

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

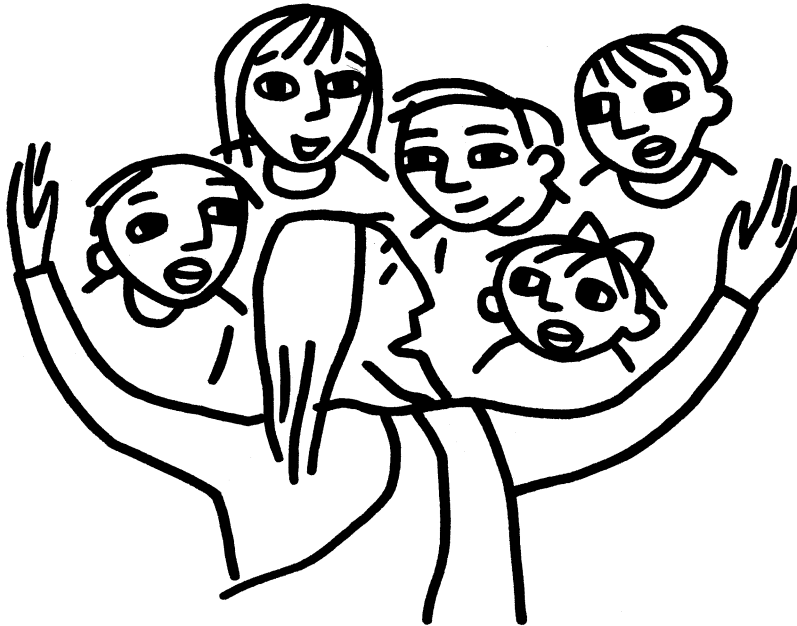
Olaf Roynesdal, Senior Pastor  
Shari Duminy, Associate Pastor  
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor  
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2650 Farnam Street  
Omaha, NE 68131-3616  
402-341-7761  
[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

September 19, 2021

9:00 & 11:00 AM

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



*Today we hear James warn against selfish ambition, while the disciples quarrel over which one of them is the greatest. Jesus tells them the way to be great is to serve. Then, to make it concrete, he puts in front of them a flesh-and-blood child. We are called to welcome the children God puts in front of us, to make room for them in daily interaction, and to give them a place of honor in the assembly.*

# 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.

- 1 Praise the One who breaks the darkness  
with a liberating light;  
praise the One who frees the pris'ners,  
turning blindness into sight.  
Praise the One who preached the gospel,  
healing ev'ry dread disease,  
calming storms and feeding thousands  
with the very bread of peace.**
- 2 Praise the One who blessed the children  
with a strong yet gentle word;  
praise the One who drove out demons  
with a piercing, two-edged sword.  
Praise the One who brings cool water  
to the desert's burning sand;  
from this well comes living water  
quenching thirst in ev'ry land.**
- 3 Praise the one true love incarnate:  
Christ, who suffered in our place;  
Jesus died and rose for many  
that we may know God by grace.  
Let us sing for joy and gladness,  
seeing what our God has done.  
Praise the one redeeming glory;  
praise the One who makes us one.**

Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955

Text © 1987 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

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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

- ☐** O God,
- ☒** **our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

# WORD

(sit)

## FIRST READING

**Jeremiah 11:18-20**

*Today's reading tells of the suffering of the prophet Jeremiah, who announced God's word to Judah but was met with intense opposition and persecution. Jeremiah continues to trust in God in the midst of his suffering.*

**I**t was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds.  
<sup>19</sup>But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying,

*“Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,  
let us cut him off from the land of the living,  
so that his name will no longer be remembered!”*

<sup>20</sup>But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause?

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 54 (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>Save me, O God, by your name;  
in your might, defend my cause.

<sup>2</sup>**Hear my prayer, O God;  
give ear to the words of my mouth.**

<sup>3</sup>For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have sought my life,  
those who have no regard for God.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, God is my helper;  
it is the Lord who sustains my life.**

<sup>5</sup>Render evil to those who spy on me;  
in your faithfulness, destroy them.

