

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

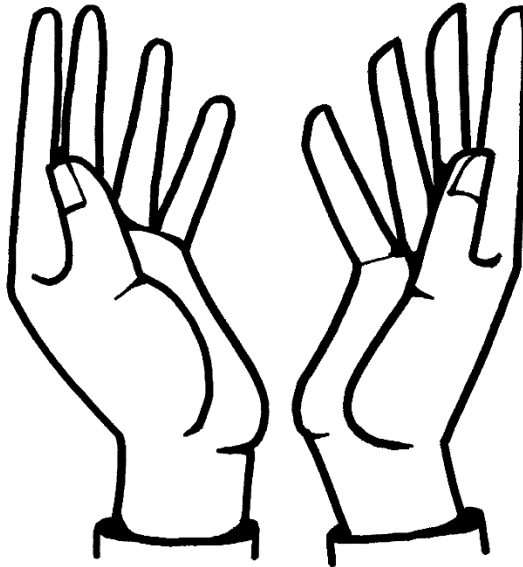
Stephen Griffith, Transition Senior Pastor  
Shari Duminy, Associate Pastor  
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor  
Gretchen Olson Kopp, Vicar

2650 Farnam Street  
Omaha, NE 68131-3616  
402-341-7761  
[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

October 23, 2022

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

TWENTIETH SUNDAY after PENTECOST  
BIBLE SUNDAY  
BLESSING OF THE QUILTS



*Genuine repentance and pretentious piety stand in stark contrast in the gospel and all around us. All creation stands in need of God's forgiveness. Keep the faith. God's people shall be accounted righteous for Jesus' sake. Our God is merciful to sinners. For this we worship and glorify God forever.*

# 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** Holy Spirit, ever dwelling  
in the holiest realms of light;  
Holy Spirit, ever brooding  
o'er a world of gloom and night;  
Holy Spirit, ever raising  
those of earth to thrones on high;  
living, life-imparting Spirit,  
you we praise and magnify.

**2** Holy Spirit, ever living  
as the church's very life;  
Holy Spirit, ever striving  
through us in a ceaseless strife;  
Holy Spirit, ever forming  
in the church the mind of Christ:  
you we praise with endless worship  
for your gifts and fruits unpriced.

**3** Holy Spirit, ever working  
through the church's ministry;  
quick'ning, strength'ning, and absolving,  
setting captive sinners free;  
Holy Spirit, ever binding  
age to age and soul to soul  
in communion never ending,  
you we worship and extol.

Text: Timothy Rees, 1874-1939, alt.

## CHILDREN'S BIBLE BLESSING 9:00 AM

*Today we celebrate Bible Sunday. As the children process with their new bibles, we honor our baptismal promise: to place into a child's hands the holy Scripture and teach them how to read and interpret them. Children aged 2 and 4, and students in 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade receive bibles, all other children will receive a bookmark. A display is located in Fellowship Hall of the bibles given out today. After the blessing is over the children and their bibles, all are invited to follow Ms. Boe or Ms. Carlsen upstairs for an activity or Children's Choir.*

## 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.

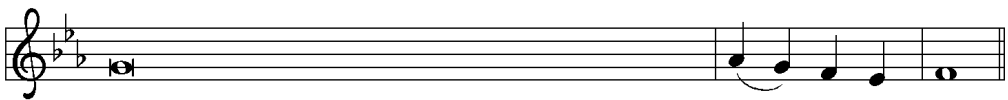
## KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



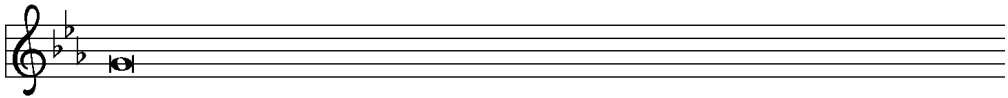
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



