

# 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](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

July 2, 2023

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

FIFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



*The welcome of baptism is for all God's children. This baptismal gift sets us free from the power of sin and death. In today's gospel, Christ promises that the disciple who gives a cup of cold water to the little ones serves Christ himself. From worship we are sent on our baptismal mission: to serve the little ones of this world and to be a sign of God's merciful welcome. Marked with the cross and filled with holy food, we are sent from worship to witness to Christ in the world.*

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

Mark Jones, *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 Let us build a house where love can dwell  
and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end  
divisions:**

*Refrain*

**All are welcome, all are welcome,  
all are welcome in this place.**

**3 Let us build a house where love is found  
in water, wine and wheat:  
a banquet hall on holy ground  
where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus,  
is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees  
us: *Refrain***

**5 Let us build a house where all are  
named,  
their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and  
claimed  
as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
let this house proclaim from floor to  
rafter: *Refrain***

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

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## APOSTOLIC GREETING

- ☐ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.**
- ☑ And also with you.**

## KYRIE

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

**G** you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

## WORD

(sit)

### FIRST READING

**Jeremiah 28:5-9**

*Through a symbolic action Jeremiah insisted that Judah and all the surrounding nations should submit to the king of Babylon (Jer. 27). Hananiah contradicted the word of Jeremiah, who in reply insisted that Hananiah's rosy prediction should not be believed until it came true. God confirmed the word of Jeremiah and sentenced the false prophet Hananiah to death (vv. 16-17).*

**T**he prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord; <sup>6</sup>and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord fulfill the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord, and all the exiles. <sup>7</sup>But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup>The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup>As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet."

**L** Word of God, Word of Life.

**G** Thanks be to God.

### PSALM 89:1-4, 15-18 (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup>Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing;

from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

<sup>2</sup>**For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever;  
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**

<sup>3</sup>"I have made a covenant with my chosen one;

I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

<sup>4</sup>**"I will establish your line forever,  
and preserve your throne for all generations."**

<sup>15</sup>Happy are the people who know the festal shout!

They walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.

<sup>16</sup>**They rejoice daily in your name;  
they are jubilant in your righteousness.**

<sup>17</sup>For you are the glory of their strength,  
and by your favor our might is exalted.

<sup>18</sup>**Truly, our shield belongs to the LORD;  
our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

## **SECOND READING**

**Romans 6:12-23**

*Sin is an enslaving power which motivates us to live self-serving, disobedient lives. Sin's final payoff is death. We, however, have been set free from sin's slavery to live obediently under God's grace, whose end is the free gift of eternal life.*

**D**o not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. <sup>13</sup>No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. <sup>14</sup>For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

<sup>15</sup>What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup>But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, <sup>18</sup>and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. <sup>19</sup>I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

<sup>20</sup>When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup>So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup>But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. <sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**☞ Word of God, Word of Life.**

**☞ 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*

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The first staff is labeled 'Congregation:' and contains the lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?'. The second staff continues with 'You have the words of e - ter - nal life.' The third staff concludes with 'Al - le - lu - ia!' and is marked 'Repeat optional'.

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

## HOLY GOSPEL

**Matthew 10:40-42**

*When Jesus sends his disciples out as missionaries, he warns them of persecution and hardships they will face. He also promises to reward any who aid his followers and support their ministry.*

Jesus said to the twelve:] <sup>40</sup>“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup>Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; <sup>42</sup>and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

(sit)

## CHILDREN’S BLESSING 9:00 AM

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

## SERMON

*Pastor Duminy*

(stand)

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*“Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak”*

ELW 676 vs 1-3

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak<br/>in living echoes of your tone;<br/>as you have sought, so let us seek<br/>your straying children, lost and lone.</b></p>          | <p><b>2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead<br/>the wand'ring and the wav'ring feet;<br/>oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed<br/>your hung'ring ones with manna sweet.</b></p> |
| <p><b>3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach<br/>the precious truths which you impart;<br/>and wing our words, that they may reach<br/>the hidden depths of many a heart.</b></p> |  |

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt.

