

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

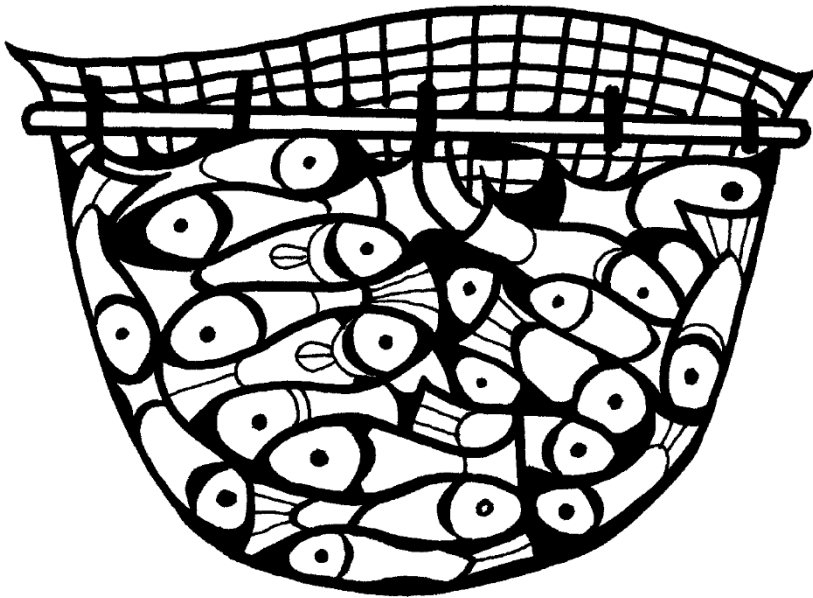
Stephen Griffith, Transition Senior Pastor  
Shari Duminy, Associate Pastor  
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor

2650 Farnam Street  
Omaha, NE 68131-3616  
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[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

February 6, 2022

9:00 & 11:00 AM

FIFTH SUNDAY after EPIPHANY



*The fifth Sunday after Epiphany continues to highlight unlikely instruments and circumstances appointed to reveal God's glory. "Who will go for us?" God asks. A person of unclean lips, a former persecutor of the church of God, and three fishermen who couldn't catch a thing. More surprising still, perhaps, is that we are also called.*

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

Mark Jones, *organist*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(stand)*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.

**G** Amen.

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

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

**P** Most merciful God,

**G** we confess that we have sinned against you and your beloved children.

We have turned our faces away from your glory  
when it did not appear as we expected.

We have rejected your word  
when it made us confront ourselves.

We have failed to show hospitality  
to those you called us to welcome.

Accept our repentance for the things we have done  
and the things we have left undone.

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

Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe  
in the glory of your Son born among us,  
and reflect your love for all creation. Amen.

**P** Rejoice in this good news: In ✠ Christ Jesus, your sins are forgiven. You are descendants of the Most High, adopted into the household of Christ, and inheritors of eternal life. Live as freed and forgiven children of God.

**G** Amen.

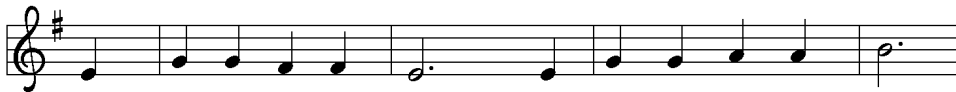
- 1 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
- 2 Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.
- 3 Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,  
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,  
perfect in pow'r, in love and purity.
- 4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, alt.

## 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



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
- 3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.  
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.  
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

## GLORIA



1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.

2 Glo-ry be to Christ for - ev - er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.

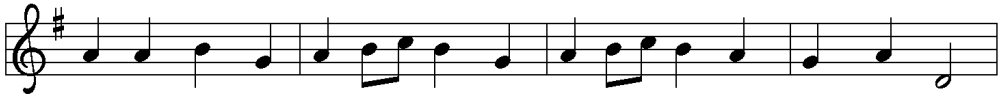
3 Ho - ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a - lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:

Son of God and gra-cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove;

Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.

on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.

Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom - ise firm we stand.

