

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

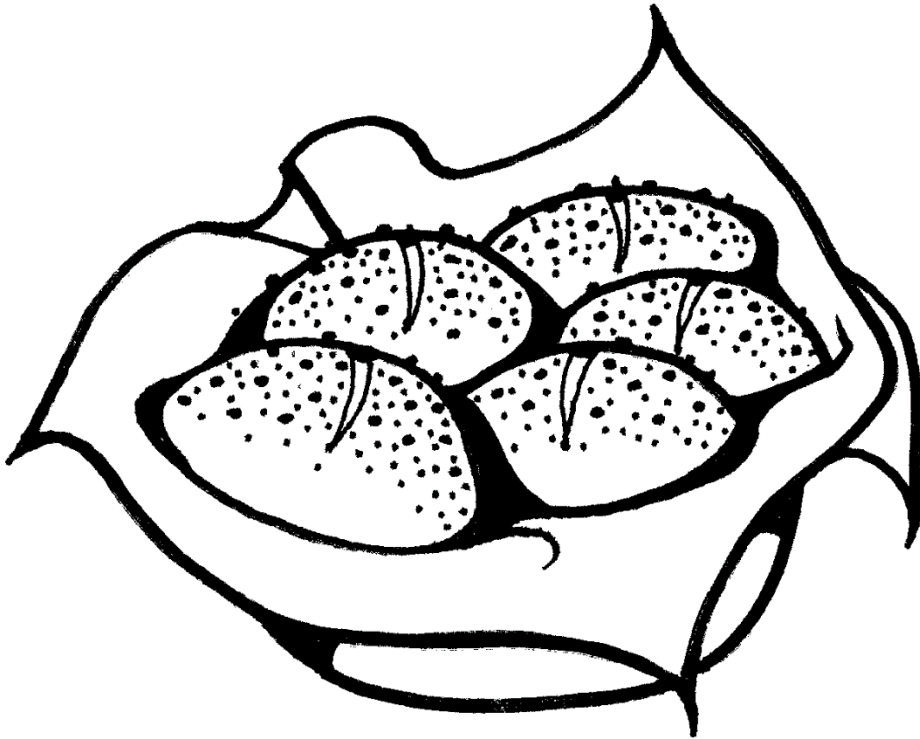
Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor  
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor

2650 Farnam Street  
Omaha, NE 68131-3616  
402-341-7761  
[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

August 4, 2024

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

**ELEVENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST**



*Apparently not satisfied by Jesus' feeding of thousands, some who were there press him for a sign of his power; perhaps it is daily manna they want. As always in John's gospel when people want a sign, Jesus offers himself. He is the bread come from heaven to give life to the world. He calls us to come to him and believe in him, and through that relationship to know the one who sent him.*

# GATHERING

## PRELUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(rise in body or spirit)*

## CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy.

**C** Amen.

**P** Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** God, our provider, help us.

**C** **It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for the life in the world. Amen.**

**P** Beloved people of God:  
in Jesus, the manna from heaven, you are fed and nourished. By Jesus, the worker of miracles, there is always more than enough. Through Jesus, † the bread of life, you are shown God's mercy: you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.

**C** Amen.

## PROCESSIONAL HYMN

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!*

ELW 385

**1 Good Christian friends, rejoice and sing!**

**Now is the triumph of our king!  
To all the world glad news we bring:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**2 The Lord of life is ris'n this day;**

**death's mighty stone is rolled away;  
let all the world rejoice and say:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**3 Praise we in songs of victory**

**that love, that life, which cannot die,  
and sing with hearts uplifted high:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,**

**and sing today with one accord,  
the life laid down, the life restored:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

## 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.  
**C** And also with you.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

*Come, All You People*

ELW 819



1 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;  
2 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;  
3 Come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;



come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;  
come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;  
come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;



come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Most High;  
come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Sav - ior;  
come, all you peo - ple, come and praise the Spir - it;



come now and wor - ship the Lord.  
come now and wor - ship the Lord.  
come now and wor - ship the Lord.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** O God,  
**C** eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied.  
Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus  
Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

# WORD

(sit)

## FIRST READING

**Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15**

*A food crisis becomes a faith crisis for the Israelites in the wilderness. The hungry people forget God's saving work in the exodus, and they wish for the food they had in Egypt. Nevertheless, God miraculously meets their needs, with manna for bread and quail for meat.*

**T**he whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

<sup>4</sup>Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not."

