

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

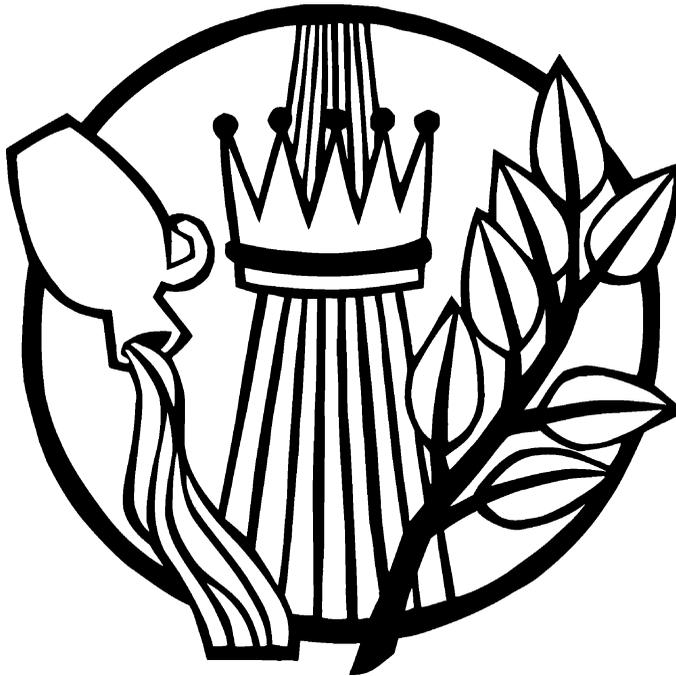
Olaf Roynesdal, Senior Pastor
Shari Duminy, Associate Pastor
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor
Inba Inbarasu, Visitation Pastor

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

September 12, 2021

9:00 & 11:00 AM

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



Three weeks ago we heard Peter's confession of faith as told in John's gospel. This week we hear Mark's version, when Peter says, "You are the Messiah." In John, the stumbling block is Jesus' invitation to eat his flesh, given for the life of the world. In Mark too the scandal has to do with Jesus' words about his own coming death, and here Peter himself stumbles over Jesus' words. But Jesus is anointed (the meaning of messiah) in Mark only on the way to the cross (14:3); so we are anointed in baptism with the sign of the cross.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

G Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

G we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

Refrain

**Lift high the cross,
the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore
his sacred name.**

**1 Come, Christians, follow
where our captain trod,
our king victorious,
Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain***

**2 All newborn servants
of the Crucified
bear on their brows the
seal of him who died. *Refrain***

**3 O Lord, once lifted
on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised,
draw us all to thee. *Refrain***

**4 So shall our song of
triumph ever be:
praise to the Crucified
for victory! *Refrain***

Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827-1912;
rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874-1956

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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

- ☐** Almighty God,
- ☒** **through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we will turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Isaiah 50:4-9a

The image of the servant of the Lord is one of the notable motifs in the book of Isaiah. Today's reading describes the mission of the servant, whom early Christians associated with Jesus. Like Jesus, the servant does not strike back at his detractors but trusts in God's steadfast love.

The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. ⁵The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. ⁶I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. ⁷The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; ⁸he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. ^{9a}It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

PSALM 116:1-9 (read responsively)

¹I love the LORD, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,

²**for the LORD has given ear to me
whenever I called.**

³The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;
I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴**Then I called upon the name of the LORD:
“O LORD, I pray you, save my life.”**

⁵Gracious is the LORD and righteous;
our God is full of compassion.

⁶**The LORD watches over the innocent;
I was brought low, and God saved me.**

⁷Turn again to your rest, O my soul.
for the LORD has dealt well with you.

⁸**For you have rescued my life from death,
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;**

⁹I will walk in the presence of the LORD
in the land of the living.

SECOND READING

James 3:1-12

This text uses various images to illustrate how damaging and hurtful the way we speak to and about others can be. Not only are we to control our speech, but what we say and how we say it are to reflect our faith.

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

C Glory to you, O Lord!

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 8:27-38

This story provides the turning point in Mark's gospel. Peter is the first human being in the narrative to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah, but he cannot accept that as the Messiah Jesus will have to suffer. Moreover, Jesus issues a strong challenge to all by connecting discipleship and the cross.

