

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor  
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March 31, 2024

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

*Alleluia!*



# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

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

*(rise in body or spirit)*

## 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,  
the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.
- C** **Amen.**

- P** Look, here is water!
- C** **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

- P** Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life.

Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day.

Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land.

In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

- C** **Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

- P** At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

- C** **Amen.**

- P** Look, here is water!
- C** **Here is our water of life! 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

## 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.

## 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

- ☞ God of mercy,
- ☞ we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## WORD

(sit)

### FIRST READING

Acts 10:34.43

*Peter crosses the immense religious and social boundary that separates Jews from Gentiles in order to proclaim the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, so that God's forgiveness in Jesus' name would reach out to all people.*

**P**eter began to speak to [the people]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and

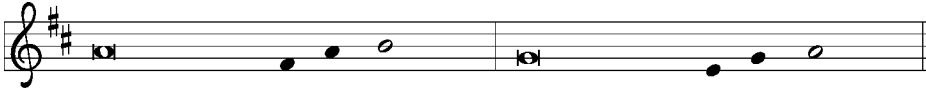
allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

📖 Word of God, Word of Life.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

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



<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;  
God’s mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup>**Let Israel now declare,  
“God’s mercy endures forever.”**

<sup>14</sup>The LORD is my strength and my song,  
and has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup>**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:  
“The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!**

<sup>16</sup>The right hand of the LORD is exalted!  
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!”

<sup>17</sup>**I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD. R**

<sup>18</sup>The LORD indeed punished me sorely,  
but did not hand me over to death.

<sup>19</sup>**Open for me the gates of righteousness;  
I will enter them and give thanks to the LORD.**

<sup>20</sup>“This is the gate of the LORD;  
here the righteous may enter.”

<sup>21</sup>**I give thanks to you, for you have answered me  
and you have become my salvation. R**

<sup>22</sup>The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.

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

<sup>24</sup>This is the day that the LORD has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it. **R**

### SECOND READING

### 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

*The core of the Christian faith and Paul’s preaching is the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the crucified and risen Christ appeared to the earliest of his followers, so we experience the presence of the Risen One in the preaching of this faith.*

**N**ow I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, <sup>2</sup>through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

<sup>3</sup>For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>4</sup>and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, <sup>5</sup>and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. <sup>6</sup>Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. <sup>7</sup>Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. <sup>8</sup>Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. <sup>9</sup>For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. <sup>10</sup>But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them—though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. <sup>11</sup>Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*(rise in body or spirit)*

**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. Mark.



**C** Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

**GOSPEL**

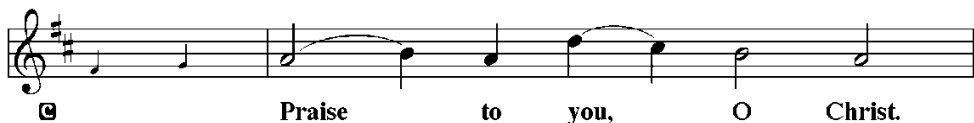
**Mark 16:1-8**

*Children may follow along using the Spark Bible turning to page 482*

*The resurrection of Jesus is announced, and the response is one of terror and amazement.*

**W**hen the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint [Jesus' body]. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." <sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

☐ The Gospel of our Lord



(sit)

**CHILDREN'S BLESSING (9:00 AM)**

*After the blessing, children are encouraged to return to the pew with their families.*

**SERMON**

*Pastor Hall*

*(rise in body or spirit)*

**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:    **P** God of grace,  
                  **G** 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:** Barb Carlsen, Martha Eckmann, Cris Hall, Bob Woodworth

**On-going Care:** Cheri Biggs, John & Jane Bodnar, Don Burton, Shirley Dietrich, Mike Edris, Jessica Hannon, Richard & Betty Holzer, Joan Jacobson-Trotter, Jason Klonglan, Orville & Julie Knapp, Marie Kubat, Ruth & Charles Martis, Lara McCormick, Nita Mueller, Linda Peltz, Jim Perkins, Marce Picha, Kathy Preininger, David Samaria, Evelyn Sueper, Gary Westerman, Deb Woosley

**Other Prayers:** *Those serving in the military* – Wyatt Johnson, Tyler Johnston, Michael McNeill, Daniel Milstead, Cody Ray, Sheldon Skovgaard, Joel Woosley

**Other Prayers:** *Those serving in mission* – Rev. Chandran Paul Martin, India; Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson, Tanzania; Katie Larson, Colombia; Rev. Bridget Gautieri, 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* – James Holzer, Katie Larson, Giselle Loucks

## **THE PEACE IS SHARED**

**P** The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**G** 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

*Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna*

arr. Jeremy Bankson  
Kountze Choir, Brass & Timpani

*(rise in body or spirit)*

### OFFERTORY HYMN

*Christ is Living*

ACS 934 vs. 1 & 3



1 Christ is liv - ing! Gone with sor - row! Tears and ter - ror, be no more.  
3 Death is swal - lowed up in vic - t'ry; sin has lost its poi - son sting.



