

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

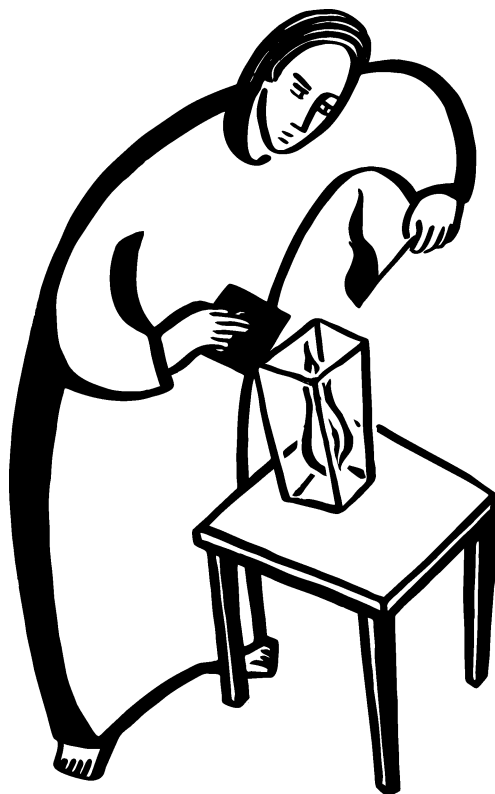
Stephen Griffith, Transition Senior Pastor  
Shari Duminy, Associate Pastor  
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor

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

August 7, 2022

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

NINTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



*Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part in today's assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.*

# 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.

**1** Guide me ever, great Redeemer,  
pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but you are mighty;  
hold me with your pow'rful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me now and evermore,  
feed me now and evermore.

**2** Open now the crystal fountain  
where the healing waters flow;  
let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,  
shield me with your mighty arm,  
shield me with your mighty arm.

**3** When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside;  
death of death and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs and praises, songs and praises,  
I will raise forevermore,  
I will raise forevermore.

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791;  
tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.

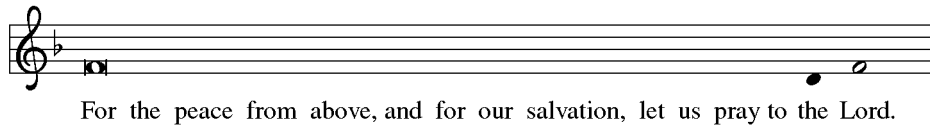
## APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

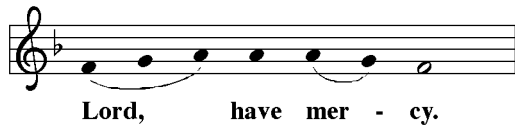
# KYRIE



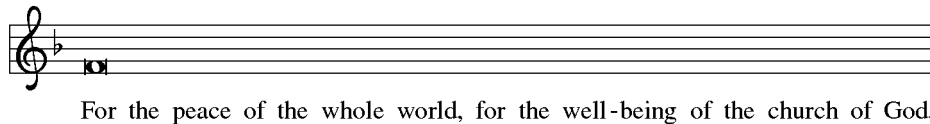
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



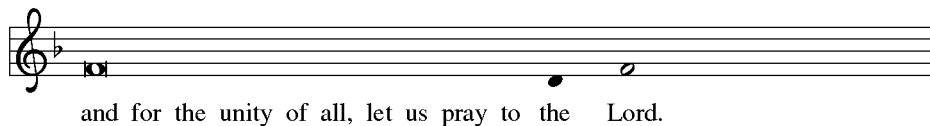
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



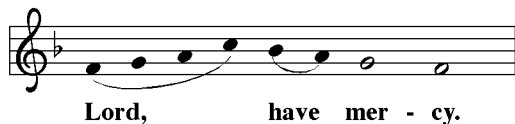
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



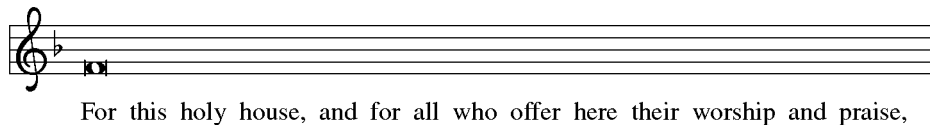
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



