

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
402-341-7761
www.kmlchurch.org

April 15, 2018

9:00 & 11:00 AM

THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER



The gospel for the third Sunday of Easter is always one in which the risen Christ shares food with the disciples, meals that are the Easter template for the meal we share each Lord's day. In today's gospel, Jesus both shares the disciples' food and shows them the meaning of his suffering, death, and resurrection through the scriptures: the two main elements of our Sunday worship.

GATHERING

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

P Most merciful God,

C we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us,

so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

EASTER GREETING

- 📖 Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- 📖 **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**
- 📖 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- 📖 **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb



who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and



strength, and hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

glo - ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

slain has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ Holy and righteous God,
- ☑ **you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we will live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Consolation”

Burgmuller, Arr. Callahan
Kountze Handbell Choir

(sit)

WORD

FIRST READING

Acts 3:12-19

After healing a crippled man, Peter preaches to the people how God's promises to Israel have been fulfilled in Jesus. Through the proclamation of Christ's death and resurrection, God is offering them forgiveness and restoration in Jesus' name.

[Peter] addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. ¹⁴But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

¹⁷"And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

▣ The word of the Lord.

▣ Thanks be to God.

PSALM 4



Psalm 4:3

Psalm refrain reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.

¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

²"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"

³Know that the Lord does wonders for the faithful;
the Lord will hear me when I call.

⁴Tremble, then, and do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence up on your bed. ▣

⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices,
and put your trust in the Lord.

⁶Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?"
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O Lord.

⁷You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when grain and wine abound.

⁸In peace, I will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O Lord, make me rest secure. ▣

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-7

God has loved us in order to make us children of God. Though we do not yet know the full details of our future existence, we trust that God will reveal it just as God revealed Jesus to take away our sins.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

A The word of the Lord.

G 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.

G Glory to you, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 24:36b-48

In this account of an appearance after his resurrection, Jesus opens the minds of the disciples to understand him as Messiah. Jesus convinces them that he has been raised and sends them on a mission to proclaim the message of repentance and forgiveness.

Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, “Peace be with you.” ³⁷They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—

that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, *“Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.”*

P The Gospel of our Lord

C Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN’S BLESSING (9:00 AM)

Children (aged 3 years through 5th grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, they may either follow the teacher upstairs for an extended children’s sermon (joining us again later in time for Communion) or they may return to their seat and use the Spark Bible and/or activity bags during the regular sermon.

SERMON

Pastor Roynesdal

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY *“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”*

ELW 363

THE APOSTLES' CREED

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.

ORDER OF SAINT JOHN COMMISSIONING (11:00 AM)

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: Vicki Freeman, Emalee Gardels, Jr Green, Eunice Grunberg, Jason Klonglan, Lavern Larkowski, 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

[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 use the giving kiosk in the Fellowship Hall.



THE TABLE IS PREPARED

OFFERTORY ANTHEM	“Come, Peace of God”	Eugene Butler
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(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

"Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful"

ELW 184

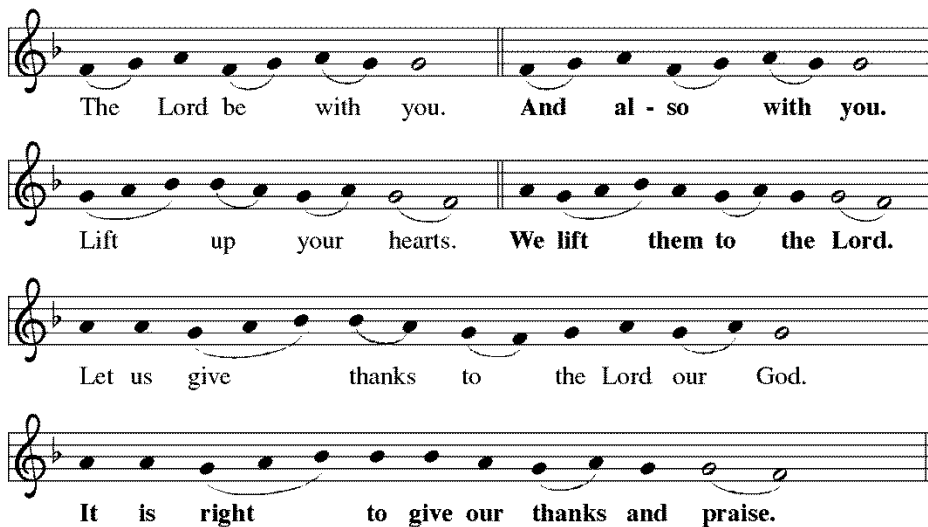
Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord,
and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.
Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,
that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gather the hopes and dreams of all;
unite them with the prayers we offer.
Grace our table with your presence,
and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

