

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

Stephen Griffith, Transition Senior Pastor
Shari Duminy, Associate Pastor
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor

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

June 26, 2022

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

THIRD SUNDAY after PENTECOST
24th Annual Neighborhood Gathering and Jazz Worship Services



We have no good apart from God. That makes Jesus' call to follow him an invitation to freedom. This is freedom to revel in the Spirit's fruit: love, joy, peace, and patience. This is freedom to not be imprisoned by anything that would keep us from the fullness of the life God has given us. This is the path of life.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Street Railway Company Jazz Band

Bob Olsen, *cornet*; Tom Hazuka, *drums*; Ken Molacek, *tuba*
Roger Anderson, *trombone*; Mark Nelson, *piano*; Bob Zagozda, *clarinet/vocals*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

C Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Merciful God,

C **we confess that we have not followed your path
but have chosen our own way.**

**Instead of putting others before ourselves,
we long to take the best seats at the table.**

**When met by those in need,
we have too often passed by on the other side.**

Set us again on the path of life.

**Save us from ourselves
and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.**

P Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

C Amen.

**1 This little light of mine,
I’m gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I’m gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I’m gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**2 Ev’ry where I go,
I’m gonna let it shine.
Ev’ry where I go,
I’m gonna let it shine.
All through the neighborhood,
I’m gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**3 This little light of mine,
I’m gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I’m gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I’m gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**4 Hold it high so all can see,
I’m gonna let it shine.
Hold it high so all can see,
I’m gonna let it shine.
Hold it high so all can see,
I’m gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

**5. This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

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

- ☐** Sovereign God,
☑ ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

In the story preceding today's reading, the prophet Elijah flees for his life to the security of God's mountain. There God reveals to Elijah that there are still other faithful people in Israel and commissions him to anoint new leaders, including his own successor, Elisha.

Then the Lord said to [Elijah,] "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. ¹⁶Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.

¹⁹So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. ²⁰He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." Then Elijah said to him, "Go back again; for what have I done to you?" ²¹He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

☒ 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."

²**All 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.

⁴**I 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.

⁶**My 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.

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

(continued on next page)

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

¹⁰**For 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

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

For Paul, the freedom Christ gives is not permission to do whatever we want. It is the invitation to be what we could not be otherwise. The power and guidance of Christ's Holy Spirit produce a different kind of life, one marked by the fruit of this Holy Spirit.

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁵If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²²By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

📖 The word of the Lord.

🙏 **Thanks be to God.**

(stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

Music: Caribbean traditional

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.
- C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 9:51-62

Jesus is unwavering in his commitment to his mission in Jerusalem and will not be swayed by pettiness. In a series of striking cases in point, he calls his disciples to a similar single-mindedness.

When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; ⁵³but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” ⁵⁵But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶Then they went on to another village.

⁵⁷As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” ⁵⁹To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” ⁶⁰But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” ⁶¹Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” ⁶²Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

- P** The Gospel of the Lord.

C **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, 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

“Just a Closer Walk with Thee”

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Just a closer walk with thee,
grant it, Jesus, is my plea;
daily walking close to thee,
let it be, dear Lord, let it be.</p> <p>2 I am weak but thou art strong:
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I'll be satisfied as long
as I walk, let me walk close to thee.</p> | <p>3 Through this world of toil and snares,
if I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares?
None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.</p> <p>4 When my feeble life is o'er,
time for me will be no more;
guide me gently, safely o'er
to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore.</p> |
|--|--|

(sit)

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

- ☐ Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for *these individuals*, who are already one with us in the body of Christ and whom we now welcome as new members into the life and ministry of this congregation.

Carol and Paul Carlson

Louis Flake

Terri and Kirk Krisor

Barbara Paris

Michelle and Tom Shields

Emily and Payton Stolp

Marsha Vance

THE APOSTLES' CREED

- ☐ God has made us his 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.**

☐ In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

☐ *Sisters and brothers* in Christ: do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

Response: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

May almighty God – Father, Son ✠ and Holy Spirit – who gave you the will to reaffirm your baptismal vows also give you the grace and the strength to uphold them.

