

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 Saturday or 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

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

March 20 & 21, 2021

Kountze Food Pantry Volunteers and Clothing Needed

Mondays, 7:30 - 9:00 AM

9:00 - 11:00 AM

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Fridays, 4:00 - 7:00 PM

Have you ever bought what you needed at Kohl's or JC Penney, received either Kohl's Cash or a Penney's Reward, and then wondered "What should I use this for?" Use it to buy underwear, socks, hats and gloves! If you wait until the end of a season and buy on clearance, you can get a lot for your money. There is a need for everything in our community! Please put your donations in the Food Pantry Box in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you very much! If you are able to volunteer, please sign up by using the link below:
<https://form.jotform.com/200834787701155>

Youth Summer Trip

We're headed to Tulsa, Oklahoma!

Summer Trip for 8th—12th graders will be July 31—August 7, 2021. Let us know of your interest by March 22. An email to Pastor Shari (shari@kmlchurch.org) will greatly help in the planning. Registration forms will be sent out soon.

Easter Sunday Attendance—9:00 & 11:00 AM

If you are interested in attending Easter worship please register as soon as possible. Please note that we

Attendance and Giving

Saturday Attendance: 21

Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 73

Wednesday Attendance: 23

Total: 117

Streaming Attendance: 146

Cox Cable Attendance: 255

Pantry Guests Served: 883

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 20

Offering:

\$10,538.00 (Regular) \$2,971.18 (Specials)

\$737.00 (Debt Reduction)

are having two services. Also, we are hoping to hold the Easter Vigil on April 3 at 10:00 PM if there is interest. If you are interested, please register as soon as possible. You may also make reservations for Maundy Thursday and Good Friday at any time.

Easter Egg Hunt!

10:15 AM (following the 9:00 AM service)

All children, registered for the Easter Sunday services, are welcome to join in an Easter Egg Hunt at 10:15 AM. Bring a basket and join us in the Green Space following the 9:00 AM service.

Today at Kountze

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God in honor of Pr. Inbarasu's sincere & timely visitations given in gratitude by Pam & Bob Johnson

Television Broadcast is sponsored by Mary Olson in memory of Art Olson's birthday.

Online Sunday School

Lessons are videotaped and posted on the KMLC Parents Facebook page as well as our Kountze Facebook Page.

Youth Forum

In-Person & Zoom on Sundays, 10:15 - 11:00 AM

All 9th - 12th Graders are invited to join us!

We will meet in person in the Youth Room and on Zoom each week

1st Sunday: Bible Ponderings

2nd Sunday: High School Hang Out

3rd Sunday: Serving in the World

4th Sunday: Host Middle School Hangout

5th Sunday: Adventures (if on Zoom, we will carry you along with us.)

Contact Pastor Shari (402-341-7761 or

shari@kmlchurch.org if you need the Zoom Link info.

We will continue to be masked and physically distanced for all meetings in person at the church.

A time for new beginnings.

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

Sunday	John 12:20-33	The hour has come
Monday	Jeremiah 31:31-34	A new covenant from God
Tuesday	Hebrews 5:5-10	Jesus as high priest
Wednesday	2 Corinthians 3:5-18	Ministers of the new covenant
Thursday	Nehemiah 1:5-11	Nehemiah prays for his people
Friday	Hebrews 8:6-13	A better covenant
Saturday	Psalms 51:1-12	A prayer for cleansing
Sunday	Mark 14:1-15:47	The passion of Jesus



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But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. Jeremiah 31:33 (NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

God of new beginnings, help us to face our shortcomings knowing that you promise to be our God and that we are your people through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, with this food restore our bodies as your promise of love and care for us restores our hearts. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God create in you a clean heart through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord.

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

- Think or tell about a time you failed at something.
- Failure is a part of life, but when we learn from our mistakes, it is not a total failure, but a learning moment. When have you learned from your mistakes?
- The Bible is filled with mistakes by God's people, yet God refuses to give up on us. What does that say about the God who reaches out to us through Jesus?

Read: Jeremiah 31:31-34.

Jeremiah is speaking to a people who are either in exile in Babylon or about to be conquered and sent to Babylon. The northern kingdom of Israel had already fallen to the Assyrians well over a hundred years before. Now the southern kingdom of Judah is doomed. The people have been unfaithful and God's promises to Abraham, Moses, and David seem to have come to naught. But Jeremiah prophesies, "Not so." God promises to find a new way, a new covenant. This passage is about God's people only because it is about the God who continues to claim them. God will not give up on the people God loves. It is the very nature and character of God not to give up on us. God finds a way by having a new covenant, a new start. What God ordains will happen: we shall be God's people and God will be our God. We are not there yet. We are people of the new covenant, but the prophesy has not happened completely. We still need to be taught, but the day is coming that God's promise will be fulfilled. How do you learn about faith in Christ?

Pray: **God of the new covenant, give us faith to trust in your promises and courage to walk in your ways through Jesus Christ, the one who came to set us free. Amen.**

Psalm 51 is a prayer for cleansing and pardon. Christian prison ministries reach out to inmates with the love and hope of Jesus Christ. There are many who care for the children and families of prisoners and lead Bible studies and prayer with the prisoners. Pray for those who work with inmates and their families this week.

This is our fifth week suggesting the discipline of using the *Daily Bible Readings*. At the core of new beginnings for Christians is the work of God revealed from the cross and in the Bible. Begin each day's reading by reciting Psalm 51:10: "Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me." Say the *Prayer for the Week* after each reading, add your own prayers, and end by saying: **Remember that you are God's, and to God you shall return.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12
Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33