

# 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  
402-341-7761  
[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

July 10, 2022

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

FIFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



*To love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, strength, and mind is to reflect God's mercy in responding to one's neighbor. That mercy found its most profound expression in the "gospel that has come to you"—namely the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. That gospel mercy comes to us again today: at the font, at the table, and from the pulpit. It is very near to you.*

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

*“Prelude on Saint Catherine’s”*  
*“Prelude on Melita”*  
*“Ode to Our Country”*

by Gordon Young  
by Roger Wilson  
by Randolph Johnston  
Bruce Nissen, *organ*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(stand)*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, whose steadfast love endures forever.

**C** Amen.

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** Merciful God,

**C** we confess that we have not followed your path  
but have chosen our own way.

Instead of putting others before ourselves,  
we long to take the best seats at the table.

When met by those in need,  
we have too often passed by on the other side.

Set us again on the path of life.

Save us from ourselves  
and free us to love our neighbors. Amen.

**P** Hear the good news!

God does not deal with us according to our sins  
but delights in granting pardon and mercy.

In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

You are free to love as God loves.

**C** Amen.

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*“O God of Mercy, God of Light”*

**ELW 714 vs. 1, 3-5**

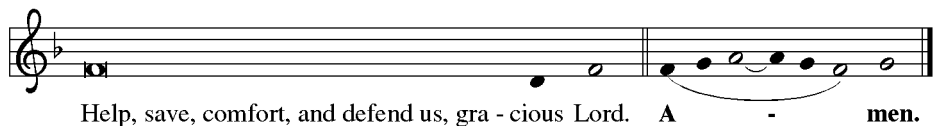
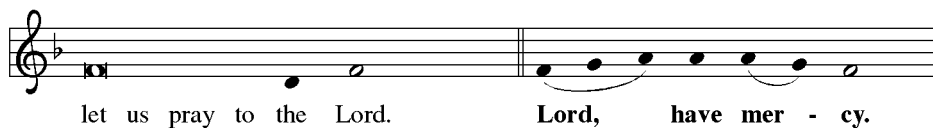
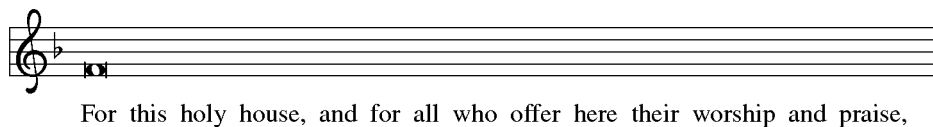
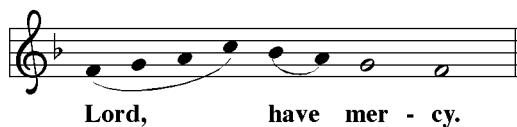
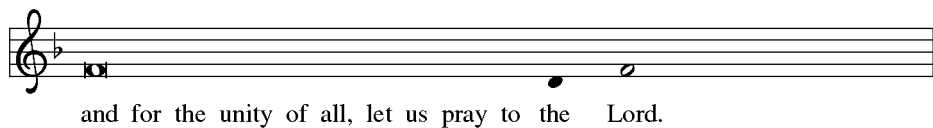
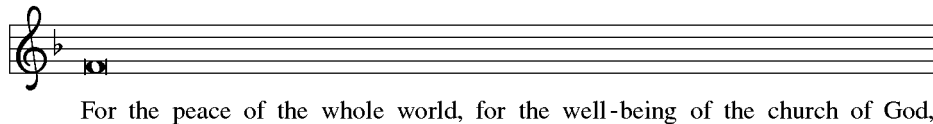
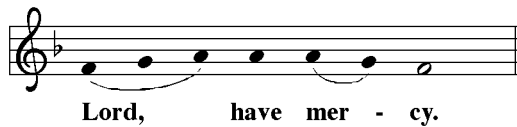
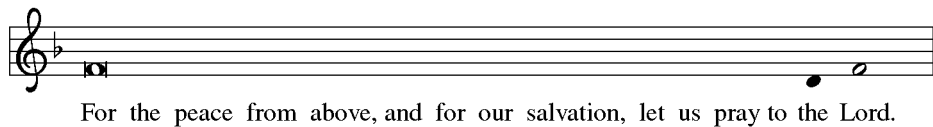
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|--|---|
| <p><b>1</b> O God of mercy, God of light,<br/>in love and mercy infinite,<br/>teach us, as ever in your sight,<br/>to live our lives in you.</p> <p><b>3</b> Teach us the lesson Jesus taught:<br/>to feel for those his blood has bought,<br/>that ev'ry deed and word and thought<br/>may work a work for you.</p> | <p><b>4</b> For all are kindred, far and wide,<br/>since Jesus Christ for all has died;<br/>grant us the will, and grace provide,<br/>to love them all in you.</p> <p><b>5</b> In sickness, sorrow, want, or care,<br/>may we each other's burdens share;<br/>may we, where help is needed, there<br/>give help as though to you.</p> |
|--|---|

