

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

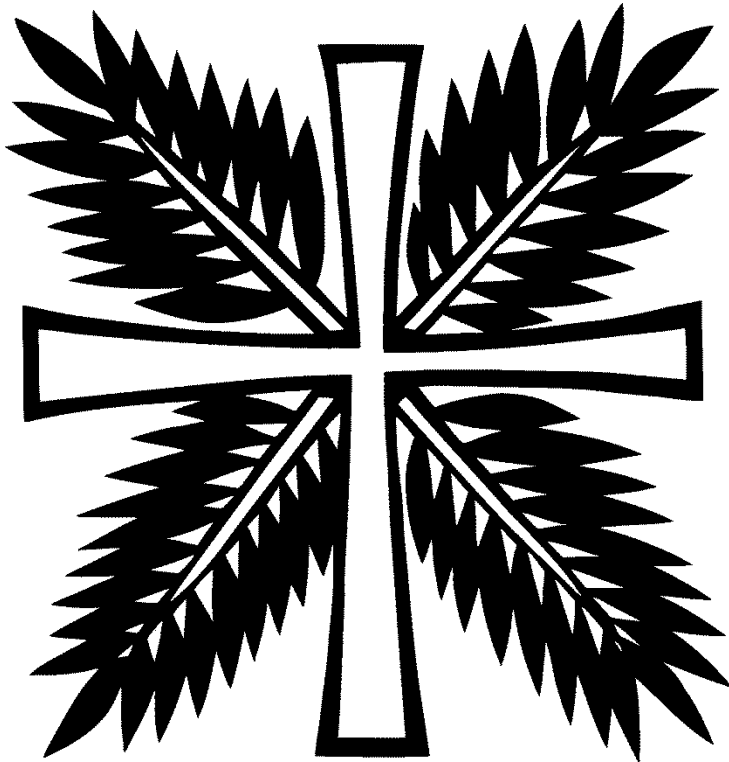
Olaf Roynesdal, Senior Pastor
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor
Paul H. Moessner, Associate Pastor
Inba Inbarasu, Visitation Pastor

2650 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68131-3616
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March 25, 2018

9:00 & 11:00 AM

PASSION/PALM SUNDAY



The first and second readings and psalm are the same this Sunday every year: Christ emptying himself of divine power and protection, willingly becoming vulnerable to those who struck him and put him to death. With Christ we lament his suffering and all human suffering, but expect God's final vindication. Mark's passion story begins with an unnamed woman anointing his head, perhaps to proclaim him Messiah, and Jesus saying she has anointed him beforehand for burial. Mark's Easter story will begin with women going to anoint Jesus for burial, only to find that he has been raised, God's living Anointed One.

PRELUDE

“Prelude in C”
“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring”

Bach
Bach
Craig Bircher, trumpet
Mary Bircher, harp

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHILDREN’S GATHERING AT THE ALTAR

(stand)

PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL

Mark 11:1-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, “*Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it.*” ³*If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’*” ⁴They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, ⁵some of the bystanders said to them, “*What are you doing, untying the colt?*” ⁶They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. ⁷Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. ⁸Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. ⁹Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, “*Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!*” ¹⁰*Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!*”

¹¹Then Jesus entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

P The Gospel of our Lord

G Praise to you, O Christ.

BLESSING OF THE PALMS

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

G It is right to give God thanks and praise.

P It is right to praise you, Almighty God, for the acts of love by which you have redeemed us

through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. On this day He entered the holy city of Jerusalem in triumph and was proclaimed as King of Kings by those who spread their garments and branches of palms along His way. Let these branches [raise palm branches] be for us signs of His victory, and grant that we who bear them in His name may ever hail Him as Our King and follow Him in the way that leads to eternal life, who lives and reigns in glory with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

☞ Amen.

PROCESSION WITH PALMS

☞ Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

☞ Hosanna in the highest!

ENTRANCE HYMN

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

ELW 344

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ Almighty God,

☞ you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

(sit)

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Hosanna”

Avery & Marsh
Kountze Children’s Choir

WORD

GOSPEL

Mark 14:1—15:47

The Holy Gospel for today is the history of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. Traditionally read on this Sunday, this Gospel focuses our attention on the unfolding of the salvation of the world through Jesus’ suffering and death. The congregation’s roles are designated in bold print.