<sup>6</sup>**I will offer you a freewill sacrifice  
and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.**

<sup>7</sup>For you have rescued me from every trouble,  
**and my eye looks down on my enemies.**

## SECOND READING

James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a

*The wisdom God gives unites our hearts and minds. Instead of living to satisfy our own wants and desires, we manifest this wisdom in peace, gentleness, mercy, and impartiality toward others.*

**W**ho is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. <sup>14</sup>But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. <sup>15</sup>Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. <sup>16</sup>For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. <sup>17</sup>But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. <sup>18</sup>And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

<sup>4:1</sup>Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? <sup>2</sup>You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup>You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. <sup>7</sup>Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. <sup>8a</sup>Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**G** 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.

**G** Glory to you, O Lord!

## HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 9:30-37

*Jesus' teaching and action in this text are directed to the church whenever it is seduced by the world's definition of greatness: prestige, power, influence, and money. The antidote to such a concern for greatness is servanthood.*

Jesus and the disciples went on and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it;<sup>31</sup> for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "*The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again.*"<sup>32</sup> But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup>Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "*What were you arguing about on the way?*"<sup>34</sup> But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. <sup>35</sup>He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "*Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all.*"<sup>36</sup> Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, <sup>37</sup>"*Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.*"

☞ The Gospel of the Lord.

☞ Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN'S BLESSING (9:00 AM)

SERMON

Pastor Hall

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

"All Depends on Our Possessing"

ELW 589

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>1 All depends on our possessing<br/>God's free grace and constant blessing,<br/>though all earthly wealth depart.<br/>They who trust with faith unshaken<br/>by their God are not forsaken<br/>and will keep a dauntless heart.</p> | <p>3 When with sorrow I am stricken,<br/>hope my heart anew will quicken,<br/>all my longing shall be stilled.<br/>To your lovingkindness tender<br/>all my being I surrender:<br/>Lord, on you alone I build.</p>          |
| <p>2 God, who hitherto has fed me<br/>and to many joys has led me,<br/>is and ever shall be mine.<br/>God, who did so gently school me<br/>and who daily guides and rules me,<br/>will remain my help divine.</p>                      | <p>4 Well you know what best to grant me;<br/>all the longing hopes that haunt me,<br/>joy and sorrow, have their day.<br/>I shall doubt your wisdom never;<br/>as you will, so be it ever;<br/>I commit to you my way.</p> |
| <p>5 If on earth my days should lengthen,<br/>God, my weary soul still strengthen;<br/>all my trust in you I place.<br/>Earthly wealth is not abiding;<br/>like a stream away it's gliding;<br/>safe I anchor in your grace.</p>       |   |

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Nürnberg, 1676; tr.  
Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

## **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.**

(sit)

## ACCEPTANCE OF CATECHUMENS

- ☐ The following people desire to be a part of the confirmation ministry of our congregation and as their names are called, I would ask that they come forward and gather in front of the altar.

Boe Di Lorenzo

Jazmine Gardner

Barrett Hinrichs

Sheyenne Glasgow

Collin Johnston

Lillian Kassal

Drew Rasmussen

Braxton Rees

- ☐ Dear Friends: In Holy Baptism God made you His own. Do you desire to affirm your faith in Christ Jesus, the faith into which you were baptized, and receive the Rite of Confirmation in the tradition of the Church at the proper time?

Catechumens: **I do.**

- ☐ Will you faithfully attend the worship services of God's House? Will you diligently study the Holy Scriptures and the Catechism? And will you strive to lead a life worthy of your calling to be a disciple of Jesus Christ?

Catechumens: **I will and I ask God to help me.**

- ☐ I ask you, the congregation, will you support these young people with your prayers? Will you be examples to them of faithfulness and righteousness? And will you care for them and help them in every way God gives you opportunity, that they may continue in the covenant of their baptism and in communion with the Church?

