

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 Slaight	Housekeeper
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Norma Pafford	Nursery Superintendent
Susann Henry	Food Pantry Director



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

April 9 & 10 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.

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

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's Choir

Ages K-6th Grade

No Children's choir Palm Sunday or Easter, but join Barb Carlsen on April 24 during the 9:00 AM sermon (9:15). 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).

Youth Forum

Sundays, 10:10 - 10:50 AM

All 7th - 12th Graders are invited to join us!
This Sunday—Boundless Bible Study - Youth Room

Adult Forum

Sunday, 10:10

This Sunday—Fellowship
Please join us in the Fellowship Hall

This Week at Kountze Memorial

April 10 Sunday

Palm Sunday
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
8:30 AM Children's Choir Rehearsal
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6th gr)
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)
10:10 AM Adult Forum
12:00 PM Order of Saint John Appreciation Lunch
12:15 PM Book Group

April 11 Monday

Monday in Holy Week
10:00 AM Pantry
12:15 AN Worship

April 12 Tuesday

Tuesday in Holy Week
9:00 AM Staff Meeting
12:15 AN Worship

April 13 Wednesday

Wednesday in Holy Week
9:00 AM Sewing Group
11:00 AM Devotions @ deFreese Manor
12:15 PM Worship
6:00 PM Executive Committee

April 14 Thursday

Maundy Thursday
Council Reports Due
First Communion
9:30 AM WELCA Board
11:00 AM Lenten Lunch
11:30 AM Property Committee
5:30 PM Lenten Dinner
6:30 PM Worship

April 15 Friday

Good Friday
Good News Deadline

April 15 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry
6:30 PM Worship

April 16 Saturday

Easter Vigil
10:00 PM Easter Vigil Worship

April 17 Sunday

Easter
No Sunday School
7:30 AM , 9:00, & 11:00 AM Worship
7:45 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
8:00—10:45 AM Easter Breakfast
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

Sunday School Talking Points

Today concludes our lessons on the mystery of Easter with our seventh lesson on Jesus' life and his journey to the cross. In today's lesson, we look at Jesus on the cross and on Easter.

In Godly Play, we conclude each lesson with "I Wonder" questions. These are open ended musings on what the students found interesting or meaningful to them. Ask your child the following questions to see what they remember most about the story of Easter.

- I wonder what part of the story you like best?
- I wonder what part of the story is the most important?
- I wonder what part of the story is about you?
- I wonder if there is any part of the story we can leave out and still have the story we need?

Lutheran Women Omaha

Tuesday, April 12

12:00 PM

Augustana Lutheran Church,

Guests are welcome, Lunch—\$7.00—Reservations required, to Faith, 402-734-4629 by Friday, April 8. Program-Restoring Dignity by Hannah Wyble, Freewill offering to Restoring Dignity

Diaper Drive

We are having a diaper drive for the Bowari family. They need diapers size 1 and up (no newborn sizes please). If you would like to provide diapers, please bring them to church and put them in the large brown box next to the box for the Pantry box. Your donations will be appreciated.

Lutheran Disaster Response

Links to our giving page and Lutheran Disaster Response can be found in the Friday e-news or a checked marked "Eastern Europe Crisis Response can be given to Kountze Memorial and we will make sure it gets to the right place. Your gifts designated for "Eastern Europe Crisis Response" will be used entirely (100%) to provide support for people impacted by conflict in the region.

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: 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 using the following link:

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

Usher Sign-up for Holy Week and Easter

If you will be available during Holy Week and Easter, we could use your help as Ushers. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the Nave for you to add your name according to your availability.

Communion Assistants and Lectors Needed

We need you for Holy Week and Easter - and Sundays in general. If you are already serving as a Communion Assistant and/or Lector, please sign up on Servant Keeper or call the church office to sign up according to your availability. If you aren't currently serving as a Communion Assistant or Lector but would like to, please contact Debbie in the church office to sign up or to get a link to the Sign-up Genius Page. We will walk you through a training session before you serve.

Hot Easter Breakfast

8:00 - 10:45 AM

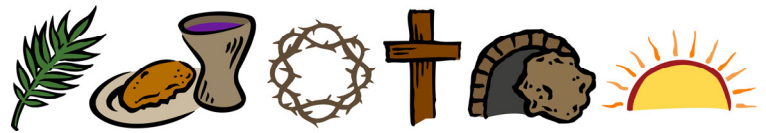
Plan to have Easter Breakfast with us. Egg Casserole, Fruit, Potatoes, Pastries, Juice, and Coffee are on the menu. If you are able to assist in making this meal for the congregation, we are looking for people to help on Saturday Morning for set-up, Sunday Morning Chefs, Sunday Morning Servers, Sunday Morning Clean-up crew, and Pastry Donations. Let us know how you might help make this Easter Morning time a shared celebration for all.