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Saint Mark

NARRATOR: It was two days before the Passover and the festival of Unleavened Bread. The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by stealth and kill him; for they said,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people."

NARRATOR: While he was at Bethany in the house of Simon the leper, as he sat at the table, a woman came with an alabaster jar of very costly ointment of nard, and she broke

open the jar and poured the ointment on his head. But some were there who said to one another in anger,

DISCIPLES: "Why was the ointment wasted in this way? For this ointment could have been sold for more than three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor."

NARRATOR: And they scolded her. But Jesus said,

JESUS: "Let her alone; why do you trouble her? She has performed a good service for me. For you always have the poor with you, and you can show kindness to them whenever you wish; but you will not always have me. She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for its burial. Truly I tell you, wherever the good news is proclaimed in the whole world, what she has done will be told in remembrance of her."

NARRATOR: Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. When they heard it, they were greatly pleased, and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him,

DISCIPLES: "Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?"

NARRATOR: So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them,

JESUS: "Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, 'The Teacher asks, Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?' He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there."

NARRATOR: So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

When it was evening, he came with the twelve. And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said,

JESUS: "Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me."

NARRATOR: They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another,

DISCIPLES: "Surely, not I?"

NARRATOR: He said to them,

JESUS: "It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of

Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born."

NARRATOR: While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said,

JESUS: "Take; this is my body."

NARRATOR: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them,

JESUS: "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

NARRATOR: When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. And Jesus said to them,

JESUS: "You will all become deserters; for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be scattered.' But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee."

NARRATOR: Peter said to him,

PETER: "Even though all become deserters, I will not."

NARRATOR: Jesus said to him,

JESUS: "Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times."

NARRATOR: But he said vehemently,

PETER: "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you."

NARRATOR: And all of them said the same.

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples,

JESUS: "Sit here while I pray."

NARRATOR: He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And said to them,

JESUS: "I am deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake."

NARRATOR: And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said,

JESUS: "Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want."

NARRATOR: He came and found them sleeping; and he said to Peter,

JESUS: "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak."

NARRATOR: And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy; and they did not know what to say to him. He came a third time and said to them,

JESUS: "Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. Get up, let us be going. See, my betrayer is at hand."

NARRATOR: Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived; and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. Now the betrayer had given them a sign, saying,

JUDAS: "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard."

NARRATOR: So when he came, he went up to him at once and said,

JUDAS: "Rabbi!"

NARRATOR: and kissed him. Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. Then Jesus said to them,

JESUS: "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a bandit? Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled."

NARRATOR: All of them deserted him and fled.

A certain young man was following him, wearing nothing but a linen cloth. They caught hold of him, but he left the linen cloth and ran off naked.

They took Jesus to the high priest; and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest; and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death; but they found none. For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying,

ACCUSERS: **"We heard him say, `I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'"**

NARRATOR: But even on this point their testimony did not agree. Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus,

HIGH PRIEST: "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?"

NARRATOR: But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him,

HIGH PRIEST: "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?"

NARRATOR: Jesus said,

JESUS: "I am; and `you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power,' and `coming with the clouds of heaven.'"

NARRATOR: Then the high priest tore his clothes and said,

HIGH PRIEST: "Why do we still need witnesses? You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?"

NARRATOR: All of them condemned him as deserving death. Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him,

ACCUSERS: **"Prophecy!"**

NARRATOR: The guards also took him over and beat him.

While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the servant-girls of the high priest came by. When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said,

SERVANT GIRL: "You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth."

NARRATOR: But he denied it, saying,

PETER: "I do not know or understand what you are talking about."

NARRATOR: And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. And the servant-girl, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders,

SERVANT GIRL: "This man is one of them."

NARRATOR: But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter,

BYSTANDERS: **"Certainly you are one of them; for you are a Galilean."**

NARRATOR: But he began to curse, and he swore an oath,

PETER: "I do not know this man you are talking about."

NARRATOR: At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered

that Jesus had said to him,

JESUS: "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times."

NARRATOR: And he broke down and wept.

NARRATOR: As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. Pilate asked him,

PILATE: "Are you the King of the Jews?"