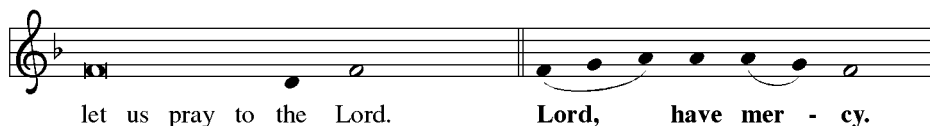
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



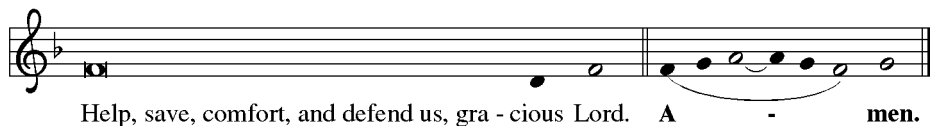
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



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 God,

**C** you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## WORD

(sit)

### FIRST READING

**Genesis 15:1-6**

*God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.*

**A**fter these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup>But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup>And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup>But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup>He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup>And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### PSALM 33:12-22 (read responsively)

<sup>12</sup>Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!

Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

<sup>13</sup>**The Lord looks down from heaven,  
and sees all humankind.**

<sup>14</sup>God sits firmly enthroned and watches  
all who dwell on the earth.

<sup>15</sup>**God fashions all their hearts  
and observes all their deeds.**

<sup>16</sup>A king is not saved by the size of the army,  
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.

<sup>17</sup>**The horse gives vain hope for victory;  
despite its great strength it cannot save.**

<sup>18</sup>Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O Lord,  
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,

**<sup>19</sup>to deliver their lives from death,  
and to keep them alive in time of famine.**

<sup>20</sup>Our innermost being waits for you, O Lord,  
our helper and our shield.

**<sup>21</sup>Surely, our heart rejoices in you,  
for in your holy name we put our trust.**

<sup>22</sup>Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us,  
even as we place our hope in you.

## SECOND READING

**Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16**

*Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.*

**N**ow faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup>Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup>By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.

<sup>8</sup>By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance; and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup>By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup>For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup>By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup>Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, “as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.”

<sup>13</sup>All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup>for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup>If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup>But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

**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 12:32-40**

*Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.*

**J**esus said: <sup>32</sup>“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup>Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup>For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup>“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup>be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup>Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup>If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup>“But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup>You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

**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 Griffith*

(stand)

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*"Faith Begins by Letting Go"*

**ACS 1004**

- 1 Faith begins by letting go,  
giving up what had seemed sure,  
taking risks and pressing on,  
though the way feels less secure:  
pilgrimage both right and odd,  
trusting all our life to God.**
- 2 Faith endures by holding on,  
keeping mem'ry's roots alive  
so that hope may bear its fruit;  
promise-fed, our souls will thrive,  
not through merit we possess  
but by God's great faithfulness.**
- 3 Faith matures by reaching out,  
stretching minds, enlarging hearts,  
sharing struggles, living prayer,  
binding up the broken parts;  
till we find the commonplace  
ripe with witness to God's grace.**

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944  
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Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

## **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,  
                  **G** hear our prayer.

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

**Illness:** Patty Baker, Richard Bock, Don Burton, Myrna Carter, Shirley Dietrich, Martha Eckman, Mike Edris, Philip Frye, Marvel Green, 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.  
**G** 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

“10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)” by Myrin & Redman  
Noah Corona & Janet Diggins, 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

- 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**

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

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

**1 Loaves were broken, words were spoken  
by the Galilean shore.  
Jesus, Bread of life from heaven,  
was their food forevermore.**

*Refrain*

**By your body broken for us,  
by your wine of life outpoured,  
Jesus, feed again your people.  
Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.**

**2 Loaves were broken, words were spoken  
in a quiet room one night.  
In the bread and wine you gave them,  
Christ, you came as Light from Light.**

*Refrain*

**3 Loaves are broken, words are spoken,  
as in faith we gather here.  
Jesus speaks across the ages:  
"I am with you; do not fear!" *Refrain***

**4 By the loaves you break and give us,  
send us in your name to share  
bread for which the millions hunger,  
words that tell your love and care.**

*Refrain*

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007  
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*(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

