

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

April 9, 2023

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Alleluia!



GATHERING

PRELUDE

Kountze Brass & Timpani
Dan Nesbitt, Scott Quackenbush, *trumpet*
Jason Stromquist, Jay Wise, *trombone*
Jack Rago, *percussion & timpani*

(stand)

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION!

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen. **C** Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

- P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life.
C Amen.

- P** Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported
as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life,
you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of
the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that
wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the
life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

- C** Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your
resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.
- P** Satisfy the world's need through this living water. Where drought dries the earth, bring
refreshment. Where despair prevails, grant hope. Where chaos reigns, bring peace. We ask
this through Christ, who with you and the Spirit reigns forever.
- C** Amen.

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
C Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

- 1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!
- 3 But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
- 4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3;
tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4

- 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

"This is the Feast"

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O God,

C you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

Psalm 118:14-15, 22-24 (read responsively)

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:**

“The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!

²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

²³**By the LORD has this been done;
it is marvelous in our eyes.**

²⁴This is the day that the LORD has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

READING

Colossians 3:1-4

Easter means new life for us as it first meant new life for Christ. His resurrection reshapes the entire focus and motivation for our lives since we are now hidden with the risen Christ in God.

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

P The word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

(stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John.



G Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

John 20:1-18

John's gospel describes the confusion and excitement of the first Easter: the stone is moved, disciples race back and forth, and angels speak to a weeping woman. Then, Jesus himself appears.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ²So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; ⁹for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹²and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

P The Gospel of our Lord



(sit)

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

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

SERMON

Pastor Griffith

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!”

ELW 377

**1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!**

Refrain

**Jesus is risen and we shall arise.
Give God the glory! Alleluia!**

**2 Walking the way, Christ in the center
telling the story to open our eyes;
breaking our bread, giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.**

Refrain

**3 Jesus the vine, we are the branches;
life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
heaven to earth, Christ to the people,
gift of the future now flowing to me.**

Refrain

**4 Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent:
death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing: O grave, be open!
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.**

Refrain

**5 City of God, Easter forever,
golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
river of life, saints and archangels,
sing with creation to God the I AM!**

Refrain

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926

Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

NICENE CREED

**☩ We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: Merciful God,
 receive 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 Bess Swanson

Prayers This Week: Myrna Carter

On-going Care: Gordon Bergjord, Cheri Biggs, John & Jane Bodnar, Joel Brown, Don Burton, Shirley Dietrich, Mike Edris, Jessica Hannon, Richard & Betty Holzer, Joan Jacobson-Trotter, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, Orville & Julie Knapp, Ruth & Charles Martis, Lara McCormick, Kathy Preninger, Darlene White, Deb Woosley

Other Prayers: *Those serving in the military* – 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

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. If you are able, please mail in your offering or donate online. Thank you!



THE TABLE IS PREPARED

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Lift High The Cross”

by Hal H. Hopson
Kountze Choir, Brass & Timpani

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today!”

ELW 373 vs. 1, 4, 5



1 “Christ the Lord is ris’n to - day!” All on earth with an - gels say;
2 Love’s re - deem - ing work is done, fought the fight, the bat - tle won.
3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Christ has burst the gates of hell.
4 Lives a - gain our glo - rious king! Where, O death, is now your sting?



raise your joys and tri - umphs high; sing, O heav’ns; and earth, re - ply.
Lo! The sun’s e - clipse is o’er. Lo! He sets in blood no more.
Death in vain for - bids his rise; Christ has o - pened par - a - dise.
Once he died our souls to save; where your vic - to - ry, O grave?

5 Hail the Lord of earth and heav’n!
Praise to thee by both be giv’n.
Thee we greet triumphant now:
hail, the resurrection, thou!

6 King of glory, soul of bliss,
everlasting life is this:
thee to know, thy pow’r to prove,
thus to sing, and thus to love!

OFFERING PRAYER

P Generous God,

G in this meal you offer your very self. We give thanks for these gifts of the earth. In the breaking of this bread reveal to us the Risen One. In the pouring of this wine pour us out in service to the world; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE 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 image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a single melodic line with lyrics underneath. The first staff has two measures, the second and third have two measures each, and the fourth has two measures. The lyrics are: '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.', and 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'

PREFACE FOR THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. Each staff contains a single melodic line with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,', 'heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.', 'Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes', and 'in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.'

