

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

November 10, 2024

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

TWENTYFIFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



Widows are visible everywhere in today's readings. Jesus denounces those scribes who pray impressive prayers but devour widows' houses. He commends the poor widow who in his view gave far more than the major donors. Jesus doesn't see her simply as an object of compassion or charity. She, like the widow of Zarephath who shares her last bit of food with Elijah, does something of great importance.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(rise in body or spirit)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end.

C Amen.

P Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,

C we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power.

We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest.

Unbind us and set us free.

Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives

for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors,

following in the servant way of Jesus.

Amen.

P These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever. For his sake, you are † forgiven and God remembers your sin no more. Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation.

C Amen.



1 Look who gath - ers at Christ's ta - ble! Hear the sto - ries
 2 Clouds of light sur - round the ta - ble; an - cient fol - low -
 3 Their sad sto - ries are re - peat - ed in a thou - sand



that they bring. Some are weep - ing; some are laugh - ing;
 ers ap - pear, saints con - fess - ing how they wres - tled
 dif - f'rent ways, but they share one thing in com - mon:



some have songs they want to sing. Oth - ers ask why they're in -
 with their guilt, their doubt and fear. Pe - ter tells of his de -
 they all end in thanks and praise for the host who has in -



vit - ed, bur - dened by the wrong they've done. Christ in - sists they
 ny - ing Christ was ev - er in his sight; Paul re - lates his
 vit - ed north and south and east and west to con - verge a -



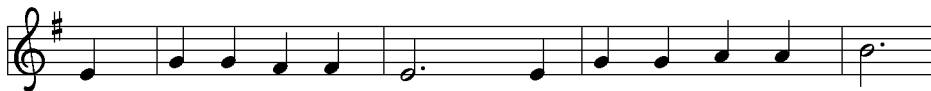
all are wel - come. There is room for ev - 'ry - one.
 fruit - less ef - forts to ob - lit - er - ate the light.
 round this ta - ble, where all life is fed and blest.

Text: Thomas H. Troeger, b. 1945
 Text © 2002 Oxford University Press. All rights reserved.

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

P O God,

C you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

1 Kings 17:8-16

This chapter begins the story of Elijah. God sends a drought on Israel because of the sins of King Ahab. This passage depicts God's saving acts not only on behalf of Elijah, but also on behalf of those who are associated with the prophet, even a foreigner, the widow of Zarephath.

The word of the Lord came to [Elijah,] saying, ⁹“Go now to Zarephath, which belongs to Sidon, and live there; for I have commanded a widow there to feed you.” ¹⁰ So he set out and went to Zarephath. When he came to the gate of the town, a widow was there gathering sticks; he called to her and said, “Bring me a little water in a vessel, so that I may drink.” ¹¹ As she was going to bring it, he called to her and said, “Bring me a morsel of bread in your hand.” ¹² But she said, “As the Lord your God lives, I have nothing baked, only a handful of meal in a jar, and a little oil in a jug; I am now gathering a couple of sticks, so that I may go home and prepare it for myself and my son, that we may eat it, and die.” ¹³ Elijah said to her, “Do not be afraid; go and do as you have said; but first make me a little cake of it and bring it to me, and afterwards make something for yourself and your son. ¹⁴ For thus says the Lord the God of Israel: The jar of meal will not be emptied and the jug of oil will not fail until the day that the Lord sends rain on the earth.” ¹⁵ She went and did as Elijah said, so that she as well as he and her household ate for many days. ¹⁶ The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the Lord that he spoke by Elijah.

☐ Word of God, Word of Life.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Psalm 146 (*choir or cantor sing verses / congregation sings refrain*)



¹ Hal- | lelujah!

Praise the Lord, | O my soul!

² I will praise the Lord as long | as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.

³ Put not your | trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there | is no help.

⁴ When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,

and in that day | their thoughts perish. *Refrain*

⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,

whose hope is in the | Lord their God;

⁶ who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;

who keeps promis- | es forever;

⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.

The Lord sets the | captive free.