Festival of the Resurrection in the Link

7:30 AM Easter Morning

This service will take place as we watch the sunrise on Easter Morning. Join us for a 30 minute service with the Eucharist as we celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord.

HOLY WEEK



Sdø #1xqgd | #Dsulc# #3#

9 & 11 AM

Eucharist with Palm Procession and Passion Reading

#

P rggd | #1xhvgd | #Z hgghvgd | #Dsulc#4/#5/# #6#

12:15 PM

Eucharist in Rotunda Chapel

#

P dxqg | #1kxugd | #Dsulc#7#

11:00 AM

Lunch* (free-will offering)

12:15 PM

Worship

5:30 PM

Dinner* (free-will offering)

6:30 PM

Worship & First Communion

(Nursery care is available for children ages infant - 4 years in the nursery located near the Fellowship Hall. Please ask an Usher for directions.)

* "In Case You Missed it the First Time" (or didn't get enough of your favorite...) We will empty the freezer and use the leftovers from previous meals for Maundy Thursday. Maybe some of your favorites will be leftover or you can try something you missed. Come hungry and join us!

#

J rrgg | #1ulgd | #Dsulc#8#

12:00-3:00 PM

Ecumenical Good Friday Service: Seven Words from the Cross with Guest Speakers, String Quartet and Kountze Choir

6:30 PM

Tenebrae (Veneration of the Cross and Service of Shadows) (Nursery)

K rō | #1dwugd | #Dsulc#9#

10:00 PM

Easter Vigil (Fire, Word, Water, Eucharist) (There will be no 5 PM Saturday service)

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 38

Sunday: 9:00: 167 **11:00:** 61

Wednesday: 12:15: 35 **6:30:** 48

Total: 349

Streaming: 65

Cox Cable: 164

Pantry Guests Served: 1077 (inc. 362 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 13

Offering:

\$24,108.74 (Regular) \$3,365.89 (Specials)

\$797.50 (Debt Reduction)

Alleluia!

Easter Sunday, April 17

7:30 AM

Festival of the Resurrection in the Link

8 - 10:45 AM

Easter Breakfast

9 & 11 AM

Festival of the Resurrection

10:10 AMish

Easter Egg Hunt in the Green Space after the 9:00 AM service

Christ's suffering shows God's love and glory.

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

Sunday	Luke 19:28-40	Blessed is the king who comes
Monday	Isaiah 50:4-9a	God's servant must suffer
Tuesday	Philippians 2:5-11	Christ shows us true humility
Wednesday	Luke 22:1-6	Judas agrees to betray Jesus
Thursday	Luke 22:7-38	The Last Supper
Friday	Luke 22:47-23:49	The crucifixion of Jesus
Saturday	Psalms 31:9-16	A prayer for protection
Sunday	John 20:1-18	The resurrection of Jesus



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Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow and edited by Vibrant Faith Ministries.
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*He [Christ] humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name. **Philippians 2:8-9 (NRSV)***

A Prayer for the Week:

O Holy Jesus, for your love, faith, and courage to do the will of God, we thank you on bended knee and with a humble yet joyous heart. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, with this food let us remember you give us strength to live each day in peace and hope through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God grant you faith to live in peace and love in Christ Jesus.

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

- When have you been unfairly judged or mistreated by others?
- How does Christ's mistreatment help you when you experience unfair treatment?

Read: Philippians 2:5-11.

In Luke 19:28-40, Jesus enters Jerusalem riding on a lowly donkey. Crowds wave palms to honor and acknowledge him as a king. Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem is short-lived as he is then led to a humiliating death within a week. Jesus is obedient to the point of death (Philippians 2:8) at the hands of human authority. Human judgment and power led to the killing of the Son of God, but human powers could not conquer Jesus' act of divine love. God's work of salvation from the cross most fully reveals the depth of God's power over evil and promise of undying love. In the end, Jesus' suffering and death is God's victory over all other powers. Jesus conquers suffering and death that "every knee should bend in heaven and on earth and under the earth and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord" (vv. 10-11).

Discuss: How has Christ's victory over evil and death been a comfort for you when you have experienced mistreatment?

Pray: **God of humility and glory, give us faith to trust that in Christ all earthly powers must bow down to you and that your love puts an end to all things that destroy life and love. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you give glory to God and show love through an act of kindness?

Today is Palm Sunday. We wave palms and shout, "Hosanna!" Hosanna means "save us." Jesus humbly and obediently rode into Jerusalem to save us. This day signals the beginning of Holy Week and is also known as Passion Sunday. Passion describes Jesus' suffering and death. It is not easy to read and think about what Jesus went through to save us. Give thanks in your home this week by waving a real palm or one made from construction paper and say: **Hosanna, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.** Then, if able, kneel and pray. Take a moment to think about Jesus' suffering and death and what it means to you. Finish with the Lord's Prayer.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:19-26; Luke 24:1-12