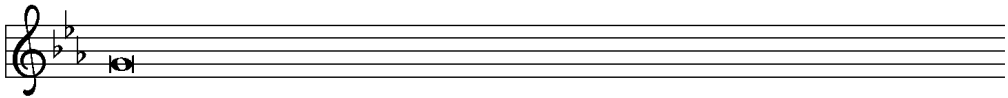
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

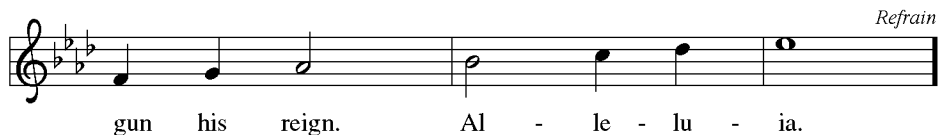
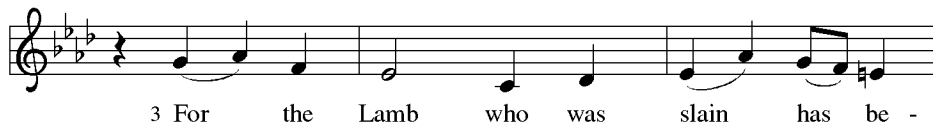
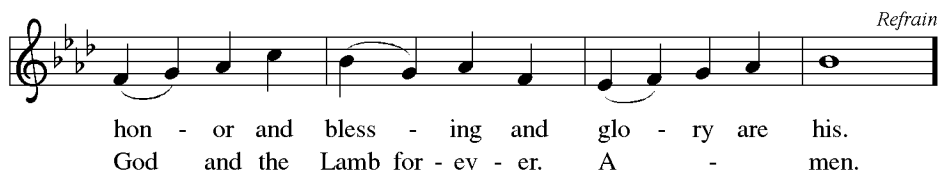
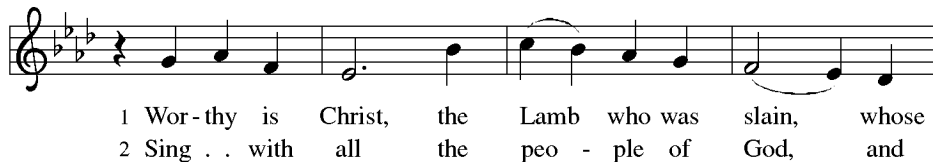
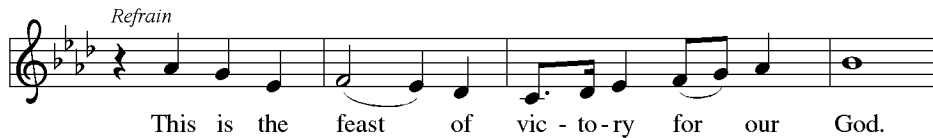


Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

# HYMN OF PRAISE



## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Holy God,  
**C** our righteous judge, daily your mercy surprises us with everlasting forgiveness. Strengthen our hope in you, and grant that all the peoples of the earth may find their glory in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## WORD

(sit)

### FIRST READING

**Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22**

*In a time of drought, the people pray for mercy, repenting of their sins and the sins of their ancestors. They appeal to God to remember the covenant, to show forth God's power, and to heal their land by sending life-giving rain.*

**A**lthough our iniquities testify against us, act, O Lord, for your name's sake; our apostasies indeed are many, and we have sinned against you. <sup>8</sup>O hope of Israel, its savior in time of trouble, why should you be like a stranger in the land, like a traveler turning aside for the night?

<sup>9</sup>Why should you be like someone confused, like a mighty warrior who cannot give help? Yet you, O Lord, are in the midst of us, and we are called by your name; do not forsake us!

<sup>10</sup>Thus says the Lord concerning this people: Truly they have loved to wander, they have not restrained their feet; therefore the Lord does not accept them, now he will remember their iniquity and punish their sins.

