

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

August 21, 2022

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

ELEVENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



Remember the sabbath day. Call the sabbath a delight. This is the Lord's day, and the Lord will do for us what the Lord does: feed us, forgive us, help and heal us. Rejoice at all the wonderful things God is doing.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

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

“Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty”

ELW 533 vs 1-3

1 Open now thy gates of beauty,
Zion, let me enter there,
where my soul in joyful duty
waits for God who answers prayer.
Oh, how blessed is this place,
filled with solace, light, and grace!

2 Gracious God, I come before thee;
come thou also unto me;
where we find thee and adore thee,
there a heav'n on earth must be.
To my heart, oh, enter thou,
let it be thy temple now!

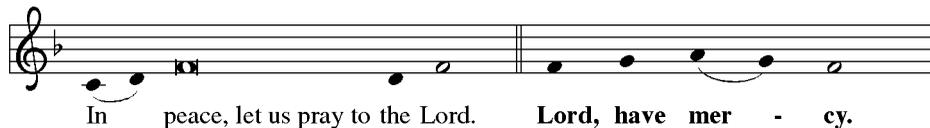
3 Here thy praise is gladly chanted,
here thy seed is duly sown;
let my soul, where it is planted,
bring forth precious sheaves alone,
so that all I hear may be
fruitful unto life in me.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672-1737;
tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878, alt.

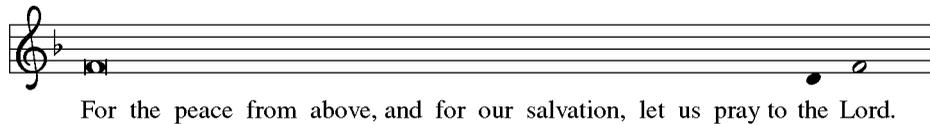
APOSTOLIC GREETING

- 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.

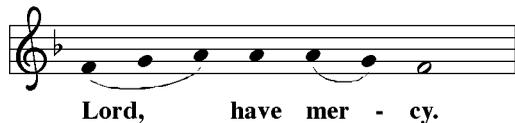
KYRIE



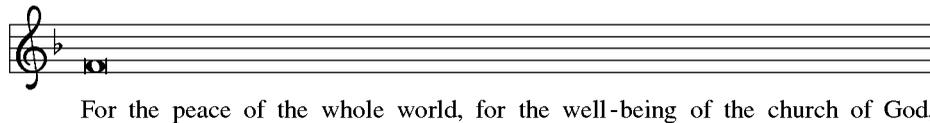
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



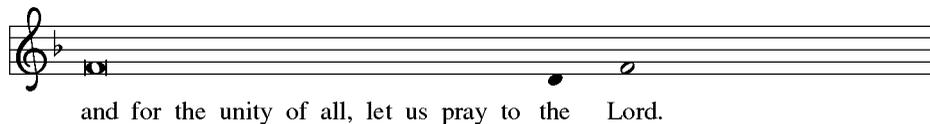
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



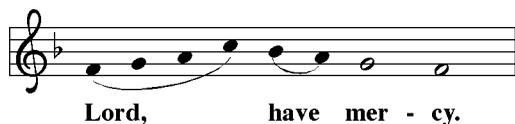
Lord, have mer - cy.



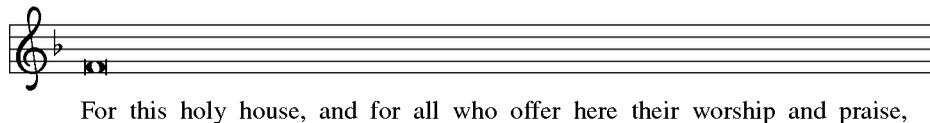
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



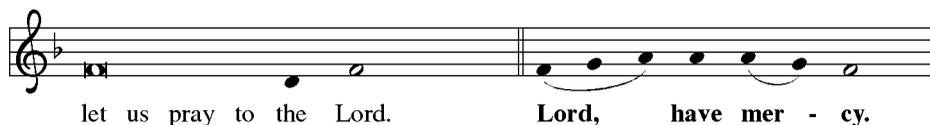
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



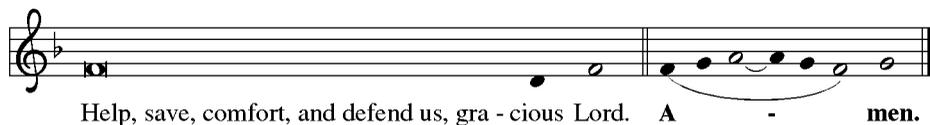
Lord, have mer - cy.



