

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
Gretchen Olson Kopp, Vicar

2650 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68131-3616
402-341-7761
www.kmlchurch.org

October 02, 2022

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

2. The Blessing

Mark Jones, *organ*

*“The Lord bless thee, and keep thee: The Lord make his face shine upon thee, and be gracious unto thee;
The Lord lift up his countenance upon thee, and give thee peace.” Numbers 6:24-26
from “Biblical Sketches: Four Impressions from the Pentateuch”*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who is eager to forgive and who loves us beyond our days.

C Amen.

P Dear friends, together let us acknowledge our failure to love this world as Jesus does.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God of mercy and forgiveness,

C we confess that sin still has a hold on us.

We have harmed your good creation.

**We have failed to do justice, love kindness
and walk humbly with you.**

Turn us in a new direction.

Show us the path that leads to life.

**Be our refuge and strength on the journey,
through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend. Amen.**

P Beloved of God: your sins are forgiven ✠ and you are made whole.

God points us to Christ, who meets us on the road.

Journey now in God’s abiding love
through the power of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

"All Are Welcome"

ELW 641 vs. 1-3

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end
divisions:

Refrain

All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
Refrain

3 Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground
where peace and justice meet.
Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space;
as we share in Christ the feast that frees
us: *Refrain*

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638.

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APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C And also with you.

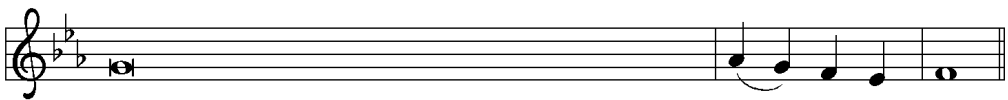
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



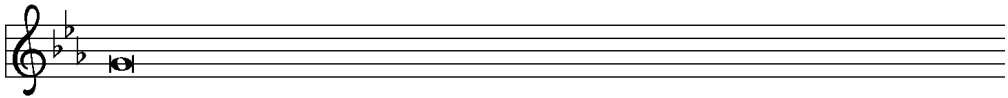
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



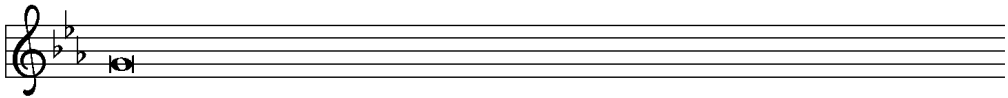
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.

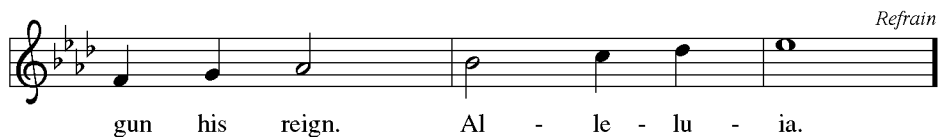
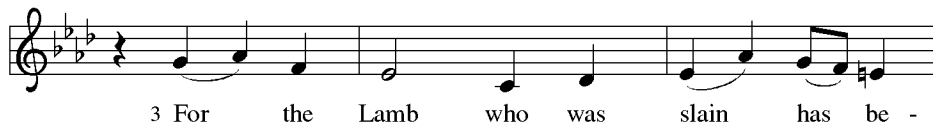
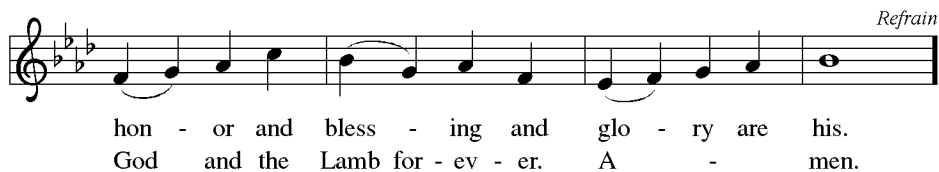
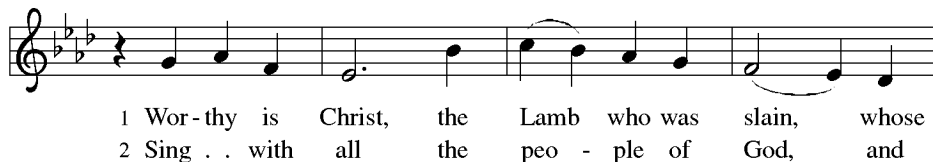
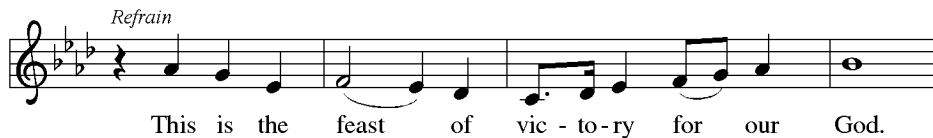


Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ Benevolent, merciful God:

☞ **When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the righteous will live by faith.

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

²O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save? ³Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. ⁴So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous—therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

^{2:1}I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. ²Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. ³For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. ⁴Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.

☞ The word of the Lord.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 37:1-9

(Choir/cantor sings lines in regular print, All may sing lines in **bold print**)



¹Do not be provoked by [|] evildoers;
do not be jealous of those [|] who do wrong.

²**For they shall soon wither [|] like the grass,**
and like the green grass [|] fade away.

³Put your trust in the LORD[|] and do good;
dwell in the land and [|] find safe pasture.

⁴**Take delight [|] in the LORD,**
who shall give you your [|] heart's desire.

⁵Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust ¹ in the LORD,
and see what ¹ God will do.

**⁶The LORD will make your vindication as clear ¹ as the light
and the justice of your case like the ¹ noonday sun.**

⁷Be still before the LORD and wait ¹ patiently.

Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in ¹ evil schemes.

**⁸Refrain from anger, leave ¹ rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads on- ¹ ly to evil.**

⁹For evildoers shall ¹ be cut off,

but those who hope in the LORD shall pos- ¹ sess the land.

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:1-14

This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; ⁷for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹²and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. ¹³Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. *Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 17:5-10

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.

The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

⁷“Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? ⁸Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN'S BLESSING 9:00 AM

Children (aged 3 years through 5th grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, they may either return to their seat and use the Spark Bible and/or activity bags during the regular sermon, or follow Ms. Boe upstairs for an activity in the Sunday School room, and Ms. Carlsen for Children's Choir.

SERMON

Pastor Griffith

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

ELW 759 vs. 1-3

**1 My faith looks up to thee,
thou Lamb of Calvary,
Savior divine!
Now hear me while I pray,
take all my guilt away,
oh, let me from this day
be wholly thine!**

**2 May thy rich grace impart
strength to my fainting heart,
my zeal inspire;
as thou hast died for me,
oh, may my love to thee
pure, warm, and changeless be,
a living fire!**

**3 While life's dark maze I tread
and griefs around me spread,
be thou my guide;
bid darkness turn to day,
wipe sorrow's tears away,
nor let me ever stray
from thee aside.**

Text: Ray Palmer, 1808-1887

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.**

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 Vernon Hilkemann; to the family and friends of Delmer Toebben, father of Jenni Toebben

Thanksgiving: for the marriage of Jeff Drietz and Tiffany Rocz (October 1, 2022)

Illness: Richard Bock, Jan Bowder, Don Burton, Myrna Carter, Shirley Dietrich, Mike Edris, Philip Frye, Marge Grabow, Susie Henry, Richard & Betty Holzer, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, Orville & Juliet Knapp, Chris Meyer, Jane Meyer, Lara McCormick, Donna Moessner, John Ray, Neal Von Seggern, Debra Woosley

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

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

“How Firm A Foundation”


arr. Dale Wood

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

“We Are an Offering”