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- ☐ Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
... With this bread and cup ... we proclaim the mystery of faith



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

- ☐ Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.
- ☑ **Come, Holy Spirit.**
- ☐ Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread . . .
Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
- ☑ **Come, Holy Spirit.**
- ☐ With your holy ones . . . we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.



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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

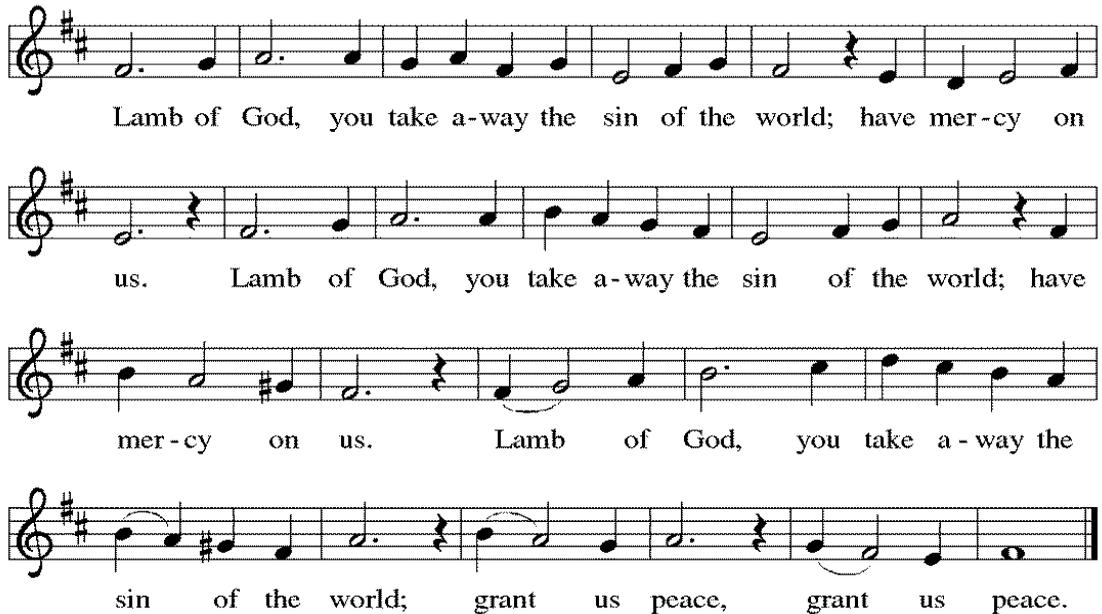
- ☐ Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us all to pray:

- ☑ **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

- ☐ All who are hungry, all who are thirsty.
- ☑ **The risen Christ dwells with us here.**

(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>1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our king!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> <p>2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day;
death's mighty stone is rolled away;
let all the world rejoice and say:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> | <p>3 Praise we in songs of victory
that love, that life, which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> <p>4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
and sing today with one accord,
the life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!</p> |
|--|--|

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt.
Text © 1952, ren. 1986 *Hymns Ancient & Modern*, admin.
Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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“That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright”

ELW 384

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
th'apostles saw their risen Lord!</p> <p>2 O Jesus, king of gentleness,
with constant love our hearts possess;
to you our lips will ever raise
the tribute of our grateful praise.</p> | <p>3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all
in this our Easter festival,
for you will be our strength and shield
from ev'ry weapon death can wield.</p> <p>4 All praise, O risen Lord, we give
to you, once dead, but now alive!
To God the Father equal praise,
and God the Spirit, now we raise!</p> |
|--|---|

Text: Latin hymn, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

- 1 **Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
in praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 2 **Eternal is the gift he brings,
therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still he comes to give us life
and by his presence stills all strife.
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 3 **Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
set heart and will on things above
that we conquer through your triumph;
grant grace sufficient for life's day
that by our lives we truly say:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**
- 4 **Adoring praises now we bring
and with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father, and our Lord,
to Spirit blest, most holy God,
all the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.
Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

“With High Delight Let Us Unite”