Text: Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, 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



# HYMN OF PRAISE



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



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** O Lord God,

**C** your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## WORD

(sit)

### FIRST READING

**Deuteronomy 30:9-14**

*Moses calls the people who are about to enter the promised land to renew the covenant God made with their ancestors. Through this covenant God gives life and asks for obedience. God's commandment is neither burdensome nor too far off, but dwells in the people's hearts.*

**T**he Lord your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the Lord will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, <sup>10</sup>when you obey the Lord your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

<sup>11</sup>Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. <sup>12</sup>It is not in heaven, that you should say, "Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" <sup>13</sup>Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" <sup>14</sup>No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

**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**

**Colossians 1:1-14**

*The letter to the Colossians was written to warn its readers of various false teachings. The first part of the letter is an expression of thanks for the faith, hope, and love that mark this community, including a prayer for strength and courage.*

**P**aul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,  
<sup>2</sup>To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

<sup>3</sup>In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>4</sup>for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, <sup>5</sup>because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel <sup>6</sup>that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. <sup>7</sup>This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, <sup>8</sup>and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

<sup>9</sup>For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup>so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. <sup>11</sup>May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup>He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

(stand)

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

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

## HOLY GOSPEL

**Luke 10:25-37**

*Jesus is challenged to explain what is involved in obeying the greatest commandment. He tells a parable rich in surprises: those expected to show pity display hard hearts while the lowly give and receive unexpected and lavish mercy.*

**J**ust then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>26</sup>He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” <sup>27</sup>He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>28</sup>And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

<sup>29</sup>But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” <sup>30</sup>Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup>Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup>So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup>But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. <sup>34</sup>He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. <sup>35</sup>The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ <sup>36</sup>Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” <sup>37</sup>He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**G** 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 return to their seat and use the Spark Bible and/or activity bags during the regular sermon.*

## **SERMON**

*Pastor Duminy*

(stand)

## **HYMN OF THE DAY**

*“Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service”*

**ELW 712**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1 Lord, whose love in humble service<br/>bore the weight of human need,<br/>who upon the cross, forsaken,<br/>worked your mercy's perfect deed:<br/>we, your servants, bring the worship<br/>not of voice alone, but heart;<br/>consecrating to your purpose<br/>ev'ry gift which you impart.</b></p> <p><b>2 Still your children wander homeless;<br/>still the hungry cry for bread;<br/>still the captives long for freedom;<br/>still in grief we mourn our dead.<br/>As you, Lord, in deep compassion<br/>healed the sick and freed the soul,<br/>by your Spirit send your power<br/>to our world to make it whole.</b></p> | <p><b>3 As we worship, grant us vision,<br/>till your love's revealing light<br/>in its height and depth and greatness<br/>dawns upon our quickened sight,<br/>making known the needs and burdens<br/>your compassion bids us bear,<br/>stirring us to ardent service,<br/>your abundant life to share.</b></p> <p><b>4 Called by worship to your service,<br/>forth in your dear name we go,<br/>to the child, the youth, the aged,<br/>love in living deeds to show;<br/>hope and health, good will and comfort,<br/>counsel, aid and peace we give,<br/>that your servants, Lord, in freedom<br/>may your mercy know and live.</b></p> |
|--|---|

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984  
Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

- 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.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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)*

