

# 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)

October 16, 2022

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

NINETEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



*Pray always. Do not lose heart. This is Christ's encouragement in the gospel today. Wrestle with the word. Remember your baptism again and again. Come regularly to Christ's table. Persistence in our every encounter with the divine will be blessed.*

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

## 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 God is here! As we your people  
meet to offer praise and prayer,  
may we find in fuller measure  
what it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us,  
all our varied skills and arts  
wait the coming of the Spirit  
into open minds and hearts.
- 2 Here are symbols to remind us  
of our lifelong need of grace;  
here are table, font, and pulpit;  
here the cross has central place.  
Here in honesty of preaching,  
here in silence, as in speech,  
here, in newness and renewal,  
God the Spirit comes to each.
- 3 Here our children find a welcome  
in the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
here as bread and wine are taken,  
Christ sustains us as of old.  
Here the servants of the Servant  
seek in worship to explore  
what it means in daily living  
to believe and to adore.
- 4 Lord of all, of church and kingdom,  
in an age of change and doubt,  
keep us faithful to the gospel;  
help us work your purpose out.  
Here, in this day's dedication,  
all we have to give, receive;  
we, who cannot live without you,  
we adore you! We believe!

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000  
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## 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.

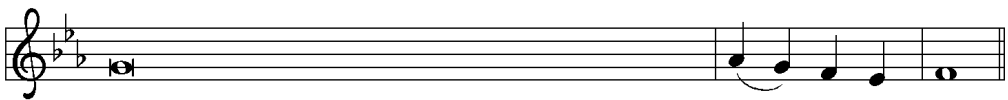
## KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



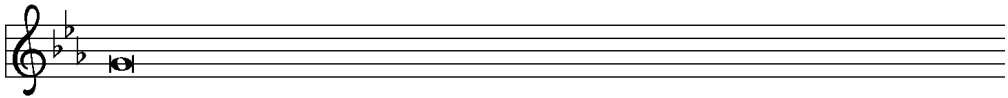
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



**Lord, have mer - cy.**



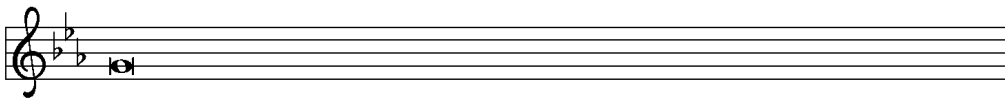
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.**

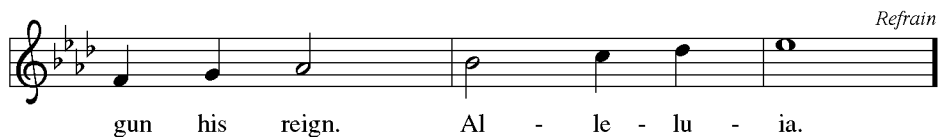
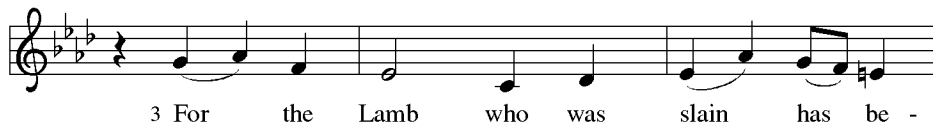
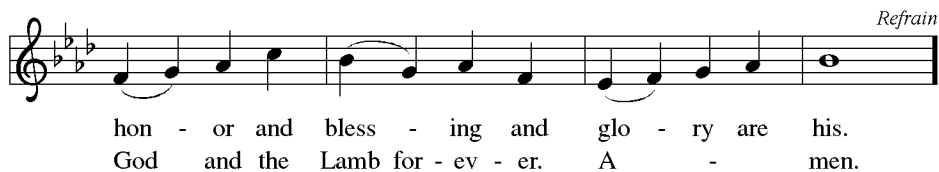
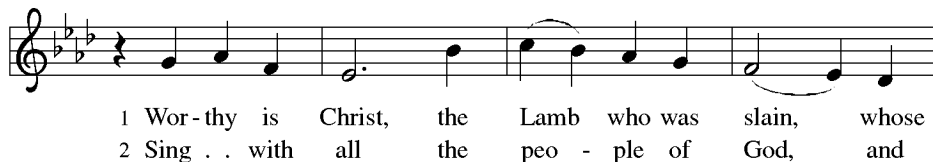
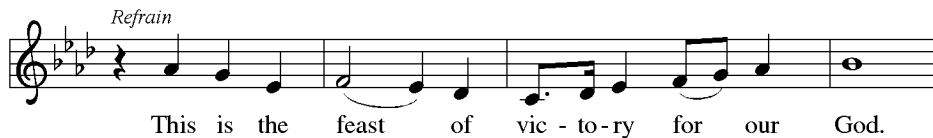


Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



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

# HYMN OF PRAISE



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** O Lord God,

**C** tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## WORD

(sit)

### FIRST READING

**Genesis 32:22-31**

*Returning to the home he had fled many years before after stealing his brother's birthright and his father's blessing, Jacob wrestles all night long with a divine adversary who ultimately blesses him and changes his name to "Israel," a name that means "he wrestles with God."*

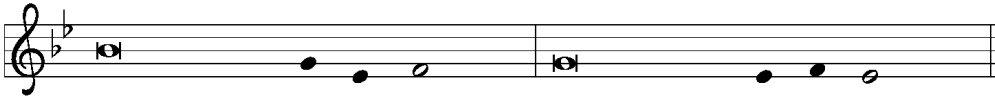
**T**he same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup>He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. <sup>24</sup>Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. <sup>25</sup>When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup>Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." <sup>27</sup>So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." <sup>28</sup>Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." <sup>29</sup>Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. <sup>30</sup>So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." <sup>31</sup>The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 121

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



<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes | to the hills;  
from where is my | help to come?

<sup>2</sup>**My help comes | from the LORD,  
the maker of heav- | en and earth.**

<sup>3</sup>The LORD will not let your | foot be moved  
nor will the one who watches over you | fall asleep.

<sup>4</sup>**Behold, the keep- | er of Israel  
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep;**

<sup>5</sup>the LORD watches | over you;  
the LORD is your shade at | your right hand;

<sup>6</sup>**the sun will not strike | you by day,  
nor the | moon by night.**

<sup>7</sup>The LORD will preserve you | from all evil  
and will | keep your life.

<sup>8</sup>**The LORD will watch over your going out and your | coming in,  
from this time forth for- | evermore.**

## SECOND READING

**2 Timothy 3:14—4:5**

*The writer of this letter continues his instruction of Timothy, his younger colleague in ministry, by emphasizing the importance of faithful teaching despite opposition.*

**B**ut as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, <sup>15</sup>and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup>All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, <sup>17</sup>so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

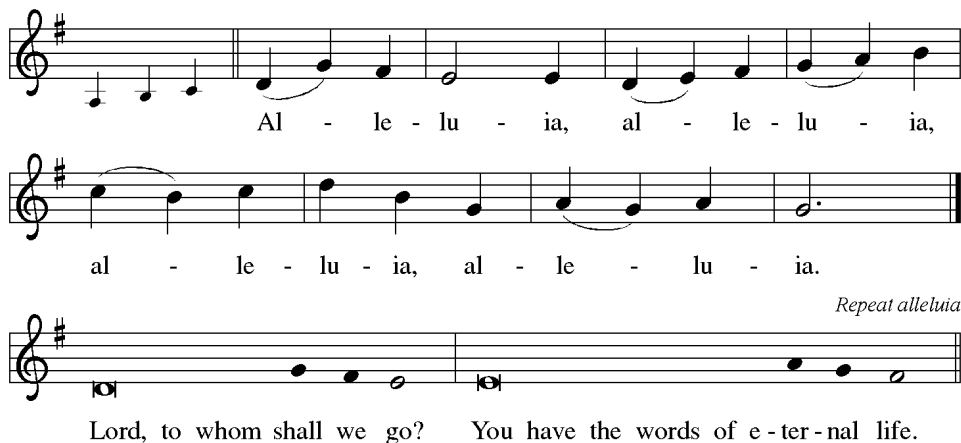
<sup>4:1</sup>In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: <sup>2</sup>proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. <sup>3</sup>For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, <sup>4</sup>and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. <sup>5</sup>As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

**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.

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

## HOLY GOSPEL

**Luke 18:1-8**

*Jesus tells a parable of an unjust judge who is worn down by a widow's pleas. Jesus is calling God's people to cry out for justice and deliverance. For if an unethical judge will ultimately grant the plea of a persistent widow, how much more will God respond to those who call.*