- 1 **With high delight let us unite
in songs of sweet jubilation.
You pure in heart, all bear your part,
sing Jesus Christ, our salvation.
To set us free forever, he
is ris'n and sends to all earth's ends
good news to save ev'ry nation.**
- 2 **True God, he first from death has burst
forth into life, all subduing.
His enemy now vanquished see;
his death has been death's undoing.
“And yours shall be like victory
o'er death and grave,” says he, who gave
his life for us, life renewing.**
- 3 **Let praises ring; give thanks, and bring
to Christ our Lord adoration.
His honor speed by word and deed
to ev'ry land, ev'ry nation.
So shall his love give us above,
from misery and death set free,
all joy and full consolation.**

Text: Georg Vetter, 1536-1599;
tr. Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-1976, alt.
Text © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

(stand)

THE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

☞ Gracious God,

☑ **in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. Amen**

SENDING

BLESSING

☞ The God of all, who raised † Jesus from the dead, bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit to live in the new creation.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

HYMN

“Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing”

ELW 389

**1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching ev'ry place and time.**

**3 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war,
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.**

**4 Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.**

**5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936
Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company,
Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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DISMISSAL

- ☐ Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- ☑ **Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

- ☐ Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.
- ☑ **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

✦ ✦ ✦

Alleluia!



Easter 2023

Lilies are given to the glory of God...

in memory of:

- Marvin Andersengiven by Kay, Erik & Kathe Andersen
- beloved son, Randy Anderson Szemplenski given by Dean & Darlene Anderson
- Uncle Tom Sullivan, who we miss so much..... given by Brett, Jack, and Grandma Kathe Bailey
- Grandma Jane Bailey, who we miss so much..... given by Brett, Jack, and Grandma Kathe Bailey
- Grandma Marge Sullivan, who we miss so much..... given by Brett, Jack, and Grandma Kathe Bailey
- my parentsgiven by Dean Bard
- my loved onesgiven by Dean Bard
- our loved ones given by Karen & Shirley Bonneau
- our parents..... given by Dale & Tina Broekemeier
- David & Lois Carlsen given by the Campbell & Carlsen families
- Floyd & Alice Chase..... given by the Campbell & Carlsen families
- Viggo & Viola Carlsen given by the Campbell & Carlsen families
- Shauna..... given by Jerry, Jared, Tana Clanton
- Bill Lepper and Dale & Jean Clatterbuckgiven by Gary & Debi Clatterbuck
- Lawrence & Marion Cooke.....given by Warren Cooke
- Ed & Betty Coufal given by The Coufal family
- Myron & Louise Klug..... given by The Coufal family
- Thelma & Joe Councill given by Joe Councill family
- Marie & Ed Debus given by Joe Councill family
- Jackie & Stephanie McCoy..... given by Joe Councill family
- Pat & Lou Granneman given by Joe Councill family
- Kathy Stauffer..... given by Joe Councill family
- Vern McAleer given by Joe Councill family
- Ellison family..... given by Robert Ellison
- loved onesgiven by Gloria Erickson
- Kelcey Renae Fike given by Mary Jo Fike & family
- Randall S. Fike..... given by Mary Jo Fike & family
- John & Bernetta Johnson given by Mary Jo Fike & family
- Sharon Fonda given by Bill Fonda
- Eugene & Mildred Fonda..... given by Bill Fonda
- parents Anne & Charles Forslund..... given by Christine Forslund
- Tonya Burke.....given by Erica Freeman
- our parents.....given by Leigh & Vicki Freeman
- Mary Rose Gruber..... given by Mom & Dad
- Dolores Gruber..... given by Tom & Theresa Gruber
- Bob & Gayle Ringo given by Tom & Theresa Gruber
- Joyce E. Hahn given by Wayne A. Hahn & family
- husband and father, George Pickinpaugh.....given by Alice Pickinpaugh, Steve & Carol Hansen
- my dear sister, Elaine Drickeygiven by Carol Hansen & family
- Jeff Helgenberger..... given by Cathy Helgenberger
- Jean Holcombe, wife of Tom, mother of Lisa & Larrygiven by Tom Holcombe
- Lorri & Tommy Enough given by James Holzer & Tracy Saklar
- Renae Wilder given by Gail Houghton
- Gary Wilder given by Gail Houghton
- Marjorie Conrad given by Gail Houghton
- Faye Grave given by Gail Houghton
- our parents..... given by Duane & Penny Hovendick
- loved ones given by Duane & Penny Hovendick
- Byron Woodhull, Janet Woodhull Young.....given by Karen & Steve Jacobson

