

# 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](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

September 11, 2022

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



*The grumbling of the religious leaders in today's gospel is actually our holy hope: This Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. That our God seeks and saves the lost is not only a holy hope, it is our only hope. As the writer of 1 Timothy reminds us, "The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." Thanks be to God.*

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

### 1. The Creation

Mark Jones, *organ*

*“Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. And so on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested ...” Genesis 2:1-2  
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.

1 Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory  
fills my heart with joy and love,  
teach me ever to adore thee;  
may I still thy goodness prove.

2 Here I raise my Ebenezer:  
"Hither by thy help I've come";  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wand'ring from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.

3 Oh, to grace how great a debtor  
daily I'm constrained to be;  
let that grace now like a fetter  
bind my wand'ring heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;  
prone to leave the God I love.  
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it;  
seal it for thy courts above.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, 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.

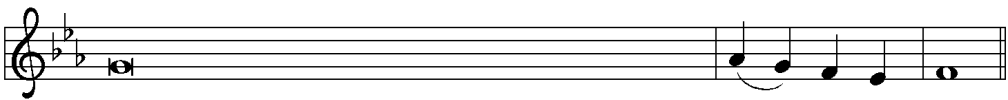
## KYRIE



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.



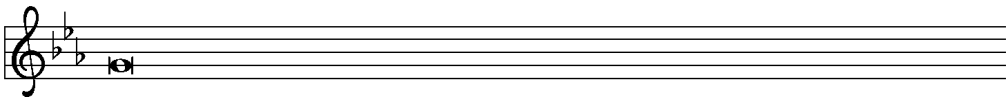
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.

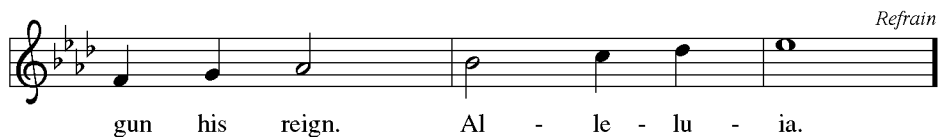
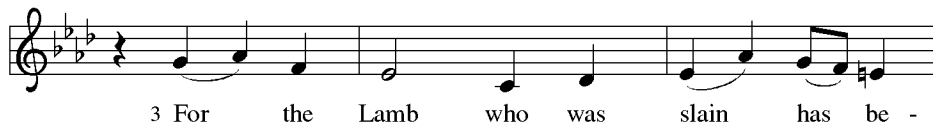
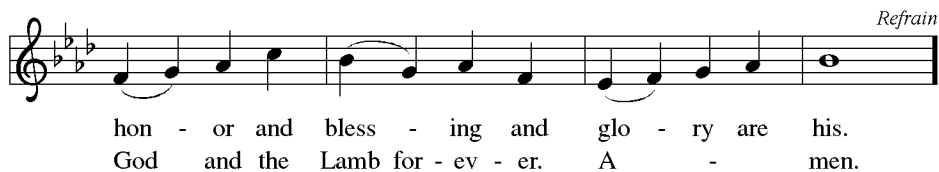
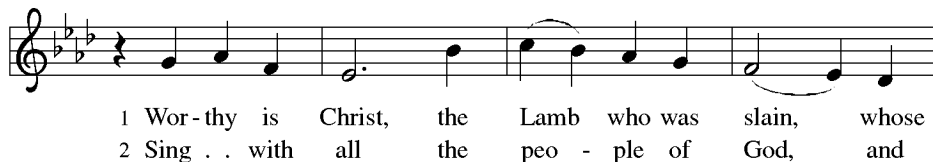
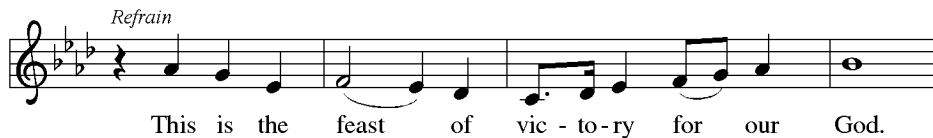


Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

# HYMN OF PRAISE



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** O God,

**C** overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## WORD

(sit)