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** O God, mighty and immortal,
C you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Isaiah 58:9b-14

God promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.

¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

¹³If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honorable; if you honor it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs;

¹⁴then you shall take delight in the Lord, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 103:1-8 (read responsively)

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

²**Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all God's benefits—**

³who forgives all your sins
and heals all your diseases;

⁴**who redeems your life from the grave
and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy;**

⁵who satisfies your desires with good things
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

**⁶O LORD, you provide vindication
and justice for all who are oppressed.**

⁷You made known your ways to Moses
and your works to the children of Israel.

**⁸LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:18-29

Using images of Moses, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ.

There is no longer fear; only awe in the new promise in Christ into which we are invited.

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰(For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.") ²¹Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") ²²But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." ²⁷This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; ²⁹for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

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 13:10-17

Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding “sabbath work” to include setting people free from bondage.

Now [Jesus] was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. ¹¹And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, “Woman, you are set free from your ailment.” ¹³When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, “There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.” ¹⁵But the Lord answered him and said, “You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? ¹⁶And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?” ¹⁷When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

BACKPACK BLESSING

Following, children (aged 3 years through 5th grade) 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 Duminy

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“God Is Here!”

ELW 526

- 1 God is here! As we your people
meet to offer praise and prayer,
may we find in fuller measure
what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit
into open minds and hearts.**
- 2 Here are symbols to remind us
of our lifelong need of grace;
here are table, font, and pulpit;
here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.**
- 3 Here our children find a welcome
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant
seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living
to believe and to adore.**
- 4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
in an age of change and doubt,
keep us faithful to the gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
all we have to give, receive;
we, who cannot live without you,
we adore you! We believe!**

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000
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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** Merciful God,
C receive our prayer.

(In our prayers today, during a time of silence, pray for those listed below and for others according to their needs)

Sympathy: to the family and friends of Sheryl Tverberg, sister of Barb Donelson; to the family and friends of Rodney Edwards Sr.

Illness: Patty Baker, Richard Bock, Gene Buchholz, Don Burton, Myrna Carter, Shirley Dietrich, Mike Edris, Philip Frye, Susie Henry, Richard & Betty Holzer, Joan Jacobson-Trotter, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, Orville Knapp, Chris Meyer, Jane Meyer, Lara McCormick, Paul Rath, John Ray, Stephanie Stephens, 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

“Unto Thee, O Lord”

Monroe/arr. Phil Kristianson

Janet Diggins & Denise McCown, vocalists

(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

"God, Bless the Hands"

ACS 1022

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 God, bless the hands stretched out in love
through floods below and storms above;
they search and rescue, comfort, calm,
give shelter, offer healing balm.
Oh, guard them by your steadfast hand;
reach out in love to help us stand.</p> | <p>2 Bring comfort to the hearts that mourn,
left broken, emptied by the storm.
Give hope to those in deepest grief;
empower us to bring relief.
To you, O God, we raise our hands.
Save us, we pray, from sinking sands.</p> |
| <p>3 O God, our strength and refuge sure,
our hope while storms of life endure:
teach us to live in harmony
with earth and river, sky and sea,
preserving waters, air, and lands
as holy work for human hands.</p> | |

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823-1876
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**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

"How Firm a Foundation"

ELW 796 vs 1-3

- 1 How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**
- 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."**
- 3 "When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume and your gold to refine."**

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

✠ ✠ ✠

KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Stephen Griffith	Transition Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Kristin Boe	Christian Ed Coordinator
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Sarah Jewell	Administrative Assistant
Noni Cambridge	Staff Treasurer
Judi Boe	Financial Secretary
Jim Smejkal	Bldg. Super./Dir. of Cong. Activities
Kayla Slight	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

August 20 & 21, 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 Clara Kidder's 22nd birthday; in memory of parents, Anne and Charles Forslund, by daughter Christine Forslund

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God in memory of loved ones by Tom Jensen

Adult Forum

Fellowship Hall

10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This Week:** Dag Hammarskjöld: A Life of Public Service and Spiritual Awareness. **Next week: Fellowship**

Blessing of Backpacks

August 20 & 21

10:10 AM

This weekend there will be a Blessing of the Backpacks so the congregation of Kountze can surround all students, teachers, professors, and school support staff with prayer and blessings for an enriching, productive, and safe school year. Following the 9:00 AM service this Sunday, August 21, the youth of Kountze will be assembling these supplies to give out at the Pantry on Monday. Meet in the Fellowship Lounge to put bags together while enjoying fellowship and a special treat.

