

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

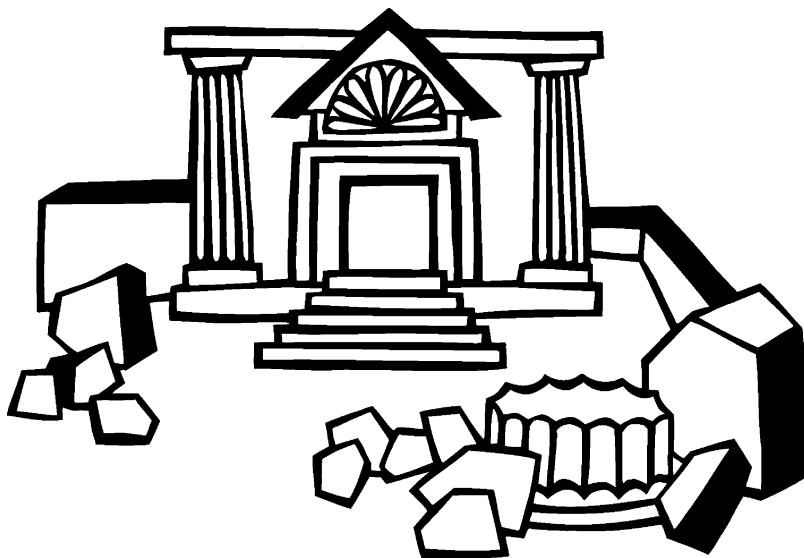
Olaf Roynesdal, Senior Pastor
Shari Duminy, Associate Pastor
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor
Inba Inbarasu, Visitation Pastor

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

November 14, 2021

9:00 & 11:00 AM

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



November began with All Saints Day and ends in or near Advent, when we anticipate Christ's coming again. It is fitting, then, that the readings today tell of the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the one who has promised forgiveness. The more we see the last day approaching, the more important it is to meet together to provoke one another to love.

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.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.</p> <p>2 To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise
with ev'ry morning sacrifice.</p> | <p>3 People and realms of ev'ry tongue
dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.</p> <p>4 Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the pris'ners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.</p> |
|--|---|
- 5** Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
peculiar honors to our king;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

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.
- C** **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Almighty God,
- C** your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Daniel 12:1-3

The book of Daniel is an example of apocalyptic literature, which is full of strange visions and symbolism. Arising during times of great persecution, apocalyptic literature is concerned with God's revelation about the end time and the coming kingdom of God, when God will vindicate the righteous who have been persecuted.

“A *that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ²Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.”*

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

PSALM 16 (read responsively)

¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

**²All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

³But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

**⁴I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.**

⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.

**⁶My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.

**⁸I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

**¹⁰For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy,

and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25

Images of worship and sacrifice are used throughout Hebrews to highlight what Christ has uniquely accomplished through his death. Because we have received forgiveness through Christ's death, we live with sincere hearts by trusting in God's promises and encouraging love and good works from each other.

Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. ¹²But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, “*he sat down at the right hand of God,*” ¹³and since then has been waiting “*until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.*” ¹⁴For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. ...

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

(stand)

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.

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

☑ Glory to you, O Lord!

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 13:1-8

In the last week of his life, Jesus warned his disciples concerning trials that were to come upon them and upon the world. He exhorts the listener: Do not be alarmed.

As Jesus came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “*Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!*” ²Then Jesus asked him, “*Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.*”

³When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴“*Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?*” ⁵Then Jesus began to say to them, “*Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray. ⁷When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.*”

☞ 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

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

ELW 807

1 Come, thou Fount of ev’ry blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee;
may I still thy goodness prove.

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer:
"Hither by thy help I've come";
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,
safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wand’ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger,
interposed his precious blood.

3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter
bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;
prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.

HOLY BAPTISM

PROFESSION OF FAITH

P Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

C **I renounce them.**

P Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

C **I renounce them.**

P Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C **I renounce them.**

P Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

P Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.

P Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

BAPTISM

WELCOME

- ☐ Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.
- ☐ Let us welcome the newly baptized.
- ☑ **We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

- Response:** ☐ Lord, in your mercy,
☑ **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 Anatharaj, father of Pr. Inba Inbarasu; to the family and friends of Mary Jane Hansen, mother of Lennard Hansen

Thanksgiving: for the baptism of Ellowyn Rose, daughter of Matthew & Megan Hansen; for the baptism of Madeline Leona, daughter of Robert & Morgan Kreiser; for the baptism of Adrian Jean, daughter of Brian & Joslyn Barnes

Illness: Richard Bock, Judy Boelts, Karen Buchholz, Don Burton, Gail Durban, Mike Edris, Rodney Edwards, Richard Holzer, Renee Johnson, Mark Kidder, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, mother of David Klug, Marcie Lafleur, Mary Olson, Bobbie Powell, John Rayno, Toby Rees, Sheri Tipton, John Waterman, Darlene White

Other Prayers: *Those serving in the military* – 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

“Jesus Is the Living Stone”

Mary McDonald

He is Jesus, Rock of Ages; Our Messiah, the Prince of Peace;
Lord, our refuge, strength and power, and His love will never cease.

He is Alpha and Omega; the Beginning and the End!
Our Redeemer, Master, Savior, Jesus, Comforter and Friend.

Jesus is the firm foundation, for our sins His blood atones.
He’s the Rock, the mighty fortress, Jesus is the Living Stone.

The foundation never wavered, like an anchor through every storm;
He’s the Rock of our salvation; Jesus calms the raging storm.

Yesterday, today, forever, His love reaches every man;
From His birth to heaven’s glory, Jesus Christ, the Great “I Am!”

Jesus is the firm foundation, for our sins His blood atones.
He’s the Rock, the mighty fortress, Jesus is the Living Stone.
He’s the Rock, the mighty fortress, He is our God, the Living Stone,
He is the Living Stone!

THE TABLE IS PREPARED

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

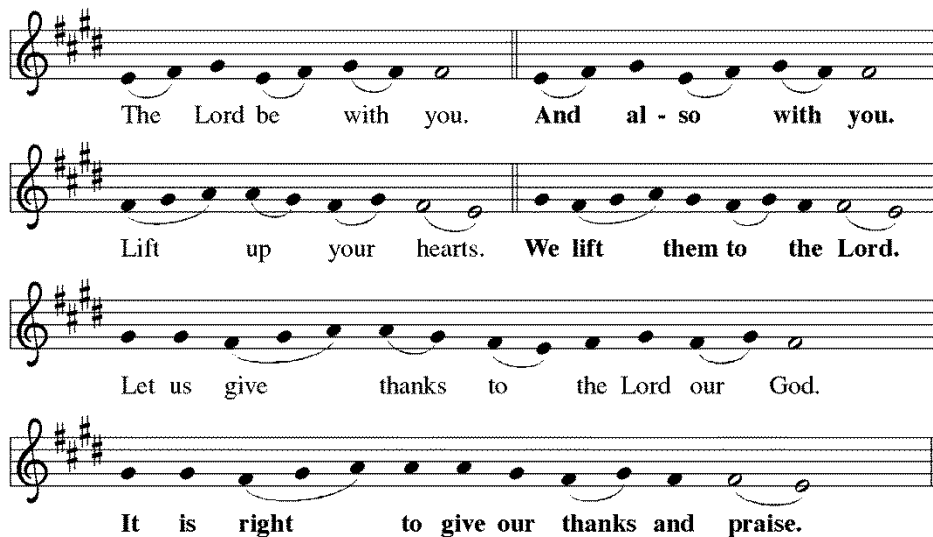


Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right
spir-it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho-ly Spir-it from me. Re-store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

OFFERING PRAYER

- P** Holy God,
- C** the earth is yours and everything in it, yet you have chosen to dwell among us. Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine, and strengthen us to be your body for the world through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

