

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

Olaf Roynesdal, Senior Pastor  
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[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

November 28, 2021

9:00 & 11:00 AM

FIRST SUNDAY of ADVENT



*Advent is about the “coming days.” God’s people have always lived in great expectation, but that expectation finds specific, repeated enunciation in the texts appointed for these four weeks. The ancients anticipated a “righteous Branch to spring up for David.” The Thessalonians awaited “the coming of our Lord Jesus with all the saints.” Jesus’ contemporaries hoped for the time “to stand before the Son of Man.” With them we eagerly await the coming days: another Christmas celebration, a second coming, and the advent of Christ in word and supper.*

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

*Mark Jones, organ*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(stand)*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, who alone does wonders, who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things.

**G** Amen.

**P** Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

*Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.*

**P** God for whom we wait,

**G** **in the presence of one another,  
we confess our sin before you.**

**We fail in believing that your good news is for us.**

**We falter in our call to tend your creation.**

**We find our sense of self in material wealth.**

**We fear those different from ourselves.**

**We forget that we are your children  
and turn away from your love.**

**Forgive us, Blessed One,**

**and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.**

**P** God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you! Through the power of the Holy Spirit, † your sins are forgiven. You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise, and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of peace.

**G** Amen.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1 Hail to the Lord's anointed,<br/>great David's greater Son!<br/>Hail, in the time appointed,<br/>your reign on earth begun!<br/>You come to break oppression,<br/>to set the captive free,<br/>to take away transgression<br/>and rule in equity.</b></p> <p><b>2 You come with rescue speedy<br/>to those who suffer wrong,<br/>to help the poor and needy,<br/>and bid the weak be strong;<br/>to give them songs for sighing,<br/>their darkness turn to light,<br/>whose souls, condemned and dying,<br/>are precious in your sight.</b></p> | <p><b>3 You shall come down like showers<br/>upon the fruitful earth;<br/>love, joy, and hope, like flowers,<br/>spring in your path to birth.<br/>Before you on the mountains<br/>shall peace, the herald, go;<br/>and righteousness in fountains<br/>from hill to valley flow.</b></p> <p><b>4 Kings shall fall down before you,<br/>and gold and incense bring;<br/>all nations shall adore you,<br/>your praise all people sing.<br/>To you shall prayer unceasing<br/>and daily vows ascend;<br/>your kingdom still increasing,<br/>a kingdom without end.</b></p> |
|--|---|

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt.

### LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

*Children (aged 3 years through 5<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to come forward. 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.*

- ☐** We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our Lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.
- ☑** Amen.

### HYMN

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

ELW 257 vs. 1

- 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.**

*Refrain*

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

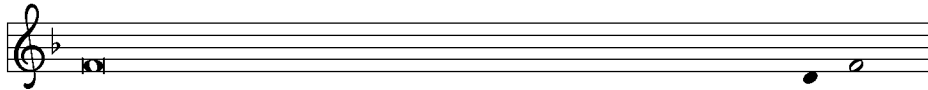
☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

☑ **And also with you.**

## KYRIE



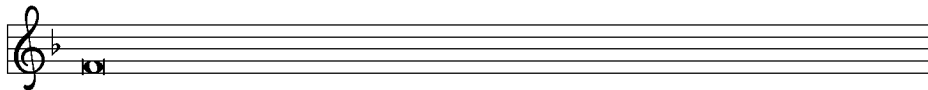
In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



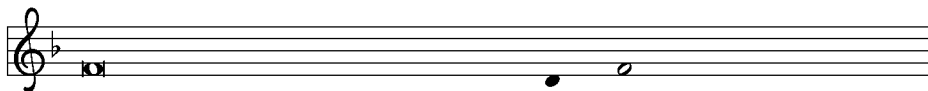
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



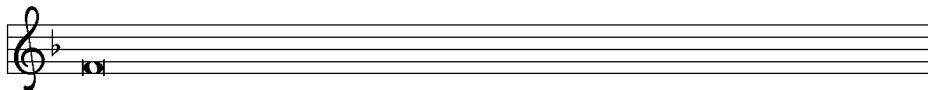
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



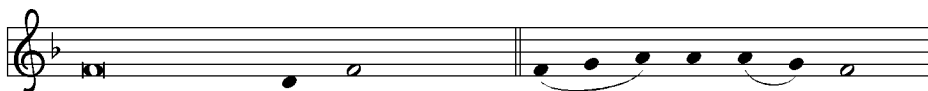
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



