

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

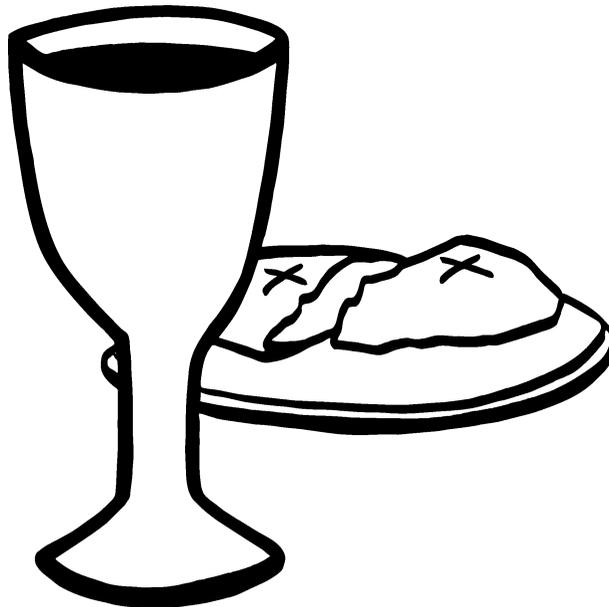
Olaf Roynesdal, Senior Pastor
Shari Duminy, Associate Pastor
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor
Inba Inbarasu, Visitation Pastor

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

August 15, 2021

9:00 & 11:00 AM

TWELFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



Wisdom prepares a feast, sets her table, and invites all to come and eat her bread and drink her wine. The first chapter of John's gospel owes much to the biblical tradition that imagined Wisdom as existing before anything was created and having a role in the work of creation. Christ, the wisdom of God (1 Cor. 1:24), today invites us to eat his flesh and drink his blood. John's gospel includes no account of the institution of the Lord's supper, but here we can't help hearing Jesus' words as an invitation to the meal of bread and wine we share.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, Father, † Son and Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P God our provider,

C help us we pray.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

We question your ways when they differ from our ways.

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world. Amen.**

P Beloved people of God: in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

C Amen.

- 1 Morning has broken like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!**
- 2 Sweet the rain's new fall, sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.**
- 3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise ev'ry morning,
God's recreation of the new day!**

Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965

Text © Miss E. Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

- ℙ** 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

- ℙ** Ever-loving God,
- ☩** **your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Proverbs 9:1-6

Wisdom is portrayed as a woman who invites people to partake of her banquet. Just as ordinary food is necessary for physical life, Wisdom's food—insight and understanding—is necessary for fullness of life with God. Partaking of Wisdom's banquet is the way to life.

Wisdom has built her house,
she has hewn her seven pillars.

²She has slaughtered her animals, she has mixed her wine,
she has also set her table.

³She has sent out her servant-girls, she calls
from the highest places in the town,

⁴“*You that are simple, turn in here!*”

To those without sense she says,

⁵“*Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.*”

⁶*Lay aside immaturity, and live,
and walk in the way of insight.*”

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

PSALM 34:9-14 (read responsively)

⁹Fear the LORD, you saints of the LORD,
for those who fear the LORD lack nothing.

¹⁰**The lions are in want and suffer hunger,
but those who seek the LORD lack nothing that is good.**

¹¹Come, children, and listen to me;

I will teach you reverence for the LORD.

¹²**Who among you takes pleasure in life
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?**

¹³Keep your tongue from evil
and your lips from lying words.

¹⁴**Turn from evil and do good;
seek peace and pursue it.**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 5:15-20

True wisdom integrates our new reality in Christ with our Christian fellowship and daily conduct. Because we are filled with the Spirit, Christians regularly rejoice together, give thanks to God for one another, and care for one another. In this way we revere our Lord Jesus Christ.

Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise, ¹⁶making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷So do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, ²⁰giving thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.



Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.



When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,



warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.



Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

C Glory to you, O Lord!

HOLY GOSPEL

John 6:51-58

In John's gospel, the feeding of the five thousand leads to extended teaching in which Jesus identifies himself as the true "bread of life." Finally, in these verses, he makes a connection that would not be understood until after his death, in light of the church's celebration of holy communion.

Jesus said, ⁵¹"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh."

⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" ⁵³So Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. ⁵⁴Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood have eternal life, and I will raise them up on the last day; ⁵⁵for my flesh is true food and my blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. ⁵⁷Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever."