ELW 692

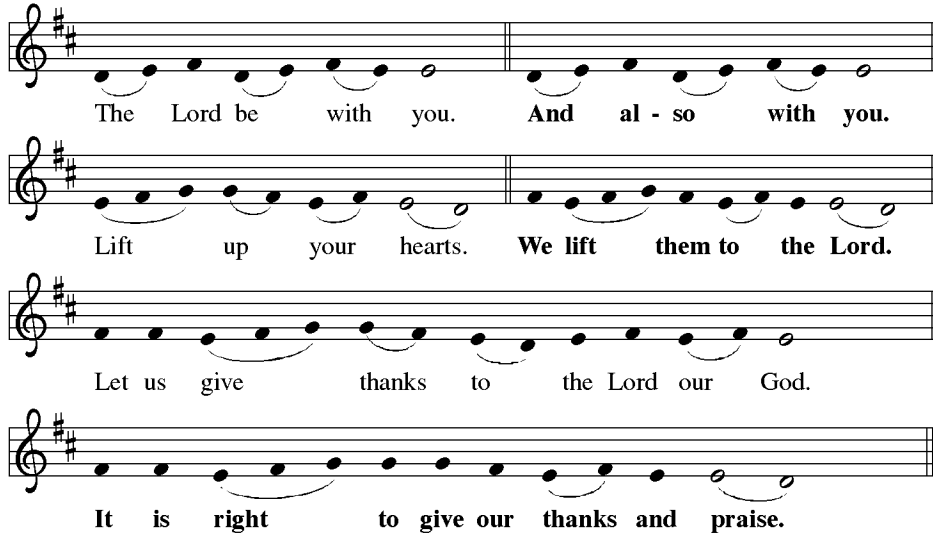


We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

OFFERING PRAYER

- P** Gracious God,
C in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

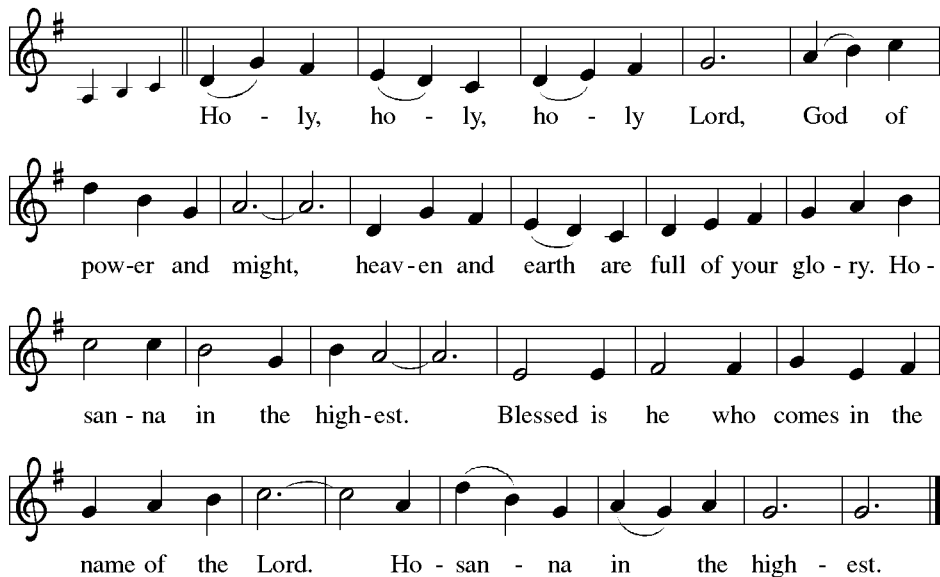
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

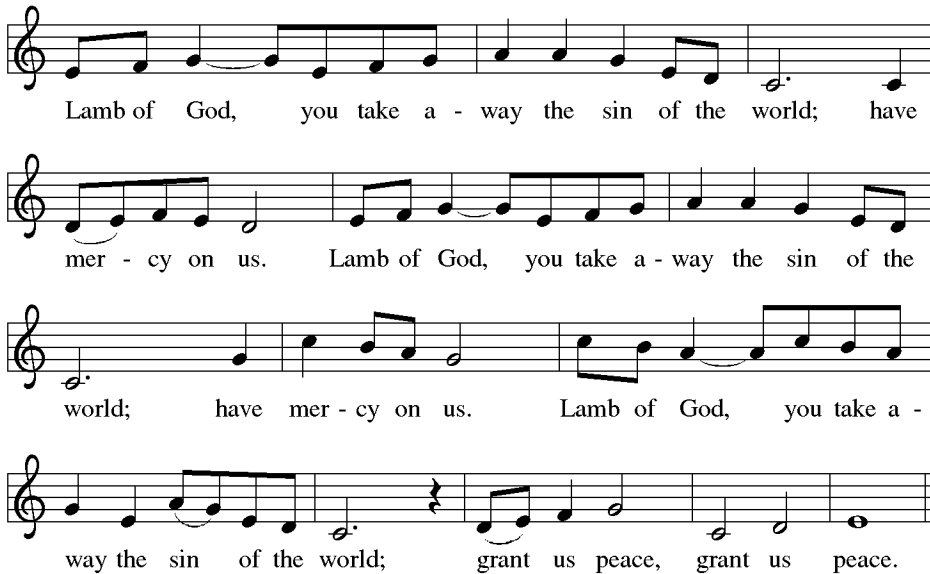
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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 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, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P** Christ invites you to this table.
- C** **Come, taste and see.**