A Gathering for 5th and 6th Graders

Sunday, August 21

10:10 AM

All are welcome to join us in the Youth Center between worship times! This will be a time to learn more about each other, play some games, have devotions, and share in prayer. We hope to see you!

Today at Kountze, *continued*

Help Wanted – Night Manager

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church is currently accepting applications and resumes for the position of Night Manager. The individual would live on-site in the Church apartment and be responsible for the Kountze Campus after hours and when the facility is closed for inclement weather. Some light janitorial duties, opening and closing the building for worship services and special functions, verifying doors are locked, etc. Please call or stop by the church office to request a complete job description and submit an application and resume. Applications are due in the church office by August 21, 2022.

Sunday School Volunteers Needed

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 2nd grade teachers and assistants, and 3rd through 6th 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. Your leadership would be greatly appreciated!

This Week at Kountze Memorial

August 21 Sunday

Pentecost 11
Blessing of Backpacks
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:10 AM Holy Play—Fellowship Lounge—Assemble Back Pack Supplies
10:10 AM 5th & 6th Grade Gathering
10:10 AM Adult Forum

August 22 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry
6:00 PM Bible Study

August 23 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting
12:30 PM Circle 3

August 24 Wednesday

11:00 AM Bible Study
12:15 PM Worship
6:00 PM Confirmation Meal & Orientation (7th & 8th graders & Parents)
Wedding Rehearsal

August 25 Thursday

1:00 PM Circle 4
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
6:30 PM Busch/Jones Wedding

August 26 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry
6:00 PM Council Retreat

August 27 Saturday

9:00 AM Council Retreat
5:00 PM Worship

August 28 Sunday

Pentecost 12
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
10:10 AM Holy Play—Back to School Celebration
10:10 AM Adult Forum
10:10 AM Baptism Seminar
10:10 AM Picnic Planning Meeting

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Bible Studies Continue

Mondays, 6:00 PM or

Wednesdays, 11:00 AM

Enter Through the Farnam Office Doors

Join Pastor Shari and others in the Fellowship Lounge. We will gather around the Word and explore how the Bible speaks to our lives today. We will try out a few different ways to approach study of the Bible before deciding as a group how to proceed. Looking forward to a weekly journey with you and your Bibles.

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 5th 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.

Confirmation Orientation for Youth & Parents

Wednesday, August 24

6:00 PM

Parents and students are invited to attend an orientation meeting on Wednesday, August 24 starting at 6:00 PM with a meal. We hope to be finished with our meeting time by 7:00 PM. Registration will take place during this meeting. If you are unable to attend, please be sure to register by August 26. This will help our planning for the year to come so we can get the information for the Confirmation year to you. The registration form can be found at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/confirmation/confirmation-ministry-reg-form/>. The Kountze Confirmation program is for 7th and 8th graders. A time to begin to affirm their baptismal faith will begin in person on Wednesday, September 7, at 6:00 PM beginning with a meal. Class time each Wednesday night will be from 6:30 - 7:30 PM. During the year we will take a one week break on November 23 and December 28 and will finish our year of study on April 12.

Baptism Seminar
Sunday, August 28
10:10 AM

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

Back to School Celebration
August 28

10:10 AM (following the 9:00 AM service)
The youth of Kountze and their families are invited to a Back-to-School Celebration, hosted by the Christian Education Committee. Join us in the Green Space for games, snacks, fellowship, and fun. We encourage you to bring a friend to this event. The more, the merrier! Let's show others just how great our Kountze Sunday School community is.

Kountze Food Pantry

The Kountze Food Pantry is asking you to clean your home pantries! Yes, we are collecting any and all odd (not expired) food items. We have an "extras" section of the pantry, where guests get to choose from an assortment. This allows our guests the chance to get a few things they normally wouldn't have access to. Good items to donate are: jelly, ketchup, mustard, salad dressings, mayonnaise, seasonings, cooking oil, flour etc. We also continue to collect hygiene products. We are especially in need of bar soap or body wash. Remember, we can once again reuse dry, clean plastic grocery bags. Thank you for all you do to support the mission of Kountze Food Pantry! Please continue to sign up in the Meeting Room A in the Fellowship Hall, or at the following link:

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

God's Work, Our Hands Day of Service
Sunday, September 11

3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Tri-Faith Center (13136 Faith Plaza, Omaha, NE 68144)

Join us at the Tri-Faith Campus. There will be a time for walking, Food Trucks, live performances, and family-friendly exhibits. Our day of service will focus on learning about our siblings of the Abrahamic Faith. You can register at walk@trifaith.org. If you are able to give a donation, please do so. Get on your walking shoes to learn and connect with our larger faith community!