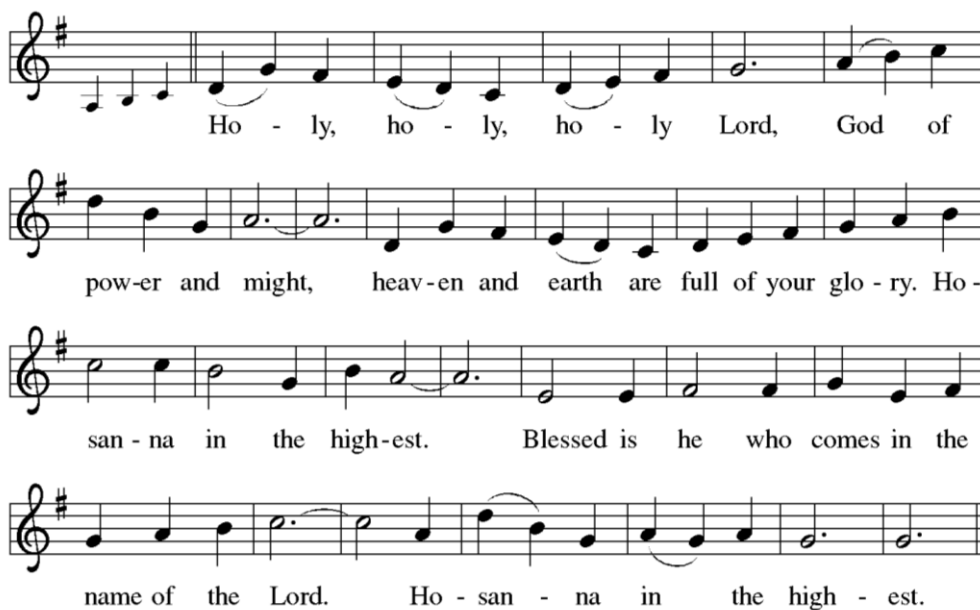
HOLY COMMUNION



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 A feast of love is offered here

C **for you and for all the saints.**

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.

(sit)

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>1 Through the night of doubt and sorrow,
onward goes the pilgrim band,
singing songs of expectation,
marching to the promised land.
Clear before us through the darkness
gleams and burns the guiding light;
pilgrim clasps the hand of pilgrim
stepping fearless through the night.</p> <p>2 One the light of God's own presence
on the ransomed people shed,
chasing far the gloom and terror,
bright'ning all the path we tread.
One the object of our journey,
one the faith which never tires,
one the earnest looking forward,
one the hope our God inspires.</p> | <p>3 One the strain that lips of thousands
lift as from the heart of one;
one the conflict, one the peril,
one the march in God begun.
One the gladness of rejoicing
on the far eternal shore,
where the one almighty Father
reigns in love forevermore.</p> <p>4 Onward, therefore, sisters, brothers;
onward, with the cross our aid.
Bear its shame, and fight its battle
till we rest beneath its shade.
Soon shall come the great awak'ning;
soon the rending of the tomb!
Then the scatt'ring of all shadows,
and the end of toil and gloom.</p> |
|--|--|

Text: Bernhardt S. Ingemann, 1789-1862;
tr. Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834-1924, alt.

“Word of God, Come Down to Earth” **ELW 510**

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Word of God, come down on earth,
living rain from heav'n descending;
touch our hearts and bring to birth
faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere you;
Word made flesh, we long to hear you.</p> | <p>2 Word eternal, throned on high,
Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die,
crucified for our salvation,
saving Word, the world restoring,
speak to us, your love outpouring.</p> |
|--|---|
- 3** Word that speaks God's tender love,
one with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Text: James Quinn, SJ, b. 1919
Text © James Quinn, SJ, Selah Publishing Co., Inc.,
North American agent. www.selahpub.com

- 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

(stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Blessed Jesus,

C **at this table, you have been for us both host and meal. Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share our gifts until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

- ☐ Almighty God, Father, † Son and Holy Spirit, the beginning and the end, who has written your name in the book of life, bless and keep you in grace and peace from this time forth and forevermore.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

HYMN

Lead On, O King Eternal!"

ELW 805

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Lead on, O King eternal!
The day of march has come;
henceforth in fields of conquest
your tents will be our home.
Through days of preparation
your grace has made us strong;
and now, O King eternal,
we lift our battle song.</p> | <p>2 Lead on, O King eternal,
till sin's fierce war shall cease,
and holiness shall whisper
the sweet amen of peace;
for not with swords loud clashing,
nor roll of stirring drums,
but deeds of love and mercy
the heav'nly kingdom comes.</p> |
| <p>3 Lead on, O King eternal:
we follow, not with fears,
for gladness breaks like morning
where'er your face appears.
Your cross is lifted o'er us;
we journey in its light;
the crown awaits the conquest;
lead on, O God of might!</p> | |

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862-1917

DISMISSAL

- ☐ Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord.
☑ Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

† † †

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

November 13 & 14, 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

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God in memory of Kyle Daberkow given by his aunts, Karen & Shirley Bonneau

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Tom Holcombe in memory of his wife, Jean

Children's Choir

9:20 AM

Ages K-6th Grade

Barb 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

10:15—11 AM

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

Sundays, 10:10

This Sunday—Introduction to the Call Committee

Today at Kountze, continued on next page

Today at Kountze, *continued*

Sunday School

Sundays, 10:10 - 10:50 AM

Join us on Sundays on the 2nd 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).

