

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

Stephen Griffith, Transition Senior Pastor
Shari Duminy, Associate Pastor
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2650 Farnam Street
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May 1, 2022

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER



The disciples make a big splash and eat breakfast with the risen Jesus. Wading in the water (remembering baptism) and eating with Jesus (celebrating holy communion) is our weekly encounter with the risen Christ. Jesus asks us again and again: Do you love me? And Jesus invites us, again and again, to follow him, bringing the Easter life to others.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION!

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C** Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

- P** In the waters of baptism, we have passed over from death to life with Jesus Christ, and we are a new creation. For this saving mystery, and for this water, let us bless God, who was, who is, and who is to come.
- P** We thank you, God, for your river of life, flowing freely from your throne: through the earth, through the city, through every living thing.

You rescued Noah and his family from the flood; You opened wide the sea for the Israelites. Now in these waters you flood us with mercy, and our sin is drowned forever. You open the gate of righteousness and we pass safely through.

In Jesus Christ, you calm and trouble the waters.
You nourish us and enclose us in safety.
You call us forth and send us out.
In lush and barren places, you are with us.
You have become our salvation.

Now breathe upon this water and awaken your church once more.
Claim us again as your beloved and holy people.
Quench our thirst; cleanse our hearts; wipe away every tear.

To you, our Beginning and our End, our Shepherd and Lamb,
be honor, glory, praise, and thanksgiving, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

- 1 All creatures, worship God most high!
Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;
sing, sister moon and stars of night:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 2 Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain
you grow the gifts of fruit and grain: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear sister water, useful, clear,
make music for your Lord to hear:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 3 Sing, brother fire, so mirthful, strong,
drive far the shadows, join the throng: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear mother earth, so rich in care,
praise God in colors bright and rare:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 4 All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain and sorrow grieve: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
still make your song amid the tears:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226; tr. composite
Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

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.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ Eternal and all-merciful God,
- ☑ with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Acts 9:1-20

Saul (later called Paul) was an ardent persecutor of all who followed the Way of Christ. This reading recounts the story of his transformation beginning with an encounter with Jesus Christ on the way to Damascus.

Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” ⁵He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.” ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, “Ananias.” He answered, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹The Lord said to him, “Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight.” ¹³But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name.” ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name.” ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, “He is the Son of God.”

L The word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

Psalm 30 (*read responsively*)

¹I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

²**O LORD my God, I cried out to you,
and you restored me to health.**

³You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

⁴**Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful;
give thanks in holy remembrance.**

⁵God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime.
Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.

⁶**While I felt secure, I said,
"I shall never be disturbed.**

⁷You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the mountains."
Then you hid your face, and I was filled with fear.

⁸**I cried to you, O LORD;
I pleaded with my Lord, saying,**

⁹"What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?

¹⁰**Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me;
O LORD, be my helper."**

¹¹You have turned my wailing into dancing;
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.

¹²**Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;
O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

SECOND READING

Revelation 5:11-14

The vision of John recorded in Revelation offers a glimpse of cosmic worship around the throne. At its center is "the Lamb who was slain."

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹²singing with full voice,

"Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!"

¹³Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing,

"To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb
be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

¹⁴And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

L The word of the Lord.

G 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.

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL

John 21:1-9

The risen Christ appears again to his disciples by the sea where they were first called. After echoes of the fishing and feeding miracles, he gives a final reminder of the cost of a disciple's love and obedience.

After he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ²Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?"

He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.” ¹⁷He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN’S BLESSING 9:00 AM

Children (aged 3 years through 5th grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, preschoolers may either follow, with all the other children, the teacher upstairs for an extended children’s sermon (joining us again later in time for Communion) or they may return to their seat and use the Spark Bible and/or activity bags during the regular sermon.

SERMON

Pastor Hall

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

ELW 631

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of heav’n, to earth come down!
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter ev’ry trembling heart.</p> <p>2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit
into ev’ry troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit;
let us find thy promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.</p> | <p>3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.</p> <p>4 Finish then thy new creation,
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee!
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heav’n we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise!</p> |
|--|--|

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

THE APOSTLES' CREED 9:00AM

- ¶** God has made us God's people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- ☒** **I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

HOLY BAPTISM 11:00AM

see ELW pg 227

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: **P** God, 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)

Thanksgiving: for the baptism of Frejya Ann Carlsdottir Hartmann, daughter of Carl and Leslie Hartmann

Illness: Richard Bock, Judy Boelts, Don Burton, Barb Carlsen, Dorothy Cross, Mike Edris, Rodney Edwards, Philip Frye, Richard Holzer, Renee Johnson, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, Jane Meyer, Lara McCormick, John Waterman, Darlene White

Other Prayers: *Those serving in the military* – Brenden Frerck, Wyatt Johnson, 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

THE PEACE IS SHARED

P The peace of Christ be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

MEAL

(sit)

THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

We glorify God in our giving. Our offering is an act of worship that makes the ministries of this church possible. We encourage everyone to give. 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 online. Thank you!