### FIRST READING

**Exodus 32:7-14**

*While Moses is on Mount Sinai, the people grow restless and make a golden calf to worship. Today's reading shows Moses as the mediator between an angry God and a sinful people. Moses reminds God that the Israelites are God's own people, and boldly asks for mercy for them.*

**T**he Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; <sup>8</sup>they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!' " <sup>9</sup>The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. <sup>10</sup>Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

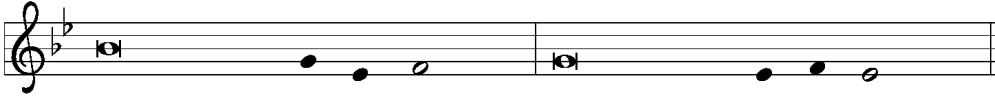
<sup>11</sup>But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? <sup>12</sup>Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. <sup>13</sup>Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.' " <sup>14</sup>And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 51:1-10

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



<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your <sup>1</sup>steadfast love;  
in your great compassion blot out <sup>1</sup>my offenses.

<sup>2</sup>**Wash me through and through <sup>1</sup>from my wickedness,  
and cleanse me <sup>1</sup>from my sin.**

<sup>3</sup>For I know <sup>1</sup>my offenses,  
and my sin is ev- <sup>1</sup>er before me.

<sup>4</sup>**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil <sup>1</sup>in your sight;  
so you are justified when you speak and right <sup>1</sup>in your judgment.**

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, I was born <sup>1</sup>steeped in wickedness,  
a sinner from my <sup>1</sup>mother's womb.

<sup>6</sup>**Indeed, you delight in truth <sup>1</sup>deep within me,  
and would have me know wisdom <sup>1</sup>deep within.**

<sup>7</sup>Remove my sins with hyssop, and I <sup>1</sup>shall be clean;  
wash me, and I shall be pur- <sup>1</sup>er than snow.

<sup>8</sup>**Let me hear <sup>1</sup>joy and gladness;  
that the body you have broken <sup>1</sup>may rejoice.**

<sup>9</sup>Hide your face <sup>1</sup>from my sins,  
and blot out <sup>1</sup>all my wickedness.

<sup>10</sup>**Create in me a clean <sup>1</sup>heart, O God,  
and renew a right spir- <sup>1</sup>it within me.**

## SECOND READING

## 1 Timothy 1:12-17

*The letters to Timothy and Titus are called the pastoral epistles because they contain advice especially intended for leaders in the church. Here the mercy shown to Paul, who once persecuted the church, is cited as evidence that even the most unworthy may become witnesses to the grace of God.*

**I** am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, <sup>13</sup>even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup>and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. <sup>16</sup>But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup>To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

**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 15:1-10**

*Jesus tells two stories that suggest a curious connection between the lost being found and sinners repenting. God takes the initiative to find sinners, each of whom is so precious to God that their recovery brings joy in heaven.*

**N**ow all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] <sup>2</sup>And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

<sup>3</sup>So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup>“Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup>When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup>And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.’ <sup>7</sup>Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance.

<sup>8</sup>“Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup>When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, ‘Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.’ <sup>10</sup>Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** 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 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.*

*Today we also invite all our Christian Education teachers and leaders to come forward, along with all confirmands and senior high youth.*

## PRAYER FOR COMMISSIONING

**Pastor:** God of Creation, you have gifted these men and women with teaching skills, creativity, and curiosity. We pray you would fill them with the power and compassion of your Holy Spirit. Fill them with energy and insight into your Word, the story of Your faithful heart.

**Leaders:** O God, you have not called us to be perfect, you have called us to be faithful. You have not called us to be all-knowing, you have called us to believe. We dedicate ourselves to the call and task of teaching. Grant us wisdom, patience and joy in our preparation and teaching of your Word.

**Cong.:** God of hope, guide each teacher as they study your Word. Strengthen the gifts you have given them, and energize their compassion, remind us to find ways to support and encourage them throughout the year. May we share in their joy and times of difficulty.

**ALL:** We commit ourselves, each to our part, in this joyful task. May your steadfast, faithful, covenant love guide all we do. Amen.

## SERMON

*Pastor Griffith*

(stand)

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*"When We Are Living"*

**ELW 639**

**1** When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus,  
and when we're dying, it is in the Lord.  
Both in our living and in our dying,  
we belong to God, we belong to God.