NARRATOR: He answered him,

JESUS: "You say so."

NARRATOR: Then the chief priests accused him of many things. Pilate asked him again,

PILATE: "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you."

NARRATOR: But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the rebels who had committed murder during the insurrection. So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. Then he answered them,

PILATE: "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?"

NARRATOR: For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. Pilate spoke to them again,

PILATE: "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?"

NARRATOR: They shouted back,

CROWD: "**Crucify him!**"

NARRATOR: Pilate asked them,

PILATE: "Why, what evil has he done?"

NARRATOR: But they shouted all the more,

CROWD: "**Crucify him!**"

NARRATOR: So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified.

Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor's

headquarters); and they called together the whole cohort. And they clothed him in a purple cloak; and after twisting some thorns into a crown, they put it on him. And they began saluting him,

SOLDIERS: "Hail, King of the Jews!"

NARRATOR: They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

(At the mention of Golgotha, all stand as able.)

They compelled a passer-by, who was coming in from the country, to carry his cross; it was Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus. Then they brought Jesus to the place called **Golgotha** (which means the place of a skull). And they offered him wine mixed with myrrh; but he did not take it. And they crucified him, and divided his clothes among them, casting lots to decide what each should take.

It was nine o'clock in the morning when they crucified him. The inscription of the charge against him read, "The King of the Jews." And with him they crucified two bandits, one on his right and one on his left. Those who passed by derided him, shaking their heads and saying,

BYSTANDERS: **"Aha! You who would destroy the temple and build it in three days, save yourself, and come down from the cross!"**

NARRATOR: In the same way the chief priests, along with the scribes, were also mocking him among themselves and saying,

CHIEF PRIESTS: "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Messiah, the King of Israel, come down from the cross now, so that we may see and believe."

NARRATOR: Those who were crucified with him also taunted him.

When it was noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. At three o'clock Jesus cried out with a loud voice,

JESUS: "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?"

NARRATOR: which means,

JESUS: "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"

NARRATOR: When some of the bystanders heard it, they said,

BYSTANDERS: **"Listen, he is calling for Elijah."**

NARRATOR: And someone ran, filled a sponge with sour wine, put it on a stick, and gave it to

him to drink, saying,

BYSTANDERS: "Wait, let us see whether Elijah will come to take him down."

NARRATOR: Then Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. Now when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said,

CENTURION: "Truly this man was God's Son!"

NARRATOR: There were also women looking on from a distance; among them were Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James the younger and of Joses, and Salome. These used to follow him and provided for him when he was in Galilee; and there were many other women who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

When evening had come, and since it was the day of Preparation, that is, the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council, who was also himself waiting expectantly for the kingdom of God, went boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate wondered if he were already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him whether he had been dead for some time. When he learned from the centurion that he was dead, he granted the body to Joseph. Then Joseph bought a linen cloth, and taking down the body, wrapped it in the linen cloth, and laid it in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. He then rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses saw where the body was laid.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: **P** Lord, in your mercy,

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)

Illness: Fran Camenzind, Vicki Freeman, Emalee Gardels, Jr Green, Eunice Grunberg, Lavern Larkowski, Susan Muchmore, Alice Pickinpaugh, Gary Rodene, Ed White

Other Prayers: *Those serving in the military* – Amy Dyer, Brennan Hron, Michael McNeill, Daniel Milstead, Cody Ray, Sheldon Skovgaard, Michael Vutov, and Joel Woosley

Other Prayers: *Those serving in mission* – Rev. Chandran Paul Martin, India; Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson, Tanzania; Krystle Moraska & Ignacio Madrussan, Argentina; Meghan Brown Saavedra, Mexico; Our sister congregation, the American Church in Berlin

THE PEACE IS SHARED

- ☐ The peace of Christ be with you always.
- ☑ 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 use the giving kiosk in the Fellowship Hall.