THE TABLE IS PREPARED

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“My Song of Praise”

by Don Besig

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

“As the Grains of Wheat”

ELW 465

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

☐ Living God,

☑ you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our savior and Lord. Amen.

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.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. The lyrics are: '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.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

PREFACE FOR THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

SANCTUS

Ho - ly. ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a melody line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly. ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,', 'heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.', 'Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes', and 'in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.'

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- Ⓟ Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
... With this bread and cup . . . we proclaim the mystery of faith
- ☪ **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**
- Ⓟ O God of resurrection and new life . . .
Grace our table with your presence.
- ☪ **Come, Holy Spirit.**
- Ⓟ Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread . . .
Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
- ☪ **Come, Holy Spirit.**
- Ⓟ With your holy ones . . . we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.
- ☪ **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

☪ **Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

☐ All who are hungry, all who are thirsty, come.

☑ **The risen Christ dwells with us here.**

(sit)

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 who 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. The form of distribution is intinction: you will receive the consecrated bread and then you may dip the bread into the wine. Gluten free bread is available upon request.

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

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

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

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

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives!”

ELW 619 vs. 1-4

1 I know that my Redeemer lives!
 What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
 He lives, he lives, who once was dead;
 he lives, my ever-living head!

3 He lives to grant me rich supply;
 he lives to guide me with his eye;
 he lives to comfort me when faint;
 he lives to hear my soul's complaint.

2 He lives triumphant from the grave;
 he lives eternally to save;
 he lives exalted, throned above;
 he lives to rule his church in love.

4 He lives to silence all my fears;
 he lives to wipe away my tears;
 he lives to calm my troubled heart;
 he lives all blessings to impart.

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt.

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
th'apostles saw their risen Lord!</p> <p>2 O Jesus, king of gentleness,
with constant love our hearts possess;
to you our lips will ever raise
the tribute of our grateful praise.</p> | <p>3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all
in this our Easter festival,
for you will be our strength and shield
from ev'ry weapon death can wield.</p> <p>4 All praise, O risen Lord, we give
to you, once dead, but now alive!
To God the Father equal praise,
and God the Spirit, now we raise!</p> |
|--|---|

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.;
tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

(stand)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- ☞** We give you thanks, generous God,
☞ for in this bread and cup we have tasted the new heaven and earth where hunger and thirst are no more. Send us from this table as witnesses to the resurrection, that through our lives, all may know life in Jesus' name. Amen

SENDING

DISMISSAL OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

BLESSING

☐ God, the author of life, Christ, the living cornerstone, and the life-giving Spirit of adoption, ✠ bless you now and forever.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

RECESSIONAL HYMN

“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

ELW 363

1 Come, you faithful, raise the strain
of triumphant gladness!
God has brought forth Israel
into joy from sadness,
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke
Jacob's sons and daughters;
led them with unmoistened foot
through the Red Sea waters.

2 'Tis the spring of souls today:
Christ has burst his prison,
and from three days' sleep in death
as a sun has risen.
All the winter of our sins,
long and dark, is flying
from the Light to whom we give
laud and praise undying.

3 Now the queen of seasons, bright
with the day of splendor,
with the royal feast of feasts
comes its joy to render;
comes to glad Jerusalem,
who with true affection
welcomes in unwearied strain
Jesus' resurrection!

4 Neither could the gates of death,
nor the tomb's dark portal,
nor the watchers, nor the seal
hold you as a mortal:
but today, among your own,
you appear, bestowing
your deep peace, which evermore
passes human knowing.

5 Alleluia! now we cry
to our Lord immortal,
who triumphant burst the bars
of the tomb's dark portal;
Alleluia! with the Son
God the Father praising;
Alleluia! yet again
to the Spirit raising.

Text: John of Damascus, c. 696-c. 754;
tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

DISMISSAL

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C** **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

- P** Go in peace. Tell what God has done.
- C** **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE



KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Stephen Griffith	Transition Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate 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 Slaughter	Housekeeper
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Susann Henry	Food Pantry Director



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
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Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

April 30 & May 1, 2022

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. Our form of distribution is Intinction.