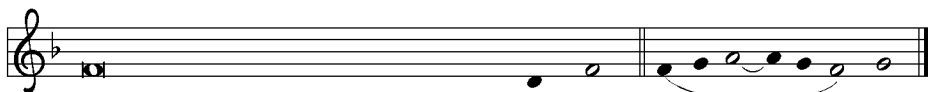
**Lord, have mer - cy.**



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

# HYMN OF PRAISE

Assisting minister



Glo - ry to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.
- C** **By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## WORD

(sit)

### FIRST READING

**Jeremiah 33:14-16**

*This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.*

**T**he days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. <sup>15</sup>In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>16</sup>In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “*The Lord is our righteousness.*”

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 25:1-10 (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>To you, O LORD,

I lift up my soul.

<sup>2</sup>**My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be put to shame,  
nor let my enemies triumph over me.**

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be put to shame;  
rather let those be put to shame who are treacherous.

<sup>4</sup>**Show me your ways, O LORD,  
and teach me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>Lead me in your truth and teach me,  
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all the day long.

<sup>6</sup>**Remember, O LORD, your compassion and love,  
for they are from everlasting.**

<sup>7</sup>Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;  
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your goodness, O LORD.

<sup>8</sup>**You are gracious and upright, O LORD;  
therefore you teach sinners in your way.**

<sup>9</sup>You lead the lowly in justice  
and teach the lowly your way.

<sup>10</sup>**All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast love and faithfulness  
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.**

## SECOND READING

**1 Thessalonians 3:9-13**

*Upon Timothy's report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.*

**H**ow can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? <sup>10</sup>Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

<sup>11</sup>Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. <sup>12</sup>And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. <sup>13</sup>And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

☐ The word of the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

(stand)

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

☑ **Glory to you, O Lord!**

## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 21:25-36

*God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.*

**J**esus said : <sup>25</sup>*“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. <sup>26</sup>People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”*

<sup>29</sup>*Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; <sup>30</sup>as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.*

<sup>34</sup>*“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, <sup>35</sup>like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”*

☞ The Gospel of the Lord.

☞ Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

SERMON

Pastor Hall

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

*“Hark the Glad Sound!”*

ELW 239

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1 Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,<br/>the Savior promised long;<br/>let ev'ry heart prepare a throne<br/>and ev'ry voice a song.</b></p> <p><b>2 He comes the pris'ners to release,<br/>in Satan's bondage held.<br/>The gates of brass before him burst,<br/>the iron fetters yield.</b></p> | <p><b>3 He comes the broken heart to bind,<br/>the bleeding soul to cure,<br/>and with the treasures of his grace<br/>to enrich the humble poor.</b></p> <p><b>4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,<br/>your welcome shall proclaim,<br/>and heav'n's eternal arches ring<br/>with your beloved name.</b></p> |
|---|--|

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751



## HOLY BAPTISM (9:00 am)

☐ In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

☐ *Don* and *Beth*, called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have *Mason Alexander* baptized into Christ?

Response: We do.

☐ As you bring *Mason Alexander* to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with these responsibilities:

to live with *him* among God's faithful people,  
bring *him* to the word of God and the holy supper,  
teach *him* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,  
place in *his* hands the holy scriptures, and nurture *him* in faith and prayer,  
so that *he* may learn to trust God, proclaim Christ through word and deed, care for others and the world God made, and work for justice and peace. Do you promise to help *Mason Alexander* grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: We do.

☐ Sponsors, *Emily* and *Elizabeth*: do you promise to nurture *Mason Alexander* in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help *him* live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: I do.

☐ People of God, do you promise to support *Mason Alexander* and pray for *him* in *his* new life in Christ?

☑ We do.

## PROFESSION OF FAITH

**P** *Don and Beth; Emily and Elizabeth; and all those here present: on behalf of Mason Alexander* I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church, the faith in which we baptize.