Death and grave, you now are noth - ing; Christ is free of ev - 'ry pow'r.  
Life will blos - som from the grain sown, Christ the first fruits of the spring.



Why then seek the liv - ing Sav - ior in the haunts of death and fear?  
For the sure - ness of sal - va - tion let us sing, "Thanks be to God!"



Christ is ris - en! Shout the good news so that all the world may hear.  
Christ is ris - en! We are liv - ing! Spread the word of grace a - broad.

## OFFERING PRAYER

☐ Risen One,

☑ you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. 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 a musical score for 'The Great Thanksgiving' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has two measures: 'The Lord be with you.' and 'And al - so with you.'. The second staff has two measures: 'Lift up your hearts.' and 'We lift them to the Lord.'. The third staff has two measures: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.'. The fourth staff has two measures: 'It is right to give our thanks and praise.'. The melody is simple and uses quarter and eighth notes with slurs.

## 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 a musical score for 'Sanctus' in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has eight measures: 'Ho - ly. ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,'. The second staff has eight measures: 'heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.'. The third staff has eight measures: 'Ho - san-na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes'. The fourth staff has eight measures: 'in the name of the Lord. Ho - san-na in the high - est.'. The melody is simple and uses quarter, eighth, and dotted notes with slurs.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P** 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.

- P** Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine.  
Bless this feast. Grace our table with your presence.

**C** **Come, Holy Spirit.**

- P** Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread ...  
Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.

**C** **Come, Holy Spirit.**

- P** 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

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

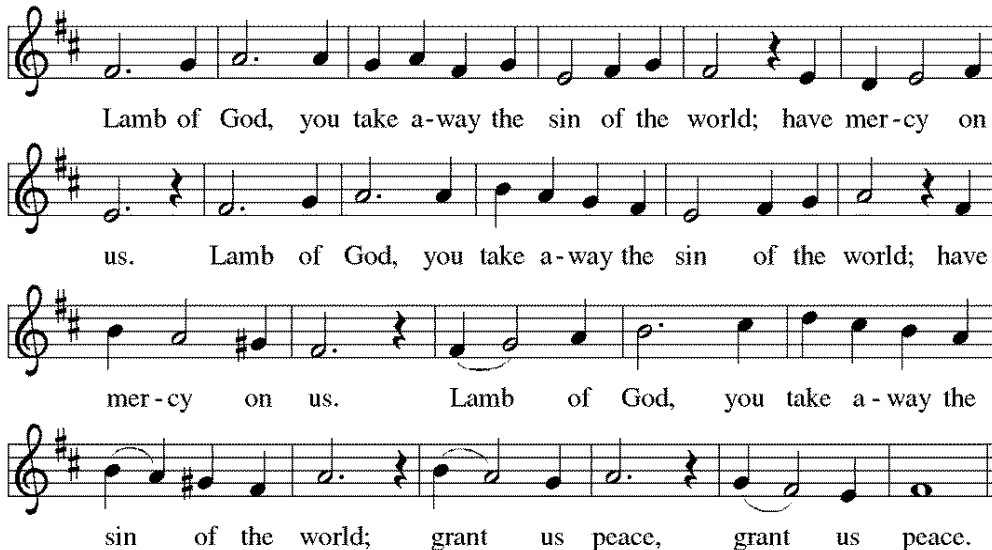
**C** **Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come,  
thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

## AGNUS DEI



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on  
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- ☐ Come and eat at God's table.
- ☑ **The risen Christ is made known to us in the breaking of the bread.**

(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

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!*

**ELW 385**

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

- 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.**
- 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!**

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

*Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds*

- 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.

**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

*(rise in body or spirit)*

## **THE BLESSING**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**℟** Shepherding God,

**℣** you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. Amen.

# SENDING

## BLESSING

**P** Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**C** Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

**P** Almighty God:

The Source of resurrection power, the Christ of unending joy, and the Spirit of Easter hope + Bless you now and always.

