

## KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Olaf Roynesdal	Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Pr. Inba Inbarasu	Visitation 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 Slaight	Housekeeper
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Sheri Lynn Tipton	Night Security Manager
Norma Pafford	Nursery Superintendent
Joyce Palmer	Director of the Weber Clinic
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)

**November 20 & 21, 2021**

*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.

### **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**

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 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 honor of Lynn Schneiderman's 59<sup>th</sup> Birthday; in celebration of the wedding of Jill Havekost and William Sauer

**Television Broadcast** is sponsored in appreciation and in honor of Pr. Olaf Roynesdal given by Shirley Bonneau & Karen Bonneau

### **Children's Choir**

**9:20 AM**

#### **Ages K-6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

Barb Carlsen will be leading the singers during the 9:00 AM sermon. Those interested in participating in choir will attend the first part of the 9:00 service with their families, come forward for the children's blessing, and then go to the upstairs choir room for practice before returning for Communion.

### **Adult Forum**

**Sundays, 10:10**

#### **This Sunday—Celebration Breakfast**

Today is Pr. Olaf's last Sunday with our congregation. Join us for a celebration to honor him during worship

**Today at Kountze, continued on next page**

## Today at Kountze, *continued*

and the Adult Forum time. Breakfast will be served from 9:30 to 11:00 AM (November 21 only). A short program to acknowledge this milestone in his life, with time for conversation, will make up our time together between worship hours.

### Sunday School

#### Sundays, 10:10 - 10:50 AM

Join us on Sundays on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor for Sunday School. Preschool 1 (2-4 yrs) meets from 9:00—10:00 AM (child care for those too old for the nursery).

### Youth Forum

#### Sundays, 10:10 - 10:50 AM

All 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> Graders are invited to join us!

**This Sunday**—Celebrate with Pr. Olaf

### Inter-Faith Thanksgiving Service

#### Sunday, November 21

##### 5:00 PM

#### First Christian Church (6630 Dodge)

Kountze Memorial will once again be participating in the Inter-Faith Thanksgiving Prayer Service. This has been a nearly 30-year old event and it arose out of the congregations that helped give birth to the ministries of Together, Inc. (Kountze Memorial was a constitutive partner in both the foundation of Together, Inc and the Interfaith Prayer Service). Please join us.

## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### November 21 Sunday

Christ the King

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:10 AM Children's Choir (K-6<sup>th</sup> gr)

9:40 AM Breakfast to Celebrate Pr. Olaf

10:10 AM Sunday School (2 yr-6<sup>th</sup> gr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)

10:10 AM Adult Forum—Farewell to Pr. Olaf

5:00 PM Inter-faith Thanksgiving Service (First Christian Church 6630 Dodge)

### November 22 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

### November 23 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

### November 24 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

### November 25 Thursday

Thanksgiving

OFFICE CLOSED

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM Thanksgiving Meal @ St. Peters

### November 26 Friday

OFFICE CLOSED

No Pantry

### November 27 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

### November 28 Sunday

Advent Fair in the Fellowship Hall - No Sunday

School/Forums - join us

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

## Ongoing and Coming Soon

### Thanksgiving Dinner with St. Peter's

Thanksgiving Day, November 25

(11:00 AM to 1:30 PM)

Co-sponsored with and held at

St. Peter's Catholic parish (709 S 28<sup>th</sup> Street)

Preparations are under way for our annual

Thanksgiving luncheon.

Volunteers are needed to:

a) set up the night before;

b) donate pies/desserts; and

c) serve food, greet, and/or clean tables during the meal.

This event brings so many people in our community together in a spirit of Christian love and fellowship. Please join us, either to volunteer or as a guest; all are welcome. Please contact Pr. Hall or the church office to volunteer. There will also be a sign up sheet in your bulletin beginning next week.

## Ongoing and Coming Soon *continued*

### Advent Wreath Prayer Volunteers

Advent begins on the weekend of November 27 & 28. During worship we will gather around the Advent Wreath with song and prayer. If you as a family, couple or single would like to share that prayer with the congregation at one of the weekend services, please go to the following sign-up. You can also call the church office. The prayer for that time, will be sent to you.

<https://form.jotform.com/212975981639170>

### Advent Meal Volunteers Needed

We will need some volunteers to help prepare, serve, and clean up. We can always use volunteers to help put out placemats, pour drinks, run the dishwasher, etc. so no culinary experience is necessary. If you love to cook, we would be most happy to have you help us with one or all four meals. Please consider taking an hour or two this Advent season to volunteer before, during, or after one of the meals.

### Kountze Food Pantry

Our Pantry is participating in the Thrivent's Give Thanks and Give Back Food Shelf Challenge! Our job is to collect at least 500 individual containers of non-perishable foods from November 1-30, 2021. The food drive will be supplemented with a Generosity Multiplier Gift, courtesy of the Thrivent Member Network-Nebraska Region. This means the Kountze Food Pantry will not only benefit from the food, we will receive a matching gift of \$500! If you bring your contributions in a reusable canvas shopping bag, we can pass these on to our walking pantry guests. Thank you to all who brought hygiene products for our holiday gift bags. Your generosity, together with a very generous partnership with St. Michael Lutheran Church, will provide enough kits for 400 people!

