

Special Notice

If you plan to attend Worship in person, please call/e-mail the church office no later than noon on the Thursday before the Sunday you want to attend. Please note that the plans set forth are subject to immediate change. You may still join us for Worship on Cox channel 13 or live streamed at <https://www.kmlchurch.org/live-streaming/>



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

September 20, 2020

Kountze Food Pantry Volunteers Needed Mondays, 7:30 - 9:00 AM; 9:00 - 11:00 AM; 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

Fridays, 4:00 - 7:00 PM

The Kountze Food Pantry is short of volunteers and urgently needs your help. If you can, please consider volunteering for one or more shifts. Volunteers are needed from 7:30 - 9:00 AM, 9:00 - 11:00 AM, and 11:00 AM-1:00 PM on Mondays. We are also open Friday evenings and could use your help from 4:00 - 7:00 PM. If you would like to help with this very important mission, please sign up for a time slot at the link below:

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



Saturday In-Person Worship

Beginning Saturday, October 3, we will begin having in-person worship services on Saturday evenings at 5:00 PM. Just like on Sundays, please call/e-mail the church office no later than noon on the Thursday before the Saturday you want to attend. Please note that the plans set forth are subject to immediate change.

Today at Kountze

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of Amy Meyer Allen's 50th birthday given by Lynn & Nancy Meyer; in honor of our 45th wedding anniversary given by David & Pat Studts

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God by Ken & Linda Johnson in honor of their 51st wedding anniversary

Online Sunday School

Lessons will be videotaped and posted on the KMLC Parents Facebook page as well as the Kountze Memorial Facebook Page. In addition, there will be pintables and activity suggestions that complement the lesson. If you would prefer to receive the lessons by email, please contact Kristin Boe at - kristin@kmlchurch.org.

Youth Forum

Sundays at 10:10 AM

IN-PERSON: The youth group will meet in-person on the green space on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month. (The 1st Sunday of the month will be current event Sunday. Please bring an article or current event to share (must be non-COVID related).

ZOOM: The youth group will meet via Zoom on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month.

Attendance and Giving

Online Attendance: 166

9:00 AM Attendance: (Reservation Only) 49

Pantry Guests Served: 591

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 21

Offering:

\$10,957.04 (Regular) \$1,537.83 (Specials)

\$607.00 (Debt Reduction)

God is gracious and merciful.

Sunday	Matthew 20:1-16	Parable of the vineyard workers
Monday	Jonah 3:10-4:11	Jonah goes to Nineveh
Tuesday	Philippians 1:21-30	What life means to Paul
Wednesday	Exodus 16:2-15	Bread from heaven
Thursday	Psalms 105:1-6, 37-45	God's faithfulness to Israel
Friday	Titus 2:11-15	God's kindness
Saturday	Psalms 145:1-8	The Lord is kind and merciful
Sunday	Matthew 21:23-32	Parable of the two sons



© 2019 Vibrant Faith Ministries. All rights reserved.
Go to www.vibrantfaithathome.org for more faith-forming activities.

The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. **Psalm 145:8 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Gracious God, we thank you that you care for all, especially those who feel left behind, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of grace and mercy, we thank you for your care for us that gives us food from your fruitful creation. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the undeserved kindness of God bless you with faith and good courage now and always.

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

- Think about or tell a story of how someone was kind to you.
- Has it ever been difficult for you to be kind to someone? What made it difficult?
- Is God's kindness to you a surprise or not? Explain.

Read: Jonah 3:10-4:11.

Frankly, we don't really like God's justice. It's too supportive of people unlike us! Like Jonah, we don't want a God who is slow to anger and full of steadfast love for people we don't think deserve it, especially those we would consider our enemies. That's why Jonah ran away from God (v. 4:2). Nineveh was the capital of the Assyrians who had destroyed the northern kingdom of Israel in 722 BC. Now God told Jonah to preach repentance to the Ninevites. Jonah was afraid to do this because he knew of God's love and mercy, something he did not want showered upon his enemies. And Jonah was right; it happened, and it angered him. It's just like in Jesus' parable of the generous landowner (Matthew 20:1-16) where it seems so wrong for people who worked in the fields all day only to get the same wage as those who started at the end of the day. Is it easy or hard for you to accept God's justice where "the undeserving" receive the same generosity you receive? Explain.

Pray: **Gracious and merciful God, give me faith to love your generosity for all people, especially those who are different from me. In Jesus' name, amen.**

The story of the vineyard in Matthew 20:1-16 is about a generous owner who paid the laborers the same amount at the end of the day even if some worked harder and longer than others. Some of the laborers grumbled. The owner asked, "Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" (Matthew 20:15). In what ways are you generous to others with what belongs to you?

In Exodus 16:2-15 bread was provided from heaven. Prepare a meal that includes bread. Think or talk about Moses and the Israelites and how they had to learn to be patient and have faith in God to feed them daily as they traveled to the Promised Land. What does this mean for you? Before you eat, pray: **Lord, thank you for this bread you have given us to eat. Help us to never forget how you provide for us just as you did for the Israelites. Amen.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Psalm 25:1-9
Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32