<sup>19</sup>Have you completely rejected Judah? Does your heart loathe Zion? Why have you struck us down so that there is no healing for us? We look for peace, but find no good; for a time of healing, but there is terror instead. <sup>20</sup>We acknowledge our wickedness, O Lord, the iniquity of our ancestors, for we have sinned against you. <sup>21</sup>Do not spurn us, for your name's sake; do not dishonor your glorious throne; remember and do not break your covenant with us. <sup>22</sup>Can any idols of the nations bring rain? Or can the heavens give showers? Is it not you, O Lord our God?

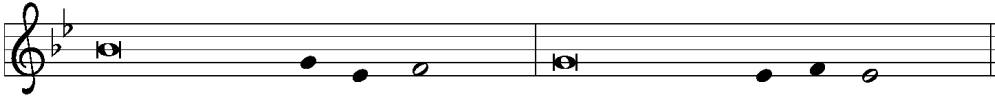
We set our hope on you, for it is you who do all this.

**L** The word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 84:1-7

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



<sup>1</sup>How dear to me <sup>1</sup> is your dwelling,

O <sup>1</sup> LORD of hosts!

<sup>2</sup>**My soul has a desire and longing for the courts <sup>1</sup> of the LORD;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the <sup>1</sup> living God.**

<sup>3</sup>Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may <sup>1</sup> lay her young,  
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my king <sup>1</sup> and my God.

<sup>4</sup>**Happy are they who dwell <sup>1</sup> in your house!**

**They will always be <sup>1</sup> praising you.**

<sup>5</sup>Happy are the people whose strength <sup>1</sup> is in you,  
whose hearts are set on the <sup>1</sup> pilgrims' way.

<sup>6</sup>**Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a <sup>1</sup> place of springs,  
for the early rains have covered it with <sup>1</sup> pools of water.**

<sup>7</sup>They will climb from <sup>1</sup> height to height,  
and the God of gods will be <sup>1</sup> seen in Zion.

## SECOND READING

## 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

*The conclusion of this letter to a young minister offers a final perspective on life from one who faced death. Though others let him down, Paul was sure of his faith in the Lord, who stood by him and lent him strength.*

**A**s for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup>I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup>From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

<sup>16</sup>At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! <sup>17</sup>But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup>The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

☞ The word of the Lord.

☞ 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.

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

☑ Glory to you, O Lord.

## HOLY GOSPEL

**Luke 18:9-14**

*The coming reign of God will involve unexpected reversals of fortune with judgment rooted in mercy. Jesus tells a parable in which the one who humbles himself is exalted and the one who exalts his own righteousness is humbled.*

Jesus also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt:<sup>10</sup>“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup>The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup>I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ <sup>13</sup>But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ <sup>14</sup>I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

## SERMON

*Pastor Hall*



(stand)

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*“Lord Jesus, Think On Me”*

ELW 599 vs. 1-3

**1 Lord Jesus, think on me,  
and purge away my sin;  
from selfish passions set me free  
and make me pure within.**

**2 Lord Jesus, think on me,  
by anxious thoughts oppressed;  
let me your loving servant be  
and taste your promised rest.**

**3 Lord Jesus, think on me,  
nor let me go astray;  
through darkness and perplexity  
point out your chosen way.**

Text: Synesius of Cyrene, 375-430;  
tr. Allen W. Chatfield, 1808-1896, alt.