Congregation: **We will and we ask God to help us.**

- ☐ You are hereby officially accepted as the catechumens of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church. May God bless you as you prepare and study. Please accept this Study Bible and Martin Luther's Small Catechism. These are given to you as aids to your study and as tokens of the affection this congregation bears toward you.

- ☐ Heavenly Father, we give you thanks for these young people that you have called to be your own. Bless them as they prepare to make an affirmation of their faith and as they strive to keep the commitments they have made this day. Bless this parish as we together strive to help all people grow into the full stature of Jesus Christ our Lord.

☒ **Amen.**



(stand)

## 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 Pr. Jeremy Fuerst, former KMLC Youth Leader

**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, Theresa Powell, daughter of Don & Gwen Berney, 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

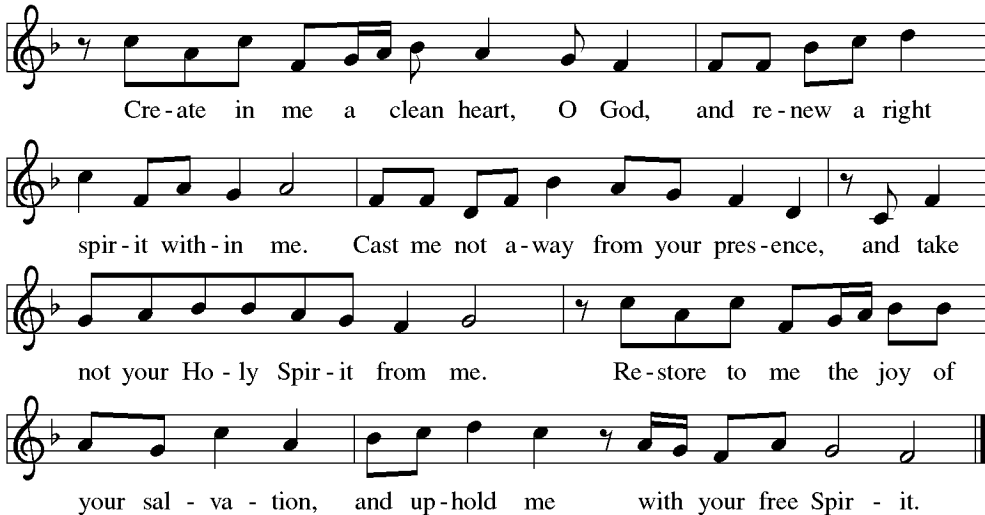
*“Jesus Loves Me”*

arr. John Ferguson

## THE TABLE IS PREPARED

(stand)

## OFFERTORY HYMN

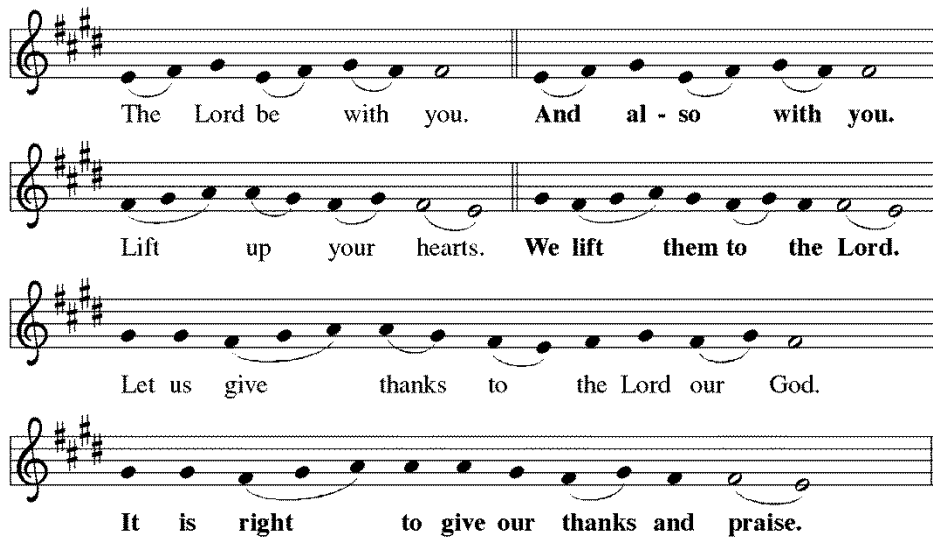


Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## OFFERING PRAYER

- P** Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things.
- C** 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.

