

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

September 29, 2024

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

NINETEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



Someone who isn't part of Jesus' own circle is casting out demons in Jesus' name, and the disciples want him stopped. They appeal to Jesus, as Joshua did to Moses about the elders who prophesied without official authorization. Like Moses, Jesus refuses to see this as a threat. Jesus welcomes good being done in his name, even when it is not under his control. The circle we form around Jesus' word must be able to value good being done in ways we wouldn't do it, by people we can't keep tabs on.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(rise in body or spirit)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

P God promises to forgive our iniquity and to remember our sin no more. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, the source of eternal healing, your sins are forgiven.

C Amen.

1 How clear is our vocation, Lord,
when once we heed your call
to live according to your word
and daily learn, refreshed, restored,
that you are Lord of all,
and will not let us fall.

2 But if, forgetful, we should find
your yoke is hard to bear;
if worldly pressures fray the mind
and life itself cannot unwind
its tangled skein of care:
our inward life repair.

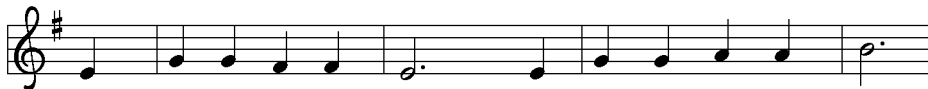
4 In what you give us, Lord, to do,
together or alone,
in old routines or ventures new,
may we not cease to look to you,
the cross you hung upon,
all you endeavored done.

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Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

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



- 1 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol - emn prayer.
2 Have mer - cy on us, Christ, and wash a - way our sin.
3 Have mer - cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de - part.



We come to hear your liv - ing word; it saves us from de - spair.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be - gin.
Re - new us with your sav - ing pow'r; cre - ate in us new hearts!

GLORIA

1 Glo-ry be to God in heav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth.
Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth:
we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ Generous God,

☞ **your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

What constitutes legitimate need and legitimate leadership is the focus of this reading. God provides manna in the wilderness, yet the people crave meat. What is truly needful? God bestows the spirit on seventy elders, yet two men not designated as leaders prophesy in the power of God's spirit. What constitutes real leadership?

The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, “If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.”

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the Lord, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors’? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

¹⁶So the Lord said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the

elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.”

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” ²⁹But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!”

☐ Word of God, Word of Life.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Psalm 19:7-14 (*choir or cantor sing verses / congregation sings refrain*)



The com-mand-ment of the LORD gives light to the eyes.

⁷The teaching of the Lord is perfect and re- | vives the soul;
the testimony of the Lord is sure and gives wisdom | to the simple.

⁸The statutes of the Lord are just and re- | joice the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear and gives light | to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the Lord is clean and en- | dures forever;
the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous | altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than | much fine gold,
sweeter far than honey, than honey | in the comb. *Refrain*

¹¹By them also is your ser- | vant enlightened,
and in keeping them there is | great reward.

¹²Who can detect one’s | own offenses?
Cleanse me from my | secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion | over me;
then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a | great offense.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable | in your sight,
O Lord, my strength and | my redeemer. *Refrain*

SECOND READING

James 5:13-20

Marks of the Christian community include praying for those who are sick and in need, celebrating with those in good health, restoring those who have strayed, confessing sins to one another, and offering forgiveness to each other.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous

is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

📖 Word of God, Word of Life.

🎵 Thanks be to God.

(rise in body or spirit)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le-lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

📖 The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

🎵 Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 9:38-50

Children may follow along using the Spark Bible turning to page 326

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus teaches his disciples about ministry that involves service and sacrifice. His disciples are slow to realize that these words apply to them as well as to others.

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” ³⁹But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹“For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

🎵 Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN'S BLESSING 9:00 AM

Children (aged 3 years through 6th grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, children in grades K-6 are invited to join the Children's Choir with Barb Carlsen. Children in grades K-4 who are not wanting to participate in Choir, may join Kristin Boe for a children's sermon in the Upper rooms. All children will return to the sanctuary in time to receive communion. There are Children's Bibles and activity bags available to those who prefer to stay with their families.