**Sympathy:** to the family and friends of Mitch Anderson, brother of Dean Anderson

**Illness:** Patty Baker, Richard Bock, Don Burton, Myrna Carter, Martha Eckman, Mike Edris, Rodney Edwards, Philip Frye, Susie Henry, Richard Holzer, Joan Jacobson-Trotter, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, Chris Meyer, Jane Meyer, Lara McCormick, Pratap Pothuloori, family of Paul and Carol Carlson, Paul Rath, Stephanie Stephens, John Waterman, Darlene White, Dorothy Yeshnowski

**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; Katie Larson, Columbia; Rev. Robert and Kathy Moore, Wittenburg Center, Germany; and Dan & Ginny Rath, international translators; our sister congregation, the American Church in Berlin, as they assist refugees from the war in Ukraine

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

## THE PEACE IS SHARED

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

## THE PEACE IS SHARED

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

# MEAL

(sit)

## THE OFFERING IS RECEIVED

*We glorify God in our giving. Our offering is an act of worship that makes the ministries of this church possible. We encourage everyone to give. 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 or place your offering in the plates that are located at the entrances to the Sanctuary. For those of you watching through our media outlets, if you are able, please mail in your offering or donate online. Thank you!*



## THE TABLE IS PREPARED

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

*“It is Well With My Soul”*

Horatio Spafford & Philip Bliss

Rahn Johnson, *trombone*

(stand)

### OFFERTORY HYMN

*“For the Fruit of All Creation”*

**ELW 679 vs. 1-2**



1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.  
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.  
In the help we give our neigh-bor, God's will is done.



For the plow-ing, sow-ing, reap-ing, si-lent growth while we are sleep-ing,  
In our world-wide task of car-ing for the hun-gry and de-spair-ing,



fu-ture needs in earth's safe-keep-ing, thanks be to God.  
in the har-vests we are shar-ing, God's will is done.

## OFFERING PRAYER

**P** God of abundance:

**C** you have set before us a plentiful harvest. As we feast on your goodness, strengthen us to labor in your field, and equip us to bear fruit for the good of all, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

- 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 SUNDAYS IN PENTECOST

### SANCTUS

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.

### EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P** Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Creator: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.  
.  
.  
.  
Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor is your, almighty God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- 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.

## AGNUS DEI

- ☞ Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
- Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
- Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- ☞ Come to the banquet.
- ☞ In Christ's presence there is fullness of joy.

(sit)

## 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 who 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. The form of distribution is intinction: you will receive the consecrated bread and then you may dip the bread into the wine. Gluten free bread is available upon request.*

## HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant"

ELW 659

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>1 Will you let me be your servant,<br/>let me be as Christ to you?<br/>Pray that I may have the grace to<br/>let you be my servant, too.</b></p> <p><b>2 We are pilgrims on a journey,<br/>we are trav'lers on the road;<br/>we are here to help each other<br/>walk the mile and bear the load.</b></p> | <p><b>3 I will hold the Christ-light for you<br/>in the nighttime of your fear;<br/>I will hold my hand out to you,<br/>speak the peace you long to hear.</b></p> <p><b>4 I will weep when you are weeping;<br/>when you laugh I'll laugh with you.<br/>I will share your joy and sorrow<br/>till we've seen this journey through.</b></p> |
| <p><b>5 Will you let me be your servant,<br/>let me be as Christ to you?<br/>Pray that I may have the grace to<br/>let you be my servant, too.</b></p>   |  |

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953

Text © 1977 Scripture In Song (c/o Integrity's Hosanna Music)  
/ASCAP, c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>1 O Christ, your heart, compassionate,<br/>bore ev'ry human pain.<br/>Its beating was the pulse of God;<br/>its breadth, God's vast domain.<br/>The heart of God, the heart of Christ<br/>combined in perfect rhyme<br/>to write God's love in human deeds,<br/>eternity in time.</b></p> <p><b>2 As once you welcomed those cast down<br/>and healed the sick, the blind,<br/>so may all bruised and broken lives<br/>through us your help still find.<br/>Lord, join our hearts with those who weep<br/>that none may weep alone,<br/>and help us bear another's pain<br/>as though it were our own.</b></p> | <p><b>3 O Christ, create new hearts in us<br/>that beat in time with yours,<br/>that, joined by faith with your great heart,<br/>become love's open doors.<br/>We are your body, risen Christ;<br/>our hearts, our hands we yield<br/>that through our life and ministry<br/>your love may be revealed.</b></p> <p><b>4 O Love that made the distant stars,<br/>yet marks the sparrow's fall,<br/>whose arms stretched wide upon a cross<br/>embrace and bear us all:<br/>come, make your church a servant church<br/>that walks your servant ways,<br/>whose deeds of love rise up to you,<br/>a sacrifice of praise!</b></p> |
|--|--|