For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** Most holy God,

**C** the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe.  
Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

# WORD

(sit)

## FIRST READING

Isaiah 6:1-8

*Through a vision in the temple, the eighth-century prophet Isaiah is called by God to announce judgment against Israel. Aware of his sinfulness and shortcomings, Isaiah is initially hesitant. But when God calls, Isaiah responds, "Here am I; send me!"*

**I**n the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. <sup>2</sup>Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. <sup>3</sup>And one called to another and said:

*"Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory."*

<sup>4</sup>The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. <sup>5</sup>And I said: *"Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!"*

<sup>6</sup>Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. <sup>7</sup>The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: *"Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out."* <sup>8</sup>Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, *"Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"* And I said, *"Here am I; send me!"*

☞ The word of the Lord.

☞ Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 138 (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I will sing your praise.

**<sup>2</sup>I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name,  
because of your steadfast love and faithfulness;  
for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.**

<sup>3</sup>When I called, you answered me;  
you increased my strength within me.

**<sup>4</sup>All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD,  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

<sup>5</sup>They will sing of the ways of the LORD,  
that great is the glory of the LORD.

**<sup>6</sup>The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly,  
perceiving the haughty from afar.**

<sup>7</sup>Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

**<sup>8</sup>You will make good your purpose for me;  
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever;  
do not abandon the works of your hands.**

## SECOND READING

## 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

*Paul delivers in a nutshell the story of the gospel that was given to him. In the lineage of the Christian faith, we have received the good news of God's love from generations of believers before us, and we continue to tell this story to the world.*

**N**ow I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup>through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

<sup>3</sup>For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup>and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

(stand)

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav-ing word.



Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

**G** Glory to you, O Lord!

## HOLY GOSPEL

**Luke 5:1-11**

*Jesus' teaching of God's word has begun to draw great crowds. For Simon, James, and John, Jesus' teaching inspires hospitality, then obedience, and then risk. After Jesus' creative power is revealed, fear and amazement leads these three fishermen to leave everything behind to become apostles.*

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, <sup>2</sup>he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. <sup>3</sup>He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. <sup>4</sup>When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “*Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.*” <sup>5</sup>Simon answered, “*Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.*” <sup>6</sup>When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. <sup>7</sup>So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup>But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, “*Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!*” <sup>9</sup>For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; <sup>10</sup>and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, “*Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.*” <sup>11</sup>When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

☞ The Gospel of the Lord.

📢 Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

## CHILDREN'S BLESSING (9:00 AM)

*Children (aged 3 years through 5<sup>th</sup> 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 Duminy*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>1</b> How clear is our vocation, Lord,<br/>when once we heed your call<br/>to live according to your word<br/>and daily learn, refreshed, restored,<br/>that you are Lord of all,<br/>and will not let us fall.</p> <p><b>2</b> But if, forgetful, we should find<br/>your yoke is hard to bear;<br/>if worldly pressures fray the mind<br/>and life itself cannot unwind<br/>its tangled skein of care:<br/>our inward life repair.</p> | <p><b>3</b> We marvel how your saints become<br/>in hindrances more sure;<br/>whose joyful virtues put to shame<br/>the casual way we wear your name,<br/>and by our faults obscure<br/>your pow'r to cleanse and cure.</p> <p><b>4</b> In what you give us, Lord, to do,<br/>together or alone,<br/>in old routines or ventures new,<br/>may we not cease to look to you,<br/>the cross you hung upon,<br/>all you endeavored done.</p> |
|--|--|

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

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**THE APOSTLES' CREED**

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

- ☑** 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**   God of grace,  
                  **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:** Richard Bock, Judy Boelts, Karen Buchholz, Don Burton, Mike Edris, Rodney Edwards, Erica Freeman, Philip Frye, Bud Gogetap, Pr. Stephen Griffith, Vernon and Mary Hilkemann, Richard Holzer, Renee Johnson, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, Marcie Lafleur, Theo Pignatore, Bobbie Powell, Doug Revord, Sheri Tipton, John Waterman, Dean Winther, Darlene White, Dan Wolf

**Other Prayers:** *Those serving in the military* – Brenden Frerck, Wyatt Johnson, 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

“My Lord, What a Morning”

arr. Mark Hayes  
Paul Rath, *soloist*

## THE TABLE IS PREPARED

(stand)

## OFFERTORY HYMN



Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take  
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of  
your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

## OFFERING PRAYER

- ☐ Blessed are you, O God,
- ☒ Sovereign of the universe. You offer us new beginnings and guide us on our journey. Lead us to your table, nourish us with this heavenly food, and prepare us to carry your love to a hungry world, in the name of Christ our light. Amen.