☐ People of God: do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?

☑ **We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

☐ Let us pray: we give you thanks for our new members whom you have drawn to yourself by the love of Jesus Christ and whom we have welcomed into this household of faith. Keep us close together in your Spirit, in the breaking of bread and the prayers, and in service to others.

☑ **Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: **P** God of grace,
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 reception of new members: Carol & Paul Carlson, Louis Flake, Terri & Kirk Krisor, Barbara Paris, Michelle & Tom Shields, Emily & Payton Stolp, and Marsha Vance

Illness: Patty Baker, Richard Bock, Don Burton, Myrna Carter, Martha Eckman, Mike Edris, Rodney Edwards, Philip Frye, Susie Henry, Richard Holzer, Joan Jacobson-Trotter, Renee Johnson, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, Jane Meyer, Lara McCormick, Stephanie Stephens, 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; our sister congregation, the American Church in Berlin, as they assist refugees from the war in Ukraine

Other Prayers: *Seminarians*— 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 or place your offering in the plates that are located at the entrances to the Sanctuary. For those of you watching through our media outlets, if you are able, please mail in your offering or donate online. Thank you!



THE TABLE IS PREPARED

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Street Railway Company Jazz Band

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Amazing Grace”

vs 1-2

1 Amazing grace! how sweet the sound
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
was blind, but now I see.

2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved;
how precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!

OFFERING PRAYER

P God of abundance:

G you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** **And also with you.**

- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

PREFACE FOR SUNDAYS IN PENTECOST

SANCTUS

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P** Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Creator: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.

. . .

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is your, almighty God, now and forever.

- C** **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

- 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.**

AGNUS DEI

- ☞ **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**
- Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**
- Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- ☞ Come to the banquet.
- ☞ **In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy.**

(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.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

"I've Got Peace Like a River"

**I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in my soul
I've got peace like a river, I've got peace like a river,
I've got peace like a river in my soul.**

**I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain,
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul
I've got joy like a fountain, I've got joy like a fountain,
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.**

**I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean in my soul
I've got love like an ocean, I've got love like an ocean,
I've got love like an ocean in my soul.**

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

- 1 **What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
oh, what needless pain we bear--
all because we do not carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!**
- 2 **Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness--
take it to the Lord in prayer.**
- 3 **Are we weak and heavy-laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.**

(stand)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- ☞** Life-giving God,
☞ through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

- P** The God of peace, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

RECESSIONAL HYMN

“When the Saints Go Marching Out”

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Oh, when the saints go marching out,
oh, when the saints go marching out,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when the saints go marching out.</p> <p>2 Oh, when the Lord in glory comes,
oh when the Lord in glory comes,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when the Lord in glory comes.</p> <p>3 Oh, when the new world is revealed,
oh, when the new world is revealed,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when the new world is revealed.</p> | <p>4 Oh, when they gather ‘round the throne,
oh, when they gather ‘round the throne,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when they gather ‘round the throne.</p> <p>5 Oh, when they crown him King of kings,
oh, when they crown him King of kings,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
when they crown him King of kings.</p> <p>6 And on that hallelujah day,
and on that hallelujah day,
O Lord, I want to be in that number
on that hallelujah day.</p> |
|---|--|

DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace. Love your neighbor.
G Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

† † †

From Sundays and Seasons.com. ©2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006828. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-705181. New Revised Standard Version Bible, ©1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Evangelical Lutheran Worship ©2006 Augsburg Fortress. All Creations Sings ©2020 Augsburg Fortress, an imprint of 1517 Media. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26828. CCLI License #1511530.

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	Janitorial Staff
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
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

June 25 & 26 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.