(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

"Blessed Assurance"

ELW 638

**1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

**2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
angels descending bring from above
echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

Refrain

Refrain

**This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior, all the day long:
this is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long.**

**3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;
I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above,
filled with his goodness, lost in his love.**

Refrain

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820-1915

Refrain

**Eat this bread, drink this cup.
Taste and see the goodness of God.
Bread of life, cup of love,
we rejoice in your presence.**

**1 I will bless the Lord at all times,
praise with heart and voice;
in my God I glory forever:
listen and rejoice! *Refrain***

**2 Look upon the Lord, be radiant,
never turn away.
God will save in ev'ry affliction,
hear us when we pray. *Refrain***

**3 Angels fold their wings around us,
guard through good and ill.
Those who seek the Lord will lack
nothing;
taste, and have your fill. *Refrain***

**4 Saints of God, bow down and worship,
bless the holy name.
Rise to tell God's greatness forever,
wondrous deeds proclaim! *Refrain***

Text: Jeremy Young, b. 1948, refrain;
With One Voice, stanzas, based on Ps. 34
Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

(stand)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

☞ God of the abundant table,

**☞ you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your
grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus
Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

DISMISSAL OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

BLESSING

- ☞ God, who gives life to all things and frees us from despair, bless you with truth and peace.
And may the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, guide you always in faith, hope, and love.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

RECESSIONAL HYMN

“All Are Welcome”

ELW 641 vs. 4-5

**4 Let us build a house where hands will
reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:**

**5 Let us build a house where all are
named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and
claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to
rafter: *Refrain***

Refrain

**All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.**

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
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DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace, with Christ beside you.
☞ **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*



KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Stephen Griffith	Transition Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Gretchen Olson Kopp	Vicar
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 Slight	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

October 1 & 2, 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

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in honor of the wedding of Tiffany Rocz & Jeff Dietz; in memory of Elaine Drickey; in honor of Evelyn Drickey's birthday; in honor of Richard Bock's 85th birthday given by Patti Darren and family

Kountze Café

Sundays from 9:30—11:00 AM

Join us each Sunday for breakfast. The suggested donation is \$5 adults, \$2.50 children 12 and younger for the hot breakfast (this Sunday) and a free-will donation for the continental breakfast. Opportunities to serve are still available, so please contact Pr. Shari Duminy if you would like to help with breakfast. Thanks!

Children's Choir

Second Floor Music Room

9:15 AM (after the 9 AM Children's Blessing)

Grades K-5 - Choir

Grades 6-8 - Director's Assistants

The choir will rehearse immediately after the children's blessing at the 9:00 AM service (9:15 AM). If you have any questions, please contact Barb at 402-341-7761.

Sunday School

Sundays, 10:10 - 10:50 AM

Join us on Sundays on the 2nd 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).

Sunday School Focus This Week

The Flood and the Ark—*We will now move to the recreation after learning about creation in the previous week. In this lesson, we will learn about God's promise to Noah and to us.

Today at Kountze, *continued*

Youth Forum

Sundays, 10:10 AM

7th – 12th graders are invited to gather each Sunday between worship. **This week:** Bring Stories from the news that capture your attention. **Next week:** Sunday School Assistance: Join Pastor Shari and Ashley Sum in serving during Sunday School

Adult Forum

Fellowship Hall, 10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This week:** Organizing Committee for Kountze Commons **Next week:** Fellowship

This Week at Kountze Memorial

October 2 Sunday

Pentecost 17
Homebound Communion
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:30—11:00 AM Breakfast
10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6th gr)
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)
10:10 AM Adult Forum

October 3 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry
6:00 PM Bible Study