Evelyn & Norrisgiven by Karen & Steve Jacobson
 Brian Jacobsongiven by Karen & Steve Jacobson
 Gerald Klonglan..... given by Jason Klonglan
 loved onesgiven by Tom Jensen, Ron Muchmore, The Luczynski's
 Sandy Johnson given by Curt Johnson Family
 our beloved daughter-in-law, Renee Johnsongiven by Ken & Linda Johnson
 Gehard & Cecilla Moller, Albin & Lara Johnsongiven by Ken & Linda Johnson
 Marilyn & Jack Bakergiven by Ken & Linda Johnson
 Geri Laney & Carole Olsongiven by Ken & Linda Johnson
 Rev. Robert C. Johnson..... given by Mary Ann Johnson
 Wilma Wallin Sagers given by her daughters
 Roger & Ila Knutson.....given by daughters, Sue Mollner, Jeff & Judy Knutson
 Sheri Tipton given by Kountze Friends
 Joe Kubat given by Jack Kubat
 Catherine Zinngiven by Marie Kubat
 Stan & Bernice Labeledzgiven by son & daughter-in-law, Frank & Sherri Labeledz
 Wayne & Sonn Simmonds..... given by Terri, Sherri & Sandi
 beloved brother, Peter Andrew given by Ann Miller
 beloved grandparents, Andy, Helen, Moe & Dorothy given by Ann Miller
 Lyle Nissengiven by Bruce & Barb Nissen
 Richard Muellergiven by Bruce & Barb Nissen
 Don & Jean Nippertgiven by Kris & Marvin Olson
 Marvin P Olsongiven by Kris & Marvin Olson
 Bill Green.....given by Kris & Marvin Olson
 Donna Olsongiven by Steve Olson
 Russ Olsongiven by Steve Olson
 Joe Olson.....given by Steve Olson
 Nicholas Simmonds given by Dan & Barb Paris
 Jim & Violet Simmonds..... given by Dan & Barb Paris
 Elmer Pfeiffer..... given by Gary Pfeiffer family
 Lorraine Beil Pfeiffer..... given by Gary Pfeiffer family
 Rick Picha given by family
 our grandparents.....given by Amy & Nick Pignatore
 Grandpa Wayne Bonhaggiven by Theo & Silje Pignatore
 our parents.....given by Robert & Pat Ranney
 Pat's sister.....given by Robert & Pat Ranney
 Lola Reedgiven by family
 Hannah Rief..... given by her parents & siblings
 Quintin Dewberry given by The Rief family
 Gary Rodenegiven by his wife, Nancy
 Marjean Sackgiven by Norm Sack
 Margaret Sackgiven by Norm Sack
 Barbara Saklar.....given by Tracy Saklar & Kris Placzek family
 Charles & Augusta Laushmangiven by Tracy Saklar & Kris Placzek family
 Joy Beaversgiven by Tracy Saklar & Kris Placzek family
 Chris & Nadine Saklargiven by Tracy Saklar & Kris Placzek family
 David Penning..... given by Amanda Plantz
 Lee Sealer..... given by Judy Sealer
 Carrol Sanderson..... given by The Sedlak family
 Donna Hoel given by The Sedlak family
 Gene & Eleanor Shields given by Tom & Michelle Shields
 Clara & Leo Gardinergiven by daughter, LeClare Steffen
 Arnold Steffen..... given by wife, LeClare & family
 Arthur Gersib, John & Elaine Studts given by Pat & David Studts
 George and Corky Boonstra..... given by Paul Sum family
 my father, Edward Whitegiven by Allyson White
 grandparents, Gifford & Alice Anderson, John & Margare White.....given by Allyson White
 our beloved sister, Kaye Bock given by sisters, Vickie Wichert & Darlene Anderson
 beloved husband, Don Wichert..... given by wife, Vickie

Dick Sievers given by Dan & Karen Wolf
 our parents..... given by Chet & Sara Worm
 Randy, Warren, & Betty given by Alan & Jenna Woster
 Janet & Joey..... given by Alan & Jenna Woster
 Gigliotti Family.....given by Patty Gigliotti-Ellison