## DISMISSAL OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

### 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

*“Go to the World”*

ACS 991

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1 Go to the world! Go into all the earth.<br/>Go preach the cross where Christ renews<br/>life's worth,<br/>baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.<br/>Alleluia. Alleluia.</b></p> <p><b>2 Go to the world! Go into ev'ry place.<br/>Go live the word of God's redeeming<br/>grace.<br/>Go seek God's presence in each time and<br/>space.<br/>Alleluia. Alleluia.</b></p> | <p><b>3 Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and<br/>pray;<br/>the nights of tears give way to joyous<br/>day.<br/>As servant church, you follow Christ's<br/>own way.<br/>Alleluia. Alleluia.</b></p> <p><b>4 "Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,<br/>for I am with you till the age shall end,<br/>when all the hosts of glory cry, Amen!"<br/>Alleluia. Alleluia.</b></p> |
|---|---|

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993  
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### DISMISSAL

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

### POSTLUDE



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## 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)

August 6 & 7, 2022

*Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church is a vibrant, historic faith community that welcomes all and provides ministries for all ages and walks of life. We are a "City-wide Church with a World-wide Ministry" and have been worshiping, growing, and serving in downtown Omaha for over 160 years. If you are new to Kountze Memorial, we invite you to visit the Welcome Desk in Fellowship Hall for more information about who we are and what we do.*

### Holy Communion

All who are baptized and trust in Christ's presence in Holy Communion are invited to commune at the Lord's Table. Children not yet communing will receive a blessing. Instructions will be provided during worship. It is the understanding of the universal Church that those who wish to commune with bread only (especially for health reasons) have communed fully. Our form of distribution is Intinction.

### Children in Worship

We believe that all are welcome in worship and encourage families to worship together. Activity bags, children's bibles, and bulletins are available, as well as a room just off the west side of the main sanctuary, that includes a TV and a variety of toys, games, and books for young children.

### Nursery

Our nursery is available from 9 AM—noon for children 0—2 years. Please ask an usher if you are unsure as to where our nursery is and would like to use it

### Attendance Cards

All those attending worship are encouraged to fill out the card included in your bulletin and place in the offering plate.

### Large Print Bulletins and Listening Devices

Please speak to an usher if you would like a large print bulletin or an assisted listening device.

### E-news & Social Media

If you would like to receive our weekly e-news and monthly e-newsletter, add your e-mail address to the attendance card in your bulletin or text your e-mail address to 22828.

### Today at Kountze

**Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God in memory of David Carlsen by his children and grandchildren

**Eternal Candle** is given to the glory of God given by Diane Nickeson-Ray in memory of her father, Keith Nickeson; in memory of Randall S. Fike given by Mary Jo Fike and family.

### 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 Week:** Update on the Stained Glass Windows and Introduction of Council/Endowment Nominees **Next week:** Congregational Meeting

### Register for Sunday School

Sunday School begins September 11, but you can get registered now. Sign up 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 12<sup>th</sup> grade, should register for the 2022/23 Sunday School Year.

## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### August 7 Sunday

Pentecost 9

Homebound Communion

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs.)

10:10 AM Holy Play

10:10 AM Adult Forum

### August 8 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

### August 9 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

### August 10 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group

11:00 AM Devotions @ deFreese

Manor

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Executive Committee

### August 11 Thursday

Council Reports Due

9:30 AM WELCA Board

11:30 AM Property Committee

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### August 12 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### August 13 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

### August 14 Sunday

Pentecost 10

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

10:10 AM Holy Play

10:10 AM Youth Forum (7<sup>th</sup>—12<sup>th</sup> gr)

10:10 AM Congregational Meeting

12:15 PM Book Group

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## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth

#### Sunday, August 14

#### 10:10 to 10:50 AM

Join us for a time to gather. Bring your calendars and talk with your parents about your schedule for the fall. Many ideas have come forward and we want to get things scheduled for the first half of the school year. A time to share summer best and summer bummers with prayer will close our time. See you on the 14<sup>th</sup>!

### Scholarships

#### Application Deadline is August 15

The Scholarship Program makes 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/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. The last day to submit an application this year is August 15. If mailed, the postmark must be August 15 or earlier. No applications will be accepted after that date.

### Bible Studies Begin Again!

#### Mondays, 6:00 PM or

#### Wednesdays, 11:00 AM

#### Beginning August 15 & 17

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.