October 4 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

October 5 Wednesday

11:00 AM Bible Study
12:15 PM Worship
6:00 PM Confirmation Class
7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

October 6 Thursday

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

October 7 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

October 8 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship
6:00 PM Meet the Bowari Family Dinner

October 9 Sunday

Pentecost 18
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:30—11:00 AM Breakfast
10:10 AM Sunday School (2yr-6th gr)
10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)
10:10 AM Adult Forum
10:10 AM Baptism Seminar
12:15 PM Book Group
1:00—5:00 PM Pumpkin Patch

Nursery Coordinator

Join the staff at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church by becoming the Nursery Coordinator. Sunday morning and some evening hours are required. Childcare skills are required with a joy for being with newborns to 2-year-olds. The Job Description and Application can be viewed at: <https://files.constantcontact.com/8c919081201/5694d574-321a-414c-bdd1-78153e280ad7.png?rdr=true>
You can also contact Kristin Boe or Pastor Shari for more information.

Meet the Bowari Family

Dinner and Welcome Celebration

Saturday, October 8

6:00 PM

RSVP by Friday, September 30

Last chance to sign up for the celebration to meet the Bowari Family and enjoy an Afghan meal in the Kountze Fellowship Hall. Please RSVP by calling the church office by Friday, September 30 at the latest. This is an opportunity for you to meet the family we sponsored and two other Afghan families who have been assisting us as translators when needed. The dinner will be a true taste of delicious

Afghan food (which is not spicy). We need to know how many are coming in order to buy the groceries. We hope you can join us and allow the Bowari family to thank the congregation for all you donated and have done to welcome them. If you would like to help serve or learn to cook an Afghan meal, please text or call Jonna Holland 402-669-4575.

Baptism Seminar

Sunday, October 9

10:10 AM

If you are interested in having your child baptized and have not been through a Baptism Seminar before, be sure to join us. We will meet in the Nave. The purpose of the seminar is to introduce parents to the theology of baptism, walk through the baptismal liturgy, discuss scheduling for the baptism, and address any questions you might have. Please call the church office to register.

Lutheran Women Omaha

Tuesday, October 11

12:00 Noon

Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church

Visitors Welcome. For reservations & info, call Faith 402-734- 4629

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Pumpkin Patch **Sunday, October 9** **1:00 - 5:00 PM**

All members of Kountze are invited to the Bellevue Berry Farm for fun and fellowship. We will have a fire pit, hot dogs, chips, and s'mores provided. Admission to the farm is \$15 per person with children ages 2 and under are free. Please RSVP to the church office by Friday, October 7.

Explore! Day Retreat **Camp Carol Joy Holling** **Saturday, October 15, 2022** **9:00 AM - 3:30 PM** **Grades 1-6**

If your child is missing camp or has never been to camp, Explore! gives them the perfect opportunity to experience a day of adventure and faith-building. In addition to Bible study and worship, many favorite camp activities will be explored as we share in fun and fellowship. For more information or to register, go to <https://www.cjhcenter.org/explore>

Omaha Campus Ministries Evensong & Chili Cookoff **Sunday, October 16, 2022** **Lord of Love Lutheran Church** **10405 Fort St** **5:00 PM Chili Cookoff and Silent Auction** **6:30 PM Holden Evening Prayer Worship Service**

This is a fundraiser for Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry in Omaha. Festivities include a chili cookoff with cinnamon rolls, silent auction, Holden Evening Prayer worship. We're grateful to Jerry Fischer who will represent us in the chili cook-off. Come and join us for a fun evening with worship and good food! If you are willing to donate special items, a theme basket, or a stay at a vacation home for the silent auction, let Pastor Shari know your intention by Monday, October 10. If you can't attend but would like to make a donation, you can do that at www.nelcm.com
Facebook Event link: <https://fb.me/e/3z0lyuYYS>

Men's Lunch **Thursday, October 20** **11:30 AM** **Fellowship Lounge** **Suggested Donation is \$10.00**

Our October speaker is Ron A. Simkins, Ph.D. Ron is a Professor of Theology and Classical and Near Eastern Studies at Creighton University. Ron has led many Archeological digs to the Holy Land. He will share with us information on some of his work in this field. Please call the church office by Tuesday, October 18 to make your reservation or sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays. We hope you'll join us.