**2** 'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain,  
when sensing beauty or in love's embrace,  
whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing,  
we belong to God, we belong to God.

**3** Across this wide world, we shall always find  
those who are crying with no peace of mind;  
and when we help them, or when we feed them,  
we belong to God, we belong to God.

Text: st. 1, based on Romans 14:8; tr. Elise S. Eslinger, b. 1942  
st. 2-3, Roberto Escamilla, b. 1931; tr. George Lockwood, b. 1946

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

- P** God has made us God's 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 Evan Michael, infant son of Karen and Alex Hardy

**Illness:** Patty Baker, Richard Bock, Jan Bowder, Gene Buchholz, Don Burton, Myrna Carter, Shirley Dietrich, Mike Edris, Philip Frye, Susie Henry, Richard & Betty Holzer, Joan Jacobson-Trotter, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, Orville Knapp, Chris Meyer, Jane Meyer, Lara McCormick, Noelle Phelps, John Ray, Stephanie Stephens, Traci Stephens, Neal Von Seggern, Debra Woosley, 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:** *Seminarists*— Katie Larson, Giselle Loucks, Justin Perkins

## THE PEACE IS SHARED

- ☞ The peace of Christ be with you always.
- ☞ 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

“Amazing Grace”

arr. Jack Schrader

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(stand)

## OFFERTORY HYMN

*"We Are an Offering"*

ELW 692

The musical score is written on six staves of music. The lyrics are printed below the notes. The music is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The tempo is marked with a '7' (seven). The lyrics are: We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering. 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 offering, we are an offering.

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:

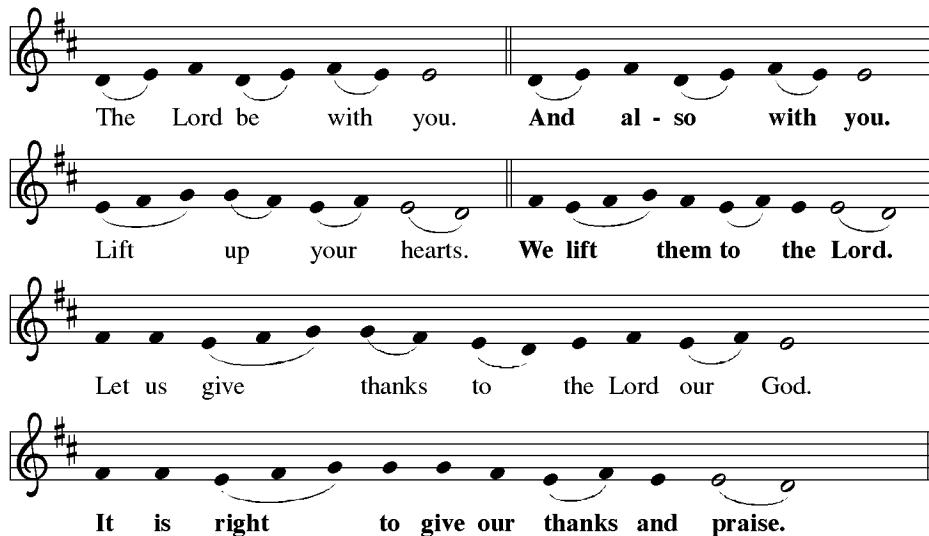
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

## OFFERING PRAYER

☐ Gracious God,

☑ 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.