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., b. 1923

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*(stand)*

## **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**[P]** Life-giving God,

**[C]** **through this meal you have bandaged our wounds and fed us with your mercy. Now send us forth to live for others, both friend and stranger, that all may come to know your love. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

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## SENDING

### BLESSING

- ☞ The God of peace, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you, comfort you, and show you the path of life this day and always.

### THREE-FOLD AMEN

### RECESSIONAL HYMN

*“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”*

ELW 836

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1 Joyful, joyful we adore thee,<br/>God of glory, Lord of love!<br/>Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee,<br/>praising thee, their sun above.<br/>Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,<br/>drive the gloom of doubt away.<br/>Giver of immortal gladness,<br/>fill us with the light of day.</b></p> | <p><b>2 All thy works with joy surround thee,<br/>earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,<br/>stars and angels sing around thee,<br/>center of unbroken praise.<br/>Field and forest, vale and mountain,<br/>flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,<br/>chanting bird, and flowing fountain<br/>call us to rejoice in thee.</b></p> |
| <p><b>3 Thou art giving and forgiving,<br/>ever blessing, ever blest,<br/>wellspring of the joy of living,<br/>ocean-depth of happy rest!<br/>Thou our Father, Christ our brother,<br/>all who live in love are thine;<br/>teach us how to love each other,<br/>lift us to the joy divine!</b></p>          |   |

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1922

### DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace. Love your neighbor.  
☞ Thanks be to God.

### POSTLUDE

*“Thanks Be to Thee”*

by G.F. Handel  
Bruce Nissen, *organ*

✠      ✠      ✠

**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	Janitorial Staff
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Susann Henry	Food Pantry Director



**KOUNTZE**  
Memorial Lutheran Church

**2650 Farnam Street  
402-341-7761**

**Omaha, NE 68131  
www.kmlchurch.org**

**July 9 & 10, 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. Our form of distribution is Intinction.

**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**

**Holy Play**

**Through August 28**

**10:00 – 11:00 AM**

All youth are invited to join in Summer Holy Play from 10 to 11 AM each Sunday morning through August 28. We will meet in the Link/Green Space unless otherwise noted. Different activities will be offered each Sunday with treats.

**Adult Forum**

**Fellowship Hall**

**10:10 AM**

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This Sunday**—Intro to the Gospel of Luke

**This Week at Kountze**

**July 10 Sunday**

Pentecost 5  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
10:10 AM Adult Forum—Intro to the Gospel of Luke  
1010 AM Holy Play  
10:10 AM Scholarship Committee (Fellowship Lounge)  
12:15 PM Book Group

**July 11 Monday**

10:00 AM Pantry

**July 12 Tuesday**

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

**July 13 Wednesday**

9:00 AM Sewing Group  
11:00 AM Devotions @ deFreese Manor  
12:15 PM Worship  
6:00 PM Executive Committee

**July 14 Thursday**

Council Reports Due  
11:30 AM Property Committee  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic  
6:00 PM Christian Education Committee

**July 15 Friday**

Good News Deadline  
5:00 PM Pantry

**July 16 Saturday**

5:00 PM Worship

**July 17 Sunday**

Pentecost 6  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship  
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)  
10:10 AM Adult Forum  
1010 AM Holy Play

**For Your Calendar/News & Notes**

**New Critical Support Needed for the Refugee Family**

The Bowari family needs your help: Guldin still has no transportation to work. We have learned of several other congregations who have donated a car to their sponsored families. The Kountze Refugee Resettlement Task Force believes this is the next necessary step. Do you have a good used car that you are willing to donate to this family? Guldin knows how to drive, he just needs to learn the laws here. He drove for the US Army in Afghanistan and also drove construction vehicles before that. He has been studying for the written test and is doing quite well. The next step is helping him get a car. If you or anyone you know has a good used car that you would be able to donate, please call Jonna Holland at 402-669-4575. Please consider how you can help them overcome the obstacle of transportation so that they can become independent.