### August Men's Lunch

#### Thursday August 18

#### 11:30 AM

#### Fellowship Lounge

#### Kountze's Version of "How's That Made"

#### Cost is \$10.00

Did you ever wonder what it takes to outfit a new police car, ambulance, or firetruck? Join us and Ron Brown will share with us just what it takes to outfit new emergency vehicles with the latest in technology. Gone are the days that they just put a magnetic flashing light on top and plugged it into the cigarette lighter. Please call the church office or use the sign-up sheet in the fellowship hall to register by Tuesday, August 16.

### Blessing of Backpacks

#### August 20 & 21

All students, teachers, professors, and school support staff are encouraged to bring their school bags to church for the Blessing of the Backpacks so the congregation of Kountze can surround you with prayer and blessings for an enriching, productive, and safe school year. In addition, we will be **collecting school supplies and backpacks** for school-aged guests of the Kountze Pantry. Donation boxes will be located at the welcome desk in the Fellowship Hall. Please **bring any donations by August 21**. Following the 9:00 AM service on the 21<sup>st</sup>, the youth of Kountze will be assembling these supplies to give out at the Pantry the following day. Meet in the link to put bags together while enjoying fellowship and a special treat.

### A Gathering for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> 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!

### **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 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. 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.

### **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 the Fellowship Hall, or at the following link:

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

### **Attendance & Giving**

**Saturday:** 29

**Sunday: 9:00:** 109 **11:00:** 112

**Wednesday: 12:15:** 10

**Total:** 260

**Streaming:** 55

**Cox Cable:** 142

**Pantry Guests Served:** 1107 (inc. 329 children)

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 16

**Offering:**

\$10,055.00 (Regular)      \$25,857.27 (Specials)

\$842.00 (Debt Reduction)

**CONGREGATIONAL**

**MEEETTING**

**Sunday, August 14 | 10:15 AM | Fellowship Hall**  
Election of Council Members

*We are strangers and foreigners on earth.*

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

Sunday	Luke 12:32-40	Seek treasures in heaven
Monday	Genesis 15:1-6	God's covenant with Abram
Tuesday	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16	The meaning of faith
Wednesday	Psalms 33:1-11	Sing praises to the Lord
Thursday	1 Chronicles 29:10-22	David's praises to the Lord
Friday	Isaiah 40:27-31	The Lord gives strength
Saturday	Psalms 33:12-22	Trust only in God
Sunday	Luke 12:49-56	Following Jesus causes division



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*They [Abraham's descendants] confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. Hebrews 11:13b-14 (NRSV)*

### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Dear God, direct us to long for what you long for and to thirst for what you promise, that we may treasure what you want for us through Jesus, the Son of Man. Amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

God of steadfast love, fill our hearts with trust in you, as you fill our bodies with the riches of this meal. Amen.

### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the God of steadfast love and faithfulness give you peace.

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

- What is something you have longed for and desired for some time?
- What is something you desire for the benefit of humanity?

*Read:* Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16.

Hebrews 11 is a famous chapter focusing explicitly on the Christian faith: "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen" (v. 1). The focus is on the future; faith involves a God-given longing filled with God's promises, assurances that lead us not to sit down and rest as though satisfied. Faith longs for something more, a "homeland," a country of heavenly peace that is not yet fully experienced. Therefore, in this life we are foreigners and strangers. We are people on the move, looking ahead, and often not satisfied with things as they are. It is very tempting to settle down and be content with the way things are, but that is not the mindset of the Christian faith. We want God's promises to be fulfilled for all. Until that happens, we join others as travelers on earth longing for something more, something better, nothing less than the perfect peace and mercy of God.

*Discuss:* What is missing in your life that only God can fulfill?

*Pray:* **God of promise, help us to be restless for the comfort and security only you can bring, not only for ourselves, but for all your people 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 reach out to a friend or a new neighbor who might feel like a stranger in a group of people?

If we want Christian children and youth, we need Christian adults who practice the faith with them. Hebrews 11 lists people from the Bible who showed faith in God. Who have been examples of faith to you and your family? Write a thank you card to these people thanking them for their example. One of the greatest gifts we can give to our children is deep and meaningful connections with other witnesses to the faith. Ask adults who are friends and family to share their own faith stories with children and youth.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Jeremiah 23:23-29; Psalm 82  
Hebrews 11:29--12:2; Luke 12:49-56