⁸ The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who | are bowed down;

the Lord | loves the righteous. *Refrain*

⁹The Lord cares | for the stranger;
the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked.

¹⁰The Lord shall | reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah! *Refrain*

SECOND READING

Hebrews 9:24-28

The letter to the Hebrews describes Christ as a high priest who offers himself as a sacrifice for our sin. Christ does not die again and again each year. He died once, is alive with God, and will reveal himself on the last day.

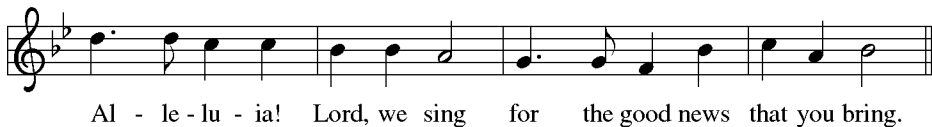
Christ did not enter a sanctuary made by human hands, a mere copy of the true one, but he entered into Heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. ²⁵ Nor was it to offer himself again and again, as the high priest enters the Holy Place year after year with blood that is not his own; ²⁶ for then he would have had to suffer again and again since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the age to remove sin by the sacrifice of himself. ²⁷ And just as it is appointed for mortals to die once, and after that the judgment, ²⁸ so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin, but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.

L Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

(rise in body or spirit)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Children may follow along using the Spark Bible turning to page 342

After engaging in a series of public arguments with religious leaders in the temple, Jesus contrasts the proud and oppressive ways of those leaders with the sacrificial humility and poverty of the widow.

As Jesus taught, he said, “Beware of the scribes, who like to walk around in long robes, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces,³⁹ and to have the best seats in the synagogues and places of honor at banquets!⁴⁰ They devour widows’ houses and for the sake of appearance say long prayers. They will receive the greater condemnation.”

⁴¹ He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. ⁴² A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. ⁴³ Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. ⁴⁴ For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C 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

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

ELW 678 vs. 1 & 2

**1 God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store:
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
costly cross, grave's shattered door,
gifted by you, we turn to you,
off'ring up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious donor of our days.**

**2 Skills and time are ours for pressing
toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom,
races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor,
lest we strive for self alone;
born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at your throne.**

Text © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915-2006

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)

On-going Care: Sharon Ambler, Betty Callies, Cheri Biggs, John & Jane Bodnar, Don Burton, Marilyn Dichsen, Shirley Dietrich, Mike Edris, Kathy Englert, Jessica Hannon, 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, Kathy Preininger, Mike Pribyl, Dan & Ginny Rath, David Samaria, Dorothy Stanzel, 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: *Seminarians* – James Holzer, 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

Come Build a Church

Ken Medema

(rise in body or spirit)

OFFERTORY HYMN

Though the Earth Shall Change

ACS 1035 sung twice



Though the earth shall change, though the moun-tains trem-ble,



though the wa - ters rage, you, God, are here.



Though the na - tions war, though the peo - ples bat - tle,



though the em - pire fal - ters, we will not fear.

Text: Rolf Vegdahl, b. 1955, and Tom Witt, b. 1957, based on Psalm 46
Text © 2009 Augsburg Fortress