## 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,  
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## DISMISSAL

**P** Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**C** Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

## POSTLUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*



*Alleluia!*

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# Easter 2024

## Lilies are given to the glory of God...

### in memory of:

- Marvin Andersen .....given by his family  
son, Randy Anderson Szemplenski and Dean Anderson, Sr.....given by  
mother and wife, 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
- loved ones ..... given by Callies, Green, & Ray families  
husband, Dwaine ..... given by Ellie Carlsen
- loved ones ..... given by Ellie Carlsen
- our parents..... given by Gary & Debi Clatterbuck
- Lawrence & Marion Cooke..... given by Warren Cooke
- Edward J. & Betty L Coufal.....given by the Coufal family
- Myron Klug.....given by the Coufal family
- Thelma & Joe Councilll, Marie & Ed Debus, Jackie & Stephie McCoy, Pat &  
Lou Granneman, Kathy Stauffer, Vern McAleer.....given by the  
Joe Councilll family
- Marilyn & Donald Darst ..... given by Don & Janet Darst
- Mom, Dad, Sheryl, & Jan .....given by Barb Donelson
- Elaine Drickey ..... given by her family
- my parents ..... given by Patricia Ellison
- my parents .....given by Robert Ellison
- loved ones ..... given by Gloria Erickson
- Kelcey Renae Fike ..... given by Mary Jo Fike & family
- Randall S. Fike..... given by Mary Jo Fike & family
- Dr. & Mrs. J. A. Johnson ..... given by Mary Jo Fike
- Mary Rose Gruber..... given by Mom & Dad
- Bob & Gayle Ringo ..... given by Tom & Theresa Gruber
- Dolores Gruber..... given by Tom & Theresa Gruber
- father, Rocco Fili .....given by Caleb Fili & family and Sarah & Josh Kelloms

Dorothy & Wayne Fischer ..... given by Jerry Fischer  
 parents, Anne & Charles Forslund ..... given by daughter, Christine Forslund  
 Hannah Rief ..... given by her family  
 Joyce E. Hahn ..... given by Wayne Hahn & family  
 my sister, Marilyn ..... given by Judy Hamaker  
 Stan & Mary Jane Hansen ..... given by Len & Janice Hansen  
 Ben & Lorine Nelson ..... given by Len & Janice Hansen  
 Jeff Helgenberger ..... given by Cathy Helgenberger  
 Lorri & Tommy Esnough ..... given by James Holzer & Tracy Saklar  
 Genevieve, Robert, and Jacquie Hopkins ..... given by Jim & Jann Hopkins  
 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, Norris, & Brian Jacobson ..... given by Karen & Steve Jacobson  
 family and friends ..... given by Jensen, Muchmore, and Luczynski families  
 Renee Johnson ..... given by Ken & Linda Johnson  
 Gert & Cecilia Moller ..... given by Ken & Linda Johnson  
 Albin & Laura Johnson ..... given by Ken & Linda Johnson  
 Geri Laney & Carole Olson ..... given by Ken & Linda Johnson  
 Lily Kinish ..... given by Tonia Beck  
 Wayne & Sonyarae Simmonds ..... given by daughters, Terri, Sherri & Sandi  
 Stan & Bernice Labedz ..... given by son & daughter-in-law,  
 Frank & Sherri Labedz  
 Marvin & Ann Lienemann ..... given by Rick Lienemann & Jane Estabrook  
 Nylene Weinberg ..... given by Lara McCormick  
 Family & friends ..... given by Sharon Miley  
 beloved brother, Peter Andrew Miller ..... given by Ann Miller  
 grandparents, Andy, Helen, Moe & Dorothy ..... given by Ann Miller  
 Roger & Ila Knutson ..... given by Sue Mollner  
 Lyle Nissen ..... given by Bruce & Barb Nissen  
 Richerd Mueller ..... given by Bruce & Barb Nissen  
 Donna Olson ..... given by Steve Olson  
 Russ Olson ..... given by Steve Olson  
 Joe Olson ..... given by Steve Olson  
 Rick Picha ..... given by Marce and family  
 Margaret Sack ..... given by Norm Sack  
 Marjean Sack ..... given by Norm Sack  
 Barbara Saklar ..... given by Tracy Saklar & Kris Placzek family  
 Charles & Augusta Laushman .. given by Tracy Saklar & Kris Placzek family