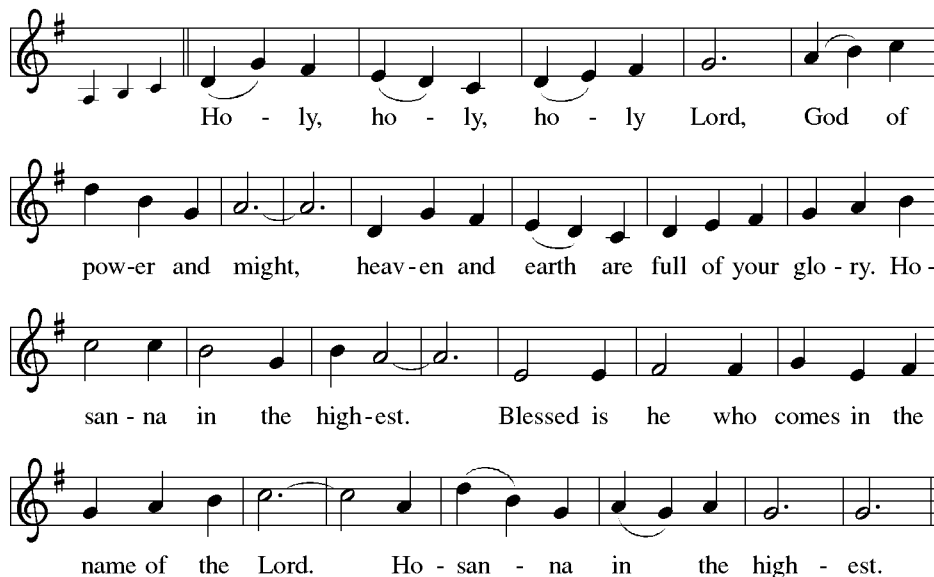
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has two measures, the second and third staves have two measures each, and the fourth staff has one measure. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures.

## 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.

The musical notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has two measures, the second and third staves have two measures each, and the fourth staff has one measure. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across measures.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

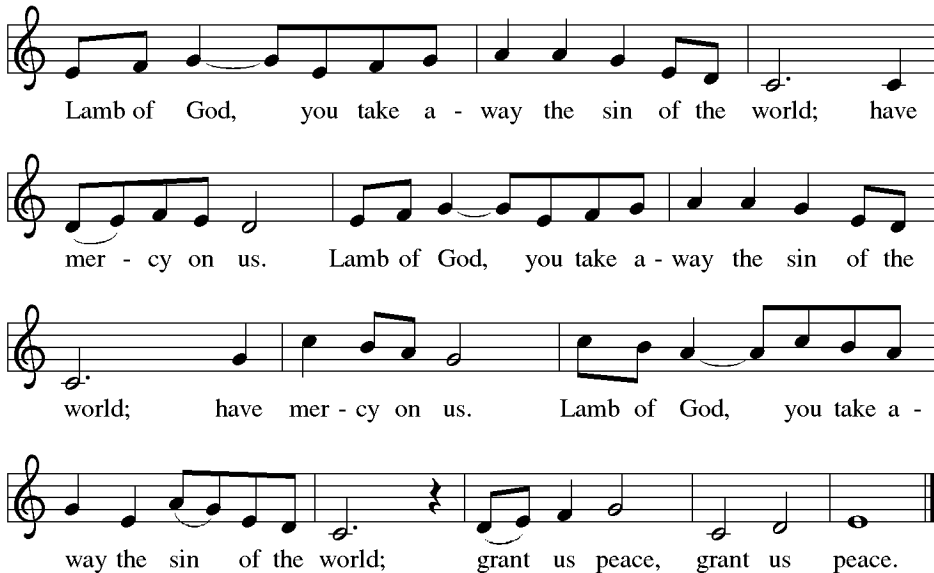
**P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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**

*“As the Grains of Wheat”*

**ELW 465**

*Refrain*

**As the grains of wheat once scattered on the hill  
were gathered into one to become our bread;  
so may all your people from all the ends of earth  
be gathered into one in you.**

- 1 As this cup of blessing is shared within our midst,  
may we share the presence of your love. *Refrain***

**2 Let this be a foretaste of all that is to come  
when all creation shares this feast with you. *Refrain***

Text: Didache, 2nd cent.; Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.,  
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60638. [www.giamusic.com](http://www.giamusic.com). 800.442.3358.  
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*“Cast Out, O Christ”*

**ACS 1082**

- 1 Cast out, O Christ, cast far away  
the demons that destroy:  
the haunting dreads that choke our souls,  
the hates that stifle joy.**

**2 Our raging griefs, our jealous fears  
are Legion in their name.  
Our shackled hearts implore your grace  
to loose our binding shame.**

**5 So come, O Christ, and cast away  
the demons that destroy.  
Transform our lives to sense your love  
and spread abroad your joy.**

**3 Once long ago, from Galilee,  
you sailed to storm-tossed shores.  
And still, in pow'r, you brave new paths  
to breach our bolted doors.**

**4 Your word breathes life and health and hope  
that break through evil's thrall.  
You send us, strengthened, home in peace  
to live your gospel call.**

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953  
Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., [giamusic.com](http://giamusic.com). All rights reserved.