In honor of:

the amazing Kountze Volunteers given by Debbie Bogue and Sarah Jewell
 Laurine Savine given by Karen & Shirley Bonneau
 Kountze clergy & staff..... given by Dale & Tina Broekemeier
 the Kountze Choir given by Barb Carlsen
 our 61st wedding anniversary (4/8/2023) given by Charles & Kathy Cole
 our grandchildren Joey, Jackson, Lilly & Ty Councillgiven by Patt & Joe Councill
 Amanda Gillespie.....given by given by Patt & Joe Councill
 our grandchildren given by Bob & Sandy Fonda
 our children and grandchildrengiven by Leigh & Vicki Freeman
 Kai, Ken, Markus, Henry, Sam & Ethan given by Grandpa & Grandma
 loved onesgiven by Joan Jacobson-Trotter
 our 4 children & 13 grandchildren given by Ken & Linda Johnson
 Lyn Wallin Ziegenbein given by her sisters
 Jesus, Our Savior given by Tom & Michelle Shields
 my mother, Darlene White.....given by Allyson White

Love Offering:

Albert & Ilse Grage
 Jill & Paul Gittler
 The Johnson family



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
Louis Flake	Night Manager
Kayla Slaight	Janitorial Staff
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Shannon Picha	Nursery Director
Susann Henry	Food Pantry Director



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

April 8 & 9, 2023

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.

Today at Kountze

Alleluia!

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. 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. You will receive the wafer in your hand and then dip into the wine.

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 8:45 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.

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



Easter Breakfast

8:00 - 10:45 AM

Join us again next Sunday from 9:30—11:00 AM for Sunday breakfast. The suggested donation is \$5 adults, \$2.50 children 12 and younger for the hot breakfast and a free-will donation for the continental breakfast.

Easter Egg Hunt

All children are invited to the green space after the 9:00 AM Easter Sunday Service to race for candy filled eggs.

No Children's Choir, Sunday School, Youth or Adult Forums on Easter Sunday

Instead, join us for Easter Breakfast and then back to our regular schedule on Sunday, April 16. Life in Christ Circus will be in the Link for Sunday School. Youth and Adult Forums will be Fellowship and a Reception for the new Confirmands.

Easter Lilies

If you paid for an Easter lily, and would like to take it home, you may pick it up after the 11:00 AM service today or next Sunday.

March/April Service Project

The Sunday School continues to collect items for the Nebraska Humane Society for the March service project. Items can be brought to church and left in front of the Sunday School office. A list of donations can be found on the Humane Society website and include standard items of food, treats, toys, blankets, and more. Items to be gathered also include many recyclable items such as cereal boxes, paper towel and toilet paper tubes, egg cartons, and plastic coffee containers.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

April 9 Sunday

Easter
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal
8:00 - 10:45 AM Easter Breakfast
7:30, 9:00, & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

April 10 Monday

OFFICE CLOSED

April 11 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

April 12 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group
11:30 PM Sewing Group, Lunch & "Quilter's on the Prairie"
12:15 PM Worship
1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese Manor
4:00 PM Executive Committee
6:00 PM Confirmation Dinner

April 13 Thursday

Council Reports Due
9:30 AM WELCA Board

11:30 AM Property Committee
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

April 14 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

April 15 Saturday

Good News Deadline
5:00 PM Worship

April 16 Sunday

Easter 2
Confirmation Sunday
8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:15 AM Children's Choir (K-5)
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - 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 Book Group @ Bookworm (note date change)

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

An Afternoon of Playing Cards with Friends

Interest has been expressed for a gathering of people on a weekday afternoon to play cards together. If this is something that you would be interested in participating in, please sign up or call the church office and let us know what weekday afternoon is best for you.

KMLC Quilters & All Interested in Quilting

Wednesday, April 12

11:30 AM

Join us for quilting and then lunch together in the Fellowship Hall (provided) following the regular monthly quilting time. We will then head over to Gallery 1516 on Leavenworth for the "Modern Quilting on the Prairie" Exhibit. If you are able to join us, please sign up or call the church office by Monday, April 10.

Confirmation Celebration Dinner

Wednesday, April 12

6:00 PM

A dinner will take place in the Fellowship Hall to honor those Affirming their Baptismal Faith on Sunday, April 16 at the 9:00 AM Worship. Confirmands, Family Members, Baptismal Sponsors, Pastors, and Speakers from the church will gather together for a meal, sharing of faith stories, and rehearsal for Confirmation Day.