**P** Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

**C** **I renounce them.**

**P** Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

**C** **I renounce them.**

**P** Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**C** **I renounce them.**

**P** Do you believe in God the Father?

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**P** Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

**P** Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

## THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

**P** We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family, and through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus's death and resurrection you set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to live in you. Pour out your Holy Spirit, the power of your living Word, so that as *Mason Alexander* is washed in the waters of baptism *he* will be given new life. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**G Amen.**

## BAPTISM

**P** *Mason Alexander* I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**G Amen.**

**P** We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain *Mason Alexander* with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

**G Amen.**

**P** *Mason Alexander*, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

**G Amen.**

## WELCOME

**P** Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

**P** Let us welcome the newly baptized.

**G We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

## **THE APOSTLES' CREED** (11:00 am)

- P** God has made us his people through our Baptism into Christ.  
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- 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.**

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

**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)*

**Thanksgiving:** for the baptism of Mason Alexander Burton, son of Don & Beth Burton; for the marriage of William & Jill (Havekost) Sauer

**Illness:** Richard Bock, Judy Boelts, Karen Buchholz, Don Burton, Gail Durban, Mike Edris, Rodney Edwards, Richard Holzer, Renee Johnson, Mark Kidder, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, mother of David Klug, Marcie Lafleur, Mary Olson, Bobbie Powell, John Rayno, Toby Rees, Sheri Tipton, Stacy Tompkins, John Waterman, Darlene White, Don Zinnecker

**Other Prayers:** *Those serving in the military* – Wyatt Johnson, Josh Kropenske, Michael McNeill, Daniel Milstead, Cody Ray, Sheldon Skovgaard, Michael Vutov, Joel Woosley

**Other Prayers:** *Those serving in mission* – Rev. Chandran Paul Martin, India; Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson, Tanzania; Rev. Rachel Ringlaben, Argentina; Meghan Brown Saavedra, Mexico; and Dan & Ginny Rath, international translators

**Other Prayers:** *Seminarians*—Adam Klinker, Katie Larson, Giselle Loucks, Justin Perkins

## WE SHARE GOD’S PEACE

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**C** And also with you.

# MEAL

(sit)

## THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

*Please Support the overall ministry of Kountze Memorial during these difficult times. 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. If you are able, please mail in your offering or donate on-line. Thank you!*



## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*“Carol of the Advent”*

arr. Philip Dietterich

People, look East. The time is near of the crowning of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.  
People, look East, and sing today: Love, the guest, is on the way.

Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there:  
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that the course the flower may flourish.  
People, look East, and sing today: Love, the rose, is on the way.

Birds, though ye long have ceased to build, guard the nest that must be filled.  
Even the hour when wings are frozen, He for fledging time has chosen.  
People, look East, and sing today: Love, the bird is on the way.

Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim,  
Shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.  
People, look East, and sing today: Love, the star, is one the way.

Angels, announce to man and beast Him who cometh from the East.  
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.  
People, look East, and sing today: Love, the Lord, Love, the Lord, is on the way.

## THE TABLE IS PREPARED

(stand)

**OFFERTORY HYMN**

*“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”*

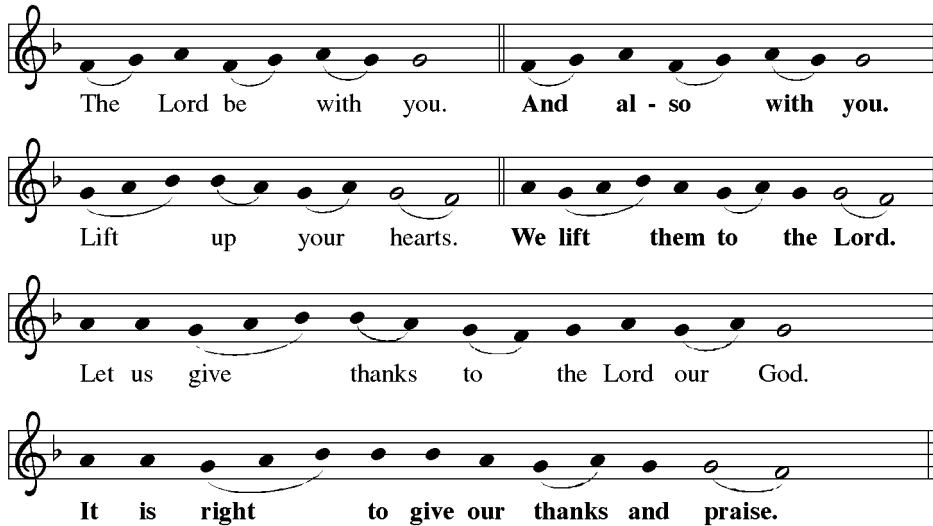
**ELW 631, vs. 1**

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of five staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "I Love di-vine, all loves ex-cel-ling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy hum-ble dwell-ing, all thy faith-ful mer-cies crown. Je-sus, thou art all com-pas-sion, pure, un-bound-ed love thou art; vis-it us with thy sal-va-tion, en-ter ev-'ry trem-bling heart." The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with many notes beamed together.