Joy Beavers ..... given by Tracy Saklar & Kris Placzek family  
 Chris & Nadine Saklar ..... given by Tracy Saklar & Kris Placzek family  
 Lee Sealer..... given by Judy Sealer  
 Mother, Viola kain ..... given by Barbara Smrkovsky  
 Granddaughter, Kay'leigha McIntyre ..... given by Barbara Smrkovsky  
 our grandparents..... given by Stuart & Becca Sedlak & family  
 our parents, John, Elaine & Arthur .....given by Pat & David Studts  
 Kathy Swoboda ..... given by her family  
 George & Corky Boonstra ..... given by Paul Sum Family  
 Dean and Carl Sum ..... given by Paul Sum Family  
 M. Eugene & Barbara Tollefson .....given by David Tollefson  
 Jim Tunzer ..... given by his wife, Nancy  
 Raymond & Edna Krog.....given by Marsha Vance  
 Mae & Carl Johnston, Jr ..... given by the Wests  
 Don Wichert..... given by wife, Vickie  
 our parents..... given by Dan & Karen Wolf  
 Julie & Joe Woster ..... given by Alan & Jenna Woster  
 Bob & Wilma Wallin ..... given by Ann, Lynn, and Julie  
 Evelyn & August Worm .....given by Chet & Sara Worm  
 Rachel & Randolph Anderson ..... given by Chet & Sara Worm

**in honor of:**

Ed Kinnish ..... given by Tonia Beck  
 our amazing Kountze Volunteers.....given by Debbie Bogue  
 Pantry & Clinic volunteers..... given by Dale & Tina Broekemeier  
 our grandchildren Joey, Jackson, & Lilly Councill, Ty Councill, and Sam  
 Gillespe ..... given by Patt & Joe Councill  
 Ethan, Markus, Sam, Henry, Ken, and Kai.. given by Grandma & Grandpa G.  
 Marie Kubat ..... given by Jack Kubat  
 Alice Pickinpaugh..... given by her grandkids and great grandkids  
 Dick & Betty Holzer ..... given by James Holzer & Tracy Saklar  
 Mother, Shirley Gersib.....given by Pat & David Studts  
 Randy, Autum, Matt & Aelea ..... given by Alan & Jenna Woster  
 Charlie Ziegenbein..... given by Lynn Wallin Ziegenbein

**Love Gift:**

Bob & Jacque Johnson



## KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Lucy Wynard	Senior Pastor
Pr. Shari Duminy	Transitional Associate Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Kristin Boe	Director of Faith Formation
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Danielle Barrett	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
Jill Conway	Director of Kountze Commons



# KOUNTZE

## Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street  
402-341-7761

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

March 30 & 31, 2024

*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 the 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. Offering plates are located by the doors in the Nave.

### **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 Memorial**



### **Easter Breakfast**

**8—10:45 AM**

The youth and young adults are providing Egg Casseroles, Pastries, Fruit, and Yogurt on this morning. All proceeds will go to support the ELCA Youth and Young Adult Gatherings in New Orleans this summer, so please be generous as you are able. Enjoy!

### **Faith Formation**

#### **Sunday School**

**Ages 2 years-6<sup>th</sup> Grade**

No Sunday School today, but join us in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Sunday School Rooms on April 7.

#### **Children's Choir**

**Grades K-6**

No Children's Choir today, but join Amy Pignatore on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor in the Sunday School Music Room again on Sunday, April 7.

## Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

### Youth Forum

10:10 AM

Grades 7—12

Lower Level Youth Room

**This Week:** Serving Easter Breakfast

**Next Week:** Reception for Confirmands

### Adult Forum

Join us at 10:10 AM on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall.

**This Week:** Fellowship (Easter Sunday)

**Next Week:** Reception for Confirmands

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## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### March 31 Sunday

Easter Sunday

7:30, 9:00, & 11:00 AM Worship

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

8—10:45 AM Easter Breakfast

10:00 AM Easter Egg Hunt

### April 1 Monday

OFFICE CLOSED

### April 2 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

### April 3 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

~~7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal~~

6:00 PM Confirmation

### April 4 Thursday

2:00 PM Cards with Friends

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

6:00 PM Worship & Music Committee

### April 5 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

### April 6 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

### April 7 Sunday

Easter 2

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir Rehearsal

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:00 AM Affirmation of Baptism

9:15 AM Children's Choir (K-6)

9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast

10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour

1:00 PM Easter Book Group

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## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### Confirmation Classes