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, *"Who do people say that I am?"* ²⁸And they answered him, *"John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."* ²⁹He asked them, *"But who do you say that I am?"* Peter answered him, *"You are the Messiah."* ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then Jesus began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, *"Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."*

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, *"If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."*

☞ The Gospel of the Lord.

☞ Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN'S BLESSING (9:00 AM)

SERMON

Pastor Roynesdal

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“O God, Our Hearts Were Shattered”

tune: ELW 352

**1 O God, our hearts were shattered
On that horrendous day;
We heard the news and gathered
To grieve and then to pray.
We cried to you and wondered,
"Where did the violence start?"
The world as we had known it
Had just been torn apart.**

**2 We heard of those who perished —
Of heroes' sacrifice.
We paused again to cherish
The gifts of love and life.
We worried for the future;
We hugged our loved ones then.
We cried, "Can peace be found here?"
"We can't let terror win!"**

**3 We sought to answer terror
The only way we knew —
With anger toward the stranger
And calls for vengeance, too.
Yet this is not your answer,
Nor what you would create.
May we live toward a future
Where love will conquer hate.**

**4 God, give us faith and wisdom
To be your healing hands;
Give open minds that listen
To truth from all your lands.
Give strength to work for justice;
Grant love that casts out fear.
Then peace and not destruction
Will be the victor here.**

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THE APOSTLES' CREED

- P** God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- C** **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)

Illness: Richard Bock, Karen Buchholz, Don Burton, David & Angelica Demarche, family of Albert & Ilse Grage, Gail Durban, Mike Edris, Rodney Edwards, Mary Hilkemann, Richard Holzer, Renee Johnson, Mark Kidder, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, mother of David Klug, Marcie Lafleur, Chris Meyer, Lorie Groenjes Nielsen, 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

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

“Requiem”

composed by: Gilykson
arr. Craig Hella Johnson

THE TABLE IS PREPARED

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

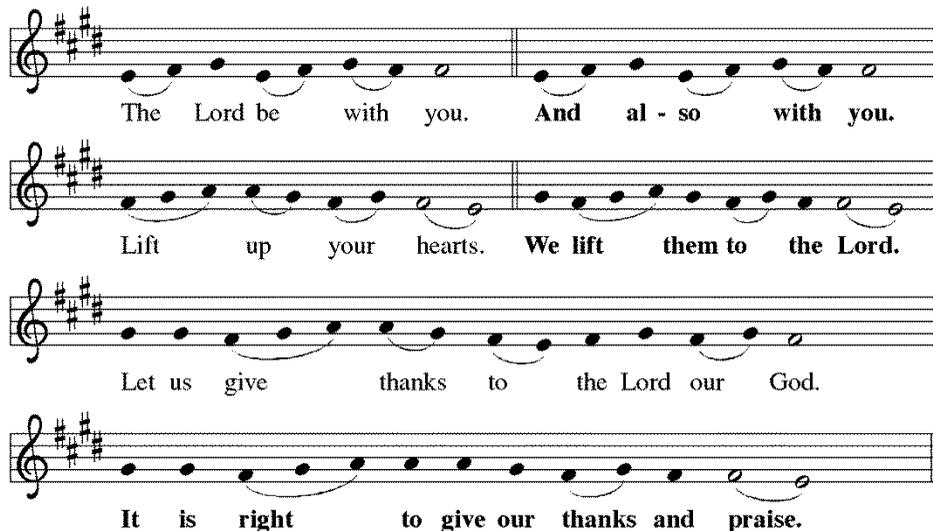


Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

- ☐ Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
- ☑ **Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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

