

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

March 2, 2025

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD



Witnesses to the glory of God in the face of Jesus reflect that glory in the world. It was true for Moses. It was doubtless true for Peter, James, and John. We pray that it will be true of all of us who see God's glory in the word and in the supper and who are being "transformed into the same image" by God's Spirit.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(rise in body or spirit)

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

- P** Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation.
- G** **Amen.**
- P** Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
- G** **We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.**
- P** Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.
- G** **We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace and love.**
- P** Almighty God, who gives us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit and forgives us all our sins, strengthen us in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- G** **Amen.**

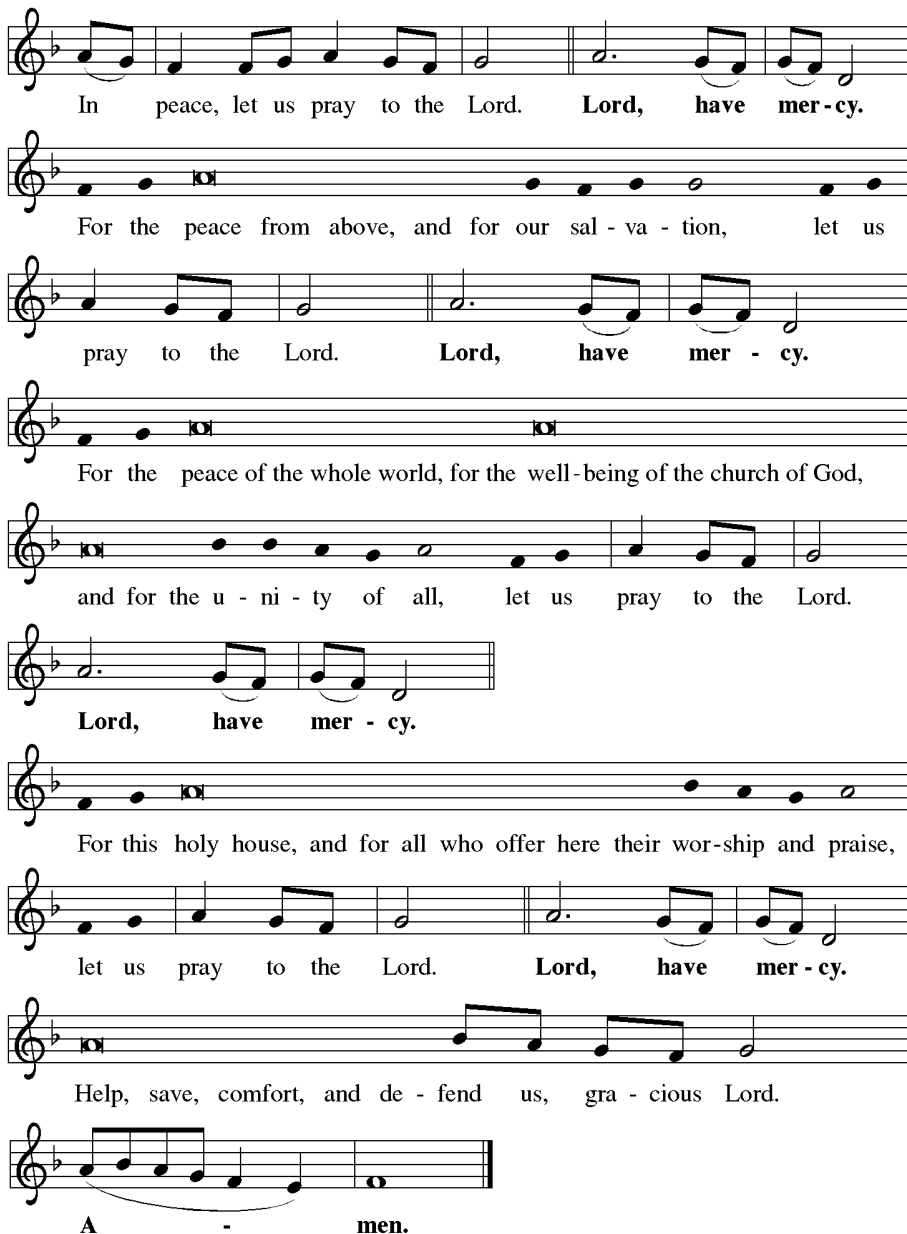
- 1 Thy strong word did cleave the darkness;
at thy speaking it was done.
For created light we thank thee,
while thine ordered seasons run.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia without end!**
- 4 From the cross thy wisdom shining
breaketh forth in conqu'ring might;
from the cross forever beameth
all thy bright redeeming light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise to thee who light dost send!
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia without end!**
- 5 Give us lips to sing thy glory,
tongues thy mercy to proclaim,
throats that shout the hope that fills us,
mouths to speak thy holy name.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
May the light which thou dost send
fill our songs with alleluias,
alleluias without end!**