## HOLY COMMUNION

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.

## PREFACE FOR EPIPHANY

**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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. And so, with all the choirs of angels, 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-er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry. 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

...be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

## 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** Come to God's table. There is a place for you

**C** and enough for all.

## AGNUS DEI



- 1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

(sit)

## 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.*

## HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

*"In the Singing"*

**ELW 466**

**1 In the singing, in the silence,  
in the hands expectant, open,  
in the blessing, in the breaking,  
in your presence at this table,**

**2 In the question, in the answer,  
in the moment of acceptance,  
in the heart's cry, in the healing,  
in the circle of your people, *Refrain***

*Refrain*

**Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,  
be the wine of grace;  
Jesus, Christ, Jesus Christ,  
be the bread of peace.**

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931  
Text © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.  
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**1    "Will you come and follow me  
if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know  
and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown,  
will you let my name be known,  
will you let my life be grown  
in you and you in me?"**

**2    "Will you leave yourself behind  
if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind  
and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare,  
should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer pray'r  
in you and you in me?"**

**3    "Will you let the blinded see  
if I but call your name?  
Will you set the pris'ners free  
and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean,  
and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean  
in you and you in me?"**

**4    "Will you love the you you hide  
if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside  
and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found  
to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound  
in you and you in me?"**

**5    Lord, your summons echoes true  
when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you  
and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go  
where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow  
in you and you in me.**

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949  
Text © 1987 Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.  
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**1 In Christ called to baptize,  
we witness to grace  
and gather a people  
from each land and race.  
In deep, flowing waters,  
we share in Christ's death,  
then, rising to new life,  
give thanks with each breath.**

**2 In Christ called to banquet,  
one table we share,  
a haven of welcome,  
a circle of care.  
Although we are many,  
we share in one bread.  
One cup of thanksgiving  
proclaims Christ, our head.**

**3 In Christ called to witness,by  
grace we will preach  
the life-giving gospel;  
God's love we will teach.  
By grace may our living  
give proof to our praise  
in costly compassion  
reflecting Christ's ways.**

**4 Unite us, anoint us,  
O Spirit of love,  
for you are within us,  
around us, above.  
Equip us for service  
with gifts you bestow.  
In Christ is our calling.  
In Christ may we grow.**

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Text © 1995 Pilgrim Press. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*(stand)*

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

- ☞ We give you thanks, gracious God,  
☞ for we have feasted on the abundance of your house. Send us to bring good news and  
to proclaim your favor to all, strengthened with the richness of your grace in your  
Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## SENDING

### DISMISSAL OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

### BLESSING

- ☞ God, who leads you in pathways of righteousness, who rejoices over you, and who calls you by name, ✠ bless your going out and your coming in, today and forever.

### THREE-FOLD AMEN

### RECESSIONAL HYMN

*“This Little Light of Mine”*

**ELW 677**

- 1 This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**
- 2 Ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
ev'rywhere I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**
- 3 Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'-a let it shine,  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

Text: African American spiritual

### DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go with Christ into a weary world. Share the good news.  
☞ Thanks be to God.

### POSTLUDE

Mark Jones, *organist*



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### KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Stephen Griffith	Transition Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate 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**

**February 5 & 6, 2022**

*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. Activity bags, children's bibles, and bulletins are available, as well as a 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 attendance 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 Joyce E. Hahn; given by Tom Holcombe in memory of wife, Jean Holcombe

### **Children's Choir**

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

Barb Carlsen is leading the singers during the 9:00 AM sermon. Those interested in participating in choir will come forward for the Children's blessing and then go to the upstairs choir room for practice before returning for Communion.