<sup>9</sup>Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'"<sup>10</sup> And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. <sup>11</sup>The Lord spoke to Moses and said, <sup>12</sup>"I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'"

<sup>13</sup>In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. <sup>14</sup>When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. <sup>15</sup>When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

📖 Word of God, Word of Life.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

## PSALM 78:23-29 (*read responsively*)

<sup>23</sup> So God commanded the clouds above  
and opened the doors of heaven,

<sup>24</sup> **raining down manna upon them to eat  
and giving them grain from heaven.**

<sup>25</sup> So mortals ate the bread of angels;  
God provided for them food enough.

<sup>26</sup> **The LORD caused the east wind to blow in the heavens  
and powerfully led out the south wind,**

<sup>27</sup> raining down flesh upon them like dust  
and flying birds like the sand of the seas,

<sup>28</sup> **letting them fall in the midst of the camp  
and round about the dwellings.**

<sup>29</sup> So the people ate and were well filled,  
for God gave them what they craved.

## SECOND READING

**Ephesians 4:1-16**

*Christians share fundamental unity and diversity. Our unity consists in the one body, one Spirit, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God. Our diversity is expressed in various forms of ministry whose goal is equipping the saints and building up Christ's one body.*

**I** therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup> making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

<sup>7</sup> But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. <sup>8</sup> Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people."

<sup>9</sup> (When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? <sup>10</sup> He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) <sup>11</sup> The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. <sup>14</sup> We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. <sup>15</sup> But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, <sup>16</sup> from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

☐ Word of God, Word of Life.

☑ Thanks be to God.

*(rise in body or spirit)*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Refrain*  
Leader

Lis - ten now for the gos - pel! Al - le - lu - ia! It is  
God's word that chang - es us! Al - le - lu - ia!

1 Come, Ho - ly Spir - it, melt and break our hearts of stone,  
un - til we give our lives to God, and God a - lone.

*Refrain*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

**C** Glory to you, O Lord.

## HOLY GOSPEL

**John 6:24-35**

*Many of the five thousand people Jesus fed in the wilderness continued to follow him throughout the countryside. Jesus challenges them to consider the real nature of their quest.*

**W**hen the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were [beside the sea,] they themselves got into the boats and went to Capernaum looking for Jesus.

<sup>25</sup> When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said to him, “Rabbi, when did you come here?” <sup>26</sup> Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, you are looking for me, not because you saw signs, but because you ate your fill of the loaves. <sup>27</sup> Do not work for the food that perishes, but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Son of Man will give you. For it is on him that God the Father has set his seal.” <sup>28</sup> Then they said to him, “What must we do to perform the works of God?” <sup>29</sup> Jesus answered them, “This is the work of God, that you believe in him whom he has sent.” <sup>30</sup> So they said to him, “What sign are you going to give us then, so that we may see it and believe you? What work are you performing?” <sup>31</sup> Our ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness; as it is written, ‘He gave them bread from heaven to eat.’” <sup>32</sup> Then Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Father who gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup> For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” <sup>34</sup> They said to him, “Sir, give us this bread always.”

<sup>35</sup> Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.”

