

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

2650 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68131-3616
402-341-7761
www.kmlchurch.org

June 4, 2023

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY



Out of many, One – The Holy One in Three

The first phrase is the motto of the United States – E Pluribus Unum. Adopted by Congress in 1782, the motto emphasized that, if the goal of independence was to be achieved, the colonies must “hang together”. The second phrase – also, Three-in-One – is the core doctrine (teaching) of Christ-followers. We try to figure out how the crucified Jesus could also be God, can also be a life-giving force in our daily living right now. We cannot fully explain the Trinity – or God. Perhaps our readings on this Festival of the Holy Trinity offer us key pictures, give clues about God. Perhaps, even more, these readings help us know how, in a divided world and divisive culture, we are to be the one, common humanity God created, redeemed, and gives daily life.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“*Holy, Holy, Holy*”

Piet Post
Dirk Lindner, *organ*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.
Merciful God,

C we confess that we have sinned. We have hurt our community.
We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty.
In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Righteous God,

C we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the
courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant
us your mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P God is a cup of cold water when we thirst. God offers boundless grace when we fail. Claim
the gift of God’s mercy: you are freed and forgiven in the name of ☩ Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

1 Holy God, we praise your name;
Lord of all, we bow before you.
All on earth your scepter claim,
all in heav'n above adore you.
Infinite your vast domain,
everlasting is your reign.

2 Hark! The glad celestial hymn
angel choirs above are raising;
cherubim and seraphim,
in unceasing chorus praising,
fill the heav'ns with sweet accord:
"Holy, holy, holy Lord!"

4 Holy Father, holy Son,
Holy Spirit, three we name you,
though in essence only one;
undivided God we claim you
and, adoring, bend the knee
while we own the mystery.

Text: source unknown; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820-1900

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

- P** In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- G** Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.
- P** For the reign of God, and for the peace throughout the world,
for the unity of all, let us pray,
- G** Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.
- P** For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live in your
Word, let us pray to the Lord.
- G** Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



God; to make all things new.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Almighty Creator and ever-living God:

C we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1--2:4a

At the beginning of time, God the Creator, God the powerful Word, and God the life-giving Spirit form the earth and all its inhabitants. God sees that all this created work is good and then rests on the seventh day.

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every

kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

²⁷So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

²⁸God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” ²⁹God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. ³¹God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

^{2:1}Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. ²And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. ³So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

^{4a}These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

L Word of God, Word of Life.

G Thanks be to God.

PSALM 8 (*read responsively*)

¹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!—

**²you whose glory is chanted above the heavens out of the mouths of infants and children;
you have set up a fortress against your enemies, to silence the foe and avenger.**

³When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have set in their courses,

**⁴what are mere mortals that you should be mindful of them,
human beings that you should care for them?**

⁵Yet you have made them little less than divine;
with glory and honor you crown them.

**⁶You have made them rule over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under their feet:**

⁷all flocks and cattle,
 even the wild beasts of the field,
⁸**the birds of the air, the fish of the sea,**
and whatever passes along the paths of the sea.
⁹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Paul closes a challenging letter to the Corinthians with an appeal to Christian fellowship grounded in the triune harmony of Christ's grace, God's love, and the Spirit's partnership.

Paul writes: ¹¹Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. ¹²Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you.

¹³The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

L Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

(stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Congregation:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we
 go? You have the words of e - ter - nal
 life. Al - le - lu - ia! *Repeat optional*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew. **C** Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 28:16-20

After his resurrection, Jesus summons his remaining disciples and commissions them to baptize and teach all nations in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹Go therefore and

make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN’S BLESSING 9:00 AM

Children (aged 3 years through 5th grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, they may return to their seat and use the Spark Bible and/or activity bags during the regular sermon.

SERMON

Pastor Paul Moessner

(stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Come, Join the Dance of Trinity”

ELW 412 vs. 1, 4

1 Come, join the dance of Trinity,
before all worlds begun—
the interweaving of the Three,
the Father, Spirit, Son.
The universe of space and time
did not arise by chance,
but as the Three, in love and hope,
made room within their dance.

4 Within the dance of Trinity,
before all worlds begun,
we sing the praises of the Three,
the Father, Spirit, Son.
Let voices rise and interweave,
by love and hope set free,
to shape in song this joy, this life:
the dance of Trinity.

Text: Richard Leach, b. 1953

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THE APOSTLES’ CREED

P God has made us God’s people through our Baptism into Christ.
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: **P** God, in your mercy,
 C hear our prayer.