Sharing of the Peace

As we return to worship practices, we encourage you to begin again sharing the peace in a way that is comfortable for you. Please be mindful that your way might not be for everyone. Handshakes, elbow or fist bump, a bow, a nod, a wave all work. Take this time to connect with others in a way that allows for the Peace of Christ to flow through and amongst us.

Children in Worship

We believe that all are welcome in worship and encourage families to worship together. Activity bags, children's bibles, and bulletins are available, as well as a 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 attendance card in your bulletin or text your e-mail address to 22828.

Today at Kountze

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God by Lynn and Nancy Meyer praising God for a successful knee surgery on Chris; Robert & Patricia Ranney in celebration of their 44th wedding anniversary

Children's Choir

Ages K-6th Grade

Barb Carlsen will lead the singers during the 9:00 AM sermon. Those interested in participating in choir will come forward for the Children's Blessing and then go to the upstairs choir room for practice before returning for Communion.

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).

Sunday School Talking Points

In today's lesson, Jesus forgives Peter. Ask your child what forgiveness looked like in the lesson. Talk about what forgiveness means to them. Have they ever had to forgive someone? Does everybody deserve to be forgiven? Is there anything God will not forgive us for? How can we forgive others?

Today at Kountze, *continued*

Youth Forum

Sundays, 10:10 - 10:50 AM

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

This Sunday—Exploring a Spiritual Practice

Adult Forum

Sunday, 10:10

This Sunday—Update - Council & Call Committee

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall

This Week at Kountze Memorial

May 1 Sunday

Easter 3

Homebound Communion

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

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:15 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal

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

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

10:10 AM Adult Forum

May 2 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

May 3 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

May 4 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

May 5 Thursday

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

May 6 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

May 7 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

May 8 Sunday

Easter 4

Mother's Day

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

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:15 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal

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

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

10:10 AM Adult Forum

May is Blindness Prevention Month

May is Blindness Prevention Month. During May we will be again be collecting used eyeglasses for a community project. Thank you in advance for your participation in this outreach event. Please place the glasses in the drop box by the back office door in May. Thank you in advance for your support.

Growing Young Book Study/Planning Sessions

Adult Forum

May 8

10:10 AM

How might we cultivate a community that helps younger generations discover and love being a part of the church? We are finding out it does not happen by not focusing on it. The KMLC Christian Education Committee is inviting you to join in the conversation of Growing Young. This book is written by Kara Powell, Jake Mulder, and Brad Griffin and is a Fuller Youth Institute Resource. Through developing 6 essential strategies, churches are seeing younger more connected people join in the mission of proclaiming Christ through word and service. Join us during Adult Forum on May 8 for an preview. Time between services through June will enable us to study these strategies more fully and think about ways we might embrace them for our future.

Camp Sunday

May 8

10:10 AM

Camp staff from Nebraska Lutheran Outdoors Ministries – Camp Carol Joy Holling and Sullivan Hills, will be here to lead activities in the link and outdoor courtyard. At 10:40 AM, parents of the K -12th grade youth, are asked to join the group for an informative session with a Q & A time. Join us as we learn about this important ministry of the ELCA Nebraska Synod and how we can be a part of it.

Lutheran Women of Omaha

Tuesday, May 10, 12:00 Noon

Christ the King Lutheran

7302 South 42nd Street, Bellevue

Bring Your Own Lunch and \$3.00

Reservations required to Faith 402 734 4629 by **May 6**
Program: Immanuel Pathways Free Will Offering to Salvation Army

Celebrating our Graduates

Sunday, May 15

9:00 AM Worship Service

As in years past, the high school seniors will be blessed and presented with a quilt from the KMLC sewing group. All graduates who wish to be included in the video can submit 5 photos, to Pastor Shari by Monday, May 2 along with your written information for the bulletin. Please contact Pastor Shari with any questions. We want to celebrate all graduates at this time. If you are graduating this spring or have graduated from college or any educational program in the last 6 months, let us know. Submit the following information to shari@kmlchurch.org: Name, Parents, Place attended, Degree, and Future Plans by Monday, May 9. Thanks for helping us to compile this information. Congratulations to all!

Baptism Seminar

Sunday, May 15

10:10 AM

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

New Member Class

June 5 & 12 (please plan to attend both sessions)

12:15 - 2:00 PM

If you are interested in finding out more about Kountze Memorial or would like to join our congregation, please consider attending our next New Member class. Lunch will be served and childcare is provided. Please call the church office to register and let us know if you need childcare. If you have questions, please talk to one of our Pastors.