THE TABLE IS PREPARED

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Come to the Cross”

Joseph M. Martin
Mary Bircher, harp

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Create in Me a Clean Heart”

ELW 186

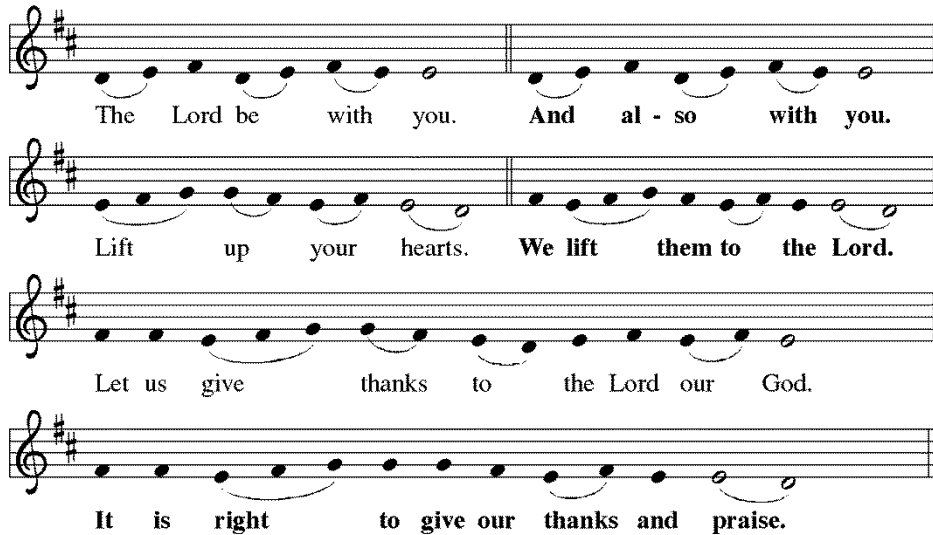
Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

- P** Merciful God,
C receive the sacrifice of our praise and thanksgiving and the offering of our lives, that following in the way of the cross, we will know the joy of the resurrection; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

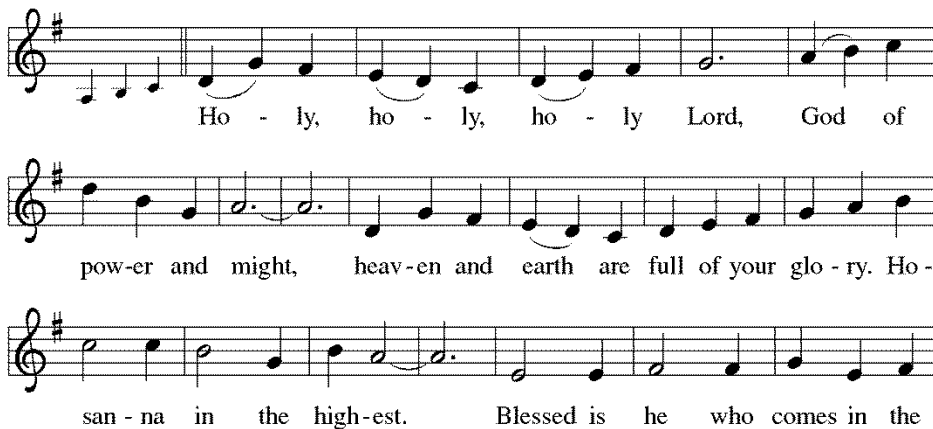
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(The Thanksgiving continues)

- P** It is indeed right ...
...and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the



THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- ☐ 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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- ☐ Return to God with all your heart.
 ☑ Receive bread for the journey, drink for the desert.

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 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.

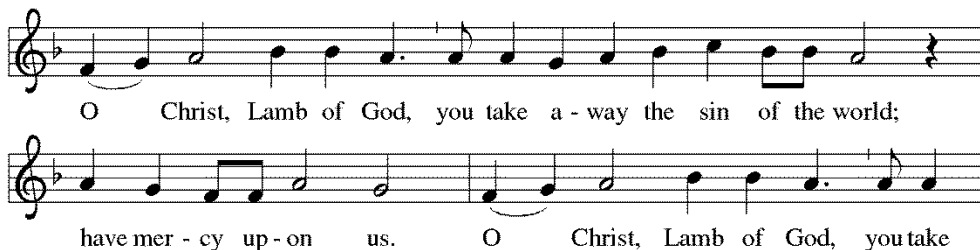
*The form of distribution is **intinction**, You will receive the consecrated bread and you may then dip it in the wine. Gluten free bread is available; simply request it.*