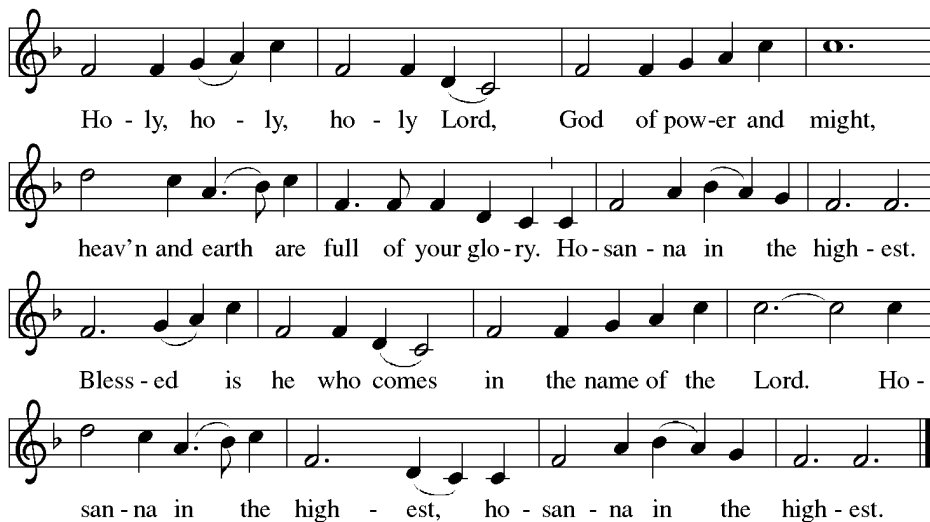
OFFERING PRAYER

- P** Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup,
- C** you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name. 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

- ☐ 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



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** Come and take your place in the new creation.
- G** Behold, God is making all things new.

(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

Take My Life, That I May Be

ELW 685

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise. | 4 Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose. |
| 2 Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee. | 5 Take my will and make it thine,
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own,
it shall be thy royal throne. |
| 3 Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee. | 6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee. |

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

**1 For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.
For these gifts to ev'ry nation,
thanks be to God.
For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping,
thanks be to God.**

**2 In the just reward of labor,
God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.**

**3 For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us,
thanks be to God.**

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000

Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

(rise in body or spirit)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P Faithful God,

C you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son.
Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

- ☐ The Ancient One; enthroned; the Crucified One, now risen; the Indwelling One, poured out; †
bless you now and forever.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW 712 vs. 1, 3, 4

1 Lord, whose love in humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose
ev'ry gift which you impart.

3 As we worship, grant us vision,
till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness
dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens
your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service,
your abundant life to share.

4 Called by worship to your service,
forth in your dear name we go,
to the child, the youth, the aged,
love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort,
counsel, aid and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom
may your mercy know and live.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901-1984
Text © 1961 Oxford University Press.

DISMISSAL

- ☐ Go in peace. Encourage one another in 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 Slaughter	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

November 9 & 10, 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 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 honor of Jane Kidder's birthday

Altar Flowers & Eternal Candle are given to the glory of God by Steve & Diane O'Connor

Television Broadcast is sponsored to the glory of God in memory of Rev Lavern and Marilyn Larkowski and Rev Tom and Jean Holcombe given by Neil and Ardis Von Seggern

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 suggested donation is \$5 adults, \$2.50 children 12 and younger for the hot breakfast and a free-will donation for the continental breakfast.

Sunday School

10:10 - 10:50 AM

Ages 2 years-6th Grade

During the month of November, we will be learning about how God provides us with what we need. To begin the Sunday School educational time, **we will be serving**

Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

the students a hot breakfast upstairs. The kids can enjoy the same breakfast being served downstairs while listening to the lessons of the day. If you would like to support the Sunday School with donations of juice boxes or individual milk cartons, we would appreciate it and will be serving those with the breakfast.

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

Next week: Getting Ready for 1,700th Anniversary of Nicene Creed

KMLC Book Group Fellowship Lounge

Sunday, November 10

12:15 PM

This month we're reading *The Fifteenth Commandment* by KMLC Member, Steve Sieberson. Join us!

High Schoolers - Journey to Nashville 2025!

Sunday, November 10

4:30 PM - (right before our Friendsgiving event!)

Join us for a brief informational meeting about our High School Youth Summer Mission Trip 2025. We will be joining youth from all over the Nebraska Synod from July 6-12 on Journey to Nashville. The trip is open to youth who will have completed grades 8-12 and will feature service learning throughout the Nashville area, worship, fellowship, and other fun activities in the city. We will be housed in the dorms at Vanderbilt University. Come and learn more! If you're interested but cannot come on the 10th, please contact Pastor Lucy or Kristin Boe.