*(stand)*  
**POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P** God of the abundant table,  
**G** 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

## BLESSING

- P** 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

## JOIN THE RALLY SUNDAY PROCESSIONAL

*Youth of Kountze Memorial and your loving adults, join us in the center aisle, following the pastors during this hymn. Please stay in the aisle until the dismissal is said. Then the Crucifer with the cross and the Acolytes with the candles will turn and lead us out of the church and down the sidewalk to enter the church at the Office doors. We will process up to the Sunday School classrooms where a blessing will be said and Rally Sunday activities will begin.*

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

*“To Be Your Presence”*

**ELW 546**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>1</b> To be your presence is our mission here,<br>to show compassion's face and list'ning ear,<br>to be your heart of mercy ever near,<br>alleluia!      | <b>3</b> To be your presence is our mission blest,<br>to speak for all the broken and oppressed,<br>to be your voice of hope, your love<br>expressed,<br>alleluia!          |
| <b>2</b> To be your presence is our mission bold,<br>to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold,<br>to be your hands of justice, right uphold,<br>alleluia! | <b>4</b> We are your heart, O Christ, your hands<br>and voice,<br>to serve your people is our call and choice,<br>and in this mission we, the church, rejoice,<br>alleluia! |

## DISMISSAL

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

## POSTLUDE

✠   ✠   ✠

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939  
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### 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**

**September 10 & 11, 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 by Tom Holcombe in memory of his wife, Jean

**Eternal Candle** is given to the glory of God in memory of my parents and all ancestors given by Kimberly Grassmeyer

### **Kountze Café is Open!**

#### **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 and a free-will donation for the continental breakfast (this Sunday). Opportunities to serve are still available, so please contact Pr. Shari Duminy if you would like to help with breakfast. Thanks!

### **Sunday School Rally Day**

Join us during the closing hymn of the 9:00 AM service for a procession to the Sunday School classrooms to share in a blessing. We will then play getting to know you games, meet the staff, and enjoy snacks.

### **Children's Choir**

**Barb Carlsen, Children Choir Director**

**Beginning Sunday, September 11**

**Second Floor Music Room**

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

**Grades K-5 - Choir**

**Grades 6-8 - Director's Assistants**

All children in grades K-5 are encouraged to sing in our Children's Choir. The choir will rehearse immediately after the children's blessing at the 9:00 AM service (9:15 AM). Students in grades 6-8 may participate as Director Assistants. Director Assistants will help lead and assist the younger children in singing the music, working with children on their speaking parts for the Christmas program, and adding instruments to our choral singing. If you have any questions, please contact Barb at 402-341-7761.

## Today at Kountze, *continued*

### Youth Forum

**10:10 AM**

7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to gather each Sunday between worship. Today we will join the Rally Sunday Procession to the Sunday School Classroom.

**Next week:** We will join Adult Forum to hear about a possible trip to Holden Village.

### Adult Forum

**Fellowship Hall, 10:10 AM**

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This week:** Rally Day **Next week:** Introduction and Possible Congregational Trip to Holden Village.

### New Member Class

**September 11 & 18**

**10:15 - 11:30 AM** (Note time change)

If you are interested in finding out more about Kountze Memorial or would like to join our congregation, please

consider attending our next New Member class. Childcare is provided.

### God's Work, Our Hands Day of Service

**Sunday, September 11, 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

**Tri-Faith Center (13136 Faith Plaza)**

Join us today at the Tri-Faith Campus. There will be a time for walking, Food Trucks, live performances, and family-friendly exhibits. Our day of service will focus on learning about our siblings of the Abrahamic Faith. Please register at [walk@trifaith.org](mailto:walk@trifaith.org). If you are able to give a donation, please do so. Get on your walking shoes to learn and connect with our larger faith community!

### Flower "Vases" Needed

If you buy the large cans of juice, we are in need of the empty cans to use when we deliver flowers. The cleaned cans can be put on the counter by the back office door and we'll put them to good use. Thanks!