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

Prayers this week: Ellie Carlson, Dee-Dee Lundahl, Donna Moessner

On-going Care: Gordon Bergjord, Cheri Biggs, John & Jane Bodnar, Joel Brown, Don Burton, David Chand, Shirley Dietrich, Mike Edris, Gloria Erickson, Jessica Hannon, Richard & Betty Holzer, Joan Jacobson-Trotter, Jason Klonglan, Rosanne Klug, Orville & Julie Knapp, Ruth & Charles Martis, Lara McCormick, Linda Peltz, 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, Colombia; Rev. Robert and Kathy Moore, Wittenburg Center, Germany; and Dan & Ginny Rath, international translators; our sister congregation, the American Church in Berlin, as they assist refugees from the war in Ukraine

Other Prayers: *Seminarists*— Katie Larson, Giselle Loucks, Justin Perkins

THE PEACE IS SHARED

P The peace of Christ be with you always.
C 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

“How I Love Your Word”

Mark Hayes

Paul Rath, *vocalist*

(stand)

OFFERTORY HYMN

“As the Grains of Wheat”

ELW 465

Refrain



As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were

gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from

all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless-ing is shared with-in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore-taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres-ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

- P** God of field and forest, sea and sky,
C you are the giver of all good things. Sustain us with these gifts of your creation, and multiply your graciousness in us, that the world may be fed with your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

- P** The Lord be with you. **C** And also with you.
P Lift up your hearts. **C** We lift them to the Lord.
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

ACS 1089



San - to, san - to, san - to, oh Dios del u - ni - ver - so:
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of might and mer - cy,

. . . lle-nos es-tán el cie - lo y la tie - rra de tu glo - ria.
your glo - ry fills all heav-en and earth. . . You are ho - ly, God.

Ben - di - to el que vie - ne en nom - bre del Se - ñor. . .
. . . Bless - ed be the Sav - ior, the one who comes in your name.

Ho - san - na en el cie - lo. San - to, e - res, oh Dios.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. You are ho - ly, God.


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

Congregation: *Congregation or Assistant:*




Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
* you pour your Holy Spirit on

Congregation:



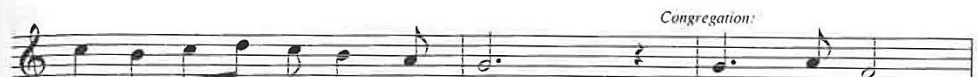
world:
us: have mer - cy on us, mer - cy on us,

Congregation: *Congregation or Assistant:*




mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

Congregation:



take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace,



grant us peace, grant us peace.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P** Come, eat what is good.
C All people are called to Christ's table.

(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 “Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!” ELW 413

- 1 **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!**
 Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
 Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
 God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
- 2 **Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,**
 casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
 cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
 which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.
- 3 **Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,**
 though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,
 only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
 perfect in pow'r, in love and purity.
- 4 **Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.
 Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
 God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, alt.

**1 Earth and all stars!
Loud rushing planets!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Hail, wind, and rain!
Loud blowing snowstorm!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain***

Refrain

**God has done marvelous things.
I too sing praises with a new song!**

**2 Trumpet and pipes!
Loud clashing cymbals!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Harp, lute, and lyre!
Loud humming cellos!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain***

**3 Engines and steel!
Loud pounding hammers!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Limestone and beams!
Loud building workers!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain***

**4 Classrooms and labs!
Loud boiling test tubes!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Athlete and band!
Loud cheering people!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain***

**5 Knowledge and truth!
Loud sounding wisdom!
Sing to the Lord a new song!
Daughter and son!
Loud praying members!
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain***

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926

Text © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

(stand)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- [P]** We thank you, generous God,
[C] for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

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SENDING

DISMISSAL OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

BLESSING

- ☐ The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed ✙ bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

RECESSIONAL HYMN

“God, Whose Almighty Word”

ELW 673

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 God, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard
and took their flight:
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.</p> <p>2 Christ, who once came to bring,
on your redeeming wing,
healing and sight;
health to the troubled mind,
sight where illusions blind;
oh, now to humankind
let there be light.</p> | <p>3 Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy dove,
speed forth your flight;
move on the water's face
bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.</p> <p>4 Holy and blessed three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might:
boundless as ocean's tide,
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth, far and wide,
let there be light.</p> |
|--|--|

Text: John Marriott, 1780-1825, alt.

DISMISSAL

- ☐ Go in peace. Share the harvest.
☑ Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Lift High the Cross”

Donald Busarow
Dirk Lindner, *organ*

✙ ✙ ✙

KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Stephen Griffith	Transition Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
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

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June 3 & 4, 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 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. 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.