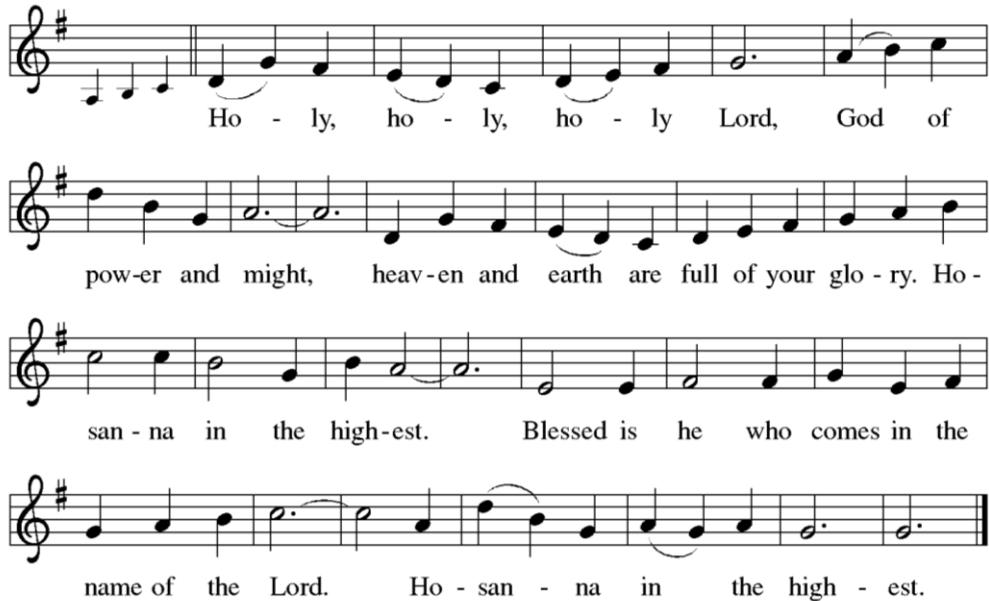
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed 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 All who hunger and thirst, come.

C The table is ready.

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 Spirit of God,
descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth, through
all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness,
strength to me impart,
and make me love you as
I ought to love.**

**2 I ask no dream,
no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending
of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant,
no op'ning skies;
but take the dimness of
my soul away.**

**3 Have you not bid
me love you, God and King;
all, all your own, soul,
heart, and strength, and mind?
I see your cross; there
teach my heart to cling.
Oh, let me seek you and,
oh, let me find!**

**4 Teach me to love
you as your angels love,
one holy passion
filling all my frame:
the baptism of the
heav'n-descended dove,
my heart an altar,
and your love the flame.**

Text: George Croly, 1780-1860

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

**1 Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.**

**2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees.**

Refrain

Refrain

**When I fall on my knees,
with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.**

**3 Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees.**

Refrain

Text: African American spiritual

**1 Soul, adorn yourself with gladness,
leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,
come into the daylight's splendor,
there with joy your praises render.
Bless the one whose grace unbounded
this amazing banquet founded;
Christ, though heavenly, high, and holy,
deigns to dwell with you most lowly.**

Refrain

**Be thankful!
Soul, adorn yourself with
gladness, and rejoice!
Bless the one whose grace
unbounded is our joy.**

**2 Now in faith I humbly ponder
over this surpassing wonder
that the bread of life is boundless
though the souls it feeds are countless;
with the choicest wine of heaven
Christ's own blood to us is given.
Oh, most glorious consolation,
pledge and seal of my salvation.**

Refrain

**3 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,
truest friend, and dearest treasure,
peace beyond all understanding,
joy into all life expanding:
humbly now, I bow before you,
love incarnate, I adore you;
worthily let me receive you,
and, so favored, never leave you.**

Refrain

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-1677, stanzas;
Esther Bertieaux, b. 1944, refrain; tr. composite

(stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- ☞ We give you thanks, almighty God,
☞ that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your
mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward
one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

- ☞ The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

HYMN

"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"

ELW 756

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bade the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.</p> <p>2 O Savior, whose almighty word
the winds and waves submissive heard,
who walked upon the foaming deep,
and calm amid the storm didst sleep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.</p> | <p>3 O Holy Spirit, who didst brood
upon the chaos dark and rude,
and bid its angry tumult cease,
and give, for wild confusion, peace:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.</p> <p>4 O Trinity of love and pow'r,
all trav'lers guard in danger's hour
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them wheresoe'er they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad hymns and praise from land and
sea.</p> |
|---|---|

Text: William Whiting, 1825-1878, alt.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