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS

SERMON

Pastor Duminy

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Be Thou My Vision"

ELW 793

- 1** Be thou my vision,
O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me,
save that thou art:
thou my best thought both
by day and by night,
waking or sleeping,
thy presence my light.
- 2** Be thou my wisdom,
and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and
thou with me, Lord.
Thou my soul's shelter,
and thou my high tow'r,
raise thou me heav'nward,
O Pow'r of my pow'r.

- 3** Riches I heed not,
nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance,
now and always:
thou and thou only,
the first in my heart,
great God of heaven,
my treasure thou art.
- 4** Light of my soul,
after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys,
O heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart,
whatever befall,
still be my vision,
O Ruler of all.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

¶ God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we 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,
 C hear our prayer.

(In our prayers today, during a time of silence, pray for those listed below and for others according to their needs)

Sympathy: to the family and friends of David Penning

Illness: Richard Bock, Don Burton, Gail Durban, Mike Edris, Rodney Edwards, Richard Holzer, Renee Johnson, Mark Kidder, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, mother of David Klug, Marcie Lafleur, Chris Meyer, Keith Nickeson, father of Diane Nickeson-Ray, Mary Olson, Toby Rees, Gary Rodene, Sheri Tipton, John Waterman, Darlene White

Other Prayers: *Those serving in the military* – Amy Dyer, Wyatt Johnson, Josh Kropenske, 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; and Dan & Ginny Rath, international translators

Other Prayers: *Seminarians*—Adam Klinker, Katie Larson, Giselle Loucks, Justin Perkins

WE SHARE GOD’S PEACE

P The peace of Christ be with you always.
 C And also with you.

MEAL

(sit)

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

Please Support the overall ministry of Kountze Memorial during these difficult times. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate in this portion of worship. If you would like, use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online. If you are able, please mail in your offering or donate on-line. Thank you!



MUSICAL OFFERING

“Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor”

Traditional
Kevin Larkowski, *vocalist*

THE TABLE IS PREPARED

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful”

ELW 184

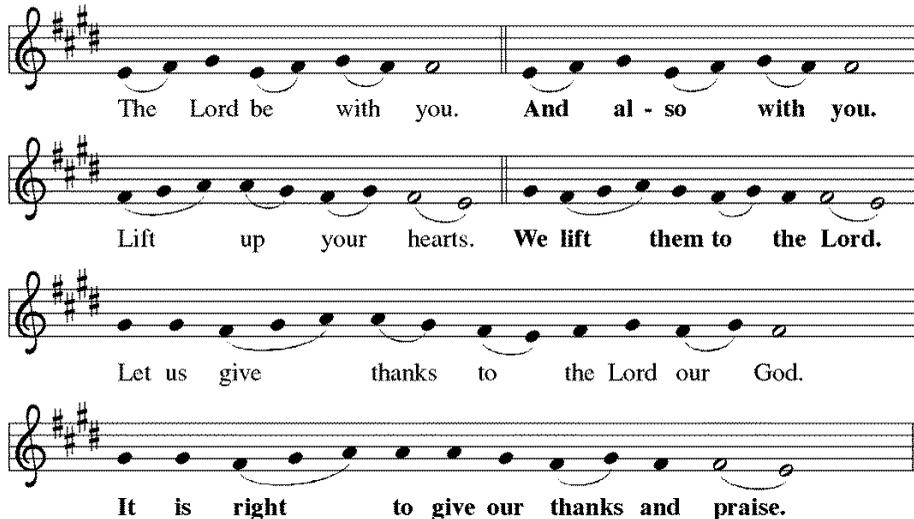
Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

P Jesus, Bread of life,

C you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

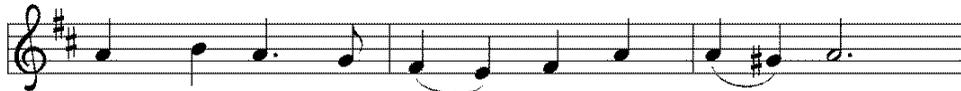
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE FOR SUNDAYS IN PENTECOST

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

☐ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us all to pray:

☑ **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 Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.

C Come!

THE DISTRIBUTION

All baptized Christians who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and his Real Presence in, with and under the bread and wine, are welcome to the Lord's Supper. We believe that this is the Lord's table and is he who invites you. So you who are strong in faith, come with gratitude. You feel weak in faith, come to be strengthened. And you who feel you have no faith, come so that the God of steadfast love will touch your heart with hope and joy.