Today at Kountze

Welcome Pr. Moessner

This weekend we welcome Pr. Paul Moessner as our preacher. We look forward to his proclamation of the Gospel on Trinity Sunday.

Kountze Café

9:30—11:00 AM

Join us each Sunday for breakfast. The suggested donation is \$5 adults, \$2.50 children 12 and younger for the hot breakfast and a free-will donation for the continental breakfast.

Breakfast Team for the First Sunday of the Month

Our breakfast ministry started again in September 2022, partly because of some enthusiastic Council Members who stepped forward to start the sign up sheet with names to encourage others. We have been graced by wonderful cooking and serving from this team and their families throughout the year: Anne Dey, Kate Jones, Lilly Kassel, Ann Miller, and David Tollefson. We love the spirit that each one brings to accomplishing the task of Sunday Morning Breakfast. Please hear our thanks for your leadership in this way.

Adult Forum

Fellowship Hall

10:10 AM

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10-10:50 AM. **This week:** Fellowship **Next week:** Summary Report of Synod Assembly

This Week at Kountze Memorial

June 4 Sunday

Holy Trinity
Homebound Communion
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Adult Forum

June 5 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

June 6 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

June 7 Wednesday

12:00 PM Summer Confirmation
12:15 PM Worship

June 8 Thursday

9:30 AM WELCA Board
11:30 AM Property Committee
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

June 9 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

June 10 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

June 11 Sunday

Jun 11 - Jun 14 5:30 PM - 8:00 PM VBS @ St.
Timothy's
Pentecost 2
9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship
9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)
9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast
10:10 AM Adult Forum
12:15 PM Book Group

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

2023 Nebraska Synod Assembly Delegates

We are thankful for the following members who spent time at the NE Synod Assembly on Friday and Saturday: Lisa Chinn, Pam Johnson, Kate Jones, Liz Pemberton, Dannika Rees, and Pastor Shari Duminy.

Milestone Ordination Anniversaries Celebrated

Two Members of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church are being lifted up by the Nebraska Synod: Rev. John Eggen - 15 years and Rev. Neal Von Seggern - 55 year s. We give thanks for your answering the call and the various ministries provided to the church!

Summer Confirmation

Did Confirmation pass you by, or do you want to continue learning? We'll have a program of 5 meetings this summer for those in 9th grade and above. A light meal will be served. We will participate in Wednesday Eucharist and then the learning will begin at 12:15 and conclude at 3:00 PM. We will meet in the Fellowship Lounge at **noon** on the following Wednesdays:

- The Creeds: June 7
- The Ten Commandments: June 14
- Worship/Sacraments: June 21
- Discipleship: June 28

We will plan for Affirmation of Baptism on Sunday, August 26. Please call the church office to sign up or e-mail shari@kmlchurch.org if interested in participating. Anyone is welcome to attend sessions they are interested in.

Vacation Bible School

Welcomes all Superheros!

**Held at St. Timothy Lutheran Church
(510 N 93rd St)**

**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. We hope to see all of you there for a SUPER good time. Please register here: <https://kountze.mycokesburyvbs.com/>

Volunteers Needed for VBS

If you are able to help with VBS, please use the same link above and go to Volunteer Sign Up. For those ages 18 and over, a background check is required if you have not already had one through Kountze Memorial's Sunday School program.

Lutheran Women Omaha(LWO)

Tuesday, June 13, 12:00 Noon

Bethel Lutheran Church

Lunch provided, \$7.00

Reservations required, Faith 402-734-4629

Men's Lunch

Thursday, June 15

11:30 AM

Suggested Donation is \$10.00

Join us for lunch and a brief program. Please RSVP by Tuesday, May 13, to jim@kmlchurch.org or call the church office so we know how many to plan for.

CPR/First Aid Training

We will be holding a CPR/First Aid training course in June. All Ushers and Sunday School teachers are encouraged to attend the training and the Church will take care of the registration fee which covers the training materials and certificates. All other members of the congregation are invited as well for a small fee of \$32.00. Training will take place in the lower level of Kountze Commons.

- The CPR class will be June 17 from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM with a light lunch following in the link.
- If we have more than six people signed up we will add a CPR class from 12:45 to 3:45 PM.
- The First Aid training will be Saturday June 24 from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM (a light lunch will be served during training). The first aid training is free of charge for those attending the CPR classes on June 17.

Please RSVP to the Church office or you can email jim@kmlchurch.org to reserve your spot.