✠ ✠ ✠

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KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Olaf Roynesdal	Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Pr. Inba Inbarasu	Visitation Pastor
Kristin Boe	Christian Ed Coordinator
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Sarah Jewell	Administrative Assistant
Noni Cambridge	Staff Treasurer
Judi Boe	Financial Secretary
Jim Smejkal	Bldg. Super./Dir. of Cong. Activities
Kayla Slaight	Housekeeper
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Sheri Lynn Tipton	Night Security Manager
Norma Pafford	Nursery Superintendent
Joyce Palmer	Director of the Weber Clinic
Susann Henry	Food Pantry Director
Taylor Brown	Exec. Dir. Kountze Commons



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

September 11 & 12, 2021

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church is a vibrant, historic faith community that welcomes all and provides ministries for all ages and walks of life. We are a "City-wide Church with a World-wide Ministry" and have been worshiping, growing, and serving in downtown Omaha for over 160 years. If you are new to Kountze Memorial, we invite you to visit the Welcome Desk in Fellowship Hall for more information about who we are and what we do.

Holy Communion

All who are baptized and trust in Christ's presence in Holy Communion are invited to commune at the Lord's Table. Children not yet communing will receive a blessing. Instructions will be provided during worship. It is the understanding of the universal Church that those who wish to commune with bread only (especially for health reasons) have communed fully.

Children in Worship

We believe that all are welcome in worship and encourage families to worship together. Quiet activity bags, children's bibles, and bulletins are available, as well as a Quiet Room, just off the west side of the main sanctuary, that includes a TV and a variety of toys, games, and books for young children.

Attendance Cards

All those attending worship are encouraged to fill out the card included in your bulletin and place in the offering plate.

Large Print Bulletins and Listening Devices

Please speak to an usher if you would like a large print bulletin or an assisted listening device.

E-news & Social Media

If you would like to receive our weekly e-news and monthly e-newsletter, add your e-mail address to the card in your bulletin or text your e-mail address to 22828.

TODAY AT KOUNTZE

Coffee Hour

Please feel free to stop for coffee in the Fellowship Hall following service today. We need volunteers to help serve coffee and cookies. If you can help, please see Jim Smejkal 402-341-7761 or jim@kmlchurch.org.

Adult Forum

Sunday, September 12

10:10 AM

We look forward to gathering together officially in the Fellowship Hall on September 12. The first few Sundays will be "generally program free" to allow for greater conversation and the change to reconnect. Then, in late September and/or early October, our programs will review the return of fall programs and opportunities. Afterwards, we will return to normal Adult Education programs and themes.

Rally Sunday

Sunday, September 12

10:10 AM

Register for Sunday School at:

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

God's Work, Our Hands

Sunday, September 12

This is an opportunity to be of service to our church and community. There are 3 areas of volunteering available which are described in the online registration form. Lunch will be served to all volunteers. Please contact Kristin Boe at kristin@kmlchurch.org, or at 402-630-4578 with any questions. Registration forms can be

found at

[https://form.jotform.com/Kristinboe/GodsWork?](https://form.jotform.com/Kristinboe/GodsWork?fbclid=IwAR07CQ9MZyWH1L2P1pN8KZKxS89vZ7cjxB)

[fbclid=IwAR07CQ9MZyWH1L2P1pN8KZKxS89vZ7cjxB](https://form.jotform.com/Kristinboe/GodsWork?fbclid=IwAR07CQ9MZyWH1L2P1pN8KZKxS89vZ7cjxB)
[y 3IQMGh9qACdAN2Avjvrea6l](https://form.jotform.com/Kristinboe/GodsWork?fbclid=IwAR07CQ9MZyWH1L2P1pN8KZKxS89vZ7cjxB)

This Week at Kountze Memorial

September 12 Sunday

Pentecost 16

God's Work Our Hands Sunday

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

10:10 AM Rally Day/1st Day of Sunday School

12:15 PM Book Group

September 13 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

September 14 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

September 15 Wednesday

Good News Deadline

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Confirmation Supper

6:30 PM Confirmation Class

September 16 Thursday

Council Reports Due

~~11:30 AM Men's Lunch~~

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

7 PM Circle 5

September 17 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

6:00 PM Council Retreat

September 18 Saturday

9:00 AM Council Retreat

5:00 PM Worship

September 19 Sunday

Pentecost 17

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

10:10 AM Sunday School

10:10 AM Youth Forum—YG Bible Study

10:10 AM Adult Forum

10:15 AM Worship Leader Training

10:30 AM Executive Committee

12:15 PM New Member Class

Book Group

Sunday, September 12, 12:15 PM

Fellowship Hall Lounge

The September selection is "The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek" by Kim Michele Richardson.