Gluten free bread is available; simply request it.

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 Around you, O Lord Jesus,
 your own you gather still
 to share the feast you give us
 with grace our lives to fill.
 You say to us so lovingly,
 “Take, eat! This is my body!
 Take, drink! This is my blood!”

2 We hear your invitation,
 and heed, O Lord, your call;
 your word of consolation
 is spoken here to all.
 It draws us to your loving heart;
 it brings to us your blessing,
 which never will depart.

3 We are your own forever;
 until our final breath
 we will be true and never
 in joy, in grief, in death
 depart from you, for you are still
 among your people dwelling,
 as you have said you will.

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847; tr. composite
 Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

“*My Faith Looks Up to Thee*”

1 My faith looks up to thee,
 thou Lamb of Calvary,
 Savior divine!
 Now hear me while I pray,
 take all my guilt away,
 oh, let me from this day
 be wholly thine!

3 While life's dark maze I tread
 and griefs around me spread,
 be thou my guide;
 bid darkness turn to day,
 wipe sorrow's tears away,
 nor let me ever stray
 from thee aside.

2 May thy rich grace impart
 strength to my fainting heart,
 my zeal inspire;
 as thou hast died for me,
 oh, may my love to thee
 pure, warm, and changeless be,
 a living fire!

4 When ends life's transient dream,
 when death's cold, sullen stream
 shall o'er me roll;
 blest Savior, then, in love
 fear and distrust remove;
 oh, bear me safe above,
 a ransomed soul!

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887

- 1 **Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the unity of heart and mind
is like to that above.**
- 2 **Before our Father's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.**
- 3 **We share our mutual woes,
our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.**
- 4 **From sorrow, toil, and pain,
and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign
through all eternity.**

Text: John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.

(stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P** Jesus, Bread of life,
- G** **we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray. Amen.**

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SENDING

BLESSING

- ☐ The blessing of the Almighty God, Father, † Son and Holy Spirit be upon you now and forever.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

HYMN

“On Our Way Rejoicing”

ELW 537

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 On our way rejoicing
gladly let us go.
Christ our Lord has conquered;
vanquished is the foe.
Christ without, our safety;
Christ within, our joy;
who, if we be faithful,
can our hope destroy?</p> | <p>2 Unto God the Father
joyful songs we sing;
unto God the Savior
thankful hearts we bring;
unto God the Spirit
bow we and adore,
on our way rejoicing
now and evermore. <i>Refrain</i></p> |
|--|---|

Refrain

**On our way rejoicing;
as we forward move,
hearken to our praises,
O blest God of love!**

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-1875, alt.

DISMISSAL

- ☐ Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
☑ Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

† † †

Special Notice

Reservations not required
Vaccinated—Masks optional
Not vaccinated—Masks required
Please maintain a minimum of 3 feet between non-family members

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

August 14 & 15, 2021

Kountze Food Pantry Volunteers Needed:

Mondays, 7:30 - 9 AM, 9 - 11 AM, 11 AM - 1 PM

Fridays, 4 - 7 PM

If you are able to volunteer, please sign up by using the link below:

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

The Kountze Food Pantry is in dire need of an 11:00 am to 1:00 pm volunteer. This brave soul is needed to assist our guests with taking their groceries to their vehicles. It is a physically demanding, yet infinitely rewarding opportunity to serve. Thank you Jacob Rump and Anna Kidder for your summer service.

The Kountze Food Pantry is collecting school supplies to assist our guests. We have begun keeping statistics on the number of children we are serving, and found it is about one third of total individuals. Please leave your school supplies donations in the box in Fellowship Hall. Any contributions will be greatly appreciated!

Senior High Youth Back to School Lock In

Friday, August 20, 7:00 PM

Talk to Pr. Shari if you have questions.

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, August 22, 10:10 AM in the Fellowship Hall

The Committee is nominating the following:

Congregation Council: Dr. Steve Hinrichs, Michael Jensen, Ann Miller and Bruce Nissen.

Endowment Board: Sarah Penn

deFreese Manor Board: With the possibility of impending sale of deFreese Manor, all Board members will remain.

Baptism Seminar

August 29, 10:10 AM

If you are interested in having your child baptized and have not been through a Baptism Seminar before, please join us. We will meet in the Nave. The purpose of the seminar is to introduce parents to the theology of baptism, walk through the baptismal liturgy, discuss scheduling for the baptism, and address any questions the parents might have. Please call the church office to register at 402-341-7761.