**T**hen Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. <sup>2</sup>He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. <sup>3</sup>In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' <sup>4</sup>For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, <sup>5</sup>yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " <sup>6</sup>And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. <sup>7</sup>And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? <sup>8</sup>I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**G** Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

## CHILDREN'S BLESSING 9:00 AM

*Children (aged 3 years through 5<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, they may 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

Vicar Gretchen Olson Kopp



(stand)

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*“Restore in Us, O God”*

**HFW 1070**  
**tune: ELW 315**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1</b>    <b>Restore in us, O God,</b><br/>the splendor of your love;<br/>renew your image in our hearts,<br/>and all our sins remove.</p> <p><b>2</b>    <b>O Spirit, wake in us</b><br/>the wonder of your power;<br/>from fruitless fear unfurl our lives<br/>like springtime bud and flower.</p> | <p><b>3</b>    <b>Bring us, O Christ, to share</b><br/>the fullness of your joy;<br/>baptize us in the risen life<br/>that death cannot destroy.</p> <p><b>4</b>    <b>Three personed God, fulfill</b><br/>the promise of your grace,<br/>that we, when all our searching ends,<br/>may see you face to face.</p> |
|---|---|

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944  
Music: POTSDAM, Mercer, Church Psalter, 1854  
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**THE APOSTLES' CREED 9:00 AM**

- ☞** God has made us God's 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,  
                  **G** 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 Richard Bock; to the family and friends of David Nordby, brother-in-law of Noelle Phelps; to the family and friends of David Peterson, father of Kyra Peterson and grandfather of Sheyanne Glasgow

**Thanksgiving:** for the baptism of Shawn Mason, son of Matthew & Julia McGuigan (October 16, 2022)

**Prayers this Week:** Elaine Bonfante, Gwen Berney, Philip Frye, Noelle Phelps

**On-going Care:** Don Burton, Shirley Dietrich, Mike Edris, Susie Henry, Richard & Betty Holzer, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, Orville & Julie Knapp, Chris Meyer, Jane Meyer, Lara McCormick, 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.  
**G** 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

*“Here My Prayer, O Lord”*


arr. David Lantz

(stand)

### OFFERTORY HYMN

*“We Are an Offering”*

ELW 692

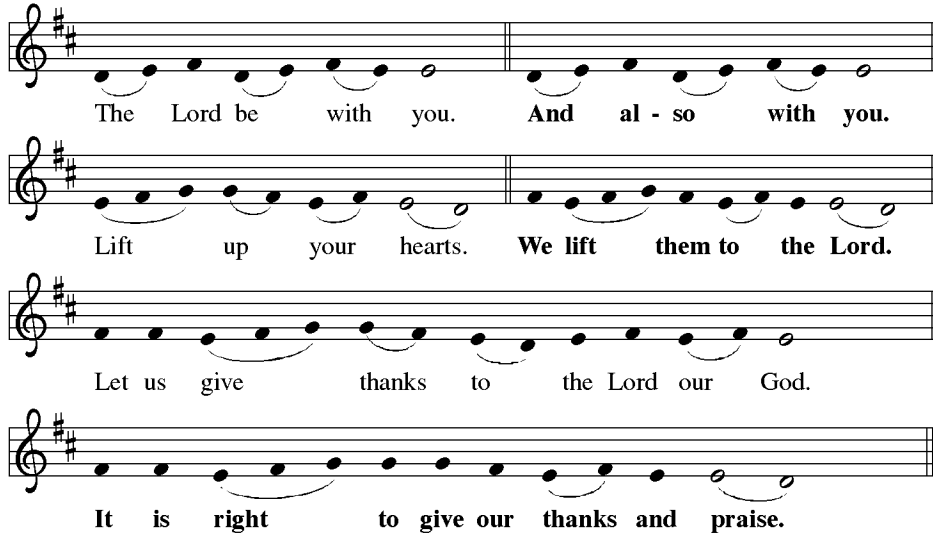


We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an  
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our  
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,  
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.  
We lift our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

