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 09, 2022

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



It's a miracle! Multiple miracles! The waters of holy baptism have healed us. The body and blood of Jesus in holy communion have made us clean. We have died with Christ and been raised with him. For all this we have returned to offer thanks. From this place we are sent on our way rejoicing to share the good news.

GATHERING

PRELUDE 4. The Death of Moses Mark Jones, *organ*

"And the children of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days." Deuteronomy 34:8 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.
- **G** 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,
- 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.
- 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

- Sing praise to God, the highest good, the author of creation!
 O God of love, you understood our need for your salvation.
 With healing balm our souls you fill; all our lament with peace you still.
 To God all praise and glory!
- What your almighty pow'r has made, in mercy you are keeping; by morning glow or evening shade, your eye is never sleeping; in the dominion of your might all things are just and good and right. To God all praise and glory!
- 3 We sought the Lord in our distress; O God, in mercy hear us. Our Savior saw our helplessness and came with peace to cheer us. For this we thank and praise the Lord, who is by one and all adored. To God all praise and glory!
- 4 All who confess Christ's holy name, give God the praise and glory!
 Let all God's saving pow'r proclaim; give God the praise and glory!
 Cast ev'ry idol from its throne;
 God is the Lord, and God alone.
 To God all praise and glory!

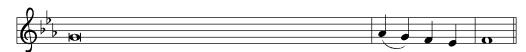
Text: Johann J. Schütz, 1640-1690; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812-1897, adapt.

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.
- **G** And also with you.

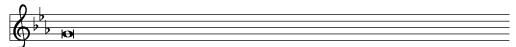
KYRIE





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

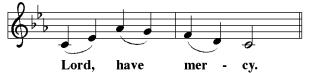




For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

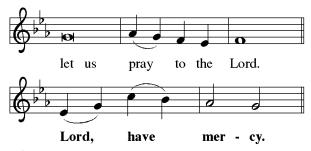


and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.





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





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



HYMN OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Almighty and most merciful God,
- **Q** your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Naaman, a Syrian general, suffers from leprosy. In this passage Elisha miraculously cures his illness, but only after Naaman realizes, with the help of his servants, that he also needs healing for his pride. This foreign general then acknowledges the sovereignty of the God of Israel.

Naman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. ²Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." ⁷When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

⁸But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." ¹¹But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! ¹²Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" ¹⁴So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

^{15a-c}Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel."

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 111

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



¹Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with | my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the | congregation.

²Great are your | works, O LORD, pondered by all who de-| light in them.

³Majesty and splendor | mark your deeds, and your righteousness en- | dures forever.

⁴You cause your wonders to | be remembered; you are gracious and full | of compassion.

⁵You give food to | those who fear you, remembering forev- | er your covenant.

⁶You have shown your people the power | of your works in giving them the lands | of the nations.

⁷The works of your hands are faithful- | ness and justice; all of your pre- | cepts are sure.

⁸They stand fast forev- | er and ever,

because they are done in | truth and equity.

⁹You sent redemption to your people and commanded your cove- | nant forever; holy and awesome | is your name.

¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the begin- ning of wisdom;

all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise en-|dures forever.

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Though Paul is chained as a prisoner, the word of God is never shackled or confined. Timothy is encouraged to proclaim that word of freedom in an honest and upright life as well as in his teaching and preaching.

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, ⁹for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. ¹⁰Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. ¹¹The saying is sure:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;¹²if we endure, we will also reign with him;if we deny him, he will also deny us; ¹³if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.

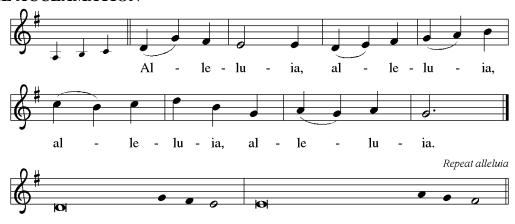
¹⁴Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. ¹⁵Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

L The word of the Lord.

☑ Thanks be to God.

(stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.
- **G** Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 17:11-19

Jesus' mission includes making people clean again. Unexpectedly, a Samaritan healed of leprosy becomes a model for those who would praise and worship God and give thanks for God's mercy..

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" ¹⁴When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? ¹⁸Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" ¹⁹Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well"

P The Gospel of the Lord.

© Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN'S BLESSING 9:00 AM

Children (aged 3 years through 5^{th} 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 Hall

HYMN OF THE DAY

- 1 God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store: nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door, gifted by you, we turn to you, off'ring up ourselves in praise; thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.
- 2 Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son: all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one. Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone; born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.
- 3 Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through pow'rs your grace conferred; ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word.

 Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call, healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915-2006 Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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.
- **☑** 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,

© hear our prayer.

(*In our prayers today, during a time of silence, pray for those listed below and for others according to their needs*)

Thanksgiving: for the baptism of Scarlett Jo, daughter of Bobby & Kayla Danenhauer (October 8, 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, 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.
- 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

"Oh, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

arr. Mark Ptterson

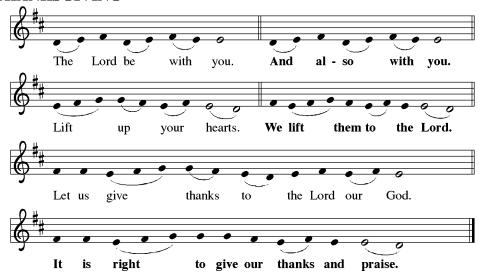
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OFFERING PRAYER

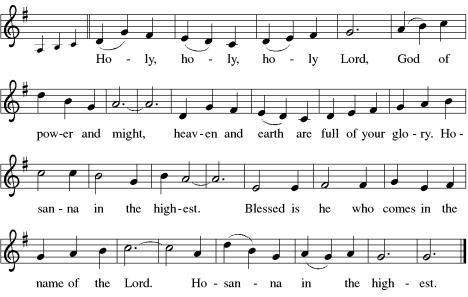
- **P** Gracious God,
- **②** in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



PREFACE

SANCTUS



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- **G** Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

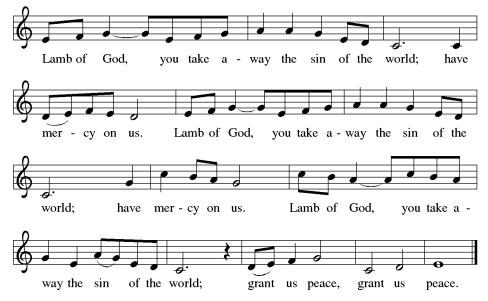
Give us this day our daily bread;

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



INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P Christ invites you to this table.
- **©** 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

"Children of the Heavenly Father" **ELW 781**

- 1 Children of the heav'nly Father safely in his bosom gather; nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.
- 2 God his own doth tend and nourish, in his holy courts they flourish. From all evil things he spares them, in his mighty arms he bears them.
- 3 Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever; unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.
- 4 Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh; his the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Ernst W. Olson, 1870-1958 Text © 1925 Board of Publication, Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

- 1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!
- 2 My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.
- 3 The name of Jesus charms our fears and bids our sorrows cease, sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life and health and peace.

- 4 He speaks, and list'ning to his voice, new life the dead receive; the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.
- 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,O fallen human race!Look and be saved through faith alone,be justified by grace!
- 6 To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever giv'n by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heav'n.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

(stand)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

RECESSIONAL HYMN

"God of Grace and God of Glory"

ELW 705

- 1 God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your pow'r; crown your ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flow'r. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour, for the facing of this hour.
- 2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
 From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days, for the living of these days,
- 3 Cure your children's warring madness; bend our pride to your control; shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss your kingdom's goal, lest we miss your kingdom's goal.
- 4 Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore; let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.
 Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore, serving you whom we adore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE Mark Jones, organ

+ + +

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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 Christian Ed Coordinator Kristin Boe Debbie Bogue Office Manager Administrative Assistant Sarah Jewell Noni Cambridge Staff Treasurer Judi Boe Financial Secretary Jim Smeikal Bldg. Super./Dir. of Cong. Activities Kayla Slaight **Ianitorial Staff** Barbara Carlsen Dir. of Music & Fine Arts Mark Jones Organist David Gerard Saturday Accompanist Susann Henry Food Pantry Director



2650 Farnam Street 402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131 www.kmlchurch.org

October 8 & 9, 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 Vinn Stephens; in honor of Joan Jacobson-Trotter on her 90th birthday given by her daughter, Lynn McKeeman

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God by Vinn Stephens

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 Books of the Bible—*There are many different types of writing in the Bible that include history, poetry, law, letters, and more. This lesson is an aid to learning the books of the Bible and it introduces the contents of the books and the genres they represent. This lesson will connect the Bible to the lessons we will cover throughout the year.

Today at Kountze, continued

Youth Forum Sundays, 10:10 AM

7th – 12th graders are invited to gather each Sunday between worship. **This week:** School Assistance: Join Pastor Shari and Ashley Sum in serving during Sunday School **Next week: Sunday:** Bible Study: Learn about the Early Church as we study the Book of Acts this year

Adult Forum Fellowship Hall, 10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This week:** Fellowship **Next week:** Reception for Paul Sum

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.