### **Adult Forum**

#### **Sunday, 10:10**

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for coffee and fellowship. This week we will get a preview of the 2022 Budget

### **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**—Exploring a Spiritual Practice –

## Today at Kountze, *continued*

Zentangle Art Form and current events discussion  
Contact Pastor Shari (402-341-7761 or shari@kmlchurch.org) if you have questions.

### Refugee Resettlement Task Force Update

THANK YOU to all who donated furniture, household items, and grocery gift cards for the refugee family. We now have everything to set up the apartment and are waiting for LFS to assign us a family. Volunteers are still needed to help move

furniture! Once our family is assigned and LFS finds the apartment, we will only have a day or two to get everything moved from storage to the apartment. The crew who has been picking up the furniture is just about worn out: we need reinforcements for this last step! Please call Jerry Fisher on 402-981-5765 to let him know if you have a truck or a strong back- This is an excellent opportunity to get high schoolers and young adults involved. Thank you for helping answer the call to provide hospitality to

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## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### February 6 Sunday

Epiphany 5  
Homebound Communion  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6th gr)  
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)  
10:10 AM Adult Forum

### February 7 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

### February 8 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting  
10:00 AM Lutheran Women of Omaha

### February 9 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group  
12:15 PM Worship  
5:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese Manor  
6:00 PM Executive Committee  
6:00 PM Confirmation Supper  
6:30 PM Confirmation Class

### February 10 Thursday

Council Reports Due  
9:30 AM WELCA Board  
11:30 AM Property Committee  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### February 11 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry  
6:00 PM Project Linus Event

### February 12 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

### February 13 Sunday

Epiphany 6  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6th gr)  
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)  
10:10 AM Adult Forum—Congregational Meeting  
12:15 PM Book Group

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## Sunday School Talking Points

In today's lesson, we will learn the Parable of the Great Pearl, found in Matthew 13. This lesson illustrates the value of the Kingdom of Heaven.

In the Godly Play curriculum, each lesson is ended with "I Wonder" questions. These questions are important, not as a quiz to see who was listening the best or who understood the lesson the most, rather they are a way for the students to reflect on what spoke to them in the story. They are open ended questions, have no right or wrong answers, and the answers reflect the student's interest.

Try some "I Wonder" questions with your children today.

- I wonder if the person was happy with the Great Pearl?
- I wonder what the merchant is going to do now?
- I wonder why the seller was willing to give up something so precious?
- I wonder if the seller was happy with all his things?
- I wonder if the seller has a name?
- I wonder if the merchant has a name?
- I wonder who has the most now, the seller or the merchant?
- Now, I wonder what the Great Pearl could really be? I wonder what could be so precious that a person would exchange everything for it?

### Communion Kits

If you are a Eucharistic Minister and have a communion kit at home, please bring it back so it can be restocked. Also, if you are a Eucharistic Minister but don't have anyone to take communion to but would like to, please let the church office know. We have several homebound members that would like to have communion brought to them. If you're interested in being a Eucharistic Minister and would like more information, please call the church office. Thanks.

### Free at-home Covid-19 Tests

Every home in the U.S. is eligible to order 4 free at-home COVID-19 tests. The tests are completely free. Orders will usually ship in 7-12 days. If you don't have access to a computer, you can order tests via a hotline at 1-800-232-0233.

### Simply Giving

Just a reminder - if you give your offering automatically through Simply Giving, please remember if there are any changes to be made, you need to indicate this change to the office/make the changes yourself online, or the withdrawals will continue as they are currently set up. **If you would like more info. on Simply Giving**, you can pick up a form at the Welcome Desk or call the office.

### Kountze Food Pantry

Thank-you for all the hats, scarves and socks for the Pantry guests. We are still in need of adult men's gloves. We are also collecting toilet tissue. Our biggest need is for volunteers! Several key helpers will be flying south for the winter and we could really use your help!