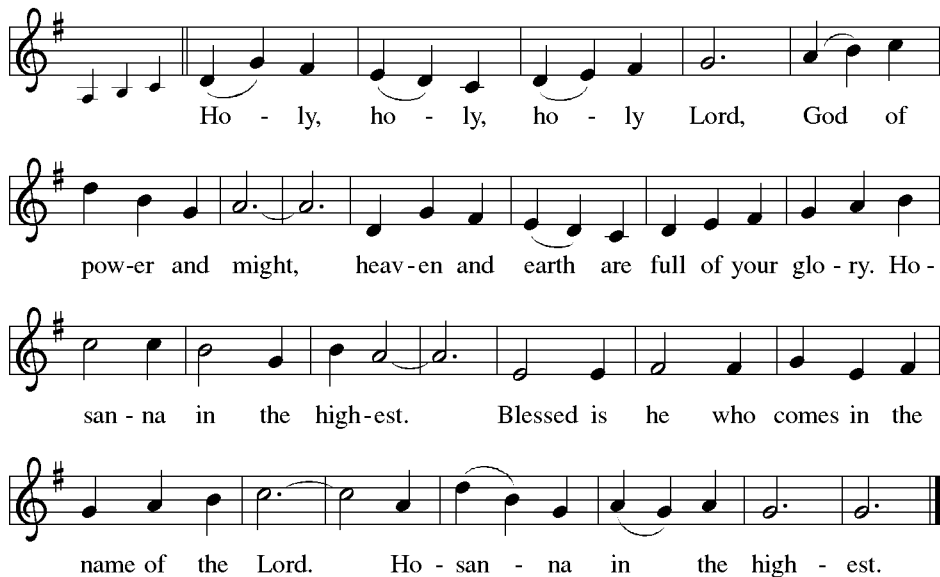
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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

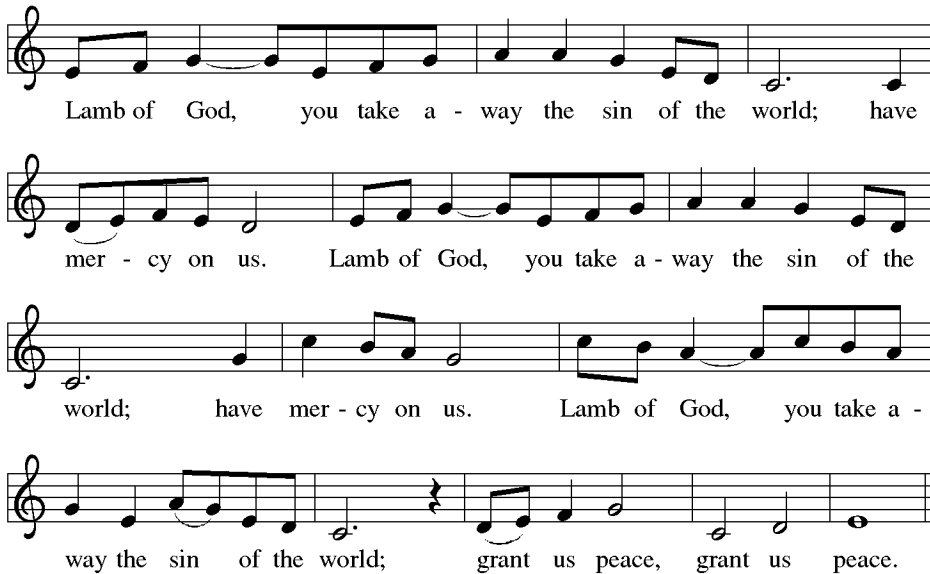
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

# 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**      “*Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*”      **ELW 752**  
**sung 3 times**

**Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.**

Text: Ken Medema, b. 1943  
Text © 1973 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.  
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“*Day by Day*”      **ELW 790**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1 Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me,<br/>bringing comfort to my anxious soul.<br/>Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me<br/>draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal.<br/>Love divine, beyond all mortal measure,<br/>brings to naught the burdens of my quest;<br/>Savior, lead me to the home I treasure,<br/>where at last I'll find eternal rest.</b></p>   | <p><b>2 Day by day, I know you will provide me<br/>strength to serve and wisdom to obey;<br/>I will seek your loving will to guide me<br/>o'er the paths I struggle day by day.<br/>I will fear no evil of the morrow,<br/>I will trust in your enduring grace.<br/>Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow<br/>till in glory I behold your face.</b></p> |
| <p><b>3 Oh, what joy to know that you are near me<br/>when my burdens grow too great to bear;<br/>oh, what joy to know that you will hear me<br/>when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.<br/>Day by day, no matter what betide me,<br/>you will hold me ever in your hand.<br/>Savior, with your presence here to guide me,<br/>I will reach at last the promised land.</b></p> |   |

