

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

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

2650 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68131-3616
402-341-7761
www.kmlchurch.org

March 24, 2021

7:00 PM

PRELUDE

"A Lenten Song"

by Charles Demorest
Mark Jones, organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)
HYMN *"Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"* **ELW 517**

- 1 Lord, keep us steadfast in your word;
curb those who by deceit or sword
would wrest the kingdom from your Son
and bring to naught all he has done.**
- 2 Lord Jesus Christ, your pow'r make
known,
for you are Lord of lords alone;
defend your holy church, that we
may sing your praise eternally.**

- 3 O Comforter of priceless worth,
send peace and unity on earth;
support us in our final strife
and lead us out of death to life.**

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546;
tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

THANKSGIVING FOR LIGHT

- P Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
C the light no darkness can overcome.**

- P Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening,
C and the day is almost over.**

- P Behold, now is acceptable time;
C Now is the day of salvation.**

P Turn us again, O God of our salvation,
C that the light of your face may shine upon us.

P May your justice shine like the sun,
C and may the poor be lifted up.

P O Lord, our redemption:
C Be our protection. Direct our minds by your gracious presence. Watch over our paths and guide us with your love through the hidden snares of life. Fix our hearts on you as we go forward, so that following in faith, we may arrive at your goal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

(sit)

PSALM 140 (read responsively)

¹Deliver me, O LORD, from evildoers; protect me from those who are violent,

²who plan evil things in their minds and stir up wars continually.

**3They make their tongue sharp as a snake's,
and under their lips is the venom of vipers.**

⁴Guard me, O LORD, from the hands of the wicked;
protect me from the violent who have planned my downfall.

**5The arrogant have hidden a trap for me,
and with cords they have spread a net,
along the road they have set snares for me.**

⁶I say to the LORD, "You are my God;
give ear, O LORD, to the voice of my supplications."

**7O LORD, my LORD, my strong deliverer,
you have covered my head in the day of battle.**

⁸Do not grant, O LORD, the desires of the wicked;
do not further their evil plot.

**9Those who surround me lift up their heads;
let the mischief of their lips overwhelm them!**

¹⁰Let burning coals fall on them!

Let them be flung into pits, no more to rise!

**11Do not let the slanderer be established in the land;
let evil speedily hunt down the violent!**

¹²I know that the LORD maintains the cause of the needy,
and executes justice for the poor.

**13Surely the righteous shall give thanks to your name;
the upright shall live in your presence.**

P Jesus said, I am the light of the world.

C Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness.

SECOND READING

Luke 22:31-34

“Simon, Simon, listen! Satan has demanded to sift all of you like wheat,³²but I have prayed for you that your own faith may not fail; and you, when once you have turned back, strengthen your brothers.”³³And he said to him, “Lord, I am ready to go with you to prison and to death!”³⁴Jesus said, “I tell you, Peter, the cock will not crow this day, until you have denied three times that you know me.”

P Jesus said, I am the light of the world.

C Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness.

(sit)

FROM MARTIN LUTHER'S SMALL CATECHISM (1529)

The Seventh Petition:

P “But deliver us from evil.” What does this mean?

C we pray in this petition, as in a summary, that our father in heaven may deliver us from all manner of evil, whether it affect body or soul, property or reputation, and that at last, when the hour of death comes, he may grant us a blessed end and graciously take us from this world of sorrow to himself in heaven.

P “Amen.” What does this mean?

C It means that I should be assured that such petitions are acceptable to our heavenly Father and are heard by him, for he himself commanded us to pray like this and promised to hear us. “Amen, Amen” means “Yes, yes, it shall be so.”

PRAYER FROM GERMAN MASS, SAXON ANGEDA OF 1540

P Lord God, heavenly Father,

C you know that we are set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: Grant us such strength and protection, to support us in all danger, and carry us through all temptations; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SERMON

Pastor Hall

1 Deliver me from evil;
defend me, Lord, from wrong.
The violent have gathered,
with poison on their tongue.
From those who plot to hurt me
or catch me in their snare,
protect me, Lord, and keep me
safeguarded in your care.