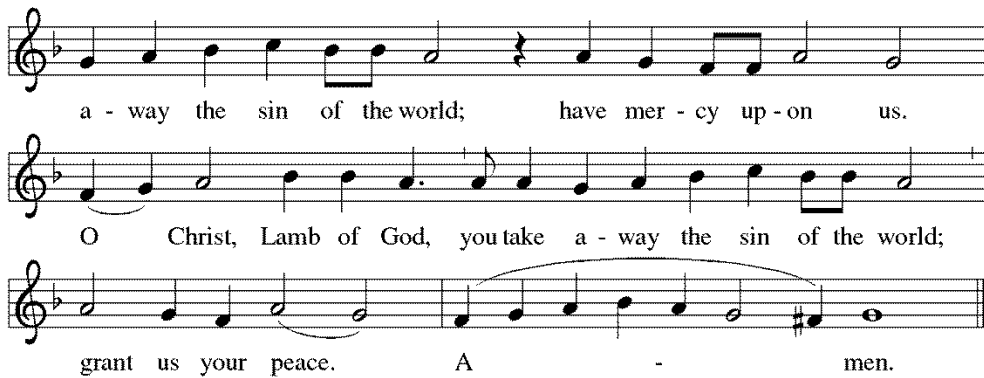
(sit)

AGNUS DEI

"O Christ, Lamb of God"

ELW 196





Music: J. Bugenhagen, *Christliche Ordnung*, 1528

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

“Sarabande” from Violin Partita No. 1

Bach, Arr. Grandjany

Mary Bircher, harp

“Jesus Keep Me Near the Cross”

ELW 335

“What Wondrous Love Is This”

ELW 666

(stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P** Compassionate God,
- C** you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice, our alms, a making of peace, and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING

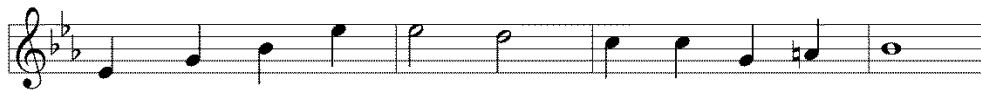
BLESSING

- P** May God who has called us forth from the dust of the earth, and claimed us as children of the light, strengthen you on your journey into life renewed. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord’s face shine upon you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you ☩ peace.
- C** Amen.

“Onward, Christian Soldiers”



1 On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, march - ing as to war,
 2 Like a might - y ar - my moves the church of God;
 3 Crowns and thrones may per - ish, king - doms rise and wane,
 4 On - ward, then, you faith - ful, join our hap - py throng;



with the cross of Je - sus go - ing on be - fore.
 let us bold - ly fol - low where the saints have trod.
 but the church of Je - sus con - stant will re - main;
 blend with ours your voic - es in the tri - umph song.

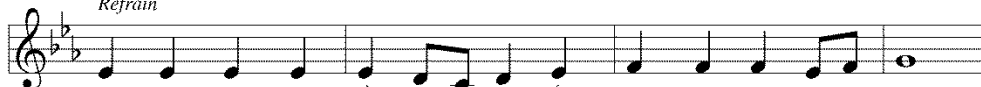


Christ, the roy - al mas - ter, leads a - gainst the foe;
 We are not di - vid - ed; all one bod - y we;
 gates of hell can nev - er 'gainst the church pre - vail.
 Glo - ry, laud, and hon - or un - to Christ the king.



for - ward in - to bat - tle, see, his ban - ners go!
 one in hope and doc - trine, one in char - i - ty.
 We have Christ's own prom - ise, and that can - not fail.
 We through count - less a - ges with the an - gels sing:

Refrain



On - ward, Chris - tian sol - diers, march - ing as to war,



with the cross of Je - sus go - ing on be - fore.

