

# 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 24, 2022

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

SEVENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



*Persistence in prayer is encouraged by Jesus and wins the attention of God when Abraham intercedes for Sodom. The life of the baptized—to be rooted and built up in Christ Jesus—is to be nurtured with prayer. God hears and answers prayer and so strengthens God's own. "When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me."*

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

*“Praise My Soul”*  
*“Venite”*

arr. Behake  
Leavitt  
Deacon Jean Johnson, *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.

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1 Praise, my soul, the King of heaven;<br/>to his feet your tribute bring.<br/>Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,<br/>evermore his praises sing.<br/>Alleluia! Alleluia!<br/>Praise the everlasting King!</b></p> <p><b>2 Praise him for his grace and favor<br/>to our forebears in distress.<br/>Praise him, still the same forever,<br/>slow to chide and swift to bless.<br/>Alleluia! Alleluia!<br/>Glorious in his faithfulness!</b></p> | <p><b>3 Tenderly he shields and spares us;<br/>well our feeble frame he knows.<br/>In his hands he gently bears us,<br/>rescues us from all our foes.<br/>Alleluia! Alleluia!<br/>Widely as his mercy flows.</b></p> <p><b>4 Angels help us to adore him,<br/>who behold him face to face.<br/>Sun and moon bow down before him;<br/>all who dwell in time and space.<br/>Alleluia! Alleluia!<br/>Praise with us the God of grace.</b></p> |
|---|--|

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847

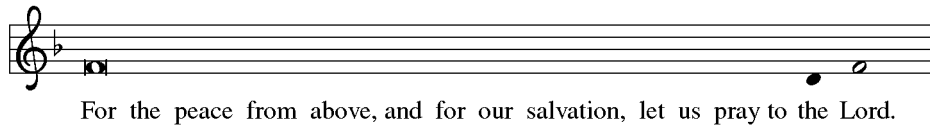
**APOSTOLIC GREETING**

- ☐** 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.

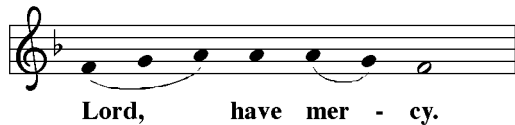
# KYRIE



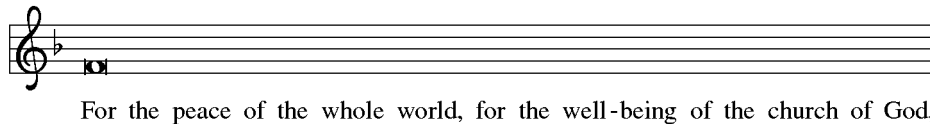
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



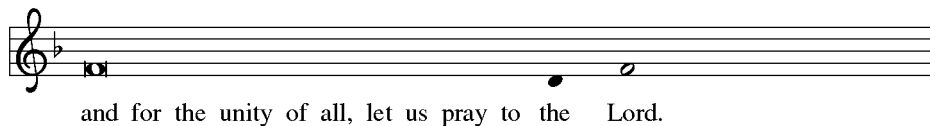
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



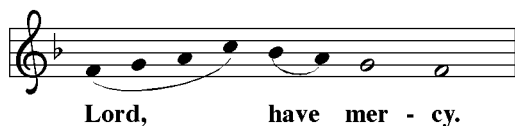
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



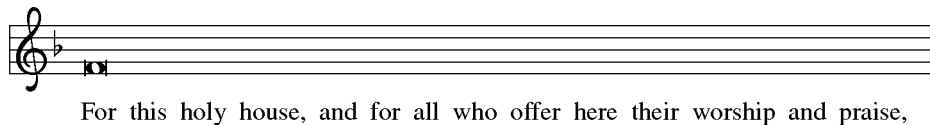
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