Please note: Family Fare receipts must be complete in order to be counted. Partial receipts cannot be submitted.

### Pantry Volunteers Needed:

Mondays: 7:30 - 9 AM; 9 - 11 AM; 11 AM - 1 PM

Fridays: 4 - 7 PM

If you would like to help, please sign up to volunteer at the following link:

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

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Please join us for Advent meals in December, there will be four meals this year. Bring your family, friends, neighbors or call your church friends and meet at Kountze for lunch or dinner. Maybe you met someone new at coffee and cookie hour, give them a call and invite them. The tentative menu(s) subject to minor changes follows:

#### December 1

Pulled pork sandwiches  
Baked beans  
Coleslaw  
Apple crisp

#### December 8

Meatloaf  
Mashed potatoes (**not** out of a box)  
Mixed steamed vegetables  
Dinner roll w/butter  
Desert T.B.A.

#### December 15

Peruvian baked chicken  
Cilantro lime rice (plain rice available)  
Vegetable  
Roll with butter  
Desert T.B.A.

#### December 22

Baked spaghetti w/ meat sauce or alfredo  
Garden salad  
Garlic bread  
Desert T.B.A.

All meals are free will offering and served with choice of coffee, water, or tea.

Lunch: 11:00 AM - Noon

Supper: 5:30 - 6:30 PM

### Attendance & Giving

**Saturday:** 74

**Sunday: 9:00:** 172 **11:00:** 83

**Wednesday: 12:15:** 13 **Confirmation:** 12

**Total:** 354

**Streaming:** 93

**Cox Cable:** 201

**Pantry Guests Served:** 826 (includes 258 children)

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 20

**Offering:**

\$9,713.00 (Regular)

\$4,239.03 (Specials)

\$1,412.00 (Debt Reduction)

*Christ rules with a power unlike any other.*

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

Sunday	John 18:33-37	Jesus, the king of truth
Monday	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14	The time of judgment
Tuesday	Revelation 1:4b-8	Jesus reigns
Wednesday	Ephesians 1:15-23	Paul's prayer
Thursday	1 Corinthians 4:14-21	Paul's concern for Corinthians
Friday	Hebrews 1:1-3	Jesus brings God's message
Saturday	Psalms 93	The majesty of God's rule
Sunday	Luke 21:25-36	Coming of the Son of Man



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*Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." **John 18:36 (NRSV)***

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

Dear God, you who are the author and creator of all that is, help us to see in you the way of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, may this meal remind us of the feast that you promise for all those you have freed to live as children of grace and truth. Amen.

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

May the one who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty, bless you with peace. (Revelation 1:8)

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

- How can power be used for good? How can it be used for bad?
- If you had unlimited power, how would you use it to change the world?
- How do you think Christ's power and rule look different than the power seen in earthly governments?

*Read:* John 18:33-38a.

The good news of Jesus Christ is not about escapism as some kind of running away from the world that God created. We are reminded of this from the opening chapter of John: "*And the Word became flesh and lived among us*" (John 1:14a). The living Word reveals the power and glory of God that is filled with "*grace and truth*" (John 1:14b). In chapter 18 Jesus distinguishes between God's grace and truth that lead with love and mercy and the rule of bullies who demean and control others with violence. That is the Roman "peace" that occupied territories like Judea through governors like Pilate who served under Emperor Tiberius. No, Jesus' reign "*is not from this world*" (v. 36). As followers of Jesus, we engage with creation and our neighbor with a power of a different kind. It is a power that blesses, heals, and makes new through the cross of Christ. It is a power that through a death perpetrated at the hands of the powers from "this world" put Jesus to death and shows itself to be powerless through the humility and weakness of the Son of God. This is the one who came to serve and give us the everlasting power of divine love. Where do you see the good news of Christ's reign happening in the world today?

**Pray: Almighty and everlasting God, we thank you for your reign that is filled with divine power as it is filled with grace and truth through Jesus Christ, the one who came to set us free. Amen.**

Service to others is filled with humility and love; it is people helping one another. The new church year begins next Sunday. As this church year ends, think of the ministries that have taken place over the past year and who has been responsible for them: worship, music, Sunday school, youth group, Bible studies and more. How can you show appreciation and thanks for those who have served over the past church year?

The season of Advent begins next Sunday. Begin to plan for your home observance of Advent. Think or talk about the traditions you have established in your home over the years. One common Advent tradition is having an Advent calendar. Another is the Advent wreath. If you have not had a tradition in the past, consider beginning one this year as part of your faith journey in your home.

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Jeremiah 33:14-16; Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; Luke 21:25-36