Omaha Young Adults Table Theology

Saturday, April 15

11:00 AM at Table Grace Cafe, 1611 1/2 Farnam

Young adults are welcome to join for brunch and discussion with others from across Omaha. RSVP to Greta at OmahaLutheranYoungAdults@nelcm.com

A Day Without Shoes

April 16—May 7

WELCA will begin collecting new or used shoes for the Stephen Center (even unusable shoes can be collected for recycling) as their April service project. Please don't bring shoes before April 16, but beginning that weekend, a box will be in the narthex for your shoe donations.

Confirmation Day

Sunday, April 16

9:00 AM Worship

The following students will be Affirming their baptismal faith: Sheyenne Glasgow, Lilly Kassal, and Braxton Rees will come to the front of the Nave during this worship for the Rite of Confirmation. A reception time will include breakfast, cake, and a time to talk with and encourage these youth in their faith. Gift bags for cards will be on the welcome desk for those who would want to express their joy as these youth take this important step in faith this day.

Explore! Day Retreat

Grades 1 - 6

Saturday, April 22, 2023

9:00 AM - 3:30 PM

The Springs at Carol Joy Holling Camp

27416 Ranch Road, Ashland

Cost is \$25 for youth, includes lunch

Register at <https://www.cjhcenter.org/explore>

New Member Class

April 23 & 30

10:15 AM

If you're interested in learning more about Kountze Memorial and the possibility of becoming a member of our congregation, please come to the New Member classes. Call the church office if you have questions and to let us know you

plan to attend. Please plan to attend both classes.

Omaha Young Adults Trivia

April 25

7:00 PM

LOCAL Patio and Kitchen at Village Pointe

Young Adults are welcome to join the Omaha Lutheran Young Adults for trivia night! Talk to Greta for more info:

OmahaLutheranYoungAdults@nelcm.com

Men's Lunch

Thursday, April 27 (please note date change)

11:30 AM

(Rescheduled from our February snowstorm) Our speaker is from the Douglas County Historical Society, "Omaha's AUTO-Biography" is a look at our love affair with the motor car.

From automobile production, to racing, to drive-in dining and movie theaters... we will hit all the stops"

Also please note it will be the 4th Thursday just for the month of April.

God. Tacos. Legos.

A Lego Faith Formation Experience

Friday, May 5

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Grades 4 - 6

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church (510 N 93rd St, Omaha.)

Cost: \$5 per youth

Youth from across Omaha's Lutheran congregations will gather for fellowship, LEGOs and dinner! Friends are welcome! Register with Pastor Shari by Sunday, April 30, either in person, on sign-up sheet, or email at shari@kmlchurch.org Parents are welcome to stay for fellowship, a devotion, and tacos!

Honoring our High School and Other Graduates

Sunday, May 14

If you are a 2022/23 graduate, please let us know. We will uplift the names of all who have celebrated a graduation this past year. Call the church office at 402-341-7761 or email shari@kmlchurch.org, so we can celebrate with you.

High School Graduate Quilt Blessing

Sunday, May 14

9:00 or 11:00 AM

A reception of Congratulations and Celebration will take place from 10:10 to 10:50 AM. Along with breakfast, cake will be served. Seniors, please submit to the above email, 5 to 7 photos to include in the video presentation that will be shown during this time. Cards of Congratulations can be brought by the congregation on this day. A listing of graduates will be in the May Good News and the Sunday Bulletin on May 7.

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Along with breakfast, cake will be served. Seniors, please submit to the above email, 5 to 7 photos to include in the video presentation that will be shown during this time. Cards of Congratulations can be brought by the congregation on this day. A listing of graduates will be in the May Good News and the Sunday Bulletin on May 7.

Compline

Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church

Service of Ancient Chant and Motets

Sunday, May 21, 7:30 PM

Please join us for a special evening featuring the sacred service of Compline. Amidst the beauty of the candlelit sanctuary, the Schola Cantorum from Lincoln's First Plymouth Church will share a short service of meditative chants and hymns. The service of Compline has been sung for hundreds of years and offers singers and listeners a unique and special space for contemplation and communion with God.

Vacation Bible School

Welcomes all Superheros!