This is a historical fiction novel about the WPA Pack Horse Library Project started in 1935 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt to get people to work and promote social and cultural awareness of art, theater, and literature. Cassy Mary Carter is a Pack Horse librarian in Eastern Kentucky, one of the hardest hit areas of the country during the Great Depression. Cassy rode her mule, Junra, to deliver books and reading material to the residents in the rockiest terrain of the Kentucky mountains. Cassy had to face the hardships of the terrain, weather, and prejudice of the citizens toward her job as well as being the last of her kind with a genetic blood disorder that caused her skin to be a shade of blue. The book is a story of courage, strength, poverty, and the belief that books can carry us anywhere.

No Men's Lunch in September

Unfortunately, we need to cancel the Men's Lunch for September due to Jim having to be on Jury Duty. The October date for Men's Lunch will be Thursday, October 21. Please register by Tuesday, October 19.

Worship Leader Training

(Communion Assistants, Lectors, and Ushers)

September 19 or 26 (two opportunities, choose one)

10:15 AM

Call the church office to register and meet in the Nave after the 9:00 AM Worship Service

New Member Classes

Sundays, September 19 and 26

12:15 PM

If you are interested in learning more about Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church or maybe even considering membership, please sign up to attend the New Member Orientation Classes (please plan to attend both sessions). Lunch will be served. Please call the church office to sign up or if you have questions.

Order of Saint John

Acolytes and Crucifers

Kountze members who are 8th grade or older are needed for these special roles in the 9:00 and 11:00 AM worship services. Please contact Jeff and Robin Perkins at 402-339-5384 if you would like to be trained to assist in the worship services.

Altar Flowers, Eternal Candle, TV Broadcast

You can help us beautify the altar at Kountze Memorial or sponsor a television broadcast if you wish. This is a simple and meaningful way to honor a loved one who has passed away, celebrate a special anniversary or milestone, or can be given in thanksgiving for friends or family. Their names will appear in the church bulletin on the weekend you select. Altar Flowers are provided by Janousek Florist and cost \$20 a bouquet. The Eternal Candle is \$7.50. The television broadcast is \$210 per week. You can sign up for a date to provide flowers, eternal candle, and/or our television broadcast on the chart on the bulletin board outside the Narthex, by calling the church office and/or by mailing a check to the church and note what it is for, and who it is in honor, in memory, or in thanksgiving of in the memo of your check. Your check can also be put in the offering plate when you attend Worship.

Kountze Food Pantry

We are still in need of volunteers to sign up for "carry out duty" on Mondays from 11:00 AM-1:00 PM. It is good to share the load, and give others a chance to serve. We are still collecting school supplies for our school aged guests. We are the only source for these items for some of the children. We CAN accept unfolded, paper bags, in new condition. We CANNOT reuse plastic shopping bags! Reusable tote bags are very welcome for our walking population. Thankyou for your contributions to the Kountze Food Pantry!

Volunteers Needed:

Mondays, 7:30 - 9:00 AM;

9:00 - 11:00 AM;

11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Fridays, 4:00 - 7:00 PM

If you would like to help please sign up to volunteer at the following link:

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



Milestone Ordination Anniversary Celebrations Sunday, October 3

Join us in Worship and Fellowship Time to celebrate those who have served in ministry of the church. Former Bishop Rev. David deFreese, a son of the congregation, will be preaching at both services. A reception time with cake and remembrances will happen between services. We invite the congregation to bring cards of congratulations and thanks to place in a gift bag for each one.

