.*” And her daughter was healed instantly.

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

## CHILDREN’S BLESSING

*(stand)***HYMN OF THE DAY***“God Whose Almighty Word”***ELW 673**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>1</b> God, whose almighty word<br/>chaos and darkness heard<br/>and took their flight:<br/>hear us, we humbly pray,<br/>and where the gospel day<br/>sheds not its glorious ray,<br/>let there be light.</p> <p><b>2</b> Christ, who once came to bring,<br/>on your redeeming wing,<br/>healing and sight;<br/>health to the troubled mind,<br/>sight where illusions blind;<br/>oh, now to humankind<br/>let there be light.</p> | <p><b>3</b> Spirit of truth and love,<br/>life-giving, holy dove,<br/>speed forth your flight;<br/>move on the water's face<br/>bearing the lamp of grace,<br/>and in earth's darkest place<br/>let there be light.</p> <p><b>4</b> Holy and blessed three,<br/>glorious Trinity,<br/>Wisdom, Love, Might:<br/>boundless as ocean's tide,<br/>rolling in fullest pride,<br/>through the earth, far and wide,<br/>let there be light.</p> |
|--|--|

Text: John Marriott, 1780-1825, alt.

**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:**    **P** Lord, in your mercy,  
                  **G** 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 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Orville & Julie Knapp

**Illness:** Christine Bachman, sister of John Natvig, Richard Bock, Karen Bucholz, Don Burton, Carol Coffey, Joe Doremus, Rodney Edwards, Samuel Garrett, Sherry Henneman, mother of Scott Henneman, Richard Holzer, father of James Holzer, Renee Johnson, daughter-in-law of Ken & Linda Johnson, Marcie Lafleur, Gary Rodene, Vinn Stephens, Sheri Tipton, Dorothy Vancaster, 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:** *Seminarians*—Adam Klinker, Katie Larson, Justin Perkins

## WE SHARE GOD’S PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**G** 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

*“Trusting Jesus”*

Ira Sankey  
Kevin Larkowski, Soloist

## THE TABLE IS PREPARED

(stand)

## OFFERTORY HYMN

*“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”*

ELW 184



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## OFFERING PRAYER

- P** 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

**P** 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



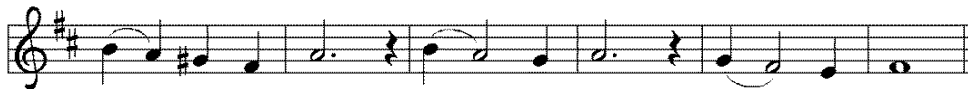
Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



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.

- 1 What a friend we have in Jesus,  
all our sins and griefs to bear!  
What a privilege to carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!  
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;  
oh, what needless pain we bear--  
all because we do not carry  
ev'rything to God in prayer!
- 2 Have we trials and temptations?  
Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged--  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Can we find a friend so faithful  
who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--  
take it to the Lord in prayer.
- 3 Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
cumbered with a load of care?  
Precious Savior, still our refuge--  
take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Do your friends despise, forsake you?  
Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In his arms he'll take and shield you;  
you will find a solace there.

Text: Joseph Scriven, 1820-1886

*(stand)***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

- P** God of the welcome table,
- C** in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all, through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life. 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

*“O Zion, Haste”*

ELW 668

**1 O Zion, haste, your mission high fulfilling,  
to tell to all the world that God is light;  
that he who made all nations is not willing  
one soul should perish, lost in shades of  
night.**

### *Refrain*

**Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace,  
tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release.**

**2 Publish to ev'ry people, tongue, and nation  
that God, in whom they live and move, is  
love;  
tell how he stooped to save his lost creation  
and died on earth that we might live above.  
*Refrain***

**3 He comes again! O Zion, ere you meet him,  
make known to ev'ry heart his saving  
grace;  
let none whom he has ransomed fail to greet  
him,  
through your neglect, unfit to see his face.  
*Refrain***

Text: Mary A. Thomson, 1834-1923

## DISMISSAL

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

## POSTLUDE

*Mark Jones, Organist*

✠ ✠ ✠

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## Special Notice

If you plan to attend Worship in person, please call/e-mail the church office no later than noon on the Thursday before the Sunday you want to attend. Please note that the plans set forth are subject to immediate change. You may still join us for Worship on Cox channel 13 or live streamed at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/live-streaming/>



# KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

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Omaha, NE 68131  
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August 16, 2020