## 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:    **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)*

**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, Dee-Dee Lundahl, Ruth & Charles Martis, Lara McCormick, Donna Moessner, 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:** *Seminarians*— Katie Larson, Giselle Loucks

## 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

*“Fairest Lord Jesus”*

arr. Anne Marie David  
Anna Renard, *piano*

(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:*



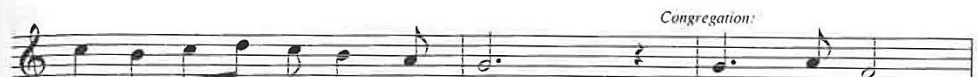
world:  
us:      have mer - cy on us,      mer - cy on us,

*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

"As We Gather at Your Table"

ELW 522

**1** As we gather at your table,  
as we listen to your word,  
help us know, O God, your presence;  
let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
Nourish us with sacred story  
till we claim it as our own;  
teach us through this holy banquet  
how to make Love's vict'ry known.

**2** Turn our worship into witness  
in the sacrament of life;  
send us forth to love and serve you,  
bringing peace where there is strife.  
Give us, Christ, your great compassion  
to forgive as you forgave;  
may we still behold your image  
in the world you died to save.

**3** Gracious Spirit, help us summon  
other guests to share that feast  
where triumphant Love will welcome  
those who had been last and least.  
There no more will envy blind us  
nor will pride our peace destroy,  
as we join with saints and angels  
to repeat the sounding joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944  
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- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1</b> Where cross the crowded ways of life,<br/>where sound the cries of race and clan,<br/>above the noise of selfish strife,<br/>we hear your voice, O Son of Man.</p> <p><b>2</b> In haunts of wretchedness and need,<br/>on shadowed thresholds dark with fears,<br/>from paths where hide the lures of greed,<br/>we catch the vision of your tears.</p> <p><b>3</b> From tender childhood's helplessness,<br/>from human grief and burdened toil,<br/>from famished souls, from sorrow's<br/>stress,<br/>your heart has never known recoil.</p> | <p><b>4</b> The cup of water giv'n for you<br/>still holds the freshness of your grace;<br/>yet long these multitudes to view<br/>the strong compassion in your face.</p> <p><b>5</b> O Master, from the mountainside<br/>make haste to heal these hearts of pain;<br/>among these restless throngs abide;<br/>oh, tread the city's streets again;</p> <p><b>6</b> Till all the world shall learn your love,<br/>and follow where your feet have trod;<br/>till glorious from your heav'n above<br/>shall come the city of our God.</p> |
|---|---|

Text: Frank M. North, 1850-1935, alt.

*(stand)*

## **POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

- ☞** We thank you, generous God,
- ☞** 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.

# SENDING

## DISMISSAL OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

### BLESSING

- ☞ The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed, Father, Son ✝, and Holy Spirit bless, keep, and sustain you now and to the end of the age.

### THREE-FOLD AMEN

### RECESSIONAL HYMN

*“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”*

**ELW 551 vs 1-3**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>1 The Spirit sends us forth to serve;<br/>we go in Jesus' name<br/>to bring glad tidings to the poor,<br/>God's favor to proclaim.</b>       | <b>3 We go to be the hands of Christ,<br/>to scatter joy like seed<br/>and, all our days, to cherish life,<br/>to do the loving deed.</b> |
| <b>2 We go to comfort those who mourn<br/>and set the burdened free;<br/>where hope is dim, to share a dream<br/>and help the blind to see.</b> | <b>4 Then let us go to serve in peace,<br/>the gospel to proclaim.<br/>God's Spirit has empowered us;<br/>we go in Jesus' name.</b>       |

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939  
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### DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace. Share the harvest.  
☞ **Thanks be to God.**

### POSTLUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*



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### KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Stephen Griffith	Transition Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
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](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

July 1 & 2, 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.*

### Today at Kountze Memorial

#### 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.**



#### 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.

#### 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:** Fellowship

#### A Note from Sarah Jewell

It is with a heavy heart that I announce my resignation from the office staff of Kountze Memorial. As many of you may know, these last few years I have been pursuing my degree. After completion and graduation this May, I have decided to set out and start working within my career field of Interior Design. My last day here at Kountze will be Friday, July 28. It is not always easy to welcome such change, but it is a necessary part of life. I trust that you all will continue to support the Office Staff and Pastors during this time of many transitions, as they will do their best to support you all. These past five years here at Kountze have been full of many friendships, laughter, and memories dear to my heart. I thank you all for welcoming me into your space, and allowing me to be a part of the wonderful community and family, found here at Kountze. This is not a definite “goodbye”, as I know our paths will cross again. For now, I will say “So long!”



## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### Kountze Food Pantry

The Pantry is always short of canned soup and peanut butter. If you want to donate these items, please leave them in the box in Fellowship Hall. We are also very short of volunteers on Friday evenings. The service is from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Volunteers should arrive by 4:30. If you, or someone you know would like to volunteer, please sign up at the link below:

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

### Cards with Friends

#### Thursday, July 6, 2:00 PM

Meet in the Fellowship Hall for a time together playing cards. Bring a snack to share. All are welcome.

### Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) Program

YAGM invites young adults (ages 21—35) into a transformative year of service and fellowship. Through YAGM young adults learn what it means to serve in a spirit of accompaniment as they walk alongside global church companions. They become immersed in new communities and form deep relationships. And they confront issues of poverty, racial privilege, gender privilege, economic disparity, and globalization, all through the lens of faith. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis, year-round. The timeline for decisions follows:

- January 15—Priority deadline for the upcoming service year.
- February 1—Final deadline for the upcoming service year.
- August—YAGM participants depart for service.

If you have questions about these updates or would like to chat about anything YAGM-related, please reach out to Mae, Interim Program Director, at [MaeHelen.Jackson@ELCA.org](mailto:MaeHelen.Jackson@ELCA.org).

### St. Croix Hospice

St. Croix Hospice is looking for hospice volunteers who are willing to share their time and talents to provide emotional and practical support for patients and their families. St. Croix Hospice volunteers are provided training, support, and flexible scheduling. Call 24/7 at 855-278-2764 or visit [stcroixhospice.com/volunteer](http://stcroixhospice.com/volunteer) to learn more.

### July—Go and...

#### Listen

How do we listen with our full selves? In reality, all of our senses are used when we listen – with our ears, our eyes, our mouths, and our bodies. As disciples, we

listen to ourselves, our neighbors, and God. When we listen, we find new perspectives, shared history, and common ground.

#### Questions to consider:

- What is something you learned from listening to your heart?
- What is something you learned from listening to a stranger?
- In a year of *GOING*, how will you listen to those around you?

**Prayer:** Listening God, help me stay open to the surprises you provide while on the road this summer. Amen.

**Suggested Song:** Listen, God is Calling (ELW 513)

### The 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Lutheran Service Corps Golf Tournament

**Sunday, August 6, 2023**

**Eagle Hills Golf Course, Papillion.**

**Check in and lunch begins at noon**

**Golf will start at 1:30 PM**

**Individual golfers are \$100; foursome is \$400**

There are many sponsorship opportunities ranging from hole sponsorships at \$250 up to our presenting sponsor at \$5,000. To find out more about sponsorship opportunities and to register your team, go to our golf website at [www.charitygolftoday.com/lutheranservice](http://www.charitygolftoday.com/lutheranservice). For questions, contact Scott Glaser at [scott@lutheranservicecorps.org](mailto:scott@lutheranservicecorps.org) or 720-218-5112.

### Camp Carol Joy Holling Quilt Auction July 29, 2023

The 35<sup>th</sup> annual Quilt Auction is coming soon! The day promises good food, great fun, and lots of beautiful quilts donated by friends of camp. The auction and lunch will be held rain or shine. Quilts can be viewed online starting this weekend. Quilts can be donated and delivered to Carol Joy Holling Camp until July 22. They should be placed in a plastic bag with a completed copy of the donation form found on the camp website. This year our kitchen will be serving pulled pork sandwiches and a selection of favorite salads. Lunch will be served from 11:30 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. and costs \$8 for adults, \$4 for kids (4-12), and free for children 3 and under. Vegetarian and gluten-free options are available upon request. Concessions will be offered before and after lunch. Bring your friends and families!