Confirmation Orientation

**Wednesday, August 25 starting at 6 PM with a meal
7th & 8th grade students and parents**

You are invited to attend an orientation meeting. We hope to be finished with our meeting time by 7 PM. Registration will take place during this meeting. If you are unable to attend, please make sure you are registered by August 26 in order to help our planning for the year to come and to be sure you have the information you need for the Confirmation year.

Today at Kountze

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of Pr. Olaf for his birthday by Bill & Madaline Christensen; in memory of my parents, Anne & Charles Forslund given by Christine Forslund

Blessing of the Backpacks

Saturday, August 14 & Sunday, August 15

We are sending our teachers and students back to school with prayers and blessings. We welcome students and teachers of all ages to bring their backpacks, book bags, or briefcases to church on Saturday, August 14 or Sunday, August 15. Let's begin the new school year in prayer to celebrate God's gift of learning and bless those in their academic endeavors.

Summer Youth Trip Sharing

August 15th at 10:10 AM in the Fellowship Hall

There will be a presentation of the Tulsa trip and we will be honoring trip sponsors. Special treats will be part of the Fellowship hour. It is the hope that you will consider joining in this sharing opportunity.

'22 Youth Gathering Info Meeting

August 15th at 12:15 PM in the Youth Center

Noon meal will be provided

For all youth (8th to 12th grade this fall)

You and your parents are invited to attend an informational meeting on the Youth Gathering that will be taking place in Minneapolis from July 24 - 28, 2022.

Attendance and Giving

Saturday Attendance: 32

Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 129 11:00: 37

Wednesday Attendance: 14

Total: 212

Streaming Attendance: 81

Cox Cable Attendance: 220

Pantry Guests Served: 783 (includes 268 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 23

Offering:

\$20,749.00 (Regular) \$3,992.85 (Specials)

\$4,527.00 (Debt Reduction)

Jesus as the bread of life binds us together.

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

Sunday	John 6:51-58	Christ, the true food and drink
Monday	Proverbs 9:1-6	Wisdom's feast
Tuesday	Ephesians 5:15-20	Be filled with the Spirit
Wednesday	Acts 2:41-47	Life among believers
Thursday	1 Corinthians 11:23-26	The Lord's Supper
Friday	Matthew 26:17-30	The Passover with the disciples
Saturday	Psalms 34:9-14	God teaches the fear of the Lord
Sunday	John 6:56-71	Many disciples desert Jesus

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taking
faith
home

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh." John 6:51 (NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, we thank you for your love that unites us in Christ and promises us life everlasting. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for the gift of this food today, just as we thank you for Jesus Christ and the gift of his presence to know and to share with one another. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May Jesus, the bread of heaven, bless you with life and faith now and always.

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

- What are some ways you enjoy spending time with family and friends?
- How does having meals together help build relationships?
- How does the Lord's Supper help you experience and feel the closeness of the Christian community?

Read: John 6:51-58.

John's Gospel does not have the words adapted for the Lord's Supper that one finds in Matthew, Luke, or 1 Corinthians. However, here you have Jesus speaking in terms that clearly reflect the Lord's Supper. John's Gospel interprets the meal's significance as a new manna, the bread from heaven that the Israelites received in the wilderness. While the Israelites would continue to complain and turn away from God, those who receive Jesus in the Lord's Supper, the bread from heaven, will live forever. They will abide with Jesus and Jesus with them. Jesus, as the bread from heaven, binds us together as the community of disciples. Such is the power and meaning of this meal for all generations. In the Lord's Supper Jesus has a relationship to his followers and his followers enjoy a relationship to each other. How does the Lord's Supper strengthen your relationship to other Christians? How does the Lord's Supper help you in your relationship with Jesus?

Pray: **Living God, we thank you for Jesus and the Lord's Supper that binds us to him, to one another, and to the promise of eternal life with you. Amen.**

Sharing a meal together is a valuable way to nurture relationships. Invite friends, family, especially those who live alone to have a meal with you, so that you may get to know them better and bless them with your care. Talk about your recent highs and lows and then pray together.

Ephesians 5:19 encourages us to *"sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your heart."* Think of some of your favorite hymns, children's songs, and psalms from the Bible. Sing them, read them as an offering to God, or listen to them online as music strengthens you in your life of faith.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18; Psalm 34:15-22
Ephesians 6:10-20; John 6:56-69**