

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

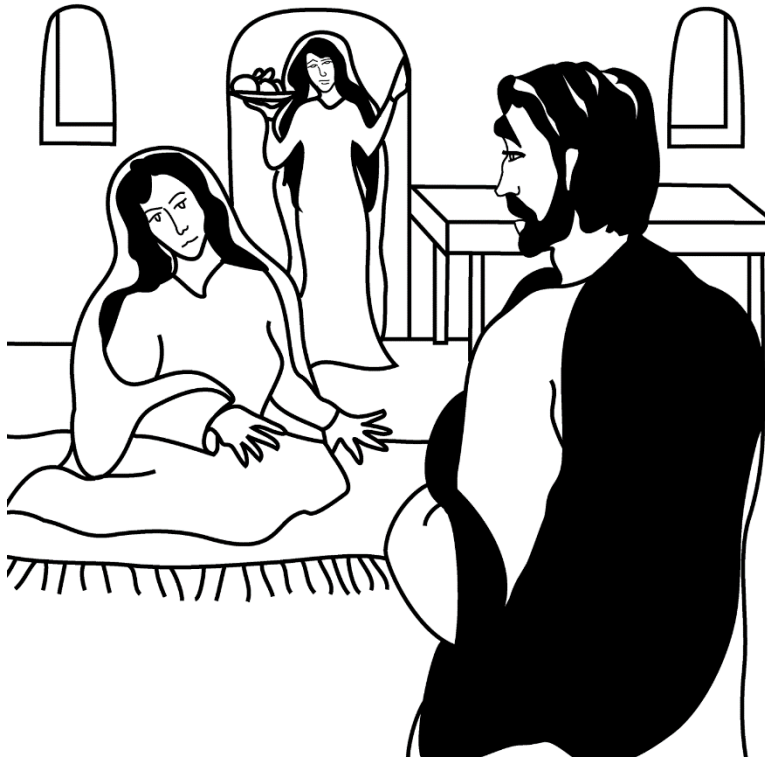
Stephen Griffith, Transition Senior Pastor  
Shari Duminy, Associate Pastor  
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor

2650 Farnam Street  
Omaha, NE 68131-3616  
402-341-7761  
[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

July 17, 2022

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

SIXTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



*Perhaps the church, at its best, is “all ears.” God urges the faithful, again and again, to “listen up!”—to heed the word that gives life. So it was with Abraham and Sarah, Mary and Martha, and the early church at Colossae. So it is today as we join the assembly to hear the word of God, the word of life.*



# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

## 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.

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*“When Morning Gilds the Skies”*

ELW 853 vs. 1, 3, 4

**1** When morning gilds the skies,  
my heart awaking cries:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
When evening shadows fall,  
this rings my curfew call:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!

**3** No lovelier antiphon  
in all high heav'n is known  
than "Jesus Christ be praised!"  
There to the eternal Word  
the eternal psalm is heard:  
oh, Jesus Christ be praised!

**4** Let all of humankind  
in this their concord find:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!  
Let all the earth around  
ring joyous with the sound:  
may Jesus Christ be praised!

Text: German hymn, 19th cent.;  
tr. Robert Bridges, 1844-1930, alt.

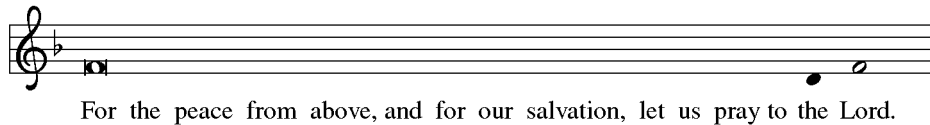
## APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- G** And also with you.

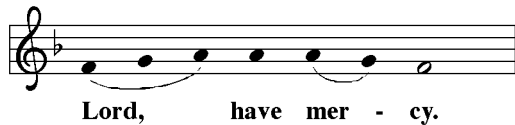
# KYRIE



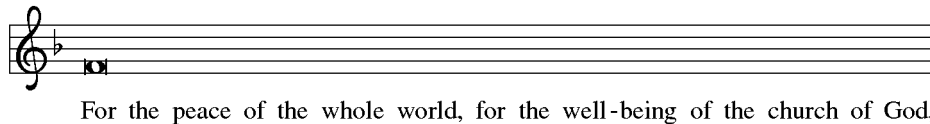
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



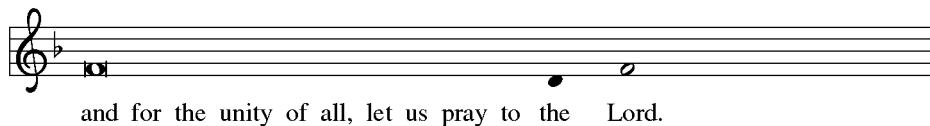
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