Wednesdays in April

6 PM

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church

Wed. April 3 Communion

Wed. April 10 Confessing Faith

Wed. April 17 Confirming Faith

Wed. April 24 Confirmation Year End Party

### Easter Book Group

Sundays, April 7, 14, 21, & 28

1 PM

Place TBD

Pastor Lucy & Mia Valquier, together with the youth and young adults of Kountze, would like to invite you to an Easter Book Group. We will be reading & discussing the book *The Everyday Advocate: Living Out Your Calling to Social Justice* by Ross Murray. The group will meet on **Sunday afternoons in April** (possibly at a coffee/brunch spot!). Please find a copy of the book for yourself or let Pastor Lucy know if you need help finding/purchasing a copy. The church has a couple of copies that can be borrowed. Ross Murray was the featured speaker at the annual Lutheran Youth of Nebraska (LYON) Assembly last fall. He is an ordained deacon in the ELCA, vice president at the GLAAD Media Institute, and the founding director of the Naming Project, a faith-based youth ministry and summer camp for LGBTQ youth and their allies. You may sign up at the Welcome Desk, email or call the church office, or online at:

<https://form.jotform.com/232355457100044>

### Lutheran Women Omaha (LWO)

Held at Kountze Memorial

Tuesday, April 9

12 PM

Bring a sack lunch and \$3 for dessert.

Reservations by April 7 to Faith at 402 734 4629. Come and join us.!

### Middle School Gathering 2.0

My Story is Your Story is Christ's Story is Our Story

April 13

Sheridan Lutheran in Lincoln, NE

9:30 AM – 6:30 PM

A Synod-wide day of service for middle school youth (5<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> grade) to gather and learn to share Christ's story as they explore how daily experiences and interactions shape our faith stories. "So faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ." (Romans 10:17) The cost for this retreat will be covered. **Let the church office know by March 31 if you would like to be registered to attend this event.**

### ELCA Youth Gathering/Young Adult Gathering Meeting/Lock-In

7 PM, Friday, April 12—7 AM, Saturday, April 13

All participants attending the gathering this summer will join with the group from Immanuel in Bellevue at their church (104 Galvin Rd. N). Please know that our prayers surround you in this time of preparation.

## **New Member Classes**

**April 14 & 21**

**10:15 AM**

Explore the potential of joining Kountze Memorial by attending our upcoming new member classes. Please plan to attend both sessions. We will welcome new members on Sunday, May 5 (please note date change). Questions or planning to attend? Call the church office – we look forward to connecting with you!

## **Dress Up Mystery Dinner**

**All 9<sup>th</sup> Graders – Young Adults**

**Sunday, April 14**

**5 PM**

You are invited to put on your best dress clothes and arrive at the church to guess what might be on the menu. As you order, your meal might arrive with no food at all or all food with no utensils. Eventually, all will enjoy a great meal while learning from a speaker that will explore how we might have healthy relationships in our lives. Don't miss out! Bring your friends! Sign up to attend by **Wednesday, April 10**.

## **Honoring High School and all other Graduates**

**Sunday, April 28**

**9 or 11 AM**

**Reception: 10:10 - 10:50 AM**

If you have graduated in the past year or will graduate this spring, please let us know. On April 28 we will uplift the names of all who are celebrating a graduation during the year. Call the church office by April 15 at 402-341-7761 or email shari@kmlchurch.org, so we can celebrate with you. A Quilt Blessing for high school graduates will take place on that date. There will also be a reception of Congratulations and Celebration in the Fellowship Hall from 10:10 - 10:50 AM. Along with breakfast, cake will be served. Cards of Congratulations can be brought by the congregation on this day. If you forget, we have some that you can write on at the Welcome Desk. A listing of all graduates will be in the May Good News and the Sunday bulletin on April 21 and 28.

## **High School Graduate Quilt Blessing**

**Sunday, April 28**

**9 or 11 AM**

A reception of Congratulations and Celebration will take place on April 28 from 10:10 - 10:50 AM. Along with breakfast, cake will be served. High School Seniors, please submit 5 to 7 photos to include in the video presentation that will be shown during this time to shari@kmlchurch.org.