Women's "Lutherfest" Luncheon **Saturday, October 22 11:30 AM** **Presented by Kountze WELCA**

All women are welcome. Bring a friend. Please call the church office by Monday, October 17, to make your reservation or sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays.

First Communion Classes **Sundays, October 16 & 23** **12:15 PM (after 11 AM worship)**

If your child has shown curiosity in learning about Holy Communion, then you are invited to participate in this class. A light lunch will be served. First Communion will be held on Reformation Sunday, October 30, at the 9:00 AM service. There will be a reception in the Fellowship Hall following the service. Please let Kristin Boe know if you plan to attend, or have any questions, by emailing her at kristin@kmlchurch.org.

Bible Sunday **Sunday, October 23** **9:00 AM**

Each year, through generous donations, we are able to provide an age appropriate Bible for children ages 2 and 4, and those in grades 1, 3, 5, and 7. The Bibles will be distributed in the Bride's Room off the Narthex before the 9:00 AM service. The children will then process into the church at the beginning of the service, holding their Bibles. Those who do not receive a Bible this year, are welcome to join the procession and have a small treat to collect as well.

LYON Assembly J udghv#k 05# Q ryhp ehv#4 ; #33# **First Lutheran Church, Kearney, Nebraska** Frw# ; 8#bxh# | #R fwrehv#3#

Registration for this event is October 5. Join with youth from around the state to consider ways to lead. Please let Pr. Shari know if you would like to attend.

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 36
Sunday: 9:00: 138 11:00: 69
Wednesday: 12:15: 7
Total: 256
Streaming: 40
Cox Cable: Not available at time of printing
Pantry Guests Served: 1,020 (inc. 413 children)
Medical Clinic Guests Served: 23
Offering:
\$7,724.00 (Regular) \$2,985.34 (Specials)
\$1,237.00 (Debt Reduction)

The righteous live by faith.

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

Sunday	Luke 17:5-10	Faith the size of a mustard seed
Monday	Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4	The righteous live by faith
Tuesday	2 Timothy 1:1-14	Thanksgiving and encouragement
Wednesday	Romans 1:16-17	The power of the gospel
Thursday	Galatians 3:10-14	Faith is the only way
Friday	Hebrews 10:32-39	A call to persevere
Saturday	Psalms 37:1-9	Trust the Lord
Sunday	Luke 17:11-19	One leper gives thanks to God



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Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith. Habakkuk 2:4 (NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, give us the confidence to trust in your justice and loving presence now and always through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God of our future, we thank you for this food that gives us the strength we need to serve others in love as we place our trust in you through Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. (2 Timothy 1:13)

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

- What have you seen, read, or heard about that seems unfair and unjust?
- When something bad happens, where do you feel God is in that moment?

Read: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4.

The prophet, Habakkuk is complaining and wondering: why do the wicked prosper? This is an age-old question. Life is just not fair. Violence and destruction continue and the righteous look doomed. God's answer is *"the righteous live by their faith"* (Habakkuk 2:4b). This text is also quoted in Romans 1:17, Galatians 3:11, and Hebrews 10:38. These few words hit an important chord for New Testament faith. Faith in God involves the "long game," not routine experiences of victory after victory. History is full of moments where God's law and justice are overshadowed by the din of evil. God's answer to Habakkuk is now our answer received through faith in Christ. Hang in there with faith in God. God's way will win the day, even if it doesn't appear so now. The apostles in Luke 17:5 say to the Lord, *"Increase our faith!"* It's not about the quantity of faith we have. It's about the qualities of the God in whom we place our trust.

Discuss: When life seems unfair, how do you rely on your faith in God?

Pray: **God of the ages, when our confidence is low, when we see wickedness, remind us again and again that in Christ we can rely on your faithfulness now and always. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you support someone who feels they have been treated unfairly?

Jesus told a parable about the kingdom of God by comparing faith to a small mustard seed. (Luke 17:5-10). Cut an apple in half and count the seeds. Talk about what would happen if each seed became a tree and produced countless apples. Now compare your faith to a seed and name the ways you can bear fruit for the kingdom of God. Conclude by praying: **Lord God, help us to trust in you and bear fruit that gives glory to you and serves the work of your kingdom through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c; Psalm 111
2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19