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## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### September 11 Sunday

Pentecost 14

Rally Day/Installation of Christian Ed Leaders

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:15 AM Children's Choir

9:30—11:00 AM Breakfast

10:00 AM Picnic Planning Meeting

10:10 AM 1<sup>st</sup> Day of Sunday School (2yr-6<sup>th</sup> gr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12) with Rally Sunday

10:10 AM Adult Forum—Rally Sunday

10:15 AM New Member Class

12:15 PM Book Group

3:00 PM Tri-Faith Walk

### September 12 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

6:00 PM Bible Study

### September 13 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

3:00 PM KETV Board Meeting

### September 14 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group

11:00 AM Bible Study

12:15 PM Worship

1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese Manor

6:00 PM Executive Committee

6:00 PM Confirmation Class

### September 15 Thursday

Council Reports Due

Good News Deadline

11:30 AM Men's Lunch

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

6:00 PM Circle 5

6:30 PM Kountze Commons Organizing Committee

### September 16 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### September 17 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

### September 18 Sunday

Pentecost 15

Installation of Council Members

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:15 AM Children's Choir

9:30—11:00 AM Breakfast

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

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12) w/Adult Forum

10:10 AM Adult Forum—Holden Village

10:15 AM New Member Class

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### 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>

## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### Nursery Coordinator Position Open

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. See Pr. Shari or Kristin Boe for a job description and application.

### Be A Sunday School Teacher Assistant!

Experience the joy of watching our children learn the stories of God's people. You can help once a month or however often you'd like. The opportunity to work with Preschool, K—2<sup>nd</sup> graders, and 3<sup>rd</sup>—6<sup>th</sup> graders are available. Contact Kristin Boe at kristin@kmlchurch.org. Your leadership would be greatly appreciated!

### Lift Your Voice in Song!

#### Kountze Adult Choir

Come and join our amazing group of musicians who sing praise to God and have fun together. Help us to continue making vibrant and beautiful music at Kountze. The choir rehearses every first Wednesday evening of the month and sings at the 9:00 or 11:00 services each Sunday. If you are interested in being a part of this important part of worship, we would be very glad to welcome you. Past singing experience in high school or college is helpful. If you want more information about choir or would like to join our choir, please contact Barb Carlsen in the church office at 402-341-7761.

### Bible Studies Continue

**Mondays, 6:00 PM or**

**Wednesdays, 11:00 AM**

#### Enter Through the Farnam Office Doors

Join Pastor Shari and others in the Fellowship Lounge. We will explore I Timothy & II Timothy over the next seven weeks.

### September Men's Lunch

**Thursday, September 15**

**11:30 AM**

#### Fellowship Lounge

**Cost: \$10.00**

This month we will learn more about the Tri Faith Initiative. Our speaker is Erik Servellon, the Vice President of Operations and Development for the Tri Faith Initiative. Please call the church office by Tuesday, September 13 to make your reservation or sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays. We hope you'll join us.

### Middle School Gathering (grades 6-8)

**Saturday, September 17**

**6:30—9:30 PM**

#### Bellevue Berry Farm

Permission forms are due to Pastor Shari today, September 11. They are located on the Welcome Desk.

### KMLC "Old Fashioned Church Picnic/Potluck"

**Sunday September 25, 11:30 AM to 2:30 PM**

Everyone is invited to attend the all Church picnic/pot luck. There will be lots of activities for young and old alike. The

Church will provide the fried chicken or macaroni & cheese and drinks. Please consider bringing a side dish or desert to share with everyone. You're also encouraged to "Bring Your Favorite Blanket" to put down in the green space as you enjoy lunch and conversations while enjoying our green space between the Church and Commons building. Of course we will have table seating outside, in the link, and the Fellowship Hall. A buffet style lunch will begin at 11:30 AM, with games starting around 12:30 in the green space and, what would our picnic be without BINGO and prizes?! Join us in the Fellowship Hall starting at 1:00 PM. Please RSVP at the Welcome Desk to let us know how many will be attending and if you can provide either a side or dessert. You can also call the church office or email jim@kmlchurch.org to RSVP.