**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 Hall*

*(rise in body or spirit)*

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

**ELW 461 vs. 1 & 3**

**1 All who hunger gather gladly;  
holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wand’ring.  
Here in truth we will be fed.  
You that yearn for days of fullness,  
all around us is our food.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.**

**3 All who hunger, sing together,  
Jesus Christ is living bread.  
Come from loneliness and longing.  
Here in peace we have been fed.  
Blest are those who from this table  
live their days in gratitude.  
Taste and see the grace eternal.  
Taste and see that God is good.**

## 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: ☞ Merciful God,  
☞ **receive our prayer.**

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

**Prayers this week:** Lesley Akers

**On-going Care:** Betty Callies, 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, Tracey Mason, Lara McCormick, Lyn Meyer, Nita Mueller, Diane Nickeson-Ray, Linda Peltz, Jim Perkins, Kathy Preininger, David Samaria, LeClare Steffen, Vinn Stephens, Joyce Wachal, Gary Westerman, Deb Woosley

**Other Prayers:** *Those serving in the military* – Wyatt Johnson, grandson of Ken and Linda Johnson; Tyler Johnston, son of Robert and Michelle Johnston, Daniel Milstead, nephew of Darlene Anderson; Cody Ray, grandson of Betty Callies; Dannika Rees, daughter of Eric and Toby Rees; Joel Woosley, son of Debbie Woosley, nephew of Steph Stephens, and grandson of Vinn Stephens

**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; Rev. Robert & Kathy Moore, Leipzig, 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

- 📄 The peace of Christ be with you always.
- 📄 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

*We Shall Behold Him*

Dottie Rambo  
Roy Miller, *vocalist*

(rise in body or spirit)

### 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** Jesus, Bread of life,
- C** you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. 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,  
... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## SANCTUS

*Holy, Holy, Holy*

ELW 192



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.



Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

☐ Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

☑ **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 away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

☑ **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

☐ Come to the table Christ has set.

☑ **There is more than enough for all!**

*(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.*

**1** Soul, adorn yourself with gladness,  
leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,  
come into the daylight's splendor,  
there with joy your praises render.  
Bless the one whose grace unbounded  
this amazing banquet founded;  
Christ, though heav'nly, high, and holy,  
deigns to dwell with you most lowly.

**3** Now in faith I humbly ponder  
over this surpassing wonder  
that the bread of life is boundless  
though the souls it feeds are countless;  
with the choicest wine of heaven  
Christ's own blood to us is given.  
Oh, most glorious consolation,  
pledge and seal of my salvation.

**4** Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,  
truest friend, and dearest treasure,  
peace beyond all understanding,  
joy into all life expanding:  
humbly now, I bow before you,  
love incarnate, I adore you;  
worthily let me receive you,  
and, so favored, never leave you.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-1677; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship  
Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

*Eat This Bread*

ELW 472 sung 3 times

**"Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
come to me and never be hungry.  
Eat this bread, drink this cup,  
trust in me and you will not thirst."**

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Text: Taizé Community  
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*(rise in body or spirit)***POST-COMMUNION BLESSING****PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

- ☐** Jesus, Bread of life,
- ☑** we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.  
Amen.

# SENDING

## DISMISSAL OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

### BLESSING

- ☞ The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, † be upon you now and forever.

### THREE-FOLD AMEN

### RECESSIONAL HYMN

*Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer*

ELW 618

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>1 Guide me ever, great Redeemer,<br/>pilgrim through this barren land.<br/>I am weak, but you are mighty;<br/>hold me with your pow'rful hand.<br/>Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,<br/>feed me now and evermore,<br/>feed me now and evermore.</b></p>          | <p><b>2 Open now the crystal fountain<br/>where the healing waters flow;<br/>let the fire and cloudy pillar<br/>lead me all my journey through.<br/>Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer,<br/>shield me with your mighty arm,<br/>shield me with your mighty arm.</b></p> |
| <p><b>3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,<br/>bid my anxious fears subside;<br/>death of death and hell's destruction,<br/>land me safe on Canaan's side.<br/>Songs and praises, songs and praises,<br/>I will raise forevermore,<br/>I will raise forevermore.</b></p> |   |

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.

### DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.  
☞ Thanks be to God.

### POSTLUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*



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## KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Lucy Wynard	Senior Pastor
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Kristin Boe	Director of Faith Formation
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Danielle Fleming	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 Omaha, NE 68131  
402-341-7761 [www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

August 3 & 4, 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**



## Today at Kountze Memorial

**Altar Flowers** are given to the glory of God by Tom & Theresa Gruber in celebration of 50 years of blessings;

**Eternal Candle** is given to the glory of God in memory of Randall S. Fike given by Mary Jo Fike and family

**Kountze Café Lite**  
9:30—11:00 AM

**Free-will Offering**

Through Labor Day weekend, we will be serving a lighter fare for breakfast. If you would like to help with breakfast, even just for a Sunday or two, please contact Sherri Labedz.

**Adult Forum**

**Sundays, 10:10 AM**

Join us on Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall for a lite breakfast and then stay for Adult Forum.

**This week:** Faith Formation & Community Engagement

**Next week: Ministry Fair:** Katie Larson and Global Mission

**Blessing of Backpacks**

**August 3, 5 PM**

**August 4, 9 & 11 AM**

All students, teachers, professors, Sunday school volunteers, and support staff are invited to bring their school bags to church and receive a blessing for a year of abundant learning and development.

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## This Week at Kountze Memorial

**August 4 Sunday**

Pentecost 11

Blessing of Backpacks

Homebound Communion

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:30 AM Kountze Café Lite

10:10 AM Adult Forum

**August 5 Monday**

10:00 AM Pantry

11:30 AM Endowment Board

**August 6 Tuesday**

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

7:30 PM Youth Committee

**August 7 Wednesday**

12:15 PM Worship

**August 8 Thursday**

9:30 AM WELCA Board

11:30 AM Property Committee

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free

Clinic

**August 9 Friday**

5:00 PM Pantry

**August 10 Saturday**

11:00 AM Celebration of Life

Luncheon

5:00 PM Worship

**August 11 Sunday**

Pentecost 12

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:30 AM Kountze Café Lite

10:10 AM Adult Forum

12:15 PM Book Group

5:30 PM Hotdogs & S'mores

(gr 7-12)

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## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

**Dinners for Eight**

**Sign up by Monday, August 19.**

- Get to know others in the congregation over 3 dinners for 3 months in groups of eight.
- Meet each month for a meal in September, October, and November
- Consider meeting for lunch instead of dinner!

- Enjoy a meal and conversation with one another.
- Sign up at the Welcome Desk or call the church office by Monday, August 19.
- See you around the table!

## For Your Calendar/News & Notes *continued*

### **Men's Lunch**

**Thursday, August 15**

**11:30 AM**

**Fellowship Lounge**

**Cost: \$10.00**

Have you ever wanted to eat like a king? Join us for the August Men's Lunch, where we will experience what it was like to eat in medieval times. Bring your appetite and you guessed it: no silverware allowed. Sign up at the welcome desk or email jim@kmlchurch.org by Tuesday, August 13 to reserve your seat for this dining experience.

### **Congregational Election Meeting**

**Sunday, August 18, 2024**

**10:15 AM**

**Please plan to join us between services in Fellowship Hall for our Annual**

**Congregational Election Meeting.** We will

- elect new members to the Council,
- hear updates and vote on the administrative structure for KCCOC (Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center),
- and discuss the use of funds from the sale of deFreese Manor.

### **Notice of Special Meeting**

**Kountze Commons**

**Community Outreach Center**

**Sunday, August 18, 2024**

**During the Congregational Meeting at Kountze Memorial**

The purpose of this special meeting is to:

1. consider and vote upon the Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Corporation
  2. consider and vote upon the Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Corporation
- Copies of the Amended & Restated Articles of Incorporation and the Amended & Restated Bylaws are at the Welcome Desk.