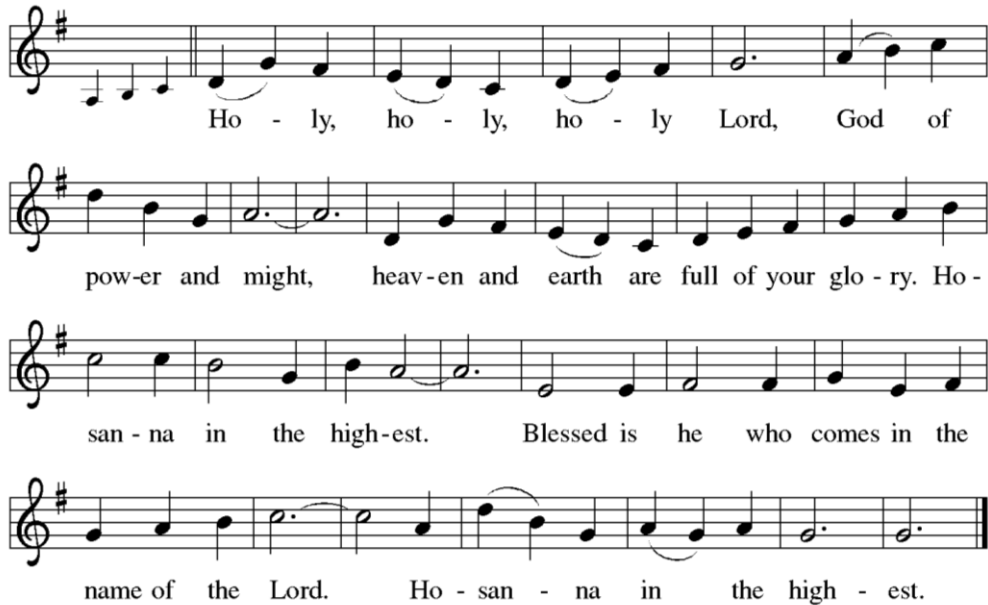
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1</b> For the bread which you have broken,<br/>for the wine which you have poured,<br/>for the words which you have spoken,<br/>now we give you thanks, O Lord.</p> <p><b>2</b> By this promise that you love us,<br/>by your gift of peace restored,<br/>by your call to heav'n above us,<br/>hallow all our lives, O Lord.</p> | <p><b>3</b> With the saints who now adore you,<br/>seated at the heav'nly board,<br/>may the church still waiting for you<br/>keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.</p> <p><b>4</b> In your service, Lord, defend us;<br/>in our hearts keep watch and ward;<br/>in the world to which you send us<br/>let your kingdom come, O Lord.</p> |
|--|---|

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855-1930, alt.  
Text © Robert F. Jefferys Jr.

*“Take My Life, That I May Be”*    **ELW 685**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1</b> Take my life, that I may be<br/>consecrated, Lord, to thee;<br/>take my moments and my days;<br/>let them flow in ceaseless praise.</p> <p><b>2</b> Take my hands and let them move<br/>at the impulse of thy love;<br/>take my feet and let them be<br/>swift and beautiful for thee.</p> <p><b>3</b> Take my voice and let me sing<br/>always, only, for my King;<br/>take my lips and let them be<br/>filled with messages from thee.</p> | <p><b>4</b> Take my silver and my gold,<br/>not a mite would I withhold;<br/>take my intellect and use<br/>ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.</p> <p><b>5</b> Take my will and make it thine,<br/>it shall be no longer mine.<br/>Take my heart, it is thine own,<br/>it shall be thy royal throne.</p> <p><b>6</b> Take my love; my Lord, I pour<br/>at thy feet its treasure store;<br/>take myself, and I will be<br/>ever, only, all for thee.</p> |
|--|---|

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt.