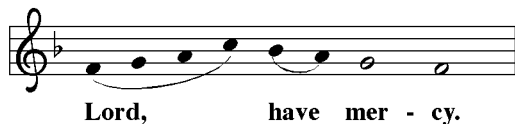
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



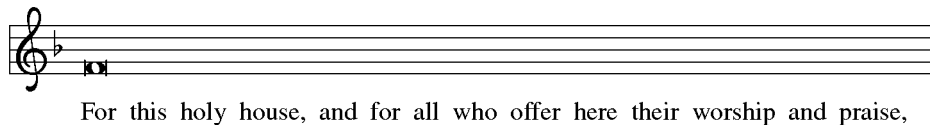
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



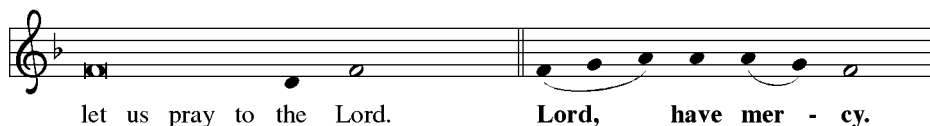
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



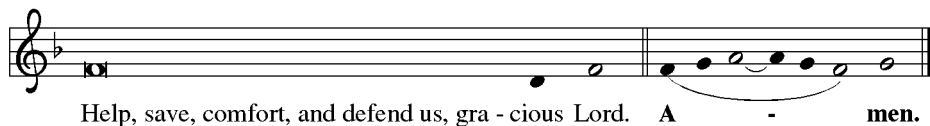
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

# HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,

we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;

you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Eternal God,

**C** you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## WORD

(sit)

### FIRST READING

**Genesis 18:1-10a**

*The Lord visits Abraham and Sarah to tell them that the long-awaited promise of the birth of a child will be fulfilled for them in their old age.*

**T**he Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. <sup>2</sup>He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. <sup>3</sup>He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. <sup>4</sup>Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. <sup>5</sup>Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” <sup>6</sup>And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” <sup>7</sup>Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. <sup>8</sup>Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

<sup>9</sup>They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” <sup>10a</sup>Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.”

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### PSALM 15 (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>LORD, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

<sup>2</sup>**Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right,  
who speak the truth from their heart;**

<sup>3</sup>they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends;  
they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

<sup>4</sup>**In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the Lord.  
They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

<sup>5</sup>They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent.  
Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

## SECOND READING

Colossians 1:15-28

*This letter offers a mystical teaching, that the great mystery of God is “Christ in you.” Because Christ is present in the church, Christians share in his life, suffering, and glory.*

**C**hrist Jesus is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation;<sup>16</sup>for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup>For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup>and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

<sup>21</sup>And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup>he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him—<sup>23</sup>provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel.

<sup>24</sup>I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. <sup>25</sup>I became its servant according to God’s commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, <sup>26</sup>the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. <sup>27</sup>To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. <sup>28</sup>It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** 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.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.



## HOLY GOSPEL

**Luke 10:38-42**

*During his visit to the home of Mary and Martha, Jesus reminds Martha that her concern for her many tasks distracts from the one thing that precedes all else: abiding in the presence of God.*

**N**ow as Jesus and his disciples went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. <sup>39</sup>She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. <sup>40</sup>But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." <sup>41</sup>But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; <sup>42</sup>there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

*(sit)*

## CHILDREN'S BLESSING 9:00 AM

*Children (aged 3 years through 5<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, they may either return to their seat and use the Spark Bible and/or activity bags during the regular sermon, or follow Ms. Boe upstairs for an activity in the Sunday School room.*

## SERMON

*Pastor Griffith*

*(stand)*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*"Be Thou My Vision"*

**ELW 793**

- 1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art:  
thou my best thought both by day and by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;  
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.  
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tow'r,  
raise thou me heav'nward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.**
- 3 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance, now and always:  
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,  
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**
- 4 Light of my soul, after victory won,  
may I reach heaven's joys, O heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Text: Irish, 8th cent.;  
vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860-1935, alt.;  
tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880-1931

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

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

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

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

## 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:** to Bill and Madeline Christensen in honor of their 72<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary on July 15<sup>th</sup>

**Illness:** Patty Baker, Richard Bock, Don Burton, Myrna Carter, Martha Eckman, Mike Edris, Rodney Edwards, Philip Frye, Susie Henry, Richard Holzer, Joan Jacobson-Trotter, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, Orville Knapp, Chris Meyer, Jane Meyer, Lara McCormick, Pratap Pothuloori, family of Paul and Carol Carlson, Paul Rath, Dave Redding, Stephanie Stephens, John Waterman, Darlene White, Dorothy Yeshnowski

**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; Katie Larson, Columbia; Rev. Robert and Kathy Moore, Wittenburg Center, Germany; 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

“O Love”

by Elaine Hagenberg  
Janet Campbell, *soloist*

(stand)

### OFFERTORY HYMN

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

ELW 679 vs. 1-2



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.  
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.