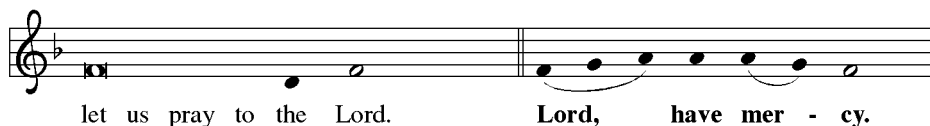
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



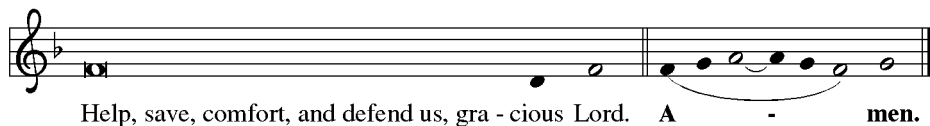
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



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** Almighty and ever-living God,
- C** you are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy. Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## WORD

(sit)

### FIRST READING

**Genesis 18:20-32**

*In today's reading, Abraham undertakes the role of a mediator between God and sinful humanity. Appealing to God's justice, Abraham boldly asks for mercy for the city of Sodom for the sake of the few righteous people there, including Abraham's nephew, Lot.*

**T**hen the Lord said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! <sup>21</sup>I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know."

<sup>22</sup>So the men turned from there, and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the Lord. <sup>23</sup>Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? <sup>24</sup>Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? <sup>25</sup>Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" <sup>26</sup>And the Lord said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." <sup>27</sup>Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. <sup>28</sup>Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." <sup>29</sup>Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." <sup>30</sup>Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." <sup>31</sup>He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." <sup>32</sup>Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**PSALM 138** (*read responsively*)

<sup>1</sup>I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I will sing your praise.

**<sup>2</sup>I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,  
because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;  
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

<sup>3</sup>When I called, you answered me;  
you increased my strength within me.

**<sup>4</sup>All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

<sup>5</sup>They will sing of the ways of the LORD,  
that great is the glory of the LORD.

**<sup>6</sup>The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,  
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

**<sup>8</sup>You will make good your purpose for me;  
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**

**SECOND READING**

**Colossians 2:6-19**

*The writer of this letter warns the congregation in Colossae about “the empty lure” of philosophies and traditions that compromise faith. Through the gift of faith, the church is mystically connected with Christ in his death and resurrection which is enacted in baptism.*

**A**s you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. <sup>9</sup>For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, <sup>10</sup>and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; <sup>12</sup>when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup>And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, <sup>14</sup>erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup>He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

<sup>16</sup>Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. <sup>17</sup>These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. <sup>18</sup>Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and

worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, <sup>19</sup>and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

(stand)

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

☑ Glory to you, O Lord.

## HOLY GOSPEL

**Luke 11:1-13**

*In teaching his disciples this prayer, Jesus also reminds them to focus on God's coming reign, God's mercy, and the strengthening of the community. Jesus encourages his disciples to childlike trust and persistence in prayer.*

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.”<sup>2</sup>He said to them, “When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come.

<sup>3</sup>Give us each day our daily bread.

<sup>4</sup>And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

<sup>5</sup>And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup>for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ <sup>7</sup>And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ <sup>8</sup>I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

<sup>9</sup>“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup>Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup>Or if the child asks for an egg, will give



a scorpion? <sup>13</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** 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 Hall*

*(stand)*

### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*"There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"*

**ELW 588 vs. 1-3**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1</b> There's a wideness in God's mercy,<br/>like the wideness of the sea;<br/>there's a kindness in God's justice<br/>which is more than liberty.<br/>There is no place where earth's sorrows<br/>are more felt than up in heav'n.<br/>There is no place where earth's failings<br/>have such kindly judgment giv'n.</p> | <p><b>2</b> There is welcome for the sinner,<br/>and a promised grace made good;<br/>there is mercy with the Savior;<br/>there is healing in his blood.<br/>There is grace enough for thousands<br/>of new worlds as great as this;<br/>there is room for fresh creations<br/>in that upper home of bliss.</p> |
| <p><b>3</b> For the love of God is broader<br/>than the measures of our mind;<br/>and the heart of the Eternal<br/>is most wonderfully kind.<br/>But we make this love too narrow<br/>by false limits of our own;<br/>and we magnify its strictness<br/>with a zeal God will not own.</p>                                       |  |

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814-1863, alt.