Text: Sabine Baring-Gould, 1834–1924

Music: ST. GERTRUDE, Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900

DISMISSAL

- ☐ Marked with the cross of Christ, go forth to love and serve the Lord.
- 🔊 **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Bist Du Bei Mir” (Stay Thou by Me)

Bach
Craig Bircher, trumpet
Mary Bircher, harp



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Pr. Paul Moessner	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Pr. Inba Inbarasu	Visitation Pastor
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Søren Johnson	Custodian
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Donna Moessner	Director of Children's Music
Danny Bos	Handbell Director/Custodian
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Sheri Lynn Tipton	Night Security Manager
Norma Pafford	Nursery Superintendent
Joyce Palmer	Urban Ministries Coordinator

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

SATURDAY, 5:00 PM

Lector	Charlie Bressman
Ushers	Jim Smejkal
	Jason Klonglan

SUNDAY, 9:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Tarna Kidder
	Kevin Larkowski
	Darlene Anderson
Lector	Karen Fannin
Ushers	Glenn Anderson
	Dan Collett
	Ted Kaasch
	Mark Mahaffey
	Gary Westerman
	Bob Woodworth
	Marcy Madison
Greeters	Sharon Anderson
	Bev Troxel
	Karen Wolf
Crucifer	Angie Arispe
Acolytes	Carly Cameron
	Clara Kidder

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Deb Hinrichs
	Norm Sack
Lector	Steve Hinrichs
Ushers	Adam Klinker
	Linda Hoagland
	Julie O'Doherty
Greeters	Julie King
	Rosemary Tessin
Crucifer	Nicole Campbell
Acolytes	Abby Rigas
	Hadley Rief



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

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www.kmlchurch.org

March 24 & 25, 2018

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 nearly 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.

TODAY AT KOUNTZE

KOUNTZE CAFÉ Join us on Sundays for a hot breakfast buffet served from 8-11 AM prepared by Jim West and the kitchen crew. The suggested donation for the hot breakfast is \$5 adults, \$2.50 children 12 and younger. If you're able to help set up, prep/cook, and/or clean up after breakfast on Sunday mornings, please talk to Jim, or let the church office know. We would appreciate your help! Thanks.

ADULT FORUM Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **THIS WEEK:** *Lenten Presentation from KMLC Team* **NEXT WEEK:** *Lenten Presentation from KMLC Team*

ETERNAL CANDLE is given to the glory of God in memory of Kelcey Renae Fike, given by MaryJo Fike and family

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES TODAY

SUNDAY SCHOOL Join us each Sunday on the 2nd floor for children 2 years—8th grade. Preschool 1 (2-4 yrs) meets from 9—10 AM (child care for those too old for the nursery). Sunday School (2 yrs—8th grade) is held from 10:10—10:50 AM.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR Grades K—5th grade. We meet at 9 AM in the Joyful Sounds Studio. Preschool (and grades K—5th that are not in choir) will continue with Kristin Boe for the Children's Sermon Lesson.

HIGH SCHOOL FORUM Join us each Sunday in the Youth Center at 10:10 AM.

MIDDLE SCHOOL/HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH CHOIR rehearsal in the Adult Choir room each Sunday from 11—11:40 AM. Come and sing!

March 25 Sunday

Palm Sunday

7:45 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal

7:50 or 10:00 AM MS/HS Choir Rehearsal

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:00 AM Joyful Sounds Choir (gr K-5)

10:10 AM Adult Forum

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)

10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)

11:00 AM MS/HS Choir Rehearsal

12:00 PM Stephen Ministry

8:30 PM LCM Worship @ CU (Halley Chapel)

March 26 Monday

Monday in Holy Week

10:00 AM Pantry

12:15 PM Worship

March 27 Tuesday

Tuesday in Holy Week

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

12:15 PM Worship

7:00 PM Circle 3

March 28 Wednesday

Wednesday in Holy Week

10:30 AM Bible Study - Cross Purposes

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

6:30 PM Confirmation

March 29 Thursday

Maundy Thursday

11:15 AM Lenten Lunch

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Lenten Dinner

7:00 PM Worship

8:00 PM Choir Rehearsal

March 30 Friday

Good Friday

10:45 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal

12:00 PM - 3:00 PM Ecumenical Worship

7:00 PM Worship

March 31 Saturday

Easter Vigil

9:30 AM Women's Prayer Group Breakfast (offsite)

10:00 PM Easter Vigil Worship (no 5 PM Worship)

April 1 Sunday

Easter Sunday

No Sunday School

7:30, 9:00 & 11:00 AM Worship

7:45 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal

7:50 AM MS/HS Choir Rehearsal

8:00 - 11:00 AM Continental Breakfast

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt

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.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP We believe that all are welcome in worship and encourage families to worship together. Quiet activity bags, children's bibles, and bulletins are available, as well as a Quiet 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 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 card in your bulletin or text your e-mail address to 22828.