### 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>

### Camp Carol Joy Holling

You can still register for Camp this summer. Go to <https://www.caroljoyholling.org>. Kountze camp week will take place June 19 - 24, 2022. Get to know your friends from Kountze while having a great time at bible camp. A pastor might even stop by to see what fun activities you are participating in during the week. We hope you will join in this great opportunity! (If that week will not work, we encourage you to attend anytime you are free this summer. There are First-Time Camper Discounts of \$100.00)

### Service Project for the Youth of Kountze Project Linus Event

**Postponed until Friday, February 11  
6:00 PM**

This charity gives children with severe illnesses or trauma a security blanket. We will be meeting at the church Fellowship Hall. A chili and hot dog dinner will be provided. In addition to needing volunteers to make tie blankets, we need donations of pre-washed fleece or cotton material. Please sign up for this event by calling the church office at 402-341-7761 so that we have enough food and materials on hand. Contact Kristin Boe at [Kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:Kristin@kmlchurch.org) with any questions.

Join us on February 25 in preparing meals for the YES House located in our community at 26<sup>th</sup> and Harney. Watch the bulletin and e-news for more information.

### Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church Congregational Meeting Sunday, February 13, 2022 10:10 AM in the Fellowship Hall

Annual Reports can be picked up during Worship and Forum today.

Join Adult Forum with Treasurer Tim Backora as he leads a review of the budget.



### Attendance & Giving

**Saturday:** 24

**Sunday:** 9:00: 104 11:00: 53

**Wednesday:** 12:15: 9 **Confirmation:** 13

**Total:** 190

**Streaming:** 92

**Cox Cable:** 230

**Pantry Guests Served:** 1302 (inc. 307 children)

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 24

**Offering:**

\$26,636.00 (Regular)      \$5,395.54 (Specials)

\$8,042.00 (Debt Reduction)

*Give thanks for God's love and faithfulness.*

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

Sunday	Luke 5:1-11	Jesus calls the first disciples
Monday	Isaiah 6:1-13	The call of Isaiah
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	The call of Paul
Wednesday	Psalm 36	Human sin and God's goodness
Thursday	2 Thessalonians 3:1-5	Request for prayer
Friday	Deuteronomy 7:6-11	The Lord's chosen people
Saturday	Psalm 138	Praise the Lord with all your heart
Sunday	Luke 6:17-26	Sermon on the plain



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*I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness; for you have exalted your name and your word above everything. Psalm 138:2 (NRSV)*

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

Almighty God, help us to see your power at work in the world and in our lives that all people may know your love through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

### **Mealttime Prayer:**

Be present at our table, Lord; be here and everywhere adored. These mercies bless and grant that we, may strengthen for thy service be. Amen.

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

May the Lord bless you with steadfast love that endures forever.

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

- What is something you wish you could do better?
- How can God use your imperfections to care for others?

*Read:* Psalm 138.

The divine backdrop for the call of Peter, James, and John is seen in Psalm 138. God's will, God's power, will not be overcome. God's purpose is full of steadfast love and faithfulness; it is full of protection that delivers us from the wrath of enemies. Peter says, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" (Luke 5:8) and sees the unholiness of his own life. God intends protection from evil and a divine power that will have its way. God watches over us in our lowliness, our humiliation, and protects us with a loving purpose for our lives. Peter sees in his life unholiness. Jesus, walking in the Spirit of God sees a soul, a person with a holy purpose. Peter sees only forsakenness, someone who should be abandoned. However, God in Jesus will fulfill a purpose, a purpose where Peter, James and John catch people into the net of God's love.

*Discuss:* How might God be using you to catch people in the net of God's love?

**Pray: Faithful God, help us to see beyond our weaknesses to a life you want for us, a life of love that reaches out to others in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how might God be using your life to reach out and care for others?

In Luke 5:1-11, Simon fished all night and caught nothing. Jesus told him to put his nets into the deep water. When he did, the nets filled with so many fish that they began to break. On that day, Jesus showed how very real God's blessings and generosity are. Showing God's love to others is part of the Christian way of life. Make a list of ways you show God's love to others. What will you choose from your list to do this week?

**Pray: Dear God, you filled nets with fish to overflowing. Fill us with a desire to bestow your love and generosity on others, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1  
1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26