Text: Carolina Sandell Berg, 1832-1903; tr. Robert Leaf, 1936-2005  
Text © 1992 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

## 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

*“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”*

ELW 631

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>1 Love divine, all loves excelling,<br/>Joy of heav'n, to earth come down!<br/>Fix in us thy humble dwelling,<br/>all thy faithful mercies crown.<br/>Jesus, thou art all compassion,<br/>pure, unbounded love thou art;<br/>visit us with thy salvation,<br/>enter ev'ry trembling heart.</b></p> <p><b>2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy loving Spirit<br/>into ev'ry troubled breast;<br/>let us all in thee inherit;<br/>let us find thy promised rest.<br/>Take away the love of sinning;<br/>Alpha and Omega be;<br/>end of faith, as its beginning,<br/>set our hearts at liberty.</b></p> | <p><b>3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;<br/>let us all thy life receive;<br/>suddenly return, and never,<br/>nevermore thy temples leave.<br/>Thee we would be always blessing,<br/>serve thee as thy hosts above,<br/>pray, and praise thee without ceasing,<br/>glory in thy perfect love.</b></p> <p><b>4 Finish then thy new creation,<br/>pure and spotless let us be;<br/>let us see thy great salvation<br/>perfectly restored in thee!<br/>Changed from glory into glory,<br/>till in heav'n we take our place,<br/>till we cast our crowns before thee,<br/>lost in wonder, love, and praise!</b></p> |
|--|--|

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

## DISMISSAL

- ☞ 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
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 15 & 16, 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**

**This Week** Pr. Griffith is attending the 250th Anniversary Celebration of Dumbarton United Methodist church in Washington DC where his wife served as Senior Pastor before coming to Nebraska.

**Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God by Vinn Stephens; in honor of Joan Jacobson-Trotter on her 90<sup>th</sup> 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. Note: Muffin Tins needed for Kountze Cafe mini quiches. If you have a pan or two that you could part with, let us know. It will allow for less baking time on Continental Breakfast Mornings.

### **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 2<sup>nd</sup> floor for Sunday School. Preschool 1 (2-4 yrs) meets from 9:00—10:00 AM (child care for those too old for the nursery).



## Today at Kountze, *continued*

### Sunday School Focus This Week

*The Bible*—In preparation for the upcoming Bible Sunday at Kountze, the students will continue their lessons on the Bible for a deeper appreciation of the lessons we learn from it.

### Youth Forum

#### Sundays, 10:10 AM

7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to gather each Sunday between worship. **This week:** Bible Study: Learn about the Early Church as we study the Book of Acts this year. **Next week:** Fun and Games: We gather around games to learn more about one another

### Adult Forum

#### Fellowship Hall, 10:10 AM

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

### 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.

### 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!

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## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### 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-6<sup>th</sup> gr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)

10:10 AM Adult Forum

12:15 PM First Communion Class

### October 17 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

6:00 PM Bible Study

### October 18 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group

6:00 PM Congregation Council

### October 19 Wednesday

11:00 AM Bible Study

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Confirmation Class

### October 20 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Lunch

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

6:00 PM Circle 5

### October 21 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### October 22 Saturday

11:30 Women's "Lutherfest" Luncheon

5:00 PM Worship

### October 23 Sunday

Bible Sunday

Blessing of Quilts

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-6<sup>th</sup> gr)

10:10 AM Youth Forum (gr 7-12)

10:10 AM Adult Forum

12:15 PM First Communion Class

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## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### 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.

### 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.

### **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.

### **Reformation Sunday**

**October 29 & 30**

We invite you to wear RED for the day as we celebrate our Lutheran Heritage and ponder the important work of theologian Martin Luther and those who continue the work that salvation comes to us in grace through faith in the life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus Christ. Nebraska Synod Bishop, Scott Johnson, will be preaching during our Saturday and Sunday worship times.

- **Saturday:** Join us for a potluck. Bring a dish to share
- **Sunday:** A cake reception instead of a continental breakfast to welcome Bishop Johnson and to celebrate those taking their First Communion will be part of fellowship time.