- P** Be known to us, O Lord, in the breaking of the bread,
C as you were made known to the disciples. Receive these gifts, and the offering of our lives, that we will be your risen body in the world. 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.

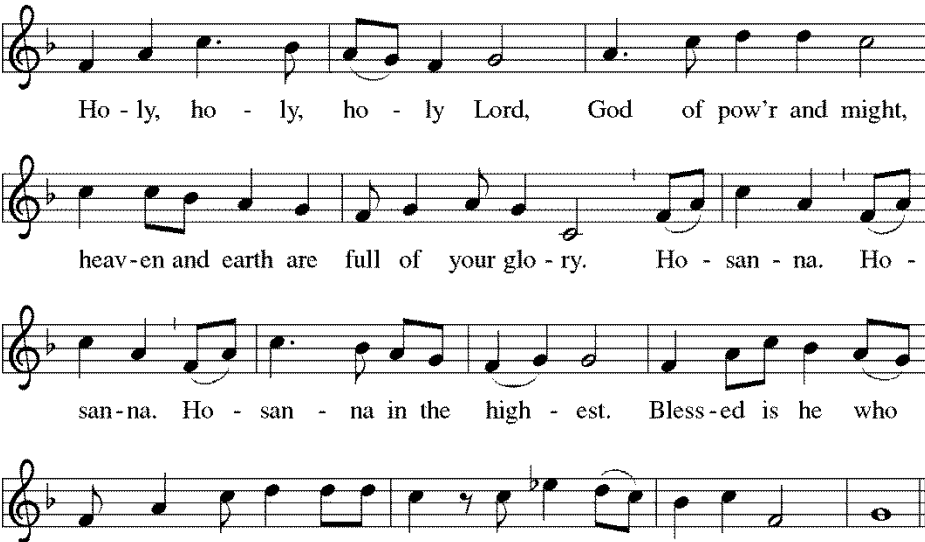
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The notes are mostly quarter and eighth notes, with some half notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across bar lines.

(The Thanksgiving continues)

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

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

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

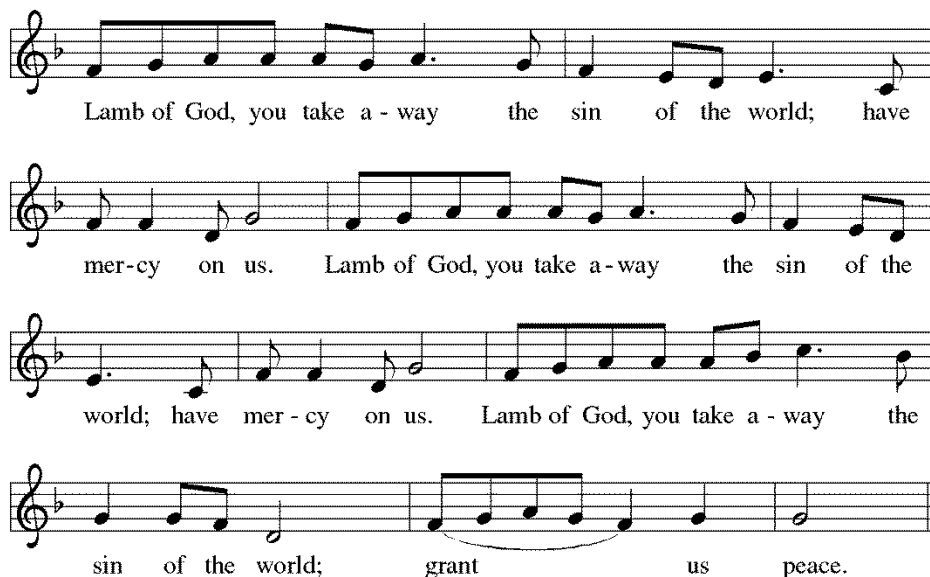
- ☐ **Now let us feast this Easter day
on Christ, the bread of heaven. Hallelujah!**

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



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

“The Day of Resurrection!”