Youth Forum

Sundays, 10:10 - 10:50 AM

All 7th – 12th Graders are invited to join us!

This Sunday—Youth Gathering Bible Study “God’s Boundless Love for Us”

This Week at Kountze Memorial

November 14 Sunday

Pentecost 25

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:20 AM Children’s Choir (K-6th gr)

10:10 AM Sunday School (2 yr-6th gr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)

10:10 AM Adult Forum—Introduction of the Call Committee

12:15 PM Book Group

November 15 Monday

[Good News Deadline](#)

10:00 AM Pantry

6:00 PM HGFC Clinic Board

6:00 PM Exit Interview with Synod

November 16 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group

6:00 PM Congregation Council

7:00 PM Circle 3

November 17 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Confirmation Supper

6:30 PM Confirmation Class

November 18 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Lunch

1:30 PM Circle 4

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

7:00 PM Circle 5

November 19 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

Wedding Rehearsal

November 20 Saturday

2:00 PM Havekost & Sauer Wedding

5:00 PM Worship

November 21 Sunday

Christ the King

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-6th gr)

9:40 AM Breakfast to Celebrate Pr. Olaf

10:10 AM Sunday School (2 yr-6th gr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)

10:10 AM Adult Forum—Farewell to Pr. Olaf

10:30 AM Executive Committee

5:00 PM Inter-faith Thanksgiving Service (First Christian Church 6630 Dodge)

Ongoing and Coming Soon

Celebration Breakfast

Sunday, November 21

Next Sunday will be Pr. Olaf’s last Sunday with our congregation. Join us for a celebration to honor him during worship and the Adult Forum time. Breakfast will be served from 9:30 to 11:00 AM (November 21 only). A short program to acknowledge this milestone in his life, with time for conversation, will make up our time together between worship hours.

Kountze Commons Donor Window

In recognition of the supporters of the Kountze Commons project, a beautiful graphic was approved by the Kountze Commons Donor Wall Committee and has been installed in the link area of Kountze Commons. A translucent Dove representing the Holy Spirit and

emitting rays of light have been placed on the window wall to the courtyard. Donors’ names are printed on the rays of light coming from the dove. If you haven’t been out to the link area between the church and Kountze Commons since it was installed, you’ll want to take some time go and see our new donor window. The names will be updated periodically as donations continue to be received for the Kountze Pantry, the Del & Lou Ann Weber Healing Gift Clinic, and debt reduction for Kountze Commons. Thank you for your continued support to this vital ministry to our community.

2022 Summer Youth Trip Registrations
ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN
July 24 – July 31, 2022

Ongoing and Coming Soon *continued*

Grades 8 - 12

We will extend our trip through July 31 to explore and serve in the Twin City area while possibly staying in a cabin on one of their 10,000 lakes. All 8th - 12th graders are encouraged to join in the journey. Your cost for the whole trip is \$450.00. **Registration is due now with a \$150.00 non-refundable deposit.** Please let Pastor Shari know your intention. Do not let finances keep you from signing up. An extended registration date is January 5 with the cost of the trip increasing by \$50.00.

SECOND Annual Men's Chili Cookoff

Thursday, November 18

11:30 AM

Call the church office or email jim@kmlchurch.org to sign up by Tuesday, November 16. Let us know if you will be entering a pot of chili or just attending. If you're entering a pot of chili, there is no cost; otherwise, suggested donation for the event will be a stuffed animal/ toy to be distributed by the Kountze food pantry as Christmas gifts for our young pantry guests. Last year's winners were:

Dr. Jerry Fisher (1st place)

Chet Worm (2nd place)

Don Johnson (3rd place)

Come vote on your favorite chili. There will be prizes for the top three and a great time of fellowship for all.

Inter-Faith Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 21

5:00 PM

First Christian Church (6630 Dodge)

Kountze Memorial will once again be participating in the Inter-Faith Thanksgiving Prayer Service. This has been a nearly 30-year old event and it arose out of the congregations that helped give birth to the ministries of Together, Inc. (Kountze Memorial was a constitutive partner in both the foundation of Together, Inc and the Interfaith Prayer Service). Please join us.

Thanksgiving Dinner with St. Peter's

Thanksgiving Day, November 25

(11:00 AM to 1:30 PM)

Co-sponsored with and held at

St. Peter's Catholic parish (709 S 28th Street)

Preparations are under way for our annual

Thanksgiving luncheon.

Volunteers are needed to:

a) set up the night before;

b) donate pies/desserts; and

c) serve food, greet, and/or clean tables during the meal.