### OFFERING PRAYER

- P** God of abundance:
- C** 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

*"O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts"*

**ELW 658**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1 O Jesus, joy of loving hearts,<br/>the fount of life, the light of all:<br/>from ev'ry bliss that earth imparts<br/>we turn, unfilled, to hear your call.</b></p> <p><b>2 We taste you, ever-living bread,<br/>and long to feast upon you still;<br/>we drink of you, the fountainhead;<br/>our thirsting souls from you we fill.</b></p> | <p><b>3 For you our restless spirits yearn,<br/>where'er our changing lot is cast;<br/>glad, when your smile on us you turn,<br/>blest, when by faith we hold you fast.</b></p> <p><b>4 O Jesus, ever with us stay!<br/>Make all our moments fair and bright!<br/>Oh, chase the night of sin away!<br/>Shed o'er the world your holy light.</b></p> |
|---|---|

Text: attr. Bernard of Clairvaux, 1091-1153;  
tr. Ray Palmer, 1808-1887, alt.

**1 Here is bread, here is wine  
Christ is with us, he is with us  
Break the bread, taste the wine,  
Christ is with us here.**

*Refrain*

**In this bread there is healing,  
in this cup is life forever.  
In this moment, by the Spirit,  
Christ is with us here.**

**2 Here is grace, here is peace,  
Christ is with us, he is with us.  
Know his grace, find his peace,  
feast on Jesus here. *Refrain***

**3 Here we are, joined in one,  
Christ is with us, he is with us.  
We'll proclaim till he comes  
Jesus crucified. *Refrain***

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt.

*(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.**

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# SENDING

## BLESSING

- ☐ 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

*“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”*

**ELW 545**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1 Lord, dismiss us with your blessing,<br/>fill our hearts with joy and peace;<br/>let us each, your love possessing,<br/>triumph in redeeming grace.<br/>Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us,<br/>trav'ling through this wilderness.</b></p> | <p><b>2 Thanks we give and adoration<br/>for your gospel's joyful sound.<br/>May the fruits of your salvation<br/>in our hearts and lives abound.<br/>Ever faithful, ever faithful<br/>to your truth may we be found.</b></p> |
| <p><b>3 Savior, when your love shall call us<br/>from our struggling pilgrim way,<br/>let no fear of death appall us,<br/>glad your summons to obey.<br/>May we ever, may we ever<br/>reign with you in endless day.</b></p>                   |   |

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740-1817, sts. 1-2, alt.;  
Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, st. 3, alt.

## DISMISSAL

- ☐ Go in peace. Love your neighbor.  
☑ Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

✠      ✠      ✠



## 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	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](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

July 16 & 17, 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 by Bruce and Barb Nissen in honor of their 30<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary; in honor of Jean Johnson's birthday

### 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. We will meet in the Link/Green Space unless otherwise noted. Different activities will be offered each Sunday with treats.

### Adult Forum Fellowship Hall 10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This Sunday**—Update on Clinic and donor gift

### This Week at Kountze

#### July 17 Sunday

Pentecost 6  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
10:10 AM Holy Play  
10:10 AM Adult Forum

#### July 18 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry  
6:00 PM HGFC Clinic Board (Classroom)

#### July 19 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting  
1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group  
6:00 PM Congregation Council

#### July 20 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

#### July 21 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Lunch  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic  
6:00 PM Circle 5

#### July 22 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

#### July 23 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship  
5:05 PM Omaha Storm Chaser Faith & Family Night

#### July 24 Sunday

Pentecost 7  
Jul 24 - Jul 26 Sky Ranch—Youth Service Trip here  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
10:10 AM Holy Play  
10:10 AM Adult Forum

### For Your Calendar/News & Notes

#### Transportation for Refugee Family (Change in Request)

The Bowari family needs your help: Guldin still has no transportation to work. We have learned of several other congregations who have donated a car to their sponsored families. The Kountze Refugee Resettlement Task Force believes this is the next necessary step. Guldin knows how to drive, he just needs to learn the laws here. He drove for the US Army in Afghanistan and also drove construction vehicles before that. He has been studying for the written test and is doing quite well. The next step is helping him get a car. If you or anyone you know has a good used car for sale, please call Jonna Holland at 402-669-4575. **Your donations at this time will go toward the purchase of a car, registration, insurance, etc. are greatly appreciated.** Just mark your check "for refugee family". Kountze has done wonderful work supporting this family; now they want to be able to support themselves. Please help them overcome the obstacle of transportation so that they can become independent.