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.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

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

October 10 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

6:00 PM Bible Study

7:00 PM Executive Committee

October 11 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

October 12 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group

11:00 AM Bible Study

12:15 PM Worship

1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese Manor

6:00 PM Confirmation Class

October 13 Thursday

Council Reports Due

9:30 AM WELCA Board

11:30 AM Property Committee

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

6:00 PM Worship & Music Committee

October 14 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

October 15 Saturday

Good News Deadline

5:00 PM Worship

October 16 Sunday

Pentecost 19

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

12:15 PM First Communion Class

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.

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

Explore! gives children 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

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

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

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.

Sunday School Serving Project Sunday, October 30 10:10 AM

October's service project will be to gather items for the Kountze Food Pantry to make Thanksgiving bags for the guests. We are accepting donations of boxed stuffing, boxed mashed potatoes, cans of cranberry sauce, and cans of vegetables. Please bring these items to the Sunday School office to be packed by the Sunday School students.

Kountze Food Pantry

The Kountze Food Pantry is asking you to clean your home pantries! Yes, we are collecting any and all odd (not expired) food items. We have an "extras" section of the pantry, where guests get to choose from an assortment. This allows our guests the chance to get a few things they normally wouldn't have access to. Good items to donate are: jelly, ketchup, mustard, salad dressings, mayonnaise, seasonings, cooking oil, flour etc. We also continue to collect hygiene products. We are especially in need of bar soap or body wash. Remember, we can once again reuse dry, clean plastic grocery bags. Thank you for all you do to support the mission of Kountze Food Pantry!

https://form.jotform.com/200834787701155

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 32

Sunday: 9:00: 120 **11:00**: 74

Wednesday: 12:15: 9 Confirmation: 6

Total: 241 Streaming: Cox Cable: 176

Pantry Guests Served: 923 (inc. 365 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 14

Offering:

\$10,840.65 (Regular) \$1,456.44 (Specials)

\$1,502.9 (Debt Reduction)

God's wisdom strengthens the powerless.

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

Sunday Luke 17:11-19 One leper gives thanks to God :

Monday 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c Elisha heals Naaman Tuesday 2 Timothy 2:8-15 A good soldier of Christ Jesus

Wednesday Psalm 46:1-7 God is our mighty fortress
Thursday James 3:13-18 Wisdom from above

Friday Isaiah 40:27-31 The Lord gives strength

Saturday Psalm 111 Praise God for wonderful works Sunday Luke 18:1-8 Parable of the persistent widow



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The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever. Psalm 111:10 (NRSV)

A Prayer for the Week:

God of power and might, may your wisdom that lifts up the powerless and humbles the powerful guide us each day of our lives through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this gift of food; give us wise hearts to know that all good things come from your goodness and mercy through Christ Jesus. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May you trust in God and receive a wise heart.

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

- How would you describe someone who is wise?
- How is the wisdom of God different than the wisdom of people in leadership?

Read: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c.

How God chooses to act stands in stark contrast to how we act toward one another. In ancient times, people bowed down to the powerful, barely able to look up or speak. Naaman, who is an important and powerful leader from Aram (Syria), has leprosy. The king of Israel fears Naaman's position and threatening presence. However, a slave girl who was captured out of the land of Israel speaks with a voice worth hearing. Her simple and honest words lead Naaman to Elisha, the great prophet of Israel, to be healed of his leprosy. Elisha, who doesn't even bother to address Naaman in person, provides a simple and easy request for Naaman to be cleansed in the River Jordan. This humiliates and infuriates Naaman's pride. While Naaman is offended, his own servants convince him to do as requested, and he is healed. The God of Israel is then acknowledged for the greatness due the Lord, and nameless and powerless servants deliver the wisdom and power of God. Discuss: How has the wisdom of God spoken to you from an unlikely source?

Pray: God of the powerless, help us to rejoice in your wisdom and strength that speaks and works through the lives of those often overlooked and unseen, through Christ Jesus our Healer. Amen.

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you honor those often not recognized for their abilities and wisdom?

Jesus healed ten lepers. Only one of them thanked Jesus. (Luke 17:11-19). As God's people, we are called to count our blessings each day and give thanks to God. Take time this week in your home, at work, or at school to say thanks to others who have been kind, thoughtful, and contributed positively to your life or the lives of others. Then pray: Dear God, you have blessed