ALTAR FLOWERS AND ETERNAL CANDLE Altar Flowers are provided by Janousek Florist and cost \$20 a bouquet (no flowers during Lent). The Eternal Candle is \$7.50. Please sign up in the narthex if you would like to help us beautify the altar by donating altar flowers or the eternal candle.

NEW MEMBER CLASS If you are interested in joining our congregation, the next class will be held April 15 & 22 from 12—2 PM. Plan to attend both sessions. Lunch will be served and childcare is provided. Please indicate your attendance plans on your attendance card or call the church office and let us know if you will need childcare when you register.

BIBLE STUDY FOR LENT – CROSS PURPOSES Wednesdays in March, 10:30 AM. Led by Pastor Paul. How do various images found in the Bible help us experience God's work on and through the Cross? This week: A Hospital and Rehabilitation Clinic.

GOOD FRIDAY PREACHERS - ECUMENICAL COMMEMORATION OF THE SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

Join us for our Ecumenical Good Friday Tre Ore liturgy from Noon to 3 PM (March 30). All are welcome; invite a friend.

First Word: Father, Forgive Them -The Rev. Scott Jones, Ph.D., Senior Minister, First Central Congregational Church

Second Word: Today, You Will Be with Me In Paradise - Prof. Susan Calef, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Theology and, Director of the Women and Gender Studies Program, Creighton University

Third Word: Woman, Behold Your Son, Dr. Carolyn Grice, Ed.D., Ruling Elder, Presbytery of Missouri River Valley

Fourth Word: My God, Why Have You Forsaken Me?, The Rev. Paula Lawhead, Pastor, Camp Carol Joy Holling/Nebraska Lutheran Outdoor Ministries

Fifth Word: I Thirst, The Rev. Dr. Gary S. Eller, Senior Minister, Gethsemane Presbyterian Church (Council Bluffs)

Sixth Word: It Is Finished, The Rev. Teresa Houser, Deacon, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral and, Director, Magdalene Omaha

Seventh Word: Father, into Your Hands I Commend My Spirit, The Rev. Ralph Lassiter, Ed.D., D.Min., Pastor, Mount Moriah Baptist Church

YESTERDAY'S YOUTH Please join us for a "Post Easter Festival" on Tuesday, April 3 at noon. We'll be serving a delicious lunch at noon. The cost is \$4.00. All ages are welcome. Please RSVP to the church office, by Friday, March 30. If you have any questions, call Sheri Tipton at 402-415-6033. Hope to see you there!

THE HEART OF CAMP GALA! Our congregation has purchased a table at the Heart of Camp Gala, a benefit for Carol Joy Holling Camp, to be held at the La Vista Conference Center on Saturday, April 7th. Pastor Dan Bard will be host and we have NINE additional seats available at no cost. If you are interested in attending please speak with Pastor Olaf or email him (Olaf@kmlchurch.org). If possible, please respond by Wednesday, March 28. Thank you.

ORDER OF SAINT JOHN COMMISSIONING AND APPRECIATION

LUNCHEON Commissioning will be held at the 11:00 AM Worship Service on April 15 with a luncheon to follow at 12:15 PM in the Fellowship Hall. There is no cost for the luncheon. The OSJ Sponsors are hosting an appreciation luncheon for all current OSJ members, alums, and parents. Acolytes will take part in a special commissioning during the 11:00 AM worship service. We will gather in Fellowship Hall at 12:15 PM for an appreciation luncheon and present the 2018 Outstanding Acolyte Award. A group photo will also be taken. Please plan to attend this event as we honor all those who serve in this very meaningful ministry. Make your reservations by calling or texting Jeff and Robin Perkins at 402-917-2461 by Sunday, April 8.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT NEEDED We're all sad to see Amanda Zasada, our current Administrative Assistant leave, but are happy that she's going to be closer to family. Now, we have to fill her position and need your help. We are seeking a Full-time Administrative Assistant who is able to relate to other staff members on a collegial basis. Time management, the ability to multi-task, and maintaining confidentiality is essential in this position. This person should be resourceful, a good problem solver, organized, and willing to help wherever needed. Salary is dependent on experience and includes paid health, life, dental insurance, and an ELCA Retirement Plan. If that person is you (or you know someone that would be a good fit for this position), please send your resume and a cover letter to Debbie Bogue (debbie@kmlchurch.org). We're anxious to talk to you.