ELW 361

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!”

ELW 369

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

ELW 392

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;

Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone.

Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:

"Jesus out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by his blood."

(stand)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

☐ Life-giving God,

☑ in the mystery of Christ's death and resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of heaven to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to Jesus' resurrection that we will show your glory to all the world; through the same Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P May God who has brought us from death to life fill you with great joy. Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

HYMN

“Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”

ELW 367

DISMISSAL

P Alleluia! Christ is risen.

C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

P You are the body of Christ raised up for the world. Go in peace. Share the good news.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE



KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Olaf Roynesdal	Senior Pastor
Pr. Paul Moessner	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Pr. Inba Inbarasu	Visitation Pastor
Kristin Boe	Christian Ed Coordinator
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Amanda Zasada	Administrative Assistant
Lauri Askew	Staff Treasurer
Sheri Rose	Financial Secretary
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	Paul Revord
Ushers	Paul Revord
	Ellen Pessevento

SUNDAY, 9:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Susan Henry
	Dan Collett
Lector	Susie Henry
Ushers	John Georgeson
	Jim Comfort
	Joe Councill
	Dave Forrest
	Jeff Perkins
	Fred Wachal
	Jan Falk
Greeters	Jinette Cswercko
	Darlene Anderson
	Vickie Wichert
Crucifer	Carter Wachholtz
Acolytes	Kenyon Martis
	Cameron Miller

SUNDAY, 11:00 AM

Comm. Asst.	Ashley Sum
	Lowell Harms
Lector	Ashley Sum
Ushers	Ken Johnson
	Linda Johnson
	Lee Johnson
	Norm Sack
Greeters	Peggy Johnson
	Myrna Carter
Crucifer	Torin Edwards
Acolytes	Tyler Johnston
	Hadley Rief



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

April 14 & 15, 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 Then join us each Sunday 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.

ADULT FORUM Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **THIS WEEK:** *No Forum* **NEXT WEEK:** *Staff Transitions Reception*

NEW MEMBER CLASS If you are interested in joining our congregation, the next class will be held this Sunday and next, April 15 & 22, from 12—2 PM. Plan to attend both sessions. Lunch will be served and childcare is provided.

PR. HALL is at St. Mary's Seminary in Baltimore, Maryland this weekend for the latest round of dialogue between the ELCA and the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to the glory of God by Joyce Graybill in honor of the baptism of Joyce E Schneekloth Graybill on Easter, 1933 by Pr. Traub and in memory of the marriage of Arthur & Fern Paulsen Schneekloth, married by Pr. Traub

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES TODAY

ORDER OF SAINT JOHN COMMISSIONING AND APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

Commissioning will be held at the 11:00 AM Worship Service this Sunday, April 15, with a luncheon to follow at 12:15 PM in the Fellowship Hall.

SUNDAY SCHOOL Join us each Sunday on the 2nd floor for Sunday School. 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 each Sunday. 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!

April 15 Sunday

7:45 AM & 10:00 AM Adult 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 Children's Choir (gr K-5)
 10:00 AM Blood Pressure Checks
 10:10 AM Adult Forum
 10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
 10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)
 10:30 AM Executive Committee
 11:00 AM MS/HS Choir Rehearsal
 12:00 PM New Member Class
 12:30 PM OSJ Appreciation Lunch
 8:30 PM LCM Worship @ CU (Halley Chapel)

April 16 Monday

Good News Deadline
 10:00 AM Pantry
 6:00 PM Christian Education Committee

April 17 Tuesday

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

April 18 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship
 5:45 PM MS/HS Choir Rehearsal - Sanctuary