## BLESSING OF THE QUILTS

- [P]** Let us pray. O Lord our God, maker of all things, you have blessed us with so many gifts—a good eye for color, the ability to make fine stitches, the skills to develop ever-new and exciting patterns. Now we offer the fruits of our labors, the quilts and kits we have made, to you.
- [C]** **We dedicate these quilts to your service, trusting that your love will go wherever each quilt is sent, making it more than just a piece of material --making each piece we have created an expression of love.**
- [P]** There is no way for us to imagine the power and effect an act of love can have on a person's life—how you can use something as small as a quilt to radiate your love from us to the world.
- [C]** **May these be used in your service and become blessings for all those who receive them.**
- [P]** Lord, we know that all we possess comes from your loving hand. Give us grace to honor you with all of our being: draw our hearts to you, guide our minds, fill our imaginations, control our wills, so that we may be wholly yours.
- [C]** **Use us as you will, always to your glory and the welfare of your people. Amen.**

*Source: Lutheran World Relief; the Litany was written by Shirley Splittgerber of Omaha, Nebraska for the Nebraska Synodical Women's Organization's LWR Workday.*

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

☞ 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: ☞ Hear us O God,  
☞ **your mercy is great.**

*(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 Elaine Bonfante

**Thanksgiving:** for the baptism of Daxton Warren, son of Wyley and Kelsey Wondercheck (October 22, 2022)

**Prayers this Week:** Gwen Berney, Philip Frye, Judy Hamaker, 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

☞ 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

*“Give Me Jesus with Steal Away to Jesus”*

arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

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(stand)

## OFFERTORY HYMN

*"We Are an Offering"*

ELW 692

The musical score is written on six staves in treble clef with a 7/8 time signature. It features a melody with various note values including eighth, quarter, and half notes, as well as rests. Triplet markings (a '3' over a group of notes) are present on the first, third, and sixth staves. The lyrics are printed below the notes, aligned with the corresponding musical phrases.

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an  
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, 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 voic-es, 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.

The musical notation for 'GREAT THANKSGIVING' consists of four staves of music in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and hymn-like, using quarter and eighth notes with slurs. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables across notes.

## 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 for 'SANCTUS' consists of four staves of music in G major. The melody is more complex than the Thanksgiving hymn, featuring some dotted rhythms and slurs. The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables across notes.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

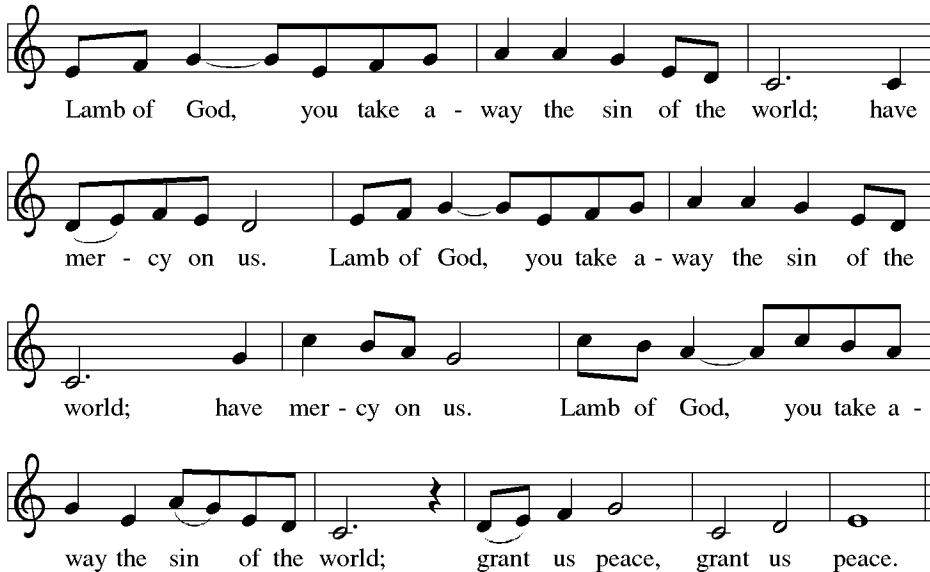
**P** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.*