Friendsgiving Progressive Dinner

Grades 7-12, College Youth, and Young Adults

Sunday, November 10

5:00 PM

We will depart from the church at 5 PM and plan to return by 8 PM.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

November 10 Sunday

Pentecost 25

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 Book Group

4:00 PM OSJ Training

4:30 PM HS Youth Mission Trip
Interest Meeting

5:00 PM Friendsgiving

November 11 Monday

Veterans Day

10:00 AM Pantry

3:00 PM KCCOC Board

November 12 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

November 13 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group

12:15 PM Worship

1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese
Manor

4:00 PM Executive Committee

6:00 PM Confirmation @ St. Timothy

November 14 Thursday

Council Reports Due

9:30 AM WELCA Board

11:30 AM Property Committee

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

November 15 Friday

Good News Deadline

5:00 PM Intergenerational Trivia
Night

5:00 PM Pantry

November 16 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

November 17 Sunday

Pentecost 26

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

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Intergenerational Trivia Night

Friday, November 15

5 - 6 PM Pizza Dinner

6 - 8 PM Trivia

All ages are welcome to join us for Trivia.

We will begin the night with a pizza dinner. Please bring a side or dessert to share. Trivia will start at 6 and have a fun mix for all ages. Please RSVP at the Welcome Desk. Bring a friend!

Men's 5th Annual Chili Cookoff Lunch

Thursday, November 21

11:30 AM

Suggested Donation: Pot of Chili, A New Toy, or \$10.00

Sign up at the Welcome Desk or email Jim at jim@kmlchurch.org to let us know if you will be entering a pot of chili or just attending. If you're entering a pot of chili, attend for free, otherwise suggested donation for the event will be a new stuffed animal/ toy to be distributed by the Kountze Food Pantry as Christmas gifts for our young pantry guests. Come vote on your favorite chili. There will be prizes for the top three and a great time of fellowship for all.

For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

Thanksgiving Bags

In November, the Sunday School students will be making Thanksgiving bags for the Pantry guests to be assembled on November 17. We are asking for donations of non-perishable food items such as:

Dried Stuffing Mix	Dried Mashed Potato
Turkey Gravy Packets	Canned Yams
Cranberry Sauce	Canned Pumpkin
Canned Beans	Canned Corn
Paper Grocery Store Bags	

or any other Thanksgiving favorite you may have.

Please leave the donations in the basket on the welcome table or upstairs by the Sunday school office. The Bags will be packed on November 17, so we'll need the donations by then.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 24

6 PM

Hosted by and Held at Kountze Memorial

Let's join our interfaith siblings and give thanks to God! A cookie & coffee reception will follow. The offering collected will be donated to Together, Inc.

Kitchen Help Needed

Turkey Prep & Cook for Thanksgiving Meal

Monday, Nov. 25 &/or Tuesday, Nov. 26

Kountze Memorial provides and cooks the turkeys for the Thanksgiving Dinner at St. Peter's each year. We need 2 or 3 someones to help with cleaning the turkeys to get them ready to go into the oven on the Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning. Working in the kitchen is always fun and a great way to get to know others that you may only see on Saturday or Sunday while at church. There is a sign-up sheet in the bulletin.

Alternative Gifts

November 24, December 1, 8, & 15

Between services ~ 10-11 AM

ELCA Good Gifts, Global Mamas, and Omaha Bridges Out of Poverty

We will again have the opportunity to do some Christmas shopping and give a gift that shares God's love and truly makes a difference in someone's life. Honor your family and friends with an Alternative Gift this Christmas. This year there will also be some physical items for purchase. The Alternative Gift Tables will be in the Fellowship Hall beginning November 24.

Decorate for Advent

Saturday, November 30

9:30 AM

You and your family can be part of creating an inviting atmosphere that will inspire hope, love, joy, and peace in our community by helping to decorate for Advent. No special skills are required—just your enthusiasm and willingness to contribute to this joyful project. Join us!

Annual Advent Fair

December 1

10:00 AM - Noon

Join us in making a variety of Christmas decorations including an Advent wreath, Christmas cards, an Advent prayer placemat, an ornament, and more. There will be activities for the children and a photo booth for all. This year we will be doing a Diaper Drive during the Advent Fair. **Please bring diapers, wipes, formula, or other infant related items** that we will donate to the local women's shelters.