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 in memory of Kelcey Renae Fike and Randall S. Fike given by Mary Jo Fike & family; given by Mark & Tarna Kidder in honor of their 26th wedding anniversary; in memory of Bill & Marie Sears from their children, Ron, Lois & Claude

New Members

Today we receive New Members into our community of faith—see insert. Please be sure to welcome them. Thank you to John Fox for providing corsages/boutonnieres for our new members.

Holy Play Through August 28 10:00 - 11:00 AM

All youth are invited to join in Summer Holy Play from 10 to 11 AM each Sunday morning through August 28. (July 3, no activities provided). We will meet in the Link/Green Space unless otherwise noted. Different activities will be offered each Sunday with treats. **This Sunday** we'll meet upstairs in the Sunday School rooms so they can set up for the Neighborhood Gathering at 11:00 AM. Be sure to join in the fun of both Holy Play and the Neighborhood Gathering!

Adult Forum Fellowship Hall 10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This Sunday**—Fellowship or join in on the Growing Young Book Study Planning Session in the Fellowship Lounge.

Today at Kountze, *continued*

**Growing Young Book Study/Planning Sessions
Fellowship Lounge**

10:10 AM

How might we cultivate a community that helps younger generations discover and love being a part of the church? The KMLC Christian Education

Committee is inviting you to join in the conversation of Growing Young. All are welcome to join in the book study through the month of June. We will meet in the Fellowship Lounge and encourage you to join as you are available. This week, Chapters 7 & 8.



KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEIGHBORHOOD GATHERING

SUNDAY, JUNE 26
11:30 AM - 1:30 PM
IN THE COURTYARD NEXT TO KOUNTZE COMMONS

This Week at Kountze Memorial

June 26 Sunday

Pentecost 3
Receive New Members
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:10 AM Holy Play
10:10 AM Adult Forum—Fellowship
10:10 AM Growing Young Book Study
11:30 Neighborhood Gathering

June 27 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

June 28 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
12:30 PM Circle 3
6:00 PM Call Committee

June 29 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

June 30 Thursday

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

July 1 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

July 2 Saturday

Homebound Communion
5:00 PM Worship

July 3 Sunday

Pentecost 4
Homebound Communion
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:10 AM Adult Forum—Fellowship
No Holy Play Today

July 4 Monday

Independence Day
OFFICE CLOSED—No Pantry

Eucharistic Ministers Needed

We have several people that aren't able to come to church on a regular basis. so we need to take communion to them. However, we don't have enough Eucharistic Ministers to take communion to them. If you might be willing to serve in this way or would like more information on what Eucharistic Ministers do, please contact the church office or talk to one of the Pastors. Thanks.

Jazz on the Green

Turner Park—Midtown Crossing

Thursdays, July 7 - August 11

Park Opens for Seating at 5 PM

Pre-Show Starts at 6:30 PM

Music Starts at 7:30 PM

Free & Open to the Public

Please call the church office or talk to Jim Smejkal if you're interested in attending as a group.

Women's Luau

Saturday, July 9

11:30 AM

Children Welcome

Please RSVP on the insert sheet by July 5 so we know how many to plan for.

Thank You for Eye Glass Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated the used eyeglasses in May. We collected over 175 pairs of glasses. You have helped those in need to see their world more clearly. God Bless You.

Update on our Refugee Family

The Bowari family is making great progress adapting to life in Omaha. The biggest need right now is for Guldin to find a job and transportation to that job. Two companies are hiring refugees who don't speak English, Nebraska Beef and Airlite Plastics - neither one is reachable by public transportation. Neither can offer transportation to Guldin. The Bowari family lives at 137th & Harrison, Airlite Plastics is near the airport, and Nebraska Beef is in South Omaha near 36th & L. Your help is needed! If you know of any companies who might hire Guldin (he's willing to do any type of work), or if you know of anyone willing to help with transportation 5 or 6 days a week, please let us know. We have some funds available to reimburse for gas costs. Call Jonna Holland at 402-669-4575. And please keep this family in your prayers!