### Meet the Bowari Family

**Saturday, October 8**

**6:00 PM**

#### RSVP by Friday, September 30

You're invited to a celebration to meet the Bowari family and enjoy an Afghan meal with them! 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. We need to know how many are coming in order to buy the groceries. Would you like to help serve or learn to cook an Afghan meal? We'd love for you to join us. Please text or call Jonna Holland 402-669-4575 if you can help that day.

### Omaha Campus Ministries Evensong & Chili Cookoff

**Sunday, October 16, 2022**

**5 PM Chili Cookoff and Silent Auction**

**6:30 PM Holden Evening Prayer Worship Service**

**Lord of Love Lutheran Church**

**10405 Fort St, Omaha, NE 68134**

Festivities include a chili cookoff with cinnamon rolls, silent auction, Holden Evening Prayer worship, and the presentation of this year's Faithful Steward Award to the faithful members of St. Timothy Lutheran Church. The Chili Cookoff is a fundraiser for Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry in Omaha. If you have a chili that you would like to have represent KMLC in the cookoff, let Pastor Shari know by **September 30** so we can get registered to participate (compete) by bringing a crockpot of chili.

### Attendance & Giving

**Saturday: 37**

**Sunday: 9:00: 123 11:00: 58**

**Wednesday: 12:15: 8**

**Total: 229**

**Streaming: 47**

**Cox Cable: 175**

**Pantry Guests Served: 235 (inc. 96 children)**

**Medical Clinic Guests Served: 16**

**Offering:**

**\$9,103.8 (Regular) \$739.65 (Specials)**

**\$1,275.9 (Debt Reduction)**

## God's promises overcome God's righteous judgment.

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

Sunday	Luke 15:1-10	The lost sheep and the lost coin
Monday	Exodus 32:7-14	Moses pleads for the people
Tuesday	1 Timothy 1:12-17	Gratitude for mercy
Wednesday	James 5:13-16	The prayer of faith
Thursday	Jeremiah 31:31-34	A new covenant
Friday	Ephesians 5:25-32	Rules for the new life
Saturday	Psalms 51:1-10	A prayer for forgiveness
Sunday	Luke 16:1-13	Parable of the shrewd manager



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*The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I [the Apostle Paul] am the foremost. 1 Timothy 1:15 (NRSV)*

### A Prayer for the Week:

God of divine justice, we thank you for remembering your promise of mercy and forgiveness and bringing us back to you through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, just as we need this gift of food to survive, help us always to remember that we need your love to survive as well. Amen.

### A Blessing to Give:

May the God who remembers you with love bless you with peace and joy.

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

- Some people feel that when something bad happens, it is God's judgment. Do you agree? Why or why not?
- Why is it important to know that God's mercy endures beyond God's judgment?

*Read:* Exodus 32:7-14.

There is plenty of wrath, divine repentance, even humor in this Old Testament Story. God wants to destroy the people who have turned away to worship a golden calf and won't even acknowledge them as God's people. God refers to them as Moses' people, the people whom Moses led out of Egypt. Moses refutes this and says they are God's people and God led them out of Egypt. Moses stands as a prophet speaking not to the people about God's word, but to God about God's promises that go back to Abraham, Isaac, and Israel (Jacob). Fortunately, Moses wins the debate and God repents, turning from the divine anger planned for the obstinate and unfaithful people. God saves the people by not destroying them. What is at stake? God's passion and mercy for the people does battle (through Moses) and wins the day by not letting God's judgment get the last word. Thanks be to God for promises to us that are from everlasting to everlasting.

*Discuss:* What do you find surprising about God's actions in this reading?

**Pray: God of justice and mercy, we thank you that you know our weaknesses and failings and yet love us still through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how might you help and encourage others who feel the weight of their regrets?

In Luke 15:1-10 Jesus tells parables about the lost being found. Our sin is a condition of being lost and apart from God. God rejoices when, through faith in Christ, we, as the lost, are found and restored to a relationship with God. Hide chocolate coins or other candies and have others find them. After the treats are found, talk about the joy of finding them and then about God's joy at searching for and finding us. Pray: **Thank you, God, for searching for us when we stray from you. Thank you for finding us and forgiving us. Amen.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Amos 8:4-7; Psalm 113  
1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13