## August 23<sup>rd</sup> is Rally Day and the First Day of Sunday School!

With new social distancing protocols in place, we will begin the 2020/2021 Sunday school year online. Lessons will be videotaped and posted on the KMLC Parents Facebook page as well as the Kountze Memorial Facebook Page. In addition, there will be pintables and activity suggestions that complement the lesson. If you would prefer to receive the lessons by email, please contact me at [kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:kristin@kmlchurch.org). This Sunday School year we will be focusing on the Liturgical Action of the church using the Godly Play curriculum. This includes lessons on Baptism and Holy Eucharist, as well as lessons about the liturgical

### Attendance and Giving

**Online Attendance:** 166

**9:00 AM Attendance:** (Reservation Only) 39

**Pantry Guests Served:** 538

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 29

**Offering:**

\$21,967.00 (Regular)      \$13,212.61 (Specials)

\$5,422.00 (Phase 2)

seasons. Register by completing the online registration. Link below:

<https://form.jotform.com/Kristinboe/Registration>

If you are interested in volunteering your time to present a lesson, please contact [kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:kristin@kmlchurch.org). All the lessons are scripted and materials are provided. Thank you!

### Kountze Food Pantry Volunteers

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

**Fridays, 5:00 - 7:00 PM**

If you would like to volunteer, please sign up at the following link. Thank-you!

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

### Today at Kountze

#### Congratulations!

Congratulations to Orville & Julie Knapp who celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on August 14.

#### Sunday School

Each Sunday Kristin will post a video of the Children's sermon on the KMLC Parent Group Facebook Page. In addition, she will provide 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!

*God's saving work is for all people.*

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

Sunday	Matthew 15:1-28	A woman's faith
Monday	Isaiah 56:1-8	God's saving power is everywhere
Tuesday	Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32	God saves Jews and Gentiles
Wednesday	Genesis 45:1-15	Joseph and his brothers
Thursday	Psalms 133	Living together in peace
Friday	Matthew 28:16-20	The Great Commission
Saturday	Psalms 67	Tell the nations to praise God
Sunday	Matthew 16:13-20	Peter's confession of Christ



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Go to [www.vibrantfaithathome.org](http://www.vibrantfaithathome.org) for more faith-forming activities.

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations. **Psalm 67:12 (NRSV)**

**A Prayer for the Week:**

God of the nations, we thank you for your mercy and grace that is meant not only for those we know and love but for all people through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Gracious God, we thank you for this food and for all those who have planted, harvested, transported, processed, and prepared it for us this day. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May God's face shine upon you, be gracious to you, and bless you. (Psalm 67:1)

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

- ☑ Think or tell about a time you went to or met someone from a foreign country.
- ☑ What do you learn by meeting people from different cultures?
- ☑ It is easy to overlook how God's grace and mercy is not just for ourselves but for all people. How can you extend kindness to someone of a culture that is foreign to you?

*Read:* Matthew 15:21-26.

The Canaanite woman is central to this story for many reasons. She is a woman and she is a foreigner, both good reasons for Jesus not to talk to her and especially not to address her plea before addressing the needs of the Jewish people, "the lost sheep of the house of Israel" (v. 24). This woman is also a critical figure because her plea for help changes Jesus' response to her (v. 28). It is not easy to understand how this woman seems to teach and change Jesus, but she does. The result, however, is clear: Jesus' ministry, like that of the God of the Old Testament (see Psalm 67) is for all the nations, not just the sons and daughters of Abraham. This story lifts up the essential mission of Jesus and the church of all generations. It is the Great Commission of Matthew 28:16-20. Directed by Jesus, we are to make disciples of all nations, not just our ethnic group, not just "our people," and especially not just our nation. With whom might Jesus be calling you to share God's love and mercy?

*Pray:* **Generous God, help us to see the breadth and depth of your love for all people in the world through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The words we say to others can sometimes be hurtful. In Matthew 15:11, Jesus is warning us to be careful of what you say, "It is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles". Is there someone you know who needs to hear kind, caring words, rather than hurtful ones? Take time to say loving and encouraging words to that person by writing a note, calling, or sending an email.

The theme this week is, "God's saving work is for all people." Psalm 67 is a song of praise to God and a reminder of God's continual blessings on us. Write the words from Psalm 67:3 on a piece of paper and place it near your bedside so that when you rise and when you lie down, you can recite: **"Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you."**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Isaiah 51:1-6; Psalm 138  
Romans 12:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20