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-1976
Text © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace from above, and for our sal - va - tion, let us

pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well - being of the church of God,

and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor - ship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- ☐ Holy God, mighty and immortal,
- ☑ you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Exodus 34:29-35

Moses' face shone with the reflected glory of God after he received the Ten Commandments on Mount Sinai. The sight caused the Israelites to be afraid, so Moses wore a veil to mask the radiance of God's glory, taking it off when he spoke directly with God.

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. ³⁰ When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. ³¹ But Moses called to them; and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. ³² Afterward all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. ³³ When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face; ³⁴ but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off, until he came out; and when he came out, and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, ³⁵ the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining; and Moses would put the veil on his face again, until he went in to speak with him.

☐ Word of God, Word of Life.

☑ Thanks be to God.

Psalm 99 (choir or cantor sing verses / congregation sings refrain)

Pro - claim the great - ness of the LORD;
wor - ship up - on God's ho - ly hill.

¹ The Lord is king; let the | people tremble.

The Lord is enthroned upon the cherubim; let | the earth shake.

² The Lord, | great in Zion,
is high a- | bove all peoples.

³ Let them confess God's name, which is | great and awesome;
God is the | Holy One.

⁴ O mighty king, lover of justice, you have es- | tablished equity;
you have executed justice and righteous- | ness in Jacob. *Refrain*

⁵ Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and fall down be- | fore God's footstool;
God is the | Holy One.

⁶ Moses and Aaron among your priests, and Samuel among those who call upon your | name, O Lord,
they called upon you, and you | answered them,

⁷ you spoke to them out of the pil- | lar of cloud;
they kept your testimonies and the decree | that you gave them.

⁸ O Lord our God, you answered | them indeed;
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their | evil deeds.

⁹ Proclaim the greatness of the Lord and worship upon God's | holy hill;
for the Lord our God is the | Holy One. *Refrain*

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 3:7—4:2

In his debates with the Corinthians, Paul contrasts the glory of Moses with the glory of Christ. The Israelites could not see Moses' face because of the veil. But in Christ we see the unveiled glory of God and are transformed into Christ's likeness.

Now if the ministry of death, chiseled in letters on stone tablets, came in glory so that the people of Israel could not gaze at Moses' face because of the glory of his face, a glory now set aside, ⁸how much more will the ministry of the Spirit come in glory? ⁹For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, much more does the ministry of justification abound in glory! ¹⁰Indeed, what once had glory has lost its glory because of the greater glory; ¹¹for if what was set aside came through glory, much more has the permanent come in glory! Since, then, we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, ¹³not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of the glory that was being set aside. ¹⁴But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. ¹⁵Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds; ¹⁶but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. ¹⁷Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. ¹⁸And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another; for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

^{4:1} Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. ² We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word; but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

L Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

(rise in body or spirit)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 9:28-43a

Children may follow along using the Spark Bible turning to page 358

The conversation about Jesus' suffering and death is enclosed in a dazzling foreshadowing of the resurrection. God affirms Jesus' identity, the disciples are stunned speechless, and Jesus resumes his mission with a demonstration of his power over evil.