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED 9:00 AM**

- ¶** 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.**

## **HOLY BAPTISM 11:00 AM**

see ELW pg 227

## 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 baptism of Xander Pedro and Xavier Thor, sons of Edgar and Elizabeth Sanchez

**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, John Ray, son of Betty Callies, 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

“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”

by Forrest

Dayle Johnson, *soloist*

Deacon Jean Johnson, *organist*

(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

☐ God of abundance:

☑ 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      “For the Bread Which You Have Broken”      ELW 494

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>1 For the bread which you have broken,<br/>for the wine which you have poured,<br/>for the words which you have spoken,<br/>now we give you thanks, O Lord.</b> | <b>3 With the saints who now adore you,<br/>seated at the heav'nly board,<br/>may the church still waiting for you<br/>keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.</b> |
| <b>2 By this promise that you love us,<br/>by your gift of peace restored,<br/>by your call to heav'n above us,<br/>hallow all our lives, O Lord.</b>              | <b>4 In your service, Lord, defend us;<br/>in our hearts keep watch and ward;<br/>in the world to which you send us<br/>let your kingdom come, O Lord.</b> |

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855-1930, alt.  
Text © Robert F. Jefferys Jr.

- 1 **Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
cleansed by the blood of Christ our king:  
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise,  
faithfully now God's praise we sing.**
- 2 **Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
dead in the tomb with Christ our king:  
one with his rising, freed and forgiven,  
thankfully now God's praise we sing.**
- 3 **Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
marked with the sign of Christ our king:  
born of the Spirit, we are God's children;  
joyfully now God's praise we sing.**

Text: Michael Seward, b. 1932  
Text © 1982 Jubilate Hymns, admin.  
Hope Publishing Company,  
Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.  
Used by permission.

*(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

- ☞ 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

*“Abide, O Dearest Jesus”*

**ELW 539 vs. 1, 4-5**

**1 Abide, O dearest Jesus,  
among us with your grace,  
that evil may not harm us  
nor we to sin give place.**

**4 Abide with richest blessings  
among us, bounteous Lord;  
let us in grace and wisdom  
grow daily through your word.**

**5 Abide, O faithful Savior,  
among us with your love;  
grant steadfastness and help us  
to reach our home above.**

Text: Josua Stegmann, 1588-1632;  
tr. August Crull, 1845-1923

## DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace. Love your neighbor.  
☛ **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

Deacon Jean Johnson, *organ*



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

July 23 & 24, 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 honor of Dayle 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

## This Week at Kountze

### July 24 Sunday

Pentecost 7

Jul 24 - Jul 26 Sky Ranch—Youth Service Trip at KMLC

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 25 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

### July 26 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

5:00 PM Circle 3 - Not @ KMLC

6:00 PM Endowment Board

### July 27 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

6:30 PM Christian Education Committee

### July 28 Thursday

12:00 PM Circle 4 Potluck (note time change)

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### July 29 Friday

Wedding Rehearsal

5:00 PM Pantry

### July 30 Saturday

9:00 AM CJH Quilt Auction

2:30 PM Arispe & Stasi Wedding

5:00 PM Worship

### July 31 Sunday

Pentecost 8

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)

We give thanks for the donation of a car! Guldin is working hard at passing his tests to drive. The help needed going forward is your donations toward registration, insurance, etc. Just mark your check "for refugee family." Kountze has done wonderful work supporting this family. Thank you for your continued gifts and prayers.