**OFFERING PRAYER**

- ☐ God of our waiting and watching,
- ☑ **we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. Amen.**

## HOLY COMMUNION

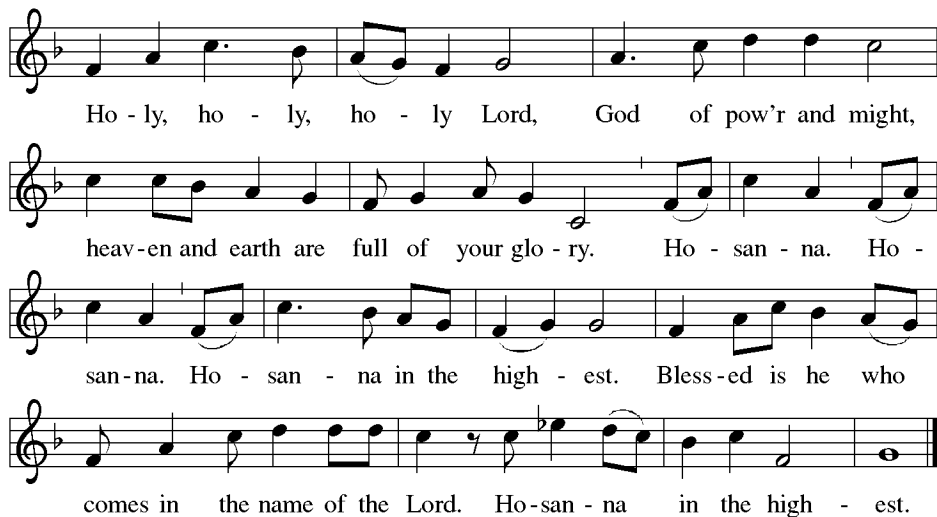


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE FOR ADVENT

- P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted us, your people, with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven we praise your name 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

**P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us all to pray:

**C** **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

**P** Feast on God's gift of grace.

**C** We come to Christ's banquet.

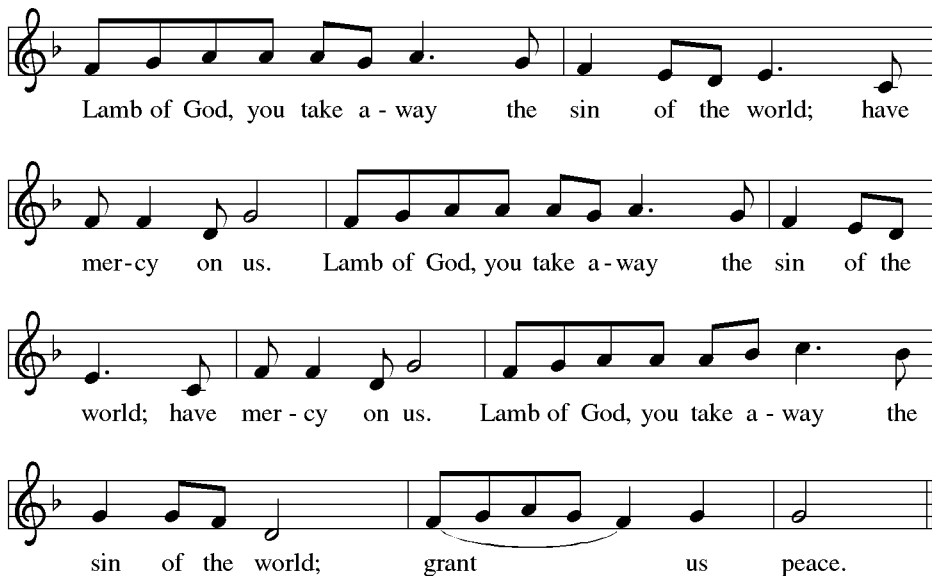
### THE DISTRIBUTION

*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.*

*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

*“Around You, O Lord Jesus”*

ELW 468

**1** Around you, O Lord Jesus,  
your own you gather still  
to share the feast you give us  
with grace our lives to fill.  
You say to us so lovingly,  
“Take, eat! This is my body!  
Take, drink! This is my blood!”

**2** We hear your invitation,  
and heed, O Lord, your call;  
your word of consolation  
is spoken here to all.  
It draws us to your loving heart;  
it brings to us your blessing,  
which never will depart.

**3** We are your own forever;  
until our final breath  
we will be true and never  
in joy, in grief, in death  
depart from you, for you are still  
among your people dwelling,  
as you have said you will.

