

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 Saturday or 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

May 8 & 9, 2021

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 collecting the following items: reusable shopping bags, toilet paper, cereal, and full-sized hygiene products. Please place your donated items in the shopping cart as you enter for church, in the donation box in the Fellowship Hall, or in the church office. Your contributions are greatly appreciated! If you are able to volunteer, please sign up by using the link below:

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

Sponsor Our Youth on the 2021

KMLC Summer Youth Trip to Tulsa, Oklahoma

Please consider sponsoring the 2021 Summer Youth Trip. Your donation can be placed in the offering or mail it to the church office. Make sure you mark in the memo that it is for the Mission Trip Sponsorship. Another option to give is to visit www.kmlchurch.org and click on "Online Giving" to donate on the web! Again, you will find in the section for Children and Youth Ministries the line item for Mission Trip Sponsorship. Our gift back to you will be a time to gather and share our experience of this trip with you. It would be most helpful to receive all donations by June 1. Thanks for your consideration! If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Shari at shari@kmlchurch.org or 402-341-7761.

Attendance and Giving

Saturday Attendance: 29

Sunday Attendance: 9:00: 86

Wednesday Attendance: 10

Total: 125

Streaming Attendance:

Cox Cable Attendance: 252

Pantry Guests Served: 731

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 18

Offering:

\$8,888.00 (Regular) \$6,931.26 (Specials)

\$909.50 (Debt Reduction)

Wednesday Worship

12:15 PM

Our midweek Eucharist has resumed. You do not need to pre-register. Enter through the Farnam Street doors to the Sanctuary.

Home Devotion on Generosity for the 7 Weeks of Easter

During the Easter Season, the Live it Out resource from the Nebraska Synod and the ELCA Generosity Project, have provided a faith formation at home resource for you to use. It is provided to help in Growing God's Generous Generations. For seven weeks, a resource for you to work through on your own or with others in your home, will be provided. It centers our attention on God's generosity to us and our response to God's graciousness. Go to <https://www.elca.org/generosityproject> for more information. Go to: <https://files.constantcontact.com/8c919081201/297cafde-ffb5-420d-9875-b2d393491ad4.pdf> for week 5.

Today at Kountze

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Jean Holcombe given by her family

Youth Forum

In-Person & Zoom on Sundays, 10:15 - 11:00 AM

All 9th - 12th Graders are invited to join us!

We will meet in person in the Youth Room and on Zoom each week

- 1st Sunday: Bible Ponderings
- 2nd Sunday: High School Hang Out
- 3rd Sunday: Serving in the World
- 4th Sunday: Host Middle School Hangout
- 5th Sunday: Adventures (if on Zoom, we will carry you along with us)

Contact Pastor Shari (402-341-7761 or shari@kmlchurch.org) if you need the Zoom Link info. We will continue to be masked and physically distanced for all meetings in person at the church.

Love one another.

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

Sunday	John 15:9-17	Love one another
Monday	Acts 10:44-48	Gentiles receive the Holy Spirit
Tuesday	1 John 5:1-6	Faith conquers the world
Wednesday	Romans 12:9-21	Love with sincerity
Thursday	Luke 24:44-53	Jesus ascends to heaven
Friday	Leviticus 19:17-18, 33-36	Ritual and moral holiness
Saturday	Psalms 98	Make a joyful noise
Sunday	John 17:6-19	Christ's prayer for his disciples



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Go to www.vibrantfaithathome.org for more faith-forming activities.

This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. **John 15:12 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

Gracious and loving God, give us the faith and courage to love one another as you have loved us through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Almighty God, we thank you for this food; may it strengthen us to love others as you have loved us through Christ Jesus. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May your love for God and one another give you joy that knows no end.

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

- What makes it easy to love others? What makes it hard?
- How does Jesus' unconditional love show us the importance of loving others?
- How does Jesus' life, death, and resurrection show us what true love is all about?

Read: John 15:9-17.

This passage intimately connects a relationship of Jesus and “the Father” with Jesus’ own followers. The relationship is woven together through the language of commandments and love, and the two are brought together in verse 12: “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.” The Gospel of John does not have the “Great Commandment” dialog as in Matthew, Mark, and Luke. However, the theme here is the same: love God and love neighbor. The emphasis in John is that love is the way to have an enduring relationship with God and with brothers and sisters in the faith, those whom Jesus calls “friends.” The word for friends in Greek is “loved ones.” Love—not judgment and ridicule—is how Jesus relates to us. It is how we, as Jesus’ friends, are to approach the world so that our joy may be complete. How does love change our relationship with others? How does a commitment to love others change us?

Pray: **Loving God, we thank you for showing us the depth of your love for us through the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of your Son and our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

In the Bible, love is more than an emotion. Love is a commitment to care for others with our whole being. Conflict can get in the way of this love. Bringing God into our conflicted relationships can be a difference maker. This week think of those you have a conflict or tensions with, and pray to God for a clean and loving heart to reconcile your relationships.

The theme this week is “Love one another.” May 9 is observed as Mother’s Day in the United States. Reflect on the women in your life who have loved and cared for you. Think or talk about what you learned from them and how you show love to others. Pray: **Dear God, thank you for your love. Thank you for [name women who have cared for you]. Give us courage to love all people as you have loved us. Amen.**

**NEXT WEEK’S READINGS: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26; Psalm 1
1 John 5:9-13; John 17:6-19**