SERMON

Pastor Wynard

(rise in body or spirit)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Come Down, O Love Divine

ELW 804 vs. 1, 3, 4

- 1 Come down, O Love divine;
seek thou this soul of mine
and visit it with thine own ardor glowing;
O Comforter, draw near;
within my heart appear
and kindle it, thy holy flame bestowing.**

- 3 Let holy charity
mine outward vesture be,
and lowliness become mine inner clothing--
true lowliness of heart,
which takes the humbler part,
and o'er its own shortcomings weeps with loathing.**

- 4 And so the yearning strong,
with which the soul will long,
shall far outpass the pow'r of human telling;
no soul can guess Love's grace
till it become the place
wherein the Holy Spirit makes a dwelling.**

Text: Bianco da Siena, d. 1434; tr. Richard F. Littledale, 1833-1890

INSTALLATION OF LEADERS

- ☐ The following members of the congregation have been elected or appointed to positions of leadership within our congregation and partner ministries. They serve on Congregational Council, as Sunday School teachers, as members of the Boards that direct the work of our Endowment, Women of the ELCA, our Food Pantry, the Free Health Clinic, and Kountze Common Community Outreach Center. We give thanks for their willingness to serve! In baptism we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God; we rejoice now that these, our siblings in Christ, will lead us in our common life and our mutual mission as a congregation.

A reading from First Corinthians: There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. (1 Corinthians 12:4-7)

You serve in positions of leadership and trust in this congregation. You have been entrusted with responsibilities that affect all of us and the ministry we hold dear. As leaders of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church, we ask for your commitment to the values and mission we share in Christ:

Will you be faithful to the gospel of Jesus, and to do your best to see that the words and deeds of this community bear witness to God, who gathers us into one together with the whole church?

Leaders: I will, and I ask God to help me.

- ☐ Will you seek to involve all members of this congregation in worship, growth and service, so that we might truly be a City-wide Church with a World-wide Ministry?

Will you communicate with proactive and faithful transparency?

Will you notice and nurture the gifts, questions, and ideas of the people you represent and serve in your leadership roles?

Leaders: I will, and I ask God to help me.

- ☐ Will you work to discern what is right, even when it disrupts our status quo, and especially when it asks something difficult of us for the sake of our neighbors?

Will you acknowledge the unknown and unknowable about being church, practicing honesty, humility, courage, patience, peace, curiosity and joy?

Leaders: I will, and I ask God to help me.

(rise in body or spirit)

- ☐ People of God, I ask you: will you promise to support our leaders through prayer, open-mindedness, words of blessing, and willingness to serve alongside them in the ministry we are called together?

☑ **We will, and we ask God to help us.**

P Let us pray:

C **May God fill your hands and hearts with work that is real and good. May God give you the strength and passion to lead well. We bless your successes and your failures: all the ways you try, create, and explore in the name of Christ. May God root you in wisdom, faith and Sabbath rest. We bless your leadership and give thanks for you. Amen.**

P I now declare you installed as Council and Board members, teachers, leaders and representatives of our congregation. Almighty God bless you, and direct your days and your deeds in peace, that you may be faithful servants of Christ.

C **Amen.**

THE APOSTLES' CREED

P And now, let us confess the faith we share...

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: **P** Hear us, O God.
G Your mercy is great.

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

Thanksgiving: for the marriage of Joe and Maddy Woster (9/28/2024)

On-going Care: Betty Callies, Cheri Biggs, John & Jane Bodnar, Don Burton, Shirley Dietrich, Mike Edris, Kathy Englert, Jessica Hannon, Richard & Betty Holzer, Joan Jacobson-Trotter, Jason Klonglan, Orville & Julie Knapp, Marie Kubat, Ruth & Charles Martis, Tracey Mason, Lara McCormick, Lynn Meyer, Nita Mueller, Diane Nickeson-Ray, Linda Peltz, Jim Perkins, Kathy Preininger, David Samaria, Vinn Stephens, Joyce Wachal, Gary Westerman, Allyson White, 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: *Seminarrians* – James Holzer, Giselle Loucks

