

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

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February 21, 2024

6:30 PM

### LENTEN MIDWEEK SERVICE

#### PRELUDE

*(stand)*

#### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus.

**C** Amen.

**P** Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** God, our rock and refuge,

**C** we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free.

**We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold.**

**We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up.**

**We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred.**

**For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.**

**P** Hear this flood of grace:

Out of love for the whole world, God draws near to us, breaks every snare of sin,  
washes away our wrongs, and restores the promise of life through ✠ Jesus Christ.

**C** Amen.

- 1 Bless now, O God, the journey  
that all your people make,  
the path through noise and silence,  
the way of give and take.  
The trail is found in desert  
and winds the mountain round,  
then leads beside still waters,  
the road where faith is found.**

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

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## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Gracious Creator,  
**C** you fashioned us in your image in the midst of a world beyond our knowledge and understanding. Continue to weave us together in community with all created things, and deepen our awareness of the ways you connect us to the earth. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.
- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.  
**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

## GOSPEL

**Mark 4:35-41**

**O**n that day, when evening had come, he said to them, "Let us go across to the other side." <sup>36</sup>And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. <sup>37</sup>A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. <sup>38</sup>But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" <sup>39</sup>He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. <sup>40</sup>He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" <sup>41</sup>And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

**L** The Gospel of the Lord.

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

(sit)

## SERMON

*Pastor Wynard*

(stand)

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Many and Great, O God*

ELW 837

- 1 **Many and great, O God, are your works,  
maker of earth and sky.  
Your hands have set the heavens with stars;  
your fingers spread the mountains and plains.  
Lo, at your word the waters were formed;  
deep seas obey your voice.**
- 2 **Grant unto us communion with you,  
O Star-abiding One.  
Come unto us and dwell with us;  
with you are found the gifts of life.  
Bless us with life that has no end,  
eternal life with you.**

Text: Joseph R. Renville, 1779-1846; para. Philip Frazier, 1892-1964, alt.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response:    **P**   God of mercy,  
                  **C**   hold us in love.

## 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 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.**

# SENDING

## BLESSING

**P** The creator who fashions us together with all things,  
the Christ who leads us into a new beloved community,  
the Spirit who holds us in the communion of saints,  
one God, ✠ bless you now and always.

**G** Amen.

## HYMN

*Now It Is Evening*

**ELW 572 vs. 1,2,4**

*(Sung to the tune of Morning Has Broken ELW 556)*

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>1</b> Now it is evening: lights of the city<br>bid us remember Christ is our light.<br>Many are lonely, who will be neighbor?<br>Where there is caring, Christ is our light.                | <b>2</b> Now it is evening: food on the table<br>bids us remember Christ is our life.<br>Many are hungry, who will be neighbor?<br>Where there is sharing, Christ is our life. |
| <br><b>4</b> Now it is evening: here in our meeting<br>may we remember Christ is our friend.<br>Some may be strangers, who will be neighbor?<br>Where there's a welcome, Christ is our friend. |  |

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

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## DISMISSAL

- P** Go in peace, joined together in Christ.  
**G** Thanks be to God.

*All are welcome to come forward and light a candle.  
You may kneel for prayer at the railing, pray at your seat, or pray at the foot of the cross.  
You may also come forward to pray with a Pastor.*

*Depart in Silence*

✠      ✠      ✠