#### Scholarships

The Scholarship Committee has been reformed and is accepting applications through August 15. The Scholarship Program makes scholarship funds available to any active

## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

member of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church who is a student enrolled and attending any post secondary education college or seminary. In order for a student to be deemed an active member of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church, the student, or the student's parent or guardian, must be an actively communing and contributing member of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church as evident in their worship life. Applications for this scholarship can be found on the website at: Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church under tab Grow/ Youth Ministries/Scholarships. Due to the reforming of the Scholarship Committee, the last day to submit an application is not March 1 this year, but August 15.

### West Door

We are now asking all to enter the church on the west side (big parking lot side) through the Link door. The outer doors are now open during the day so you can get to the intercom system, just inside the door. The west door closer to the offices will be an exit door only to help with the security of the building. Please be aware that it is always a good idea to make sure the doors behind you are fully closed after exiting them. Thank You!

### Youth (7-12 Graders)

You are invited to join in hosting a youth service trip of Colorado Youth from Sky Ranch on Monday, July 25 from 5 - 9 PM. We will be providing a meal and then walking to the downtown new park area by the slides on Farnam Street for recreation and conversation. Let us know if you are planning to attend at [shari@kmlchurch.org](mailto:shari@kmlchurch.org) or text 402-332-6990.

### 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>

### Disciples listen to Jesus and serve.

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

Sunday	Luke 10:38-42	Jesus visits Martha and Mary
Monday	Genesis 18:1-10a	A son is promised
Tuesday	Colossians 1:15-28	The supremacy of Christ
Wednesday	Proverbs 8:32-36	Listen to what you are taught
Thursday	Isaiah 28:23-26	Wisdom comes from the Lord
Friday	James 1:19-25	Hearing and doing the word
Saturday	Psalms 15	Worshiping the Lord
Sunday	Luke 11:1-13	Jesus teaches about prayer



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*But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her." **Luke 10:41-42 (NRSV)***

### A Prayer for the Week:

Compassionate God, you who call us to serve and to listen to you, give us ears to hear and hearts to serve you and others for the sake of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may we receive this food with a humble heart, remembering the needs of others for food and safety, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

### A Blessing to Give:

May the God of abundance give you a heart ready to receive and share love with others.

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

- What is a characteristic of a follower of Jesus that you admire?
- When you get together with friends, would you rather listen or talk, serve or be served?

*Read:* Luke 10:38-42.

In a world where hospitality is very important and can mean the difference between life and death, this scripture reading points out one important distinction that can undermine true hospitality: worry that leads to distraction. In Luke 7:36-50, Jesus praises the woman who shows hospitality by washing his feet while Simon the Pharisee simply sits to listen to the teacher. Both listening and serving are important characteristics of a disciple. What is not a true characteristic is worry and distraction that takes one away from what is right in front of them, God's presence and the needs of one's neighbor. This story immediately follows the Good Samaritan parable and seems linked to it. Caring for others and listening to Jesus is not an either-or decision; it is a both-and.

*Discuss:* How does listening to God's word help you care for others?

*Pray:* **God of justice and love, help us to hear your message of compassion that sends us out into your world to care for others through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, is there someone you know who needs a listening ear?

Even when we are busy, we need to take time to listen to Jesus, as Mary did. If you're not in the practice of taking a few moments each day to hear God speak to you, consider setting time aside to do so. Turn off all electronics and distracting noises. Take a few deep breaths and relax. Begin with this prayer: **Lord help me not to be worried or distracted by many things and listen to you. Amen.** Sit quietly for a few minutes. Then finish your quiet time by saying the Lord's Prayer.

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Genesis 18:20-32; Psalm 138  
Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]; Luke 11:1-13

### Attendance & Giving

**Saturday:** 40  
**Sunday: 9:00:** 93 **11:00:** 63  
**Wednesday: 12:15:** 12  
**Total:** 212  
**Streaming:** 42  
**Cox Cable:** 138  
**Pantry Guests Served:** 875 (inc. 281 children)  
**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 9  
**Offering:**  
\$12,092.30 (Regular) \$2,209.59 (Specials)  
\$1,100.40 (Debt Reduction)