*Refrain*

**You satisfy the hungry heart  
with gift of finest wheat.  
Come give to us, O saving Lord,  
the bread of life to eat.**

**1 As when the shepherd calls his sheep,  
they know and heed his voice;  
so when you call your fam'ly, Lord,  
we follow and rejoice. *Refrain***

**2 With joyful lips we sing to you  
our praise and gratitude  
that you should count us worthy, Lord,  
to share this heav'nly food. *Refrain***

**3 Is not the cup we bless and share  
the blood of Christ outpoured?  
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare  
our oneness in the Lord?**

*Refrain*

**4 The myst'ry of your presence, Lord,  
no mortal tongue can tell:  
whom all the world cannot contain  
comes in our hearts to dwell.**

*Refrain*

**5 You give yourself to us, O Lord;  
then selfless let us be,  
to serve each other in your name  
in truth and charity.**

*Refrain*

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997  
Text © 1977 Archdiocese of Philadelphia

*(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

*“Lord, Teach Us How to Pray Aright”*

ELW 745

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>1 Lord, teach us how to pray aright,<br/>with rev'rence and with fear.<br/>Though dust and ashes in your sight,<br/>we may, we must draw near.</b></p> <p><b>2 We perish if we cease from prayer;<br/>oh, grant us pow'r to pray.<br/>And when to meet you we prepare,<br/>Lord, meet us on our way.</b></p> | <p><b>3 Give deep humility; the sense<br/>of godly sorrow give;<br/>a strong desire, with confidence,<br/>to hear your voice and live;</b></p> <p><b>4 Faith in the only sacrifice<br/>that can for sin atone;<br/>to cast our hopes, to fix our eyes<br/>on Christ, on Christ alone.</b></p> <p><b>5 Give these, and then your will be done;<br/>thus strengthened with all might,<br/>we, through your Spirit and your Son,<br/>shall pray, and pray aright.</b></p> |
|--|--|

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.

## DISMISSAL

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

## POSTLUDE

☩ ☩ ☩

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## KOUNTZE STAFF

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Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Pr. Inba Inbarasu	Visitation Pastor
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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](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

September 18 & 19, 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.

### **Nursery**

Our nursery is available from 9 AM—noon for children 0—2 years. Please ask an usher if you are unsure as to where our nursery is and would like to use it

### **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**

#### **Who's in "My Pew"?**

The choir is back! But where are they? So many of our choir members are back (we are very grateful) and the choir loft is not large enough for proper distancing—especially while singing. So, for now, they will be seated in the first rows on the east side of the Narthex close to the piano. If they happen to be sitting in "your pew," please find another seat and enjoy new neighbors and a new view during Worship. Thanks for being back choir! We've missed you.

#### **Children's Choir**

**Beginning Sunday, September 19**

**9:20 AM**

**Ages K-6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Carlsen will be leading the singers during the 9:00 AM sermon. Those interested in participating in choir will attend the first part of the 9:00 service with their families, come forward for the children's blessing, and then go to the upstairs choir room for practice before returning for Communion.

#### **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](mailto:jim@kmlchurch.org).

#### **Adult Forum**

**10:10 AM**

The first few Sundays in September will be "generally program free" to allow for greater conversation and the change to reconnect. Then, in late September and/or early October, we will review the return of fall programs and opportunities and at that time, we will plan to return to normal Adult Education programs and themes.

## Recognition of Donna Moessner

**Sunday, September 19**

**10:10 AM**

Donna Moessner has retired as Children's Choir Director. We thank her for her outstanding service to our congregation and with our children. We want to recognize her work.

**Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God in honor of Pr. Hall on his birthday by Bill & Madaline Christensen; in memory of wife, Jean Holcombe given by Tom Holcombe

**Eternal Candle** is given to the glory of God in loving memory of my husband, Don Wichert, on his birthday given by his wife, Vickie

**Television Broadcast** is sponsored by Donald & Arlene Hirsh in honor of their 65<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary

## Sunday School

Join us on Sundays on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor for Sunday School. Preschool 1 (2-4 yrs) meets from 9:00—10:00 AM (child care for those too old for the nursery). Sunday School (2 yrs-6<sup>th</sup> grade) is held from 10:10—10:50 AM.

## High School Youth Forum

Join us each Sunday in the Youth Center at 10:10 AM. Today is a Bible Study on God's Boundless love for humanity.

## Worship Leader Training

**(Communion Assistants, Lectors, and Ushers)**

**September 19 or 26 (two opportunities, choose one)**

**10:15 AM**

We will 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 feel free to attend the New Member Orientation Classes (please plan to attend both sessions). Lunch will be served.

## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### September 19 Sunday

Pentecost 17

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:10 AM Children's Choir (K-6<sup>th</sup> gr)

10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6<sup>th</sup> gr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum—Bible Study (gr 7-12)

10:10 AM Adult Forum

10:15 AM Worship Leader Training

12:15 PM New Member Class

### September 20 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

6:00 PM HGFC Clinic Board—A & B Rooms

### September 21 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

6:00 PM Congregation Council

### September 22 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Confirmation Supper

6:30 PM Confirmation Class

### September 23 Thursday

1:30 PM Circle 4

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### September 24 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### September 25 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

### September 26 Sunday

Pentecost 18

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:10 AM Children's Choir (K-6<sup>th</sup> gr)

10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6<sup>th</sup> gr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum—Community Fun (gr 7-12)

10:10 AM Adult Forum

10:15 AM Worship Leader Training

12:00 PM Stephen Ministry

12:15 PM New Member Class

## 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.

## Blessing of the Animals

**Saint Cecilia Cathedral**

**701 N. 40<sup>th</sup> Street**

**Saturday, October 2, 2021**

**Music and Socializing at 10:30 AM; Blessing at 11:00 AM**

Participating Churches: Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church, Saint Cecilia Cathedral, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, Saint Barnabas Church, Christ the King Church  
Bring your pet(s) and join us for the annual Blessing of the Animals.

## 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.

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Kountze Memorial is hosting an afternoon at the Bellevue Berry Farm and Pumpkin Patch. Join us at a reserved campfire pit for hotdogs, chips, smores, and beverages. Admission is \$10 per person with children aged 2 and under free. The Bellevue Berry Farm offers pick-your-own vegetables, a three-story pirate ship, hayrack rides, and many other attractions. There will also be yard games around the campfire. Please RSVP to the church office at 402-341-7761, by Friday, October 1. Contact Kristin Boe at Kristin@kmlchurch.org with any questions.

## Yesterday's Youth

### Humane Society Dog Visit

#### Tuesday, October 5

#### Lunch at 12:00 PM

We will be serving chili/soup and light sandwiches.

If you would like to bring a donation for the animals the Humane Society is in high need of blankets, dog toys and canned chicken sausages.

## How to Use Your Bible Seminar

### Sunday, October 10

#### 12:15 PM (following 11:00 AM service)

Parents and children are invited to a seminar on how to use your Bible. In anticipation of Bible Sunday, we will be teaching skills on how to introduce your child to the scriptures, gain confidence in using the Bible, and ways to study the stories of the Bible as a family. This seminar is geared toward elementary aged students. Lunch will be provided. Please RSVP to the church office at 402-341-7761 by Friday, October 8. Contact Kristin Boe at Kristin@kmlchurch.org with any questions.

## 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 has been 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

#### 12:15 PM

Communion is open to all baptized Christians. Those children who are already communing or those children interested in receiving Holy Communion, are invited to a First Communion class. We will begin with lunch in the conference room followed by instruction in the Nave with Kristin Boe and Pastor Hall. Participants will receive their First Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 9, at 7:00 PM. A good guide for determining when your children are ready to receive Communion is when they begin to ask about receiving it during the liturgy. The curriculum will be "Fed & Forgiven." All ages are welcome; the course is geared toward second graders. Please register with the church office at 402-341-7761 or info@kmlchurch.org.