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

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

*"Where Charity and Love Prevail"*

ELW 359 vs. 1-4

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1</b> Where charity and love prevail,<br/>there God is ever found;<br/>brought here together by Christ's love,<br/>by love we thus are bound.</p> <p><b>2</b> With grateful joy and holy fear,<br/>God's charity we learn;<br/>let us with heart and mind and soul<br/>now love God in return.</p> | <p><b>3</b> Let us recall that in our midst<br/>dwells Christ, God's holy Son;<br/>as members of each body joined,<br/>in him we are made one.</p> <p><b>4</b> Let strife among us be unknown;<br/>let all contentions cease.<br/>Be God's the glory that we seek;<br/>be his our only peace.</p> |
|--|---|

Text: Latin hymn, 9th. cent.;  
tr. Omer Westendorf, 1916-1997, alt.  
Text © 1960 World Library Publications. 3708 River Rd., Suite 400,  
Franklin Park, IL 60131. 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

- ☞ 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

*“Rise, Shine, You People!”*

**ELW 665**

- 1 Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered  
our human story; God in him is centered.  
He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded,  
with grace unbounded.**
- 2 See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling;  
he brings us freedom, light and life and healing.  
All men and women, who by guilt are driven,  
now are forgiven.**
- 3 Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling,  
your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.  
To all the world go out and tell the story  
of Jesus' glory.**
- 4 Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us.  
Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us.  
Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation  
God's new creation.**

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt.  
Text © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

### DISMISSAL

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

### POSTLUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

✠      ✠      ✠



### KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Stephen Griffith	Transition Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Gretchen Olson Kopp	Vicar
Kristin Boe	Christian Ed Coordinator
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Sarah Jewell	Administrative Assistant
Noni Cambridge	Staff Treasurer
Judi Boe	Financial Secretary
Jim Smejkal	Bldg. Super./Dir. of Cong. Activities
Kayla Slight	Janitorial Staff
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Susann Henry	Food Pantry Director



# KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

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

**Omaha, NE 68131**  
**[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)**

**October 22 & 23 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 worshipping, 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.

**Thank you for supporting the ministries of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church.**



### **Today at Kountze**

**Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God by Tom Holcombe in memory of wife, Jean; Altar flowers last week were given by Marge Bock

**Eternal Candle** last week was given to the glory of God by Bruce & Barb Nissen

### **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).

### **Sunday School Focus This Week**

*The Great Family*—In this lesson, we learn about Abraham and Sarah venturing into an unknown place, questioning if God would be there with them. While unsure, they put their faith in God to lead them and found his promises to be true.

## Today at Kountze, *continued*

### Youth Forum

#### Sundays, 10:10 AM in Youth Center

7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders are invited to gather each Sunday between worship. **This week:** Fun and Games: We gather around games to learn more about one another **Next week:** Ministry Fair and at 10:40 AM, Summer Trip meeting with 8-12<sup>th</sup> grade parents.

### Adult Forum

#### Fellowship Hall, 10:10 AM

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

### Blessing of the Lutheran World Relief Quilts

#### Saturday & Sunday, October 22 & 23

LWR Mission Quilts create a tangible, lasting bond between the people who lovingly assemble them, and our neighbors around the world, who receive quilts in their greatest times of need. Since 2014, our quilts have been shipped to India, Serbia, Thailand, Bosnia, Montenegro, Ukraine, and El Salvador. Our sewing group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month at 9:00 AM if you would like to join them. Talk to Chris Kendall if you have questions. There are offering envelopes in the pews to help defray shipping costs for the quilt. The first leg of the journey has been donated by Magnum (formerly Brown Transfer) LWR's approximate cost to handle and ship one quilt overseas is \$2.25.

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### 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.

### First Communion Class

#### Sunday, October 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.

## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### 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

### October 24 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

### October 25 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting  
11:00 AM Endowment Board  
12:30 PM Circle 3

### October 26 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship  
6:00 PM Confirmation Class

### October 27 Thursday

1:00 PM Circle 4  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### October 28 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### October 29 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship (Bishop Johnson preaching)  
6:00 PM Potluck

### October 30 Sunday

Reformation  
First Communion  
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal  
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship (Bishop Johnson preaching)  
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

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## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

**Thursday, October 27**

**7:00 PM**

**Brazen Head Pub, 319 N 78<sup>th</sup> St**

Reservation under "Greta". All who are in their early 20's on up are welcome to join this gathering with meal and discussion.