THE PEACE IS SHARED

P The peace of Christ be with you always.
G 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

I Will Serve You
(Incorporating For the Beauty of the Earth)

Ruth Elaine Schram
Anna Renard, solo

(rise in body or spirit)

OFFERTORY HYMN

Sing to the Lord of Harvest

ELW 694 vs. 1 & 3



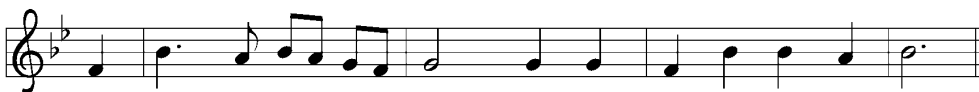
1 Sing to the Lord of har - vest your songs of love and praise;
3 Bring to this sa - cred al - tar the gifts his good-ness gave,



with joy - ful hearts and voic - es your al - le - lu - ias raise;
the gold - en sheaves of har - vest, the souls Christ died to save.



by him the roll - ing sea - sons in fruit - ful or - der move;
Your hearts lay down be - fore him when at his feet you fall,



sing to the Lord of har - vest a joy - ous song of love.
and with your lives a - dore him who gave his life for all.

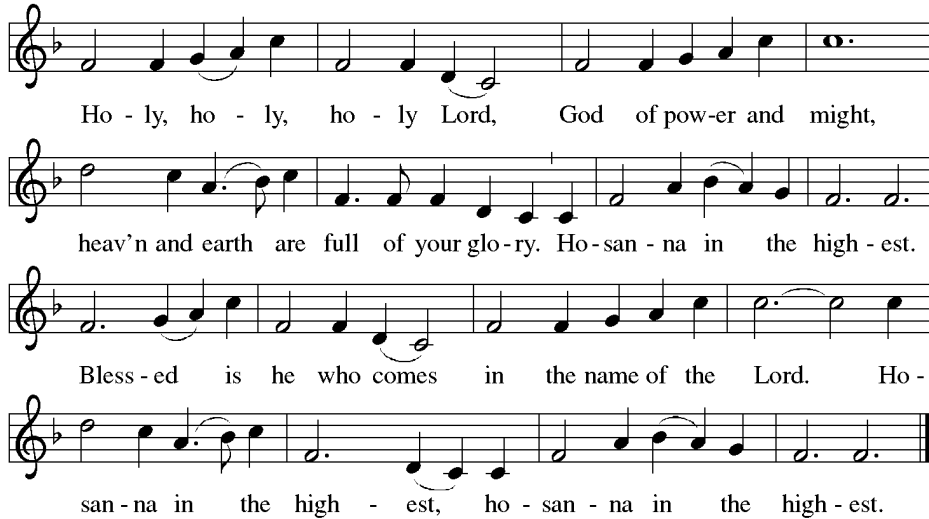
OFFERING PRAYER

- P** Blessed are you, O God,
- C** source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, 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,
... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

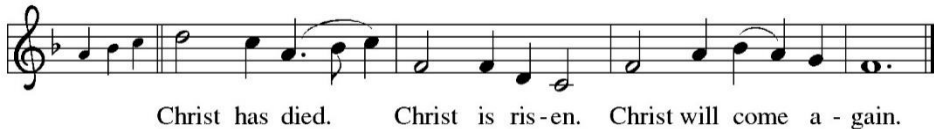
SANCTUS



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.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

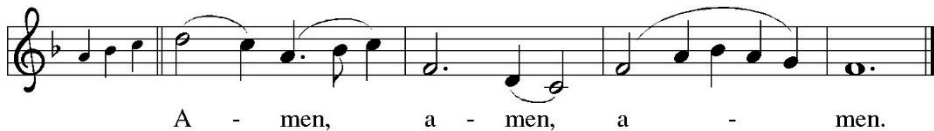
EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- ☐ You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.
... For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come a - gain.

- ☐ Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
... To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - men.

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



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Jesus welcomes you to this table.