Kountze Food Pantry

The Kountze Food Pantry is requesting donations of hygiene products for our guests. We are in need of toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoo and conditioner, razors and shave cream, bar soap and/or body wash and deodorant. Toilet tissue is another high-demand item. Please leave your donations in the box in Fellowship Hall. Thank you to all the willing hands doing God's work at the Food Pantry! Please continue to sign up in the Meeting Room A in Fellowship Hall, or at the following link:

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

Thank You!

LeClare Steffen would like to thank everyone who sent cards and birthday greetings for her 99th birthday. You helped to make her day very special.

Carol Joy Holling 34th Annual Quilt Auction

Saturday, July 30, 2022

9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Carol Joy Holling Camp

Kountze always donates several quilts to the auction. Quilts in the past have auctioned for anywhere between \$25 and \$20,000. The day promises good food, great fun, and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of camp. The auction and lunch will be held rain or shine. Bring your friends and families!

Kountze Community Garden

Our pantry garden has been planted and soon we'll need volunteers to help pick, sort, and transport produce from our Community Garden to Kountze Memorial. If you love to garden and think this would be something you would be interested in, please contact the Church Office.

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 34

Sunday: 9:00: 75 11:00: 48

Wednesday: 12:15: 12

Total: 169

Streaming: 54

Cox Cable: 138

Pantry Guests Served: 974 (inc. 312 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 19

Offering:

\$11,456.12 (Regular) \$1,230.61 (Specials)

\$1,212.50 (Debt Reduction)

We are set free to love our neighbor.

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

Sunday	Luke 9:51-62	The cost of following Jesus
Monday	1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21	Elijah meets God at Horeb
Tuesday	Galatians 5:1, 13-25	Fruit of the Spirit
Wednesday	Philippians 2:1-11	Christ shows us true humility
Thursday	Deuteronomy 15:7-11	How to treat the poor
Friday	1 John 3:11-24	Love one another
Saturday	Psalms 16	Trust and security in God
Sunday	Luke 10:1-11, 16-20	Jesus sends out the seventy



© 2018 Vibrant Faith Ministries. All rights reserved.
Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow and edited by Vibrant Faith Ministries.
Go to www.vibrantfaithathome.org for more faith-forming activities.

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. Galatians 5:1 (NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

Loving God, thank you for setting us free to love all of creation, our neighbors, and those we have not yet met, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may this food remind us that you give us joy and that you hold in your hand true pleasures for us, now and always. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the God of true joy and peace free you to love.

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

- When have you used your free will in a way that did not help you or others?
- Give an example or think about how you used your freedom to help or be kind to someone.

Read: Galatians 5:1, 13-25.

We like the idea of personal freedom; we are just not sure what to do with it. Should we take art classes to become an accomplished artist? Should we use our freedom to explore the world and delight in all of God's creation? Freedom gives us options that can make us dizzy. Paul has been telling the Galatians what it means to be justified (made right with God) by grace through faith. Here's the answer: it is to be set free. Contrary to many cultural and whimsical ideas of freedom, Christian freedom is quite simple: love your neighbor. You can't do that by feeding your own desires while being insensitive to others. You love your neighbor with the fruit of the Spirit that is "*love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.*" That is what being made right with God looks like. It is the freedom to be a slave of—to be captive to—love, and only to love.

Discuss: How does self-indulgence get in the way of loving one another?

Pray: **Liberating God, fill our lives with the fruit of the Spirit, that we may love others with joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, who is someone to whom you could show kindness and generosity?

Make a tree shape out of cardboard or colored paper and cut-out nine fruit shapes. Write one of the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit from Galatians 5:22-23 on each of the cut-out fruit. Take time each day this week to talk about and pray for one or two fruit in your life. As you do, place the fruit shapes on your tree. Display it in a visible place in your home as a reminder of the fruits of the Spirit.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 66:10-14; Psalm 66:1-9
Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20