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Men’s Lunch  
Thursday, July 21  
11:30 AM  
Please RSVP by Tuesday, July 19  
Cost: \$10

Carol Joy Holling 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Quilt Auction  
Saturday, July 30, 2022  
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Carol Joy Holling Camp  
Kountze always donates several quilts to the auction. Quilts in the past have auctioned for anywhere between \$25 and \$20,000. The day promises good food, great fun, and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of camp. The auction and lunch will be held rain or shine. Bring your friends and families!

Kountze Food Pantry  
The Kountze Food Pantry is requesting donations of hygiene products for our guests. We are in need of toothbrushes and toothpaste, shampoo and conditioner, razors and shave cream, bar soap and/or body wash and deodorant. Toilet tissue is another high-demand item. Please leave your donations in the box in Fellowship Hall. Thank you to all the willing hands doing God's work at the Food Pantry! Please continue to sign up in the Meeting Room A in Fellowship Hall, or at the following link:  
<https://form.jotform.com/200834787701155>

Being a good neighbor.

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

Sunday	Luke 10:25-37	The good Samaritan
Monday	Deuteronomy 30:9-14	Choose life, not death
Tuesday	Colossians 1:1-14	A prayer of thanks
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 10:24–11:1	Always honor God
Thursday	Hebrews 13:1-6	Service that pleases God
Friday	Romans 15:1-6	Please others, not yourselves
Saturday	Psalms 25:1-10	A prayer for guidance
Sunday	Luke 10:38-42	Jesus visits Martha and Mary



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“Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He [The lawyer] said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.” **Luke 10:36-37 (NRSV)**

**A Prayer for the Week:**  
God of steadfast love, help us to welcome all people that we meet each day with kindness and mercy through Jesus our Lord. Amen.

**Mealtime Prayer:**  
With the fruit of the earth, you feed us, good Lord. With love and care you sustain us each day through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**A Blessing to Give:**  
May God rescue you from the power of darkness and bring you into the kingdom of God’s beloved Son, Jesus. (Colossians 1:13)

- Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:
- How would you describe a good neighbor?
  - Tell or think of a story of how you or someone you know has been a good neighbor.

*Read:* Luke 10:25-37.  
Understanding who my neighbor is can be an issue in today’s world. We often define who is an insider and who is an outsider, someone not needing or deserving of our care. Jesus turns that focus on its head. If you were in need, like the man robbed, beaten, and left for dead, whose help would you accept? Anyone’s help, of course, even someone you despised. It was a Samaritan who helped the man who was left for dead. In the Jewish world of Jesus’ day, a Samaritan was someone who was not a pure Jew but a mixture of nationalities brought in by foreign rulers. A Samaritan was also someone whose faith was not consistent with Jewish teachings. A Samaritan was despised yet used by Jesus to show who a neighbor is and what a real neighbor does.

*Discuss:* Who in your life would you describe as a good Samaritan and why?

*Pray:* **Merciful God, help me to see in others someone who I can serve and to whom I can turn to when I need help in daily life, for the sake of Jesus Christ, my Savior, Lord, and Neighbor. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you be a good neighbor?

Speaking through Moses, God told the people of Israel that the word was in their mouths and in their hearts so that they would obey it (Deuteronomy 30:14). Begin each day this week by reciting these words from Luke 10:27: **Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and love your neighbor as yourself.**

**NEXT WEEK’S READINGS:**  
Genesis 18:1-10a; Psalm 15  
Colossians 1:15-28; Luke 10:38-42

Attendance & Giving	
Saturday:	32
Sunday: 9:00:	81
11:00:	59
Wednesday: 12:15:	10
Total:	182
Streaming:	60
Cox Cable:	139
Pantry Guests Served:	247 (inc. 108 children)
Medical Clinic Guests Served:	25
Offering:	
\$10,554.99 (Regular)	\$1,803.83 (Specials)
\$516.27 (Debt Reduction)	