Pumpkin Patch Outing Sunday, October 3

How to Use Your Bible Seminar October 10 Sunday

Kountze Memorial, Inc. Annual Meeting Sunday, October 17

A Meeting of Members of Kountze Memorial, Inc. ("KMI") will be held at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church at 2650 Farnam Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68131, on October 17, 2021, at 10:15 a.m. local time in the Fellowship Hall to consider the following:

1. To approve and ratify and sale of deFreese Manor to House of David Preservation, Inc. While this sale was previously approved by the members in June, the October 17 meeting will formalize such approval in a manner that complies with Nebraska law and what Nebraska Attorney General's office requires for non-profit organizations.
2. To amend the Articles of Incorporation to allow KMI to distribute upon dissolution all funds remaining after the payment of debts to Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church.
3. To dissolve KMI, contingent on the closing of the sale of deFreese Manor.

A formal notice of the Meeting will be mailed to all members. All members are cordially invited and strongly encouraged to attend the meeting. All questions may be directed to Scott Henneman, President of the Board of Kountze Memorial Inc. via email scotthenneman@aol.com.

See the September Good News for detailed information

First Communion Class Sunday, October 17 and 24 10:15 AM

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

Saturday: 34

Sunday: 9:00: 103 **11:00:** 36

Wednesday: 12:15: 13 **Confirmation:** 14

Total: 199

Streaming: 54

Cox Cable: 199

Pantry Guests Served: 253 (includes 81 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 21

Offering:

\$19,909.00 (Regular)

\$935.05 (Specials)

\$1,277.00 (Debt Reduction)

Jesus asks us to pick up our own cross.

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

Sunday	Mark 8:27-38	Taking up the cross
Monday	Isaiah 50:4-9a	God's servant must suffer
Tuesday	James 3:1-12	Controlling the tongue
Wednesday	1 Peter 2:18-25	The example of Christ's suffering
Thursday	Hebrews 12:1-11	The example of Jesus
Friday	Philippians 2:1-11	Imitating Christ's humility
Saturday	Psalms 116:1-9	A prayer of thanksgiving
Sunday	Mark 9:30-37	The servant of all is the greatest



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*[Jesus] called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." **Mark 8:34 (NRSV)***

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, help us to turn away from our self-centeredness and receive your life-giving power through the cross of Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, in mercy and kindness you feed us. Give us strength and goodwill to show mercy and kindness to others. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of generosity give you rest and peace. (Psalm 116:7)

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

- Tell or think about a time when you or someone else was being selfish.
- What happens when someone places their own needs before the needs of others?
- Jesus says that denying your own interests out of love is the way to find real life and joy. How do you overlook your own wants and interests for the sake of others?

Read: Mark 8:27-38.

This is it, the Caesarea Philippi moment, the moment Jesus asks his followers to identify who he is and what his life is about. Peter gets the title right but the mission wrong. It is clear in this reading that it is important to understand who Jesus is; he is the Son of Man. Jesus is the one who picked up his cross and laid bare his courageous and faithful life for others. This is the way of life that Jesus wants others to follow, too. Jesus was open to rejection, suffering, and his innocent death. Christian discipleship includes picking up our crosses to courageously and faithfully follow the one who holds the universe together. However, Jesus' own disciples did none of that at the time of his death. They were scared and ran away. The good news is that God will do great things through us, Jesus' imperfect followers. Where in your life might Jesus be asking you to pick up your cross to face life's challenges courageously and faithfully?

Pray: **Dear God, give me the courage to face life with faith and hope that others may know the power of love and salvation through the cross of Christ. Amen.**

The Letter of James points out that the way you live gives others an impression of what God is like. Think of someone you know who especially needs to hear words of mercy and kindness. How can you reach out to them this week?

Tertullian, an early Christian theologian, marked the sign of the cross on his forehead daily as early as the year 250. In 386, St. Cyril incorporated the sign of the cross during Mass. This is an ancient Christian blessing that reminds us that we are saved through the cross of Christ. This week before and after devotions, make the sign of the cross. Bring together your thumb, index, and middle fingers. Place them on your forehead, then to your chest, then from your left shoulder across to your right shoulder.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Jeremiah 11:18-20; Psalm 54
James 3:13--4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37