New Member Class
September 11 & 18
10:15 - 11:30 AM

If you are interested in finding out more about Kountze Memorial or would like to join our congregation, please consider attending our next New Member class. Childcare is provided. Please call the church office to register and let us know if you need childcare.

Register for Sunday School

Register online by going to <https://form.jotform.com/Kristinboe/SundaySchoolRegistration>. Links to registration will also be on the KMLC Parent and Friends Facebook Group. You can also stop into the Sunday School office to register your child there. All children, ages infant through 12th grade, should register for the 2022/23 Sunday School Year.

NE Synod Bishop Installation
First Lutheran Church in Kearney, NE
(3315 Avenue G, Kearney, NE
Saturday, September 24
1:00 PM

The Nebraska Synod invites you to a Service of Holy Communion and the Installation of The Reverend Scott Alan Johnson as Bishop of the Nebraska Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. A reception will immediately follow the service. **RSVP** at <https://nebraskasynod.org/event/bishop-installation/> before August 30, 2022

Mark Your Calendars for the
Kountze Memorial
"Old Fashioned Church Picnic/Potluck"
Sunday September 25

11:30 AM to 2:30 PM

Held at Kountze Memorial

Details to follow in the E-news, Good News, and future Announcement Pages.

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 35

Sunday: 9:00: 127 11:00: 53

Wednesday: 12:15: 8

Total: 226

Streaming: 36

Cox Cable: Not available at time of printing

Pantry Guests Served: 1106 (inc. 380 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 18

Offering: Not available at time of printing

Rest and healing on the sabbath.

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

Sunday	Luke 13:10-17	Jesus heals on the sabbath
Monday	Isaiah 58:9b-14	Delight in the sabbath
Tuesday	Hebrews 12:18-29	A kingdom that can't be shaken
Wednesday	Leviticus 26:1-13	Blessings for obeying the Lord
Thursday	Exodus 20:8-11	Remember the sabbath day
Friday	Mark 2:23-28	A question about the sabbath
Saturday	Psalms 103:1-8	Praise for God's benefits
Sunday	Luke 14:1, 7-14	Humility and hospitality



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When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. Luke 13:12-13 (NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

God of sabbath rest and healing, help us to be satisfied with what we have so that others may rejoice at your goodness and mercy through Christ Jesus. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, for the food that you provide us, for the rest you give us, and for your goodness that keeps us going, we give you thanks in Jesus' name. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God, who loves you dearly, give you rest and peace.

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

- How does being tired affect your mood and your ability to think and work?
- The sabbath is a day of rest and healing. How do you observe and spend time on the sabbath?

Read: Luke 13:10-17.

A woman whose stature in the community was reduced by being crippled for 18 years was healed on a sabbath. That angered the leader of the synagogue. The woman was not of importance to the leader. What was likely important was his leadership. He was interrupted by Jesus. Jesus reminded the people that the sabbath is a time to show kindness, including kindness to animals. The sabbath, as part of the Ten Commandments, provides a day of rest for people and, thereby, fairness for tired and worn workers. The sabbath shows care for humans and animals, including the woman who was able to stand up straight and praise God. It also shows God's providence and generosity. Work should not consume people's lives every day. Six days is enough. Even God rested on the seventh day, the sabbath. We, too, are to rest, restore, and give praise to God.

Discuss: How do you participate in sabbath rest that includes time to worship God?

Pray: **Dear God, you who care for all that you create, we thank you for your justice and mercy that includes time to rest from our labors and to praise you through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you help others enjoy a sabbath day of rest?

One of the well-known verses of the Psalms is, "Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name" (Psalm 103:1). The Hebrew word for "bless" is actually "to kneel," that is, to worship before God in a kneeling position. The verse literally means to kneel or worship God with all one's soul, with all one's self. This week, try the very humble position of kneeling as you pray.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Proverbs 25:6-7; Psalm 112
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14