6:00 PM Handbell Choir Rehearsal

April 19 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Luncheon
 4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic
 7:00 PM Circle 5

April 21 Saturday

9:30 AM Women's Prayer Group
 5:00 PM Worship

April 22 Sunday

7:45 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
 8:00 AM - 11:00 AM Breakfast
 8:00 AM MS/HS Choir Rehearsal
 9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
 9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
 9:00 AM Joyful Sounds Children's Choir (gr K-5)
 10:10 AM deFreese Manor Board Meeting
 10:10 AM Adult Forum
 10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 9-12)
 10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-8th gr)
 12:00 PM Stephen Ministry
 12:00 PM New Member Class
 12:30 PM Family & Friends Lunch
 12:30 MS/HS Choir Rehearsal
 3:00 PM MS/HS Choir *Lift Up Your Voice and With Us Sing! Program*
 8:30 PM LCM Worship @ CU (Halley Chapel)

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.

NEW MEMBER CLASS If you are interested in joining our congregation, the next class will be held September 16 & 23 from 12—2 PM. Plan to attend both sessions. Lunch will be served and childcare is provided. Please indicate your attendance plans on

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRY Spring and Summer 2018

Spring Sunday School concludes
May 20

Summer Sunday School
June 17 – July 15

LYSO – Lutheran Youth Serving Omaha
June 11 – 15 (for children/youth who have finished kindergarten)

Outdoor Movie Night
Friday, June 22

Vacation Bible School "Camp"
Friday evening, July 21,
Saturday morning, July 22
For ALL AGES!

August 12 – Blessing of Backpacks
(as a new school year begins)
and our School Teachers/Workers

your attendance card or call the church office and let us know if you will need childcare when you register.

THE OMAHA CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS presents "A Celebration of Psalms", a Hymn Festival, this Sunday, April 15, 2018 at 3:30 PM. St John Lutheran Church at 633 Willow Ave. in Council Bluffs will host the event and the reception to follow. A free-will offering will be received to raise funds toward a challenge gift to fund educational events for organists. 9 Area organists will lead the congregation and choir through old favorites and new song as the Book of Psalms is explored through music.

NURSERY HELP IS NEEDED If you would like to work with the youngest members of our congregation, please contact Kristin at kristin@kmlchurch.org or by calling the church office at 402-341-7761.

KMLC MEN'S LUNCHEON Thursday, April 19, 11:30 AM at Kountze Memorial – Cost \$10. Our program will be a book review on Mission at Nuremberg: An American Army Chaplain and the Trial of the Nazis. The story of Lutheran Pastor Henry Gerecke offers history and theology that is most challenging. Pastor Paul will present an overview.. Watch the bulletin and e-news for more info. Please RSVP by Tuesday, April 17 to the church office (402-341-7761) or Pastor Paul, paul@kmlchurch.org).

WOMEN'S PRAYER GROUP 9:30 AM on the 3rd Saturday of each month (April 21) in the Fellowship Lounge What does it mean to be a woman that God's spirit can guide? Join us at the Women's Prayer Group as we examine the lives of Dorcas, Lydia, Phoebe, and other women in the New Testament with "A Woman God's Spirit Can Guide" by Alice Mathews. Join us as we reflect on what God has called us to do as we dig deep into the lives of these women who committed their gifts and talents to the Lord. If you have questions or are interested in joining the Women's Prayer Group, please contact Karen Bonneau at 402-676-5419.

FRIENDS AND FAMILY LUNCHEON Sunday, April 22, 12:30 PM in the Kountze Meeting Rooms A and B, just north of Fellowship Hall. The Social Ministry Committee is hosting a luncheon followed by holy Communion for all homebound members and friends of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church. We also invite our Eucharistic Ministers to participate. To let us know you plan to come, and if you need a ride, please contact the church office at 402-341-7761 or info@kmlchurch.org.

WOMEN'S SPRING SALAD LUNCHEON The Spring Salad Luncheon will be April 28 at 11:30 AM. Paul Siebert will entertain with his many instruments and the history behind them. Come and bring a friend or two. No reservations or charge is required.