This event brings so many people in our community together in a spirit of Christian love and fellowship.

Please join us, either to volunteer or as a guest; all are welcome. Please contact Pr. Hall or the church office to volunteer. There will also be a sign up sheet in your bulletin beginning next week.

Advent Meal Volunteers Needed

We will need some volunteers to help prepare, serve, and clean up. We can always use volunteers to help put out placemats, pour drinks, run the dishwasher, etc. so no culinary experience is necessary. If you love to cook, we would be most happy to have you help us with one or all four meals. Please consider taking an hour or two this Advent season to volunteer before, during, or after one of the meals.

Kountze Food Pantry

Our Pantry is participating in the Thrivent's Give Thanks and Give Back Food Shelf Challenge! Our job is to collect at least 500 individual containers of non-perishable foods from November 1-30, 2021. The food drive will be supplemented with a Generosity Multiplier Gift, courtesy of the Thrivent Member Network-Nebraska Region. This means the Kountze Food Pantry will not only benefit from the food, we will receive a matching gift of \$500! If you bring your contributions in a reusable canvas shopping bag, we can pass these on to our walking pantry guests. Thank you to all who brought hygiene products for our holiday gift bags. Your generosity, together with a very generous partnership with St. Michael Lutheran Church, will provide enough kits for 400 people! Please note: Family Fare receipts must be complete in order to be counted. Partial receipts cannot be submitted.

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: 34

Sunday: 9:00: 151 **11:00:** 66

Wednesday: 12:15: 8 **Confirmation:** 8

Total: 267

Streaming: 52

Cox Cable: 208

Pantry Guests Served: 746 (includes 229 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 19

Offering:

\$19,507.00 (Regular)

\$48,568.13 (Specials)

\$3,017.00 (Debt Reduction)

Day and night, God is our protection.

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

Sunday	Mark 13:1-10	The signs of the end of the age
Monday	Daniel 12:1-3	The resurrection of the dead
Tuesday	Hebrews 10:11-25	A call to perseverance
Wednesday	Psalm 91	Assurance of God's protection
Thursday	Philippians 4:10-14	Paul gives thanks
Friday	2 Samuel 22:1-4	David's song of thanksgiving
Saturday	Psalm 16	A life centered on the Lord
Sunday	John 18:33-37	Jesus, the king of truth



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Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."

Psalm 16:1-2 (NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

God of peace, when we experience scary times, help us to trust in you and remain dedicated to your word through Christ Jesus, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of the harvest, we thank you for the fruit of the earth that feeds us and reminds us of your constant care during our mountain top highs and valley lows. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God guide your path into joy forevermore. (Psalm 16:11)

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

- Think or tell about a time when you or someone you know needed protection.
- What do you do and who do you turn to when you feel you need to be protected?
- Psalm 16 gives praise to God for being our great protector. What does that mean to you?

Read: Mark 13:1-10.

The Gospel of Mark was written shortly after the destruction of the temple in Jerusalem by Roman soldiers in 70 A.D. It is easy to imagine that the people wondered if all hope was gone following that jarring event. Had God forsaken the people once and for all? Was this the end of time? Was Christ coming back soon? During times of national or spiritual crisis, it is easy to wonder about such questions, follow after some conspiracy theory, or follow another voice that sounds like the second coming of Christ. Jesus says, in essence, do not be misled, do not make your own predictions about the end. Our task is simple: know in your highs and lows that you are loved and protected by God; give thanks for your neighbors and serve them with joy. Trust God and Christ's reign. During difficult times, how can you show your trust in God?

Pray: God of the universe, when we experience personal or social disasters, help us to keep our eyes on you and speak with confidence the good news of Jesus Christ. Amen.

With the advent of social media, many false messages and hopes are offered as true. Such messaging and propaganda can raise fears and sow divisions among people. Serve your neighbor by resisting extreme messages and social anxiety. Speak words of trust in God that calm one's soul and offer hope and peace to others.

Psalm 16:7 says, *"I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me."* When we read or listen to God's Word at the end of the day, our hearts and minds are filled with thoughts that carry us through the night. Even as we sleep God's Spirit is at work, ministering to us and leading us. This week, take time to read or listen to God's Word before you go to sleep. For children, use a storybook Bible. After reading, say this blessing:
May the Lord make you lie down in safety and may you sleep in peace. (Psalm 4:8)

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14; Psalm 93
Revelation 1:4b-8; John 18:33-37