## The Camp Classic Tournaments

**August 18, 2023 | September 22, 2023**

**Meadowlark Hills Golf Course | Ashland Golf Club**

Do a 2 Fore 2 deal or pick one tournament, but the camp would love to see you out on the course supporting camp! Four person scramble, noon: shotgun start, teams & individuals welcome. Info and registration form can be found at <https://www.nlom.org/golf>

## KMLC Camp Week

### Carol Joy Holling Camp

Camp week was June 18 – 23. A good time was had by all! If your child/ren didn't get a chance to go to camp this year, we'll have information on early bird registration for next year in the bulletin and Good News. Below is a photo from camp week.



## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### July 2 Sunday

Pentecost 5  
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

### July 3 Monday

NO PANTRY

### July 4 Tuesday

Independence Day  
OFFICE CLOSED

### July 5 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

### July 6 Thursday

2:00 PM Cards with Friends  
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### July 7 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### July 8 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

### July 9 Sunday

Pentecost 6  
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

## Attendance & Giving

**Saturday: 29**

**Sunday: 9:00: 146 11:00: 65**

**Wednesday: 12:15: 14**

**Total: 254**

**Streaming: 47**

**Pantry Guests Served: 1,029 (inc. 334 children)**

**Medical Clinic Guests Served: 26**

**Offering:**

**5/18:**

\$12,836.31 (Regular)    \$3,363.32 (Specials)

\$1,292.00 (Debt Reduction)

**5/25:**

\$10,181.16 (Regular)    \$3,318.77 (Specials)

\$588.16 (Debt Reduction)



*Freed by God's undeserved kindness.*

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

Sunday	Matthew 10:40-42	Receiving and serving others
Monday	Jeremiah 28:5-9	Hananiah opposes Jeremiah
Tuesday	Romans 6:12-23	Slaves of righteousness
Wednesday	2 Timothy 1:8-14	Relying on the power of God
Thursday	Ephesians 2:1-10	From death to life
Friday	2 Corinthians 12:1-10	Paul's visions
Saturday	Psalms 89:1-4, 15-18	God's covenant with



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*For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.* **Romans 6:14 (NRSV)**

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

Gracious God, your loving commitment to us goes far beyond what we can imagine; give us faith to trust your never-failing love through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, help us to give thanks for this food so that we can receive this meal with a humble heart through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

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

May the God of love and faithfulness give you joy.

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

- When is a time you received something that you felt you did not deserve?
- When is a time you recognized God's unconditional love in your life?

*Read:* Romans 6:12-23.

In this reading, God's grace—God's undeserved kindness—is under attack. Paul is responding to those who think his message encourages us to sin. He knows God's goodness does not lead us to sin and writes, "*Sin will have no dominion*" (v. 14) meaning sin will not be your master. For those who think God's grace leads to sinfulness, Paul's response is simple: "No way!" Earlier in chapter 6 he uses the image of life and death to reject such thinking. We have died to sin so we cannot continue to live in sin. Paul then uses the imagery of slavery, either a slave of sin or of God's righteousness. We are freed from being slaves of sin. Our lives are controlled by all that is right and good through Christ, our true Lord (v. 23). Paul acknowledges the difficulty to grasp all this and moves on to the real point for our lives in Christ. It is to be set free by a relationship to God for sanctification, that is, a holy life set apart for God that leads to eternal life.

*Discuss:* How does God's undeserved kindness set you free to love God and others?

*Pray:* **Dear God, your constant love is more than we can imagine. Set us free to enjoy your goodness with love for you and for all you have created through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you serve others with hospitality?

Hospitality is the practice of treating guests in a friendly and generous way. It includes the spirit in which it is given. Jesus said that anyone who welcomed one of his followers and gave them something even small, such as cup of cool water, would be rewarded (Matthew 10:42). Put an empty water jug or pitcher on the table. Think or talk about ways you can serve and help others. For each way you name, pour a cup of water into the jug. Finish with this prayer: **Lord Jesus, thank you for serving us. Make us ready to serve others, in big and small ways. Amen.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:8-14  
Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30