GivingTuesday

December 3

Let's celebrate what we can do in just 24 hours! You are invited to join in the biggest local giving day of the year. It is time to start thinking about what nonprofits and causes you will support and we invite you to learn more and give to Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center and help us Feed the Hungry, Heal the Sick, and Tend the Soul. There are many local nonprofits who also participate in this amazing day of generosity. GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement, created in 2012 as a simple idea: a day that encourages people to do good. Since then, it has grown into a year-round global movement that inspires hundreds of millions of people to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity. Please see #GivingTuesday402 or <https://shareomaha.org/> to learn more.

Kountze Food Pantry

The Kountze Pantry is collecting gloves for men, women, and children. Men's large and extra-large gloves are especially in short supply. Also, we will accept and distribute new or like-new coats to our Pantry guests if they request them. You may leave your donation in the box marked "Food Pantry", located in Fellowship Hall. Tax deductible slips are located on the box. 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>

Attendance & Giving Thursday, 10/31—Wednesday, 11/6

Saturday: 15

Sunday: 9:00: 191 11:00: 61

Wednesday: 12:15: 8

Total: 275

Streaming: 52

Pantry Guests Served: 1,058 (inc. 333 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 20

Offering:

\$15,272.91 (Regular)

\$2,181.16 (Specials)

\$417.00 (Debt Reduction)

Our hope and strength is in God.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	John 11:32-44	Jesus raises Lazarus
Monday	Isaiah 25:6-9	The Lord has delivered
Tuesday	Revelation 21:1-6a	A new heaven and earth
Wednesday	Titus 2:11-15	Teach sound doctrine
Thursday	2 Corinthians 3:12-18	Ministers of the new covenant
Friday	Colossians 1:24-29	Paul's service to the church
Saturday	Psalms 24	Entrance into the temple
Sunday	Mark 12:38-44	The widow's generous offering



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SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

And he [God] will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all people, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever. Isaiah 25:7 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty and everlasting God, as we grieve those whom we have lost, we thank you that through Christ Jesus we see your glory and have hope in the resurrection. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, the earth is yours and all that is in it; for this meal we give you thanks for your care that knows no end through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with hope in Christ.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- Who do you think about on All Saints Day? Think or tell a story about that person.
- What would you want to ask God about life after death?

DEVOTIONS

Read: John 11:32-44 and Psalm 24.

We do not know what death is like for ourselves. We do know that when we experience the death of a loved one, it leads us to grieve. Even Jesus grieved, was deeply moved, and “*greatly disturbed*” (John 11:33, 38) at the death of his friend Lazarus. As we face the death of loved ones on All Saints Sunday, we turn to and lean on the strength and promise of God. Amidst our deep sorrow, we look to our God in Jesus Christ, the one whom death could not conquer. During the remembrance of All Saints, Psalm 24 allows us to praise God for God’s victory. Our grief is comforted by God’s power over death and the painful separation from those deceased. Our hope and strength—and that of loved ones whose lives we remember—is in the King of glory, the Lord, “*strong and mighty*” (Psalm 24:8). Our faith in Christ comforts us to know that we have the God who grieves with us and who gives us victory over death.

Discuss: What gives you comfort and strength as you grieve the death of a loved one?

Pray: **God of glory and might, help us to remember loved ones who have died with hope and comfort through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord who reigns with you now and always. 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 reach out to someone who is grieving the loss of a loved one?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

All Saint’s Day is the day after All Hallows’ Eve (Halloween). It is when we remember our loved ones who have died and all the saints and martyrs throughout Christian history. One tradition on this day is to light a candle for those who have died. Consider placing a picture of those you remember on this day next to a candle. Think or tell stories about loved ones. *Light the candle and pray:* **Lord God, thank you for the hope of eternal life and the life of (name/s). Help us to live for you each day. Amen.**

NEXT WEEK’S READINGS: Daniel 12:1-3; Psalm 16
Hebrews 10:11-14, 19-25; Mark 13:1-8