### **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.

### **Ministry Fair**

**Saturday, October 29, 6:00 PM**

**Sunday, October 30, 10:15 AM**

Look for information and connections after Saturday and between Sunday services. Opportunities to share your passions and skills with Kountze Memorial can be explored. We give thanks for how you are already a part of the ministry in this place.

### **All Saints Sunday – Exploring Grief**

**Sunday, November 6**

**10:10 AM and 12:30 PM**

We will have two opportunities to connect with Dr. Don Eisenhauer, a Master Certified Coach on Grief. Through Zoom Sessions, we will explore the grief that is in our midst. The Adult Forum time will be thinking about the communal grief we experienced these past few years. A special session at 12:30 PM will explore the grief experienced through the death of a loved one. A light lunch served. If you are attending the 12:30 session, please let the church office know or sign up at the Welcome Desk.

### **Worship Assistant Training**

**Sunday, November 13**

**10:15 AM**

Join us for training of Communion Assistants, Lectors, Greeters, and Ushers. All current servers are welcome to attend for a refresher course. If you are interested in learning more about Worship Assistants, please contact the church office to register or sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall. Thanks for considering serving in this way.

### **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! Please continue to sign up in the Meeting Room A in Fellowship Hall, or at the following link:

<https://form.jotform.com/200834787701155>

### **Attendance & Giving**

**Saturday:** 42

**Sunday: 9:00:** 139 **11:00:** 60

**Wednesday: 12:15:** 12 **Confirmation:** 4

**Total:** 257

**Streaming:** 52

**Cox Cable:** 176

**Pantry Guests Served:** 714 (inc. 279 children)

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 21

**Offering:**

\$16,432.96 (Regular) \$2,065.03 (Specials)

\$2,166.56 (Debt Reduction)

*Do not lose heart.*

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

Sunday	Luke 18:1-8	Parable of the persistent widow
Monday	Genesis 32:22-31	God renames Jacob
Tuesday	2 Timothy 3:14-4:5	Paul's instruction to Timothy
Wednesday	Psalms 31:19-24	A prayer for protection
Thursday	Ephesians 3:7-13	Paul's ministry to the Gentiles
Friday	Hebrews 12:1-12	The example of Jesus
Saturday	Psalms 121	Assurance of God's protection
Sunday	Luke 18:9-14	A Pharisee and tax collector pray



*Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. Luke 18:1 (NRSV)*

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

Dear God, for those lives torn by injustice and pain, give us faith to pray always and to trust in you, through Jesus Christ, the one who comes in glory at the end of time. Amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear Lord, we thank you for the gift of this food and that you neither slumber nor sleep but watch diligently over us to keep us safe. Amen. (Psalm 121:4-8)

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

May the Lord Jesus keep watch over you and protect you always.

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

- Talk or think about a time when you or someone you know faced something that was unfair.
- What gives you courage to go on when unfairness seems to win time and again?

*Read:* Luke 18:1-8.

Jesus is telling us in this parable: *"Keep the faith; keep praying for the reign of God; don't become complacent with an unjust world."* This parable of the persistent widow is a good example of why we should not use Jesus' parables as analogies comparing God to us. We certainly don't want to see God as an unjust judge. The point is that if even an unjust judge can give in to the persistence of the widow, how much more will our merciful God listen to and respond to our cries for help. What begins as a call to pray constantly, ends as a focus on faith itself. When Christ, the Son of Man returns, will he see faith on earth? Faith is expressed as a constant prayer to God for the justice and mercy of God.

*Discuss:* When is a time you have prayed without ceasing for God's justice and mercy?

***Pray: Come, Lord Jesus, come into our world and into our lives that we may pray without ceasing for your power and justice and not lose heart. Amen.***

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week and the theme, who do you know that is "losing heart" and how can you pray for them?

In Genesis 32:28 God changes Jacob's name to *Israel* which means, *"you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed."* We don't often see our lives of faith as wrestling with God, yet that is exactly what God honors and expects from us. This week, question God in your prayers, asking, "Lord, how come . . . ?" Let this questioning of God's intent be an example of building a strong and trusting relationship with God. Conclude by praying the Lord's Prayer.

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22; Psalm 84:1-7  
2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; Luke 18:9-14