NeLCM Golf Scramble

Friday, June 9

Holmes Golf Course in Lincoln

9:00 AM Start

Attention golfers and all campus ministry fans!! SAVE the DATE for our 2nd annual Nebraska Lutheran Campus Ministry four-person Golf Scramble. There will be golf, food, friends, and fun!!!

Serving on the Omaha Campus Ministry Board, Pastor Shari knows the value of this ministry shaping leaders for the church now.

Come help celebrate Pastor Sari's birthday as we support this important state-wide ministry.

Register at nelcm.com/nelcm-golf-scramble-2023/

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!

Thank You

Thank you to the Quilters of Kountze Memorial for your gifts of time and talents to provide beautiful homemade blankets of love for our graduating Seniors. Your handiwork is admired and will be treasured for years to come. As we send them out into the world, these gifts are a sign that they are never alone, but wrapped in our love and prayers and united in our faith in Christ, a bond that is never broken. Well done, servants of God!

Kountze Food Pantry

If you would like to donate items to the Pantry, please consider picking up some extra hygiene products, including feminine products, razors, and shaving cream. We never seem to have enough for everyone in need. Soap, shampoo, and deodorant are always appreciated, as well as toothbrushes and toothpaste.

If you, or someone you know would like to volunteer, please sign up at the link below:

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

NE Synod Focus for June

Go and...Pray

Prayer is the grounding for our relationship with God. From formal prayers offered in worship, prayers at meals, and fleeting moments of prayer, our lives are enveloped in prayer. In prayer, we both listen and share what is in our hearts and on our minds. We move, live, and serve in and out of our prayers. Questions to consider:

- What is your big prayer at this time?
- What is going on in the lives of your neighbor? How can you pray for them?
- Where will you GO and... grow your prayer life this month?

Prayer: Holy One, help me pause and engage in conversation with you this month and always. Amen.
Suggested Song: Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying (ELW 752).

Attendance & Giving

Saturday: 30

Sunday: 9:00: 124 11:00: 54

Wednesday: 12:15: 12

Total: 220

Streaming: 63

Pantry Guests Served: 251 (inc. 82 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 13

Offering:

Not available at time of printing

Practice the faith to gain understanding.

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

Sunday	Matthew 28:16-20	Sending of the disciples
Monday	Genesis 1:1-2:4a	God creates everything
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 13:11-13	Live in peace
Wednesday	Philippians 4:4-9	Rejoice in the Lord always
Thursday	Deuteronomy 6:4-9	The great commandment
Friday	1 Timothy 4:6-16	A good minister of Jesus Christ
Saturday	Psalms 8	Divine majesty and human dignity
Sunday	Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26	The call to follow Jesus



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"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit." **Matthew 28:19 (NRSV)**

A Prayer for the Week:

God in Three Persons, we thank you that you are with us always so that we may go out with your love, to care and serve our neighbor and the world. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for your amazing care of us with this gift of food. O Lord, how awesome is your name in all the earth. Amen. (Psalm 8)

A Blessing to Give:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you. (2 Corinthians 13:13)

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

- What is something you wish you understood about God?
- How does reading the Bible, talking with others, and praying help you learn about God?

Read: Matthew 28:16-20.

Verses 19-20 are known as The Great Commission. Jesus speaks of heavenly power given to the disciples and then sends them out to share the good news with the world. But in verses 17-18, some of the disciples have doubt. What happened to the doubting disciples? They are sent out to baptize and teach the faith. They are to baptize in the trinitarian language of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, wording not used earlier in Matthew. The Trinity has always been a challenge and a mystery. How do you have one God in three persons? Instead of a lecture on this point, Jesus sends out his followers to baptize and teach. Somehow his followers will grow in knowledge as they practice the faith. It is in practicing, teaching, and living the faith that we gain understanding. Part of that understanding is that our God is with us always and sends us out with the power to love, save, and bless.

Discuss: How have you learned about God and grown in your faith by practicing and living the faith?

Pray: **God of power and might, give us the faith to go out into the world and rely on your presence to love, save, and bless in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how can you practice your faith and reach out to someone with God's love?

2 Corinthians 13:13 is called the "Apostolic Greeting" (meaning related to the apostles) and has been used at the beginning of many worship services. It is often overlooked that much of Christian worship comes directly from the Bible. The Bible is sung, prayed, and read during worship. Christian worship can be practiced in the home as well. Practice using this shortened version of the verse when you greet or say good-bye to family and friends this week: **May the grace of the Lord Jesus, the love of God, and the Holy Spirit be with you.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Hosea 5:15--6:6; Psalm 50:7-15
Romans 4:13-25; Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26