C **We come to meet our God.**

(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

Come, Ye Disconsolate

ELW 607

- 1 **Come, ye disconsolate, where'er ye languish; come to the mercy-seat, fervently kneel. Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish; earth has no sorrow that heav'n cannot heal.**
- 2 **Joy of the desolate, light of the straying, hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure; here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying, "Earth has no sorrow that heav'n cannot cure."**
- 3 **Here see the Bread of life; see waters flowing forth from the throne of God, pure from above. Come to the feast of love; come, ever knowing earth has no sorrow but heav'n can remove.**

Text: Thomas Moore, 1779-1852, sts. 1-2; Thomas Hastings, 1784-1872, st. 3

There Is a Balm in Gilead

ELW 614

Refrain

**There is a balm in Gilead
to make the wounded whole;
there is a balm in Gilead
to heal the sin-sick soul.**

2 **If you cannot preach like Peter,
if you cannot pray like Paul,
you can tell the love of Jesus
and say, "He died for all." *Refrain***

1 **Sometimes I feel discouraged
and think my work's in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit
revives my soul again. *Refrain***

3 **Don't ever be discouraged,
for Jesus is your friend;
and if you lack for knowledge
he'll ne'er refuse to lend. *Refrain***

Text: African American spiritual

(rise in body or spirit)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- ☞ Holy God,**
- ☞ you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

☞ God all mighty, God most merciful ✠ bless you, keep you, and give you peace.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song

ELW 808 vs. 1-3

- 1 **Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey;
I'll tell ev'rybody about you wherever I go:
you alone are our life and our peace and our love.
Lord Jesus, you shall be my song as I journey.**
- 2 **Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.
May all of my joy be a faithful reflection of you.
May the earth and the sea and the sky join my song.
Lord Jesus, I'll praise you as long as I journey.**
- 3 **As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant,
to carry your cross and to share all your burdens and tears.
For you saved me by giving your body and blood.
As long as I live, Jesus, make me your servant.**

Text: Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus and L'Arche Community; tr. Stephen Somerville, b. 1931
Text © 1987 Les Petites Soeurs de Jésus, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Tr. © 1970 Stephen Somerville, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

DISMISSAL

☞ Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

☞ **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
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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

September 28 & 29, 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 worshipping, growing, and serving in downtown Omaha for over 165 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.

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.

Large Print Bulletins and Listening Devices

Please speak to an usher if you would like a large print bulletin or an assisted listening device.

Scan to Give Online



Thank you for supporting the ministries of Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church.

Connect with Pr. Lucy

Schedule a time to meet with Pastor Lucy by following the link or QR Code. <https://calendly.com/pastor-lucy/45min>



Today at Kountze Memorial

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Arnold and LeClare Steffen on the 76th anniversary of their wedding given by their family

Children's Choir

9:15 AM

K-6th Grades

Following the 9 AM Children's Blessing, children are invited to join the Children's Choir with Barb Carlsen or join Kristin Boe for a Children's Sermon. Children will return to their seats in time to receive communion.

Children's Sermon

9:15 AM

Grades K-4

Following the 9 AM Children's Blessing, children not wanting to participate in Choir, may join Kristin Boe for a children's sermon in the Upper rooms. The children will return to their seats in time to receive communion.

Kountze Café

9:30—11:00 AM

Join us each Sunday for breakfast. The schedule for September is slightly changed. This morning is the 5th Sunday of the month - cookies and coffee only will be served. Hot breakfast will begin in October.

Sunday School

10:10 AM

Ages 2 years-6th Grade

Join us in the 2nd Floor Sunday School Rooms where the children will see how Jesus taught his followers to live in God's word and spread that message to others through art, games, science, storytelling, cooking, and missions.

Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

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: 165th Anniversary Presentation, 2

Next week: Welcoming New Members & Stewardship

New Member Classes Continue

September 29

10:15 AM

Explore the potential of joining Kountze Memorial by attending our upcoming new member class. The next new member classes will be held in January.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

September 29 Sunday

Michael & All Angels

Pentecost 19

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

Rehearsal

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

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

9:30 AM Kountze Café - Breakfast

10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour

10:15 AM New Member Class

September 30 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

October 1 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

October 2 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Confirmation @ St.