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772-1847; tr. composite  
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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|--|---|
| <p><b>1</b> For the bread which you have broken,<br/>for the wine which you have poured,<br/>for the words which you have spoken,<br/>now we give you thanks, O Lord.</p> <p><b>2</b> By this promise that you love us,<br/>by your gift of peace restored,<br/>by your call to heav'n above us,<br/>hallow all our lives, O Lord.</p> | <p><b>3</b> With the saints who now adore you,<br/>seated at the heav'nly board,<br/>may the church still waiting for you<br/>keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.</p> <p><b>4</b> In your service, Lord, defend us;<br/>in our hearts keep watch and ward;<br/>in the world to which you send us<br/>let your kingdom come, O Lord.</p> |
|--|---|

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855-1930, alt.

Text © Robert F. Jefferys Jr.

*“The King of Love My Shepherd Is”*

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1</b> The King of love my shepherd is,<br/>whose goodness faileth never;<br/>I nothing lack if I am his<br/>and he is mine forever.</p> <p><b>2</b> Where streams of living water flow,<br/>my ransomed soul he leadeth<br/>and, where the verdant pastures grow,<br/>with food celestial feedeth.</p> <p><b>3</b> Perverse and foolish oft I strayed,<br/>but yet in love he sought me,<br/>and on his shoulder gently laid,<br/>and home, rejoicing, brought me.</p> | <p><b>4</b> In death's dark vale I fear no ill,<br/>with thee, dear Lord, beside me,<br/>thy rod and staff my comfort still;<br/>thy cross before to guide me.</p> <p><b>5</b> Thou spreadst a table in my sight;<br/>thine unction grace bestoweth;<br/>and, oh, what transport of delight<br/>from thy pure chalice floweth!</p> <p><b>6</b> And so, through all the length of days,<br/>thy goodness faileth never.<br/>Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise<br/>within thy house forever.</p> |
|--|---|

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877

*(stand)*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P** Most High God,

**G** you have come among us at this table. By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word, sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all, through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest. Amen.

# SENDING

## BLESSING

- ☞ The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, though Jesus Christ for whom we wait.

## THREE-FOLD AMEN

## HYMN

*“Savior of the Nations, Come”*

ELW 263

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>1 Savior of the nations, come;<br/>virgin's son, make here your home.<br/>Marvel now, O heav'n and earth:<br/>God has chosen such a birth.</b></p> <p><b>2 Not by human flesh and blood,<br/>but the mystic Breath of God,<br/>was the Word of God made flesh,<br/>fruit of woman, blossom fresh.</b></p> <p><b>3 Wondrous birth—oh, wondrous child—<br/>from his throne, a virgin mild!<br/>Very God, and Mary's son,<br/>eager now his race to run!</b></p> | <p><b>4 From God's heart the Savior speeds,<br/>back to God his pathway leads;<br/>out to vanquish death's command,<br/>back to reign at God's right hand.</b></p> <p><b>5 Now your manger, shining bright,<br/>hallows night with newborn light.<br/>Night cannot this light subdue;<br/>let our faith shine ever new.</b></p> <p><b>6 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord,<br/>virgin's son, incarnate Word!<br/>To the holy Trinity<br/>praise we sing eternally!</b></p> |
|---|--|

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340-397;  
Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. hymnal version  
Text © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

## DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace. Christ is near.  
☞ Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

*Mark Jones, Organist*



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## 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 27 & 28, 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 memory of Pastor Clement Duraisingh given by Pr. Inba & Jeba Inbarasu

**Eternal Candle** is given to the glory of God by Pr. Inba & Jeba Inbarasu in memory of Pastor Clement Duraisingh

**Television Broadcast** is sponsored by Bob & Mary Ann Johnson in celebration of their 55<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary as well as the anniversaries of Bob & Carol Woodworth and Ronald & Wanda Frykberg, also married 55 years

### **Children's Choir**

**9:05 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 come forward for the Lighting of the Advent Wreath and then go to the upstairs choir room for

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

## Today at Kountze, *continued*

practice before returning for Communion.