**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.

**Thanksgiving Dinner with St. Peter's**

**Thanksgiving Day, November 24**

**11:00 AM to 1:30 PM**

Co-sponsored with and held at St. Peter's Catholic parish (709 S 28<sup>th</sup> Street) Preparations are under way for our annual Thanksgiving luncheon. Volunteers are needed to:

- a) set up the night before;
- b) donate pies/desserts; and
- c) serve food, greet, and/or clean tables during the meal.

This event brings so many people in our community together in a spirit of Christian love and fellowship. Please join us, either to volunteer or as a guest; all are welcome. Contact Pr. Hall, Jacob Rump, Anne Dey or the church office to volunteer.

**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:** 25

**Sunday: 9:00:** 129 **11:00:** 81

**Wednesday: 12:15:** 11 **Confirmation:** 5

**Total:** 251

**Streaming:** 53

**Cox Cable:** Not available at time of printing

**Pantry Guests Served:** 1446 (inc. 447 children)

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 19

**Offering:**

\$9,781.75 (Regular) \$820.70 (Specials)

\$732.40 (Debt Reduction)

*Prayer and humility.*

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

Sunday	Luke 18:9-14	A Pharisee and tax collector pray
Monday	Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22	Jeremiah prays to the Lord
Tuesday	2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18	Paul's instruction to Timothy
Wednesday	James 4:5-10	Surrender to God
Thursday	Psalms 25:1-10	A prayer for guidance
Friday	Matthew 23:1-12	The example of Jesus
Saturday	Psalms 84:1-7	The joy of worship
Sunday	Luke 19:1-10	Jesus visits Zacchaeus



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Written by Pr. Greg Priebbenow and edited by Vibrant Faith Ministries.

*"But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!'"* **Luke 18:13 (NRSV)**

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

God of amazing grace, we thank you that we can be honest with you, knowing our broken lives are made whole in your love through Christ. Amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, for this gift of food and for all the ways you strengthen us, we give you thanks and praise. Amen.

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

May the Lord Jesus rescue you from any harm, any where, any time.

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

- How would you describe a life lived with humility?
- When you pray, what requests or confessions do you make to God?

*Read:* Luke 18:9-14.

This parable of the Pharisee and the tax collector is a story of contrasts with a caution. The Pharisee offers a prayer of thanksgiving. However, he seems to be praying to himself as he demeans another soul. The tax collector, on the other hand, does not look around for comparisons; he doesn't even look up. He beats his breast with sorrow and, in so doing, gains the favor of Jesus. The tax collector's words, *"God, be merciful to me, a sinner!"* (v. 13), have been handed down throughout the centuries as a model prayer for us all. As an act of repentance and humility, the caution is for us not to praise the posture and prayer of the Pharisee, saying to ourselves, "Thank God I am not like that person!" Repentance and humility promote a way of life that does not draw attention to oneself nor claim to have the sole possession of what is true, right, and beautiful. Living faithfully does not give us bragging rights. This parable leads us away from judgment and toward openness to the presence of God and others.

*Discuss:* In what ways can you show repentance and humility in your life of prayer?

*Pray:* **Merciful God, give us faith to trust in you with a humble heart, to confess our brokenness to you, and to care for others through Christ Jesus our 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 pray for the needs of others?

Luke 18:13 is one of the foundational texts for the Jesus Prayer. This prayer has been widely taught in the Orthodox Church as a monastic prayer but is not only limited to monks and clergy. It is a prayer for all people of all ages. This week, kneel as a sign of humility and pray the Jesus Prayer: **Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner. Amen.**

**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