Timothy

7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

October 3 Thursday

2:00 PM Cards with Friends

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

October 4 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

October 5 Saturday

Homebound Communion

9:00 AM Explore! Day Retreat

(gr. 1-6) Camp CJH

10:30 AM Blessing of the Animals

@ St. Cecilia Cathedral

5:00 PM Worship

October 6 Sunday

Pentecost 20

Homebound Communion

Receive New Members

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

Rehearsal

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

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

9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast

10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour

12:15 PM Worship Assistant

Training

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Cards with Friends

Thursday, October 3

2:00 PM

We'll meet in the Fellowship Hall on the first Thursday of the month for a time together playing cards. Bring a snack to share. All are welcome.

Explore! Day Retreat

Carol Joy Holling Camp

Elementary Age Students

Saturday, October 5

9 AM

Cost: \$25 per camper (includes meals)

Explore! Day Retreats for elementary students is a chance for young campers to get out and enjoy camp in one compact and fun day. In addition to Bible study and worship, the children will be experiencing many favorite camp activities together as they share in fun and fellowship. Every Explore! Day Retreat is different, so first-time and long-time participants can both join in the fun as we focus on environmental education, fellowship, and faith! If you have questions

about the Explore! Day Retreat, please contact our Youth Programs Specialist, Laura, at LStalder@NLom.org or 402-944-2544. For more info or to register, go to:

<https://www.cjhcenter.org/explore>

Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, October 5

10:30 AM

St. Cecilia Cathedral

701 N 40th St

Cathedral will host an outdoor celebration of the feast of Saint Francis of Assisi. Bring your pets (dogs on a leash please) to the Cathedral front steps and join in this delightful event for all creatures great and small. Music and socializing 10:30 AM. Blessing at 11:00 AM. Come early and bring your pooch with you to the Pancake Breakfast!

Worship Assistant Training
Sunday, October 6, 12:15 PM or
Sunday, October 13, 10:10 AM

- Join us for a training of Lectors, Greeters, Ushers, Communion Assistants, Altar Guild
- **All current servers** are asked to attend for a refresher course
- If you are interested in learning more about Worship Assistants, please contact the church office to register or sign up at the Welcome Desk in the Fellowship Hall

Commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi, Peacemaker

Wednesday, October 9
7:00 PM

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral
113 North 18th Street

Mark your calendars! Kountze Memorial will once again join Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in a service commemorating St. Francis of Assisi, Peacemaker.

KMLC Book Group
Sunday, October 13
12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

The book for this month is *Everyone in My Family Has Killed Someone* by Benjamin Stevenson. This is a hilarious not-to-be-missed murder mystery which is soon to be adapted into an HBO series. Everyone is welcome.

First Communion Classes
Sunday, October 13 or Sunday, October 20
12:15 – 2:00 PM

A light lunch will be served.

Meet with Kristin Boe and Pastor Hall in the Nave. The curriculum will be “Fed & Forgiven”. All ages are welcome; the course is geared toward 2nd graders. Please call the church office, email kristin@kmlchurch.org or sign up at the Welcome Desk. Children will receive their First Communion on Reformation Sunday, October 27.

Haunted House & Fellowship Night
High School & Young Adults
Sunday, October 13
5–6:30 PM – Kountze Memorial (food & fellowship)
7 PM – Dungeon of the Damned
(basement of Hollywood Candy - 1209 Jackson St.)

We want everyone who can make it to come, so if cost is a concern, please reach out to Pastor Lucy! Buy tickets online for \$20 at:

www.dungeonofthedamned.com

Men’s Lunch - Octoberfest!
Thursday, October 17
11:30 AM

Suggested Donation: \$10.00

Join us in the Link for food, fun, and fellowship. Who knows what Jim will have on the menu (rumor has it that there could possibly be brats and homemade sauerkraut...) but it’s sure to be good! Please sign up by Tuesday, October 15 by calling the church office or emailing jim@kmlchurch.org. You can also sign up at the Welcome Desk. Bring a friend. Lederhosen not required.