Vacation Bible School

June 13 - 17

5:30 - 8:00 PM - Dinner at 5:30 PM

Save the date! Kountze will be partnering with Morning Star Lutheran Church for Vacation Bible School! Dinner will be served at the start, with learning through activities to follow. VBS will be held at Morning Start church (331 S. 85th St.). We will be looking for volunteers to help serve food, teach, and assist. If you are interested, please contact Kristin Boe at kristin@kmlchurch.org.

Ordination of Adam Klinker

Held at Kountze Memorial

Tuesday, June 14

More information to follow.

Camp Carol Joy Holling

You can still register for Camp this summer. Go to <https://www.caroljoyholling.org>. Kountze camp week will take place June 19 – 24, 2022. Get to know your friends from Kountze while having a great time at bible camp. A pastor might even stop by to see what fun activities you are participating in during the week. We hope you will join in this great opportunity! (If that week will not work, we encourage you to attend anytime you are free this summer. There are First-Time Camper Discounts of \$100.00)

Kountze Food Pantry

Thank-you to Methodist Health Systems and the Women of the ELCA for their large donations of food and personal care items! We have exciting news at the Kountze Food Pantry! Beginning May 16 we will be returning to a guest choice, indoor service! This means a lot less heavy lifting and more fun for the volunteers. If you choose to join us, you will be expected to stand or sit at a station and offer our guests a choice in your category. There are 12 different stations at each shift. The first shift is from 10-11 and the second shift is from 11-1. In addition we will need greeters and carry out volunteers. You are welcome to sign up for both shifts. We all look forward to returning to normal!

Pantry Volunteers Needed:

Mondays: 10—11 AM; 11 AM - 1 PM

Fridays: 4 - 7 PM

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

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

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 26

Sunday: 9:00: 205 **11:00:** 64

Wednesday: 12:15: 11

Total: 306

Streaming: 56

Cox Cable: 192

Pantry Guests Served: 1077 (inc. 352 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 24

Offering:

\$15,509.66 (Regular) \$3,922.62 (Specials)

\$1,787.50 (Debt Reduction)

In Jesus the Lamb, we praise what the world rejected.

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

Sunday	John 21:1-19	Jesus appears to the disciples
Monday	Acts 9:1-20	Conversion of Saul
Tuesday	Revelation 5:11-14	Heavenly vision
Wednesday	John 1:29-34	Lamb of God
Thursday	Revelation 4:6b-11	Song of praise to the Creator
Friday	Isaiah 53:1-12	What God's servant did for us
Saturday	Psalms 30	God turns mourning into dancing
Sunday	John 10:22-30	Jesus promises life to his sheep



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Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!"

Revelation 5:13 (NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, like the disciples by the Sea of Galilee, give us courage and faith to be sent out to follow you and tell the good news of Jesus and his resurrection. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of all things, bless us and strengthen us with this food to go out and shepherd others in love through Christ our Lord, the Lamb who was slain. Alleluia. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lamb who was slain and begins his reign bless you with joy.

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

- Why is being popular so appealing?
- What influences people to seek riches and power and why do they want it?

Read: Revelation 5:11-14.

The Revelation of John the Seer engages in active resistance to current powers. In John's day, it would have been the Roman Empire that saw itself as godlike and worthy of immortal praise. John upends that view and the powers that are still around us. When we think of words like power, wealth, wisdom, and honor, it is hard not to think in terms of what we see on social media, hear on the radio, and watch on screens. We are regularly given visions of "success" in terms of personal and national victories, not a crucified God. Revelation announces that our only real loyalty is to the cross of Christ and his resurrection. This final New Testament book acknowledges the truth of God's power revealed in Jesus, who is slain like a sacrificed lamb and yet reigns supreme. In this scripture reading we are encouraged to sing and give praise for the eternal blessings, honor, glory, and might of *"the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb"* (v. 13).

Discuss: Glory and power reside in the Lamb, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In what ways are you reminded of this in your daily life?

Pray: **God of glory and might, refresh our memories with vivid sights and sounds of your eternal love for us and for all creation through Christ, the Lamb who was slain. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you pray for God's power and strength to help someone you know?

Jesus appeared to the disciples while they were fishing. The fish has been used as a Christian symbol from the earliest days of the church. The Greek word for fish is *ichthus*. In Greek, the letters making up the word form an acrostic for Jesus Christ, God's Son, Savior. Early Christians practiced their faith and worshiped secretly in their homes. A fish painted on the door of a house let Christians know that they would be safe and welcome inside. Draw an *ichthus* symbol to display at the entrance to your home as a sign of your faith in Jesus as your Savior.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23
Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30