CPR TRAINING FOR USHERS AND SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS Saturday, April 28 Kountze Commons. We strongly urge Ushers and Sunday School Teachers to be certified in CRP. Participants may choose one of two sessions: 9:00 AM to Noon or 1:30-4:30 PM. Suggested donation is \$20; limited number of 10 participants per session. Participants are eligible to take a First Aid Training free of charge at a later date.

LYSO – LUTHERAN YOUTH SERVE OMAHA Mark your calendars for LYSO the week of June 11 – 15 and then watch for more information in the Good News and bulletin. If you are an adult willing to help, please contact Pastor Paul or Kristin Boe. Thanks.

BED OR MATTRESS NEEDED for a new resident at deFreese Manor. If you have one you would be willing to donate, please contact Sharon West (402-345-0622).



LIFT UP YOUR VOICE AND WITH US SING!

Please join

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church
Youth Choir, Instrumentalists, and Readers

In praise of God and His creation

Sunday, April 22, 2018 3:00 PM
Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church
2650 Farnam St., Omaha, NE

Free Admission
Reception following the program

ATTENDANCE & GIVING

Saturday Attendance: 113
Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 250 11:00: 95
Midweek - Noon: 14 Evening: 0
Total: 472
Pantry Guests Served:
Medical Clinic Guests Served:
Offering:
\$9,812.69 (Regular) \$588.00 (Specials)
\$1,627.00 (In the City for Good) \$ (Memorials)

The risen Jesus sends us out to witness.

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

Sunday	Luke 24:36b-48	Jesus appears to his disciples
Monday	Acts 3:12-19	Peter speaks in the temple
Tuesday	1 John 3:1-7	Children of God
Wednesday	Acts 1:1-11	You will be my witnesses
Thursday	Acts 10:34-43	The witness of the apostles
Friday	Isaiah 35:3-9	God changes everything
Saturday	Psalms 4	An evening prayer
Sunday	John 10:11-18	The Good Shepherd



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“Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.” **Luke 24:46-48 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, open our minds to understand the Scriptures and our mouths to speak of you. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God bless our food, God guide our ways, God give us strength to declare your praise. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the light of God’s face shine on you and be gracious to you. (Psalm 4:1,6)

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Tell about an amazing event you saw or heard about.
- Who first told you about Jesus? Who and what has helped you learn about him?
- Jesus said that his disciples would be “witnesses” for him (Luke 24:48). In what ways are you a witness for Jesus to others?

Read: Luke 24:36b-48.

When his followers saw the risen Lord, they were filled with joy but also disbelief and still questioned how this could be (v. 41). Jesus called these joyful and questioning followers to be his witnesses and to tell others of the power of repentance and forgiveness in Jesus’ name (v. 47). Even those who are followers need support and encouragement in their faith in the risen Lord Jesus. Talk with others about how the resurrection of Jesus creates a new way of life for us, one that is renewed daily through God’s forgiveness. In your prayers this week, pray for others that they may come to know the risen Jesus or that their faith may be strengthened to deal with disbelief and questions of faith.

Pray: The Lord’s Prayer.

The Great Commandment to love God and to love your neighbor relates directly to the Great Commission to tell the good news of Jesus to others. Being a witness of Jesus’ saving work is an essential act of love of the body of Christ, the church. Be open to how the Holy Spirit can use you as a witness to others. This week pray for opportunities to be a witness to Jesus empowered by the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:49).

Psalm 4:8 states, “In peace I will lie down and sleep, for you alone, O Lord, will keep me safe.” The end of the day is a good time to slow down, reflect on the day, and focus on God’s place at the center of our lives. Rituals that help us do this can have a powerful “witnessing” influence in our home lives. Consider incorporating these ideas into your bedtime routine: Read a Bible passage or a storybook Bible. Give a blessing to someone. Take time for prayer and meditation, including sitting in silence. Sing or pray a hymn. Review the day to wonder how God was present in your up and down moments.

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS: Acts 4:5-12; Psalm 23
1 John 3:16-24; John 10:11-18