## Kountze Food Pantry

The Kountze Food Pantry is once again collecting full-sized hygiene items. We compile bags including shampoo/conditioner, bar soap or body wash, razors and shaving cream, feminine hygiene products, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and floss. We will hand these out in gift bags for the upcoming holidays. Thank you for your contributions, prayers and continued support for our ministry!

## Pantry Volunteers Needed:

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

Fridays: 4 - 7 PM

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

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

## ATTENDANCE & GIVING

**Saturday:** 26

**Sunday: 9:00:** 119 **11:00:** 37

**Wednesday: 12:15:** 11 **Confirmation:** 14

**Total:** 235

**Streaming:** 125

**Cox Cable:** 203

**Pantry Guests Served:** 1,070 (includes 314 children)

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 29

### Offering:

\$14,075.00 (Regular)

\$3,123.17 (Specials)

\$1,257.00 (Debt Reduction)

*Jesus' followers are to care for the powerless.*

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

Sunday	Mark 9:30-37	The servant of all is the greatest
Monday	Jeremiah 11:18-20	Plot to kill Jeremiah
Tuesday	James 3:13-4:8a	Wisdom from above
Wednesday	Galatians 5:13-15	Christ gives freedom
Thursday	Isaiah 42:1-9	A servant song
Friday	1 Peter 4:7-11	Serve others
Saturday	Psalm 54	A cry to God for help
Sunday	Mark 9:38-50	Avoiding sin



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*[Jesus] sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." Mark 9:35 (NRSV)*

**A Prayer for the Week:**

God of heaven and earth, may we follow the way of Jesus and learn what it means to trust in you through Christ our Savior. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, just as you feed us with this gift of food today, we thank you for caring for us with your goodness and mercy. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**

May your life be blessed by the love of God through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

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

- How would you describe your friends, the people with whom you associate regularly?
- Society encourages us to "climb the social ladder." What does that mean to you?
- How would you describe the life Jesus wants you to follow?

*Read:* Mark 9:30-37.

Chapters 8-10 in Mark include three predictions of Jesus' death. Each prediction is connected with his disciple's misunderstandings and then some kind of teaching about discipleship. The focus of Jesus' words is more than a general endorsement of humility. It moves us in the direction of personal association with the vulnerable and the powerless, those considered "last" in society. In Jesus' day and in the Roman Empire, a child was without power or importance. To lift up and value a child was contrary to social norms of Jesus' day. When Jesus describes his own life's work, he makes a claim on us. We are to follow his way, the way of suffering and being the last. It is an active rejection of domination and the powers of this world. What is evident in these predictions is that Jesus' followers don't get it. His understanding of what it means to be "first" in life is so different from what we hear and see in daily life. It takes time to understand what it means to follow Jesus. It may take a lifetime. In the meantime, we are to care for the people who feel unimportant and powerless and be able to celebrate with them that life is redeemed and blessed. Who would you identify in your community as those who are considered powerless and "last of all"?

*Pray:* **Almighty God, through Jesus, you come to us with a power like no other. Help us to follow Jesus into a new way of life that loves you and all others. Amen.**

Jesus said, "*Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me.*" (Mark 9:37) Many places in the world and in our own communities have children in need. Think or talk about children who are in need of food, clothing, and shelter. Keep them in your prayers. Is there a way you can help and support children in need or an organization that works with them?

The International Day of Peace is observed each year on September 21st. It was established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1981. The Bible reading for Tuesday this week is from James 3. "*And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.*" (v. 18)

Think or talk about what it takes to make peace. Then write a list of situations or places that are in need of peace. Light a candle as you pray for each one on your list. Then pray: **Lord Jesus, Prince of Peace, please bring your peace to \_\_\_\_\_.** Amen.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29; Psalm 19:7-14  
James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50