Sunday, June 11 - Wednesday, June 14

5:30 to 8:00 PM

We will be learning about Superheros of the Bible, how God provided for them, and how those heroes then furthered God's mission. We all know that Superheros are stronger in groups! We will be joining several other Omaha area churches for fun, fellowship, and learning together. Further details, including registration, will be coming soon. We hope to see all of you there for a SUPER good time.

KMLC Camp Week

Carol Joy Holling Camp

June 18 - 23

You can sign up for any week, but those who want to attend a week of camp with others from the church can be directed to this time. Due to funding set up through a gift for Christian Education, KMLC will pay for youth attending Carol Joy Holling Camp this summer. Go to <https://www.caroljoyholling.org> and select the REGISTER. There is a three-step process of registering on Ultracamp, choosing a session, pay deposit and complete registration. On the third step select, "Pay items in full" and then "Pay by Check/Money Order". Then send a copy of this statement to shari@kmlchurch.org and we will take care of the rest. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity, and register today!

Invitation to Sponsor our Summer Youth Trip:

Journey to DENVER

The NE Synod Youth trip for 8th - 12th graders will take place July 10-15, 2023. Five youth have said yes to this journey. We are asking you during the month of April if you would give a gift to sponsor our youth on this trip. Any gift is appreciated and for your generosity you will receive thank you notes from participants and recognition at our Summer Youth Trip Sharing Event. We appreciate your consideration of how you might be a part of this ministry.

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 38

Sunday: 9:00: 202 11:00: 111

Mon. & Tues: 12:15: 15

Total: 366

Streaming: 56

Pantry Guests Served: 894 (inc. 323 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 28

Jesus is alive!

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

Sunday	John 20:1-18	Christ's resurrection
Monday	Acts 10:34-43	Peter speaks of faith in Jesus
Tuesday	Colossians 3:1-4	New life in Christ
Wednesday	Jeremiah 31:1-6	The joyful return of exiles
Thursday	2 Corinthians 5:14-20	We are a new creation
Friday	Genesis 2:4b-25	Creation of man and woman
Saturday	Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24	The Lord's always merciful
Sunday	John 20:19-31	Thomas sees and believes



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*But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her. **John 20:17b-18 (NRSV)***

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, this is the day that you have made; let us rejoice in your steadfast love and the power of Christ's resurrection for all that you have made. In the name of the risen Christ, amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Alleluia, Christ is risen. O Lord, we give you thanks for sustaining us with this food and with the power of Christ's resurrection for us and all the world. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May you rejoice in the risen Lord.

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

- When was a time you were in disbelief and couldn't understand something that was happening?
- As we continue to grow and mature, how is the Christian faith an ongoing process of learning and growing?

Read: John 20:1-18.

The resurrection account, the first Easter Sunday story as recorded in the Gospel of John, is filled with misunderstandings. Mary Magdalene sees the empty tomb and thinks that someone has taken Jesus' body away. Two disciples come and see it as well. The disciple that Jesus loved (traditionally thought to be John, the author of the Gospel) believes, but believes what? The very next verse says *"as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead"* (v. 9). The disciples leave and go home! Mary, however, remains and talks to two angels. She does not seem awed by the encounter so it is likely she does not recognize them as angels. Then she sees Jesus and thinks he is the gardener. Finally, she hears Jesus call her by name. She then recognizes him and he sends her out to tell the disciples. Like Mary and the disciples, we, too, are on a journey of understanding what Jesus' resurrection means for us and the world. It is a life filled with new insights and awe that leads us to tell others what we have seen and heard.

Discuss: What does Jesus' resurrection mean to you?

Pray: **Eternal God, help us to grow in our faith and understanding that we may be filled with joy and be faithful witnesses to the power of Jesus' resurrection for the world you love. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you share the good news of Christ's resurrection with others?

The Kindness Rock Project was a trend that began in 2015. Small, smooth stones are painted with messages of kindness and hidden for others to find. Bring the good news that Christ is alive to friends and neighbors during the Easter season as a reminder that the stone was rolled away. Find or buy smooth stones, paint them, and write the words "Alleluia! Christ is Risen" on each one. Use those stones to bring the good news that Christ is alive to friends and neighbors during the Easter season. Place the stones in locations where someone can easily find them.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16
1 Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31