2 O Lord, I have confessed you
to be my God alone.
Now hear my cry for mercy
and make your power known.
O sovereign Lord and Savior,
my armor in the strife,
let not the wicked triumph
who wish to take my life.

3 Let their own evil strike them
and cause their overthrow,
so that the poor see justice
when evil is brought low.
The righteous will sing praises,
proclaim your name and grace;
the upright will live safely
within your sure embrace.

Psalter Hymnal, 1912 (public domain)

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

(Paraphrase of the Lord's Prayer following Luther's German Mass, 1526; Luther Works, v. 53, p. 78-79)

- P** Dear friends in Christ, since we have come in the name of the Lord to [hear the gospel], I invite you to lift up your hearts to God and pray with me as Christ has taught us and graciously promised to hear us:
- P** God, *our Father in heaven*, look with mercy on us, your needy children on earth. Grant us grace, so that *your holy name be hallowed* by us and all the world, through the pure and true teaching of your Word; graciously turn from us all false doctrine and evil living, by which your precious name is being blasphemed and profaned. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- P** *Your kingdom come* to us and expand, that all transgressors who are blinded and bound in the devil's kingdom be brought to know Jesus Christ, your Son, by faith, and that the number of Christians may grow. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer.**

- P** May we be strengthened by your Spirit to *do and to respect your will*, both in life and death, in good times and bad, and always to break, slay, and sacrifice our own wills. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- P** *Give us our daily bread*, preserve us from greed and selfish cares, and help us to trust that you will provide for all our needs. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- P** *Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us*, so that our hearts may rest and rejoice in a good conscience before you, and that no sin may ever frighten or alarm us. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- P** *Lead us not into temptation* but help us by your Spirit to subdue our sinful desires, despise the sinful world and its ways. Lord, in your mercy,
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- P** Lastly, O heavenly Father, *deliver us from all evil* of both body and soul, now and forever. Lord, in your mercy.
- C** **Hear our prayer.**
- P** We trust, O Lord, in your great mercy that you will hear and answer us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

(stand)

CLOSING PRAYERS

- P** Almighty God,
- C** you have called us, your servants, to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.
- P** We give thanks to you, heavenly Father,
- C** through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have graciously protected us today. We ask you to forgive us all our sins, where we have done wrong, and graciously to protect us tonight. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us. Amen.
- P** We are again bold enough to pray as our Lord taught us:
- 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.
- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.
- P** Almighty God, the Father,  the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.
- C** Amen.

**1 O Trinity, O blessed Light,
O Unity of sov'reign might:
as now the fi'ry sun departs,
shed holy light within our hearts.**

**2 To you our morning song of praise,
to you our evening prayer we raise;
to you in awe we bend the knee
from age to age, eternally.**

**3 All glory be to God above
and to the Son, the prince of love,
and to the Spirit, One in Three!
We praise you, blessed Trinity.**

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397; tr. composite

DISMISSAL

(*sit*)

POSTLUDE

"My Song Is Love Unknown"

set. Karl Osterland
Mark Jones, *organ*





Maundy Thursday, April 1

7PM Worship Online & In Person (***with reservations only***)

Good Friday, April 2

12-3 PM Ecumenical Good Friday Service:

Seven Words from the Cross with Guest Speakers & String Quartet
(no reservation required)

7 PM Online & In Person (***with reservation only***)

Tenebrae (Veneration of the Cross and Service of Shadows)

Holy Saturday, April 3

10 PM Worship Online & In Person (***with reservation only***)

Easter Vigil (Fire, Word, Water, Eucharist)

There will be no 5PM Saturday Service

Easter Sunday, April 4

9AM Worship Online & In Person (***with reservation only***)

Kountze Brass

10:15AM Easter Egg Hunt in the Green Space

All children, **registered** for the Easter Sunday services, are welcome to join in an Easter Egg Hunt. Bring a basket and join us in the Green Space following worship.

11 AM Worship Online & In Person (***with reservation only***)

Kountze Brass