### **Back to School Gathering**

**Hotdogs & S'mores**

**Grades 7-12**

**Sunday, August 18**

**5:30 PM**

Meet at the Link Door (by the tall orange tower) at 5:30 PM for Hot Dogs, S'mores & Games in the Courtyard. We have invited our friends from Immanuel in Bellevue to join us. Let us know your plans by signing up and tell us what you can bring to the party. See you there as we grow in relationships and faith.

### **School Supplies for KMLC Pantry Guests**

Over the summer, we will be collecting backpacks of all types, notebooks, folders, pencils, pens, crayons, markers, color pencils, glue, tissues, scissors, hand sanitizer, and anything else you may find useful for our school-aged pantry guests. You will find labeled donation tubs in the Fellowship Hall for your donations.

### **Cards With Friends**

We won't be meeting in August. Watch the bulletin, e-news, and Good News to see about starting up again in the fall.

### **Attendance & Giving**

**Thursday, 7/25—Wednesday, 7/31**

**Saturday: 51**

**Sunday: 9:00: 91 11:00: 51**

**Wednesday: 12:15: 10**

**Total: 203**

**Streaming: 50**

**Pantry Guests Served: 1121 (inc. 390 children)**

**Medical Clinic Guests Served: 26**

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

Jesus is the bread of life.

#### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 6:24-35	Christ, the bread of life
Monday	Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15	Raining bread from heaven
Tuesday	Ephesians 4:1-16	Unity in the body of Christ
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Greetings to the Corinthians
Thursday	Psalms 55:16-19	Betrayed by a friend
Friday	Acts 6:1-7	Seven chosen to serve
Saturday	Psalms 78:23-29	God feeds the people
Sunday	John 6:35, 41-51	Bread from heaven



#### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*"I [the LORD] have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"* **Exodus 16:12 (NRSV)**

#### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

##### A Prayer for the Week:

Living God, we thank you that even when we complain and do not see your goodness in our midst, you respond to our cries for help through Christ Jesus, our bread of life. Amen.

##### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, as we receive this food, help us to remember with thanksgiving all your good gifts to us through Christ Jesus our Lord and our bread of life. Amen.

##### A Blessing to Give:

May Jesus, the bread of life, fill you with good things.

#### CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- What is something that happened recently that you did not understand?
- If you could complain to Jesus about something, what would it be?

#### DEVOTIONS

*Read:* John 6:24-35 and Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15.

In both readings people lack understanding. In John 6, the crowds witness the miracles but do not see the signs as leading them to believe in Jesus as the one God has sent. In Exodus 16, the people do not understand what they have just experienced. They do not remember that God just delivered them out of a harsh life in Egypt. Instead, they incorrectly

recall living the good life in Egypt when they ate their fill of meat and bread. Nor do they initially grasp that God answers their complaining by giving them bread to eat. Exodus 16 gives a biblical understanding of our human condition. We have short memories and forget God's goodness to us. We become fearful because of it, and we end up complaining and being unfaithful to God. Moses and Jesus show God's saving presence that overcomes ignorance, complaining, and fears. In John 6, to trust in God is to believe that Jesus is the one sent by God as the bread of life to respond to our needs (v. 35). *Discuss:* When have you felt that Jesus, the bread of life, has responded to your needs?

*Pray:* **Ever-present God, help us to see and trust that your saving work is in our midst so that we may not fear, complain, or forget your goodness to us through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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 help someone overcome something that worries them?

#### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Ephesians 4 states that the leaders in the congregation, are *"to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ"* (vv. 11-12). Pastors and staff are not the only ministers. All people are ministers to build up one another in faith by *"speaking the truth in love"* so that all may *"grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ"* (v. 15). Draw the outline of a body on a sheet of paper. Name spiritual gifts (talents) that you or others you know have. Write them inside the body. *Then pray:* **May the Holy Spirit give us the faith and the gifts to grow together in care for one another through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:

1 Kings 19:4-8; Psalm 34:1-8  
Ephesians 4:25—5:2; John 6:35, 41-51