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. ²⁹ And while he was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. ³⁰ Suddenly they saw two men, Moses and Elijah, talking to him. ³¹ They appeared in glory and were speaking of his exodus, which he was about to accomplish at Jerusalem. ³² Now Peter and his companions were weighed down with sleep; but since they had stayed

awake, they saw his glory and the two men who stood with him. ³³ Just as they were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah”—not knowing what he said. ³⁴ While he was saying this, a cloud came and overshadowed them; and they were terrified as they entered the cloud. ³⁵ Then from the cloud came a voice that said, “This is my Son, my Chosen; listen to him!” ³⁶ When the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. And they kept silent and in those days told no one any of the things they had seen.

³⁷ On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. ³⁸ Just then a man from the crowd shouted, “Teacher, I beg you to look at my son; he is my only child. ³⁹ Suddenly a spirit seizes him, and all at once he shrieks. It convulses him until he foams at the mouth; it mauls him and will scarcely leave him. ⁴⁰ I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not.” ⁴¹ Jesus answered, “You faithless and perverse generation, how much longer must I be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here.” ⁴² While he was coming, the demon dashed him to the ground in convulsions. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit, healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. ^{43a} And all were astounded at the greatness of God.

☞ 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

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!

ELW 315

**1 How good, Lord, to be here!
Your glory fills the night;
your face and garments, like the sun,
shine with unborrowed light.**

**3 Fulfiller of the past
and hope of things to be,
we hail your body glorified
and our redemption see.**

**2 How good, Lord, to be here!
your beauty to behold
where Moses and Elijah stand,
your messengers of old.**

**4 Before we taste of death,
we see your kingdom come;
we long to hold the vision bright
and make this hill our home.**

**5 How good, Lord, to be here!
Yet we may not remain;
but since you bid us leave the mount,
come with us to the plain.**

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858-1933, alt.

THE APOSTLES CREED

☞ With the whole church, let us 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: ☞ God of grace,

☞ **hear our prayer.**

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

Prayers this week: Jacqueline, David Kendall; son of Ken & Chris Kendall, Jane Meyer

On-going Care: Sharon Ambler, Cheri Biggs, John Bodnar, Don Burton, Betty Callies, Mike Cswercko, Marilyn Dichsen, Shirley Dietrich, Mike Edris, Kathy Englert, Jessica Hannon, Joan Jacobson-Trotter, Dayle Johnson, Jason Klonglan, Orville & Julie Knapp, Jack & Marie Kubat, Ruth & Charles Martis, Tracey Mason, Lara McCormick, Lynn Meyer, Nita Mueller, Diane Nickeson-Ray, Myron Osentowski, Linda Peltz, Kathy Preininger, Dan & Ginny Rath, David Samaria, Dorothy Stanzel, 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

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* – Joseph Daffer, 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

Longing for Light, We Wait in Darkness

setting by Joel Raney

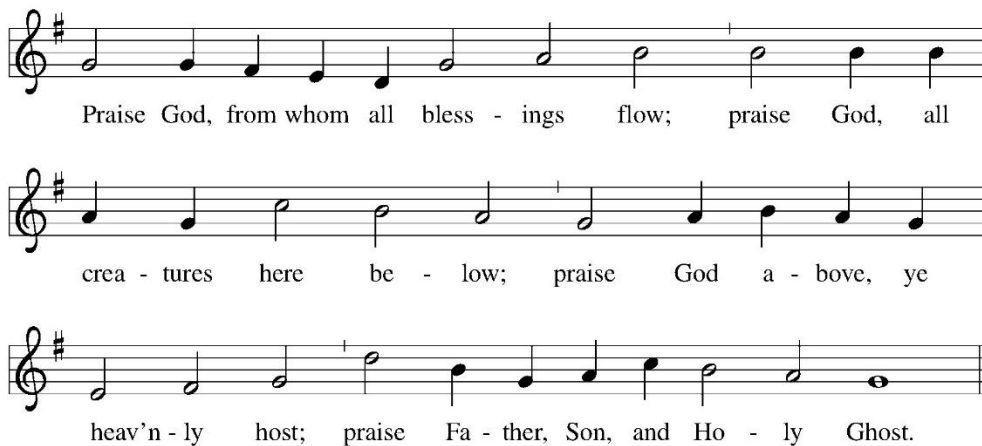
words and music by Bernadette Farrell

(rise in body or spirit)

OFFERTORY HYMN

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

ELW 885