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

Saturday Attendance: 51

Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 205 11:00: 124

Midweek - Noon: 50 **Evening:** 51

Total: 481

Pantry Guests Served: 326

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 41

Offering: Not available at time of printing

HOLY WEEK & EASTER at KOUNTZE

Palm Sunday, March 24 & 25

9 & 11 AM Eucharist with Palm Procession and Passion Reading

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, March 26, 27, & 28

12:15 PM Eucharist in Rotunda Chapel

Maundy Thursday, March 29

11:15 AM Lunch (free-will offering)

12:15 PM Worship

5:45 – 6:45 PM Dinner in Fellowship Hall (free-will offering)

7:00 PM Worship (Nursery care is available for children ages infant – 4 years in the nursery located near the Fellowship Hall. Please ask an Usher for directions.)

Good Friday, March 30

12-3 PM Ecumenical Good Friday Service: Seven Words from the Cross with Guest Speakers, String Quartet and Kountze Choir

7 PM Tenebrae (Veneration of the Cross and Service of Shadows)

Holy Saturday, March 31

10 PM Easter Vigil (Fire, Word, Water, Eucharist) (There will be no 5 PM Saturday service)

Easter, April 1

7 – 11 AM Continental Breakfast

7:30, 9 & 11 AM Festival of the Resurrection

10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt

At the cross Jesus is declared God's Son.

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

Sunday	Mark 15:1-39	The passion of Jesus
Monday	Mark 11:1-11	Jesus enters Jerusalem
Tuesday	Isaiah 50:4-9a	A Servant Song
Wednesday	Philippians 2:5-11	The Christ Hymn
Thursday	John 13:1-17, 31b-35	Jesus washes disciples' feet
Friday	Isaiah 52:13-53:12	God's suffering servant
Saturday	Psalms 31	Prayer for deliverance
Sunday	Mark 16:1-8	The tomb is empty



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Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!" **Mark 11:9 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear Jesus, thank you for accepting both our praise and our hopes as you accept the suffering and death of the cross for our salvation. Amen.

Mealttime Prayer:

Hosanna, praise to you, Lord God, for saving us and for feeding us. Hosanna to Christ the King. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God's face shine upon you, and save you with the steadfast love of the Lord. (Psalm 31:16)

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Talk about a time you thought you did something very well.
- What are the marks of a successful life?
- God's story of victory over sin and death leads Jesus to die obediently on the cross. Talk about how difficult this is for us to accept or understand when Jesus' death does not look like a triumph to the world.

Read: Mark 11:1-11.

As Jesus enters Jerusalem, he knows the week will not end the way the people praising him will want. And yet, Jesus accepts the people's dreams and hopes and takes them to the cross with him and turns those dreams and hopes into something more. Reflect on how some of your hopes and dreams are not filled with the message and kingdom Jesus brings.

Pray: Dear God, take my dreams and hopes and make them yours. Mold our wants into your reign of steadfast love and mercy, into a love of God and neighbor that makes all things new. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Do you know someone who will spend Easter Sunday alone? Share your resurrection joy by inviting that person to lunch or dinner next Sunday.

Palm Sunday signals the beginning of Holy Week. Make crosses out of palms, construction paper, or wood to hold during prayer throughout Holy Week as a reminder to listen. Listening is a faith practice that includes listening with a faithful and discerning ear to God's word and judgment and listening to the voice and concerns of one's neighbor. Use Holy Week to give attention to your listening skills to wonder about God's care and will for you and all God has created. Listen to others for the concerns and passions of their lives and then take time to hold your cross and pray for them.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24;
1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Mark 16:1-8