## **Summer Bible Camp at Carol Joy Holling**

If you didn't get a chance to register for camp by the Early Bird pricing deadline (January 31), Kountze Memorial will still cover the cost of the Early Bird pricing, but you will need to pay the additional cost. Kountze Camp Week is June 16-21, but you can attend camp whenever it is convenient

for you. Check out the schedule for the different camp opportunities for grades K-12 as well as day camps and leadership training for high school-age youth and Special Needs camps at <https://www.caroljoyholling.org/register>

- In order for the church to pay the fee, choose
- to mail your payment,
- select "Pay items in Full"
- then "Pay by Check/Money Order"
- Email a copy of the receipt to shari@kmlchurch.org

We will then submit the Early Bird portion of the payment on behalf of your youth. You'll need to mail in your portion. If you have any questions, please reach out to church staff. To register go to:

<https://www.caroljoyholling.org/register>

## **Camp Firelight VBS**

**St. Timothy's Church ( 510 N 93<sup>rd</sup> St)**

**July 8-11**

**5:15 PM: Family Dinner**

**6—8 PM: Class**

Have an adventure with God this summer! Make plans now to attend VBS. Registration is open now to register for VBS youth and volunteers. Sign up with the following link:

<https://kountze.mycokesburyvbs.com/>

Volunteer opportunities include kitchen clean up, teachers, assistants, and more. We would love to see you there!

## **Kountze Food Pantry**

Thank-you to everyone who donated toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss for our guests at the Kountze Food Pantry. Our goal is to always have these items available along with soap and razors. In April, we are collecting disposable razors and shaving cream or foam. Currently the greatest and most urgent need is for volunteers. A small group of dedicated faithful are receiving, moving and restocking almost 10,000 lbs. of goods every Monday morning. If you or anyone you know can assist us in our mission of "Feeding the Poor, in Christ's Name", please sign up at the link below:

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

### **Attendance & Giving**

**Thursday, 3/21/2024—Wednesday, 3/27/2024**

**Saturday:** 43

**Sunday: 9:00:** 140 **11:00:** 93

**Streaming:** 71

**Pantry Guests Served:** Not available at time of printing

**Medical Clinic Guests Served:** 25

**Offering:** Not available at time of printing



*Christ is risen. Alleluia!*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 20:1-18	The tomb is empty
Monday	Acts 10:34-43	God shows no partiality
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 15:1-11	Christ died for our sins
Wednesday	Hebrews 12:1-12	The example of Jesus
Thursday	John 1:1-5	In the beginning was the Word
Friday	Romans 5:1-5	Being acceptable to God
Saturday	Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24	Give thanks to the Lord
Sunday	John 20:19-31	Come and see and believe



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### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*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. John 20:1 (NRSV)*

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### A Prayer for the Week:

Living God, we thank you for your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who has conquered sin and death for us through his death and resurrection. Amen. Christ is risen! Alleluia.

#### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, for this gift of food and for the resurrection of Jesus Christ we give you thanks for your steadfast love that endures forever! Amen.

#### A Blessing to Give:

May the risen Christ bless you with hope and joy.

### CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- What is something you hope for but wonder if it will ever happen?
- What makes Easter important to you?

### DEVOTIONS

*Read:* John 20:1-18.

Mary came to the tomb early in the morning when it was still dark. The darkness versus light theme is found from the beginning of the Gospel of John, *“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.”* (John 1:5) When we gather in worship on Easter Sunday, we expect light and beauty to fill the sanctuary. That is not the story of the first Easter in the Gospel of John. It includes more references to death and the tomb than the other three Gospels. Death and darkness are realities, even on Easter. There is confusion and misunderstanding, including Mary not recognizing Jesus and two of the disciples not understanding that Jesus *“must rise from the dead”* (v. 9). Perhaps John wants us to dwell a little longer on the reality of death and darkness that surrounds us, even today. A closer look at the frailty and sorrows of life and our own misunderstandings makes the message of Christ’s resurrection stand out all the more. It might just make Easter even brighter, our hearts even warmer, and our hope even stronger. Christ is risen! Alleluia.

*Discuss:* What is hard for you to understand about the resurrection?

*Pray:* **Almighty and everlasting God, for your glory and power over sin and death we sing your praises now and forever through Jesus Christ, the one who died so that we may live forevermore. Amen.**

### SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you give hope to someone going through a tough time?

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Alleluia means “praise the Lord.” The word Alleluia is traditionally not used and is “buried” during Lent. It is resurrected on Easter. Light all seven candles of the seven votive candles shaped like a cross that have been used during Lent. Consider using the candles as a centerpiece for Easter dinner. Write the word Alleluia on post-it notes or index cards. Place them around the candle cross. *Say:* **Christ is risen; He is risen, indeed! Alleluia. Then pray: This is the day the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Amen.** (Psalm 118:24)

**NEXT WEEK’S READINGS:** Acts 4:32-35; Psalm 133

1 John 1:1--2:2; John 20:19-31