Kountze Food Pantry

The Kountze Food Pantry is continuing to collect toothbrushes and toothpaste for our Pantry guests. These items are always available along with bar soap, razors, feminine hygiene products, and toilet tissue. We offer deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, shave cream, body wash, and lotion on the first Monday of the month. Any donation of toothbrushes and toothpaste (or any of these hygiene products) would be greatly appreciated. You may place your contribution in the donation box in the Fellowship Hall or, if ordering online, sent directly to the Church. As always, we are in need of volunteers. We have jobs for most ages and abilities. If you are interested in helping out, please sign up at the link below.

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

Nebraska Religious Leaders for Hope and Peace

Below is a link to a letter signed by The Rev. Scott Alan Johnson, Bishop of the Nebraska Synod, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, as well as other religious leaders in Nebraska. They are asking us to “...choose hope over hate, to build bridges of understanding that reach toward reconciliation, to work together to create communities of peace where all can thrive. We come from different places and different traditions, but we stand together in hope...”

<https://nebraskasynod.org/news/hopeandpeace/>

Attendance & Giving
Thursday, 9/19—Wednesday, 9/25

Saturday: 21
Sunday: 9:00: 164 **11:00:** 64
Wednesday: 12:15: 11
Total: 260
Streaming: 62
Pantry Guests Served: 1,061 (inc. 346 children)
Medical Clinic Guests Served: 20
Offering:
\$11,326.58 (Regular) \$643.33 (Specials)
\$377.00 (Debt Reduction)

Jesus wants us to be at peace with one another.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Jesus wants us to be at peace with one another.

Sunday	Mark 9:38-50	Avoiding sin
Monday	Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29	Moses and the elders
Tuesday	James 5:13-20	The power of prayer
Wednesday	Matthew 5:9	Blessed are the peacemakers
Thursday	Psalms 4	An evening prayer
Friday	2 Thessalonians 3:16-17	Final greetings
Saturday	Psalms 19:7-14	The wonders of God
Sunday	Mark 10:2-16	Jesus blesses the children



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SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

But Jesus said, "do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us." Mark 9:39-40 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of peace, we thank you for all those who do acts of kindness and mercy in your name through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, for the food that we eat and your love that we receive through this meal, we give you our thanks and praise. In Jesus' name, amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the love of God give you peace in Jesus' name.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- Think or talk about a time when someone unexpectedly did something kind for you.
- How can assistance from someone you didn't expect help from be seen as the work of God and give you peace?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Mark 9:38-50.

What Jesus says in this reading is difficult to understand and seems very harsh. Jesus knows his life will not be easy and that following him will not be easy either. A *Caring Conversation* question once asked, "When have you felt judged for your faith?" One person's answer was, "from fellow Christians!" That responder noted that it was also easy for him to look down on other Christians who are not like himself. We tend to want other believers to fall into our own patterns and ways of being a Christian. Jesus clearly rejects this attitude for his disciples. If others are doing good deeds in Jesus' name but are not a member of your congregation or denomination, leave them alone! Otherwise, we may be causing someone to unnecessarily trip and fall, and they can be seriously hurt in the process. In the strongest terms possible, Jesus cautions us not to be the cause of others to stumble and fall. That is not the way of a follower of Jesus. Jesus wants us to "*be at peace with one another*" (v. 50).

Discuss: In what ways can you communicate a message of peace with others?

Pray: **God of steadfast love, help us to support the faith and efforts of Christians who do acts of love and mercy that may be different from our own, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, identify and thank people who offer valuable care to others.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Psalms 19 says that God's commands and teachings are more precious than gold and sweeter than honey (v. 10). We are called to carry these commands and teachings with us like jewelry and to take them in like a favorite food. One way we can carry God's commands and teachings with us in our daily lives is through the memorization of Bible verses. Write this verse from Psalms 19:14 on a piece of paper, "*Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.*" Read this verse repeatedly until it is memorized.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Genesis 2:18-24; Psalms 8
Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16