### Scholarships

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

### 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 -

## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

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>

### Sunday School Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to teach and assist for the upcoming school year one week-end a month. We are in need of Preschool volunteers, Kindergarten through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade teachers and assistants, and 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grade teachers

and assistants. The lesson is prepared and scripted with all activities ready to go for that day. If you have any questions, please contact Kristin Boe at [kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:kristin@kmlchurch.org). Your leadership would be greatly appreciated!

### Let's get back to Sunday Morning Breakfast!

Could you assist once a month on a breakfast crew or bring 2 dozen pastries for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month? We are also looking for individuals that would be on a list for people to call if they are not able to make it one weekend. Consider how you might help bring back this popular ministry for our congregation. Sign-up is located on the welcome desk.

### 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!

### Walking with Christ.

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

Sunday	Luke 11:1-13	Jesus teaches about prayer
Monday	Genesis 18:20-32	Abraham negotiates with God
Tuesday	Colossians 2:6-19	Fullness of life in Christ
Wednesday	Psalms 143:7-12	Prayer in time of danger
Thursday	1 John 5:13-20	Knowing about eternal life
Friday	Proverbs 3:21-26	The true security
Saturday	Psalms 138	Praise and thanksgiving
Sunday	Luke 12:13-21	Parable of the rich fool

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught abounding in thanksgiving. **Colossians 2:6-7 (NRSV)**

### A Prayer for the Week:

Forgiving and Compassionate God, we thank you that through the Holy Spirit you give us a living faith to grow and trust in Christ each and every day. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

O God, you who feed us like a loving parent, bless this food. Amen.

### A Blessing to Give:

May the God who hears your every request bless you with faith and trust.

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

- How do friends develop a close relationship?
- Where and when do you pray? How does prayer help your relationship with God?

*Read:* Colossians 2:6-19.

In the original Greek text, "*continue to live your lives*" has, at its root, the meaning "as you walk in Christ." The passage gives an answer to how we walk in or with Christ daily. Through baptism, we have died and are now raised with Christ through the rebirth of forgiveness. Various spiritual observances can be a distraction if not done with the primary goal of walking daily in Christ, to be "*rooted and built up in him*" (v. 7). Colossians seeks to keep our spiritual experiences focused on the essentials of walking daily in faith with Christ. That's all that is needed. Practices like prayer can bless us because we are trusting in the God who provides for us and is trustworthy (Luke 11:1-13). We can pray and even shamelessly challenge God because God listens, cares, and does not shame us for wanting a real relationship with God (Genesis 18:20-32).

*Discuss:* How does attending worship, reading scripture, and praying help you walk with Christ?

*Pray:* **Dear God, you do everything to keep a relationship with us. Help us to walk and grow in faith in Christ that we may confidently follow you all the days of our lives. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, who might want to read scripture and pray with you?

Luke 11:2-4 gives us a version of the Lord's Prayer. Jesus connects prayer with a God who cares for us and provides all that we need, including daily bread, forgiveness, and protection from evil. The Lord's Prayer has sustained Christians for nearly 2,000 years. This is a prayer worthy of being prayed regularly. Select a version of the Lord's Prayer and pray it both morning and night this week.

### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23; Psalm 49:1-12  
Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21



© 2018 Vibrant Faith Ministries. All rights reserved.  
Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow and edited by Vibrant Faith Ministries.  
Go to [www.vibrantfaithathome.org](http://www.vibrantfaithathome.org) for more faith-forming activities.

### Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 35  
Sunday: 9:00: 100 11:00: 58  
Wednesday: 12:15: 14  
Total: 207  
Streaming: 46  
Cox Cable: 126  
Pantry Guests Served: 1,114 (inc. 430 children)  
Medical Clinic Guests Served: 27  
Offering:  
\$10,635.12 (Regular) \$867.16 (Specials)  
\$922.00 (Debt Reduction)