### Adult Forum

**Sundays, 10:10**

**This Sunday—Advent Fair**

### Sunday School

**Sundays, 10:10 - 10:50 AM**

This Sunday—Advent Fair in the Fellowship Hall  
Normally 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—Advent Fair**

### Nebraska Synod Middle School Youth Gathering

**Saturday, January 5**

**9:00 AM—6:00 PM**

### Carol Joy Holling Camp

Words: What R U Trying 2 Say? Is the theme of the  
day. Sixth—8<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to participate  
with the cost for the day being \$20. Information can  
be found on the Youth Board in the Youth Room.  
Registration fee is due in the church office by  
Friday, December 3

## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### 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)

9:05 AM Children's Choir

### November 29 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

### November 30 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

### December 1 Wednesday

11:00 AM Advent Lunch

12:15 PM Worship

5:00 PM Advent Dinner

6:30 PM Worship

7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

### December 2 Thursday

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### December 3 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### December 4 Saturday

Homebound Communion

5:00 PM Worship

### December 5 Sunday

Homebound Communion

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)

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

## Ongoing and Coming Soon

### Advent Wreath Prayer Volunteers

If you as a family, couple, or single would like to lead  
a prayer around the Advent wreath at one of the  
weekend services during Advent, please go to the  
following sign-up. You can also call the church office.  
The prayer for that time, will be shared with 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.

## Ongoing and Coming Soon *continued*

### 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>

#

P l g z h n # D g y h q w # 7 h u y l f h v # #

The Days are Surely Coming.... will be our theme for Advent this year. We join with ELCA World Hunger in pondering the scripture from Jeremiah and Luke that focus on Zachariah, John the Baptist, and Elizabeth. Join us at 12:15 PM for our Eucharist Worship or at 6:30 PM for Holden Evening Prayer on Wednesdays, December 1, 8, 15, & 22.

At this time, if you need to be able to get into the church building after office hours or on weekends outside of worship times, please talk with the church staff at least the day before you plan to be here so we are able to make sure doors can be opened and alarms will not sound which will in turn bring the police to attend your event...



We appreciate your assistance and patience.



D g y h q w # P h d o # l q # G h f h p e h u #

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:

# Advent

#### 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:** 33

**Sunday: 9:00:** 196 **11:00:** 61

**Wednesday:** Not available at time of printing

**Total:** 290

**Streaming:** 49

**Cox Cable:** 224

**Pantry Guests Served:** 969 (inc. 333 children)

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 25

**Offering:**

\$17,410.00 (Regular)      \$4,303.36 (Specials)

\$10,702.94 (Debt Reduction)

*Abound in love for one another.*

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

Sunday	Luke 21:25-36	The coming of the Son of Man
Monday	Jeremiah 33:14-16	The Lord's wonderful promise
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Paul's words of thanks
Wednesday	1 John 4:7-12	God is love
Thursday	Deuteronomy 10:12-22	The essence of the law
Friday	Romans 13:8-10	Love for one another
Saturday	Psalms 25:1-10	A prayer for help
Sunday	Luke 3:1-6	Prepare the way of the Lord



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*And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you.* **1 Thessalonians 3:12 (NRSV)**

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

Lord Jesus, as we await your coming again, give us faith and good courage to resist evil and to be at peace with all people. In your name we pray, amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Give us strength through this meal that we may show gratitude for all you have created and love towards one another. Amen.

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

May God make you increase and abound in love for one another. (1 Thessalonians 3:12)

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

- Think of something that has been challenging for you. What makes it a challenge?
- Advent begins with a focus on Christ's second coming. Why is this important?

*Read:* 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13.

1 Thessalonians is likely the oldest New Testament writing we have. It ends with Paul addressing the church's concern about Christ's second coming (see 4:13-5:11), very fitting for the first week of Advent. Living in Thessalonica was a challenge. It was a Roman capital, filled with Roman powers and a religious setting very different from the Christian faith. It led to the persecution and suffering of Christians living there. Paul connects their lives of holiness and innocence to the power of Christ's return. All of this encourages a life "set apart"—that's what holiness means. Living with those who wish you harm and with other gods to worship, is truly a challenge, one that needs the power of Christ and his return to sustain us daily.

*Discuss:* What are the challenges you face as a person of the Christian faith?

*Pray:* **Come, Lord Jesus, give us faith as we await your coming, that we may love all people as you love us now and always. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme this week, is there something you can do to show God's abounding love to others?

This is the First Sunday in Advent. Make or purchase a round Advent wreath to represent God's unending love. Place three blue (or purple) candles and one pink candle on it. Place a white one in the center. Decorate with greens to symbolize eternal life. Light one blue/purple candle.

*Say:* **We light the first candle, the Prophet's candle, reminding us of the prophets who waited for the coming of Jesus. Come, Lord Jesus, come, and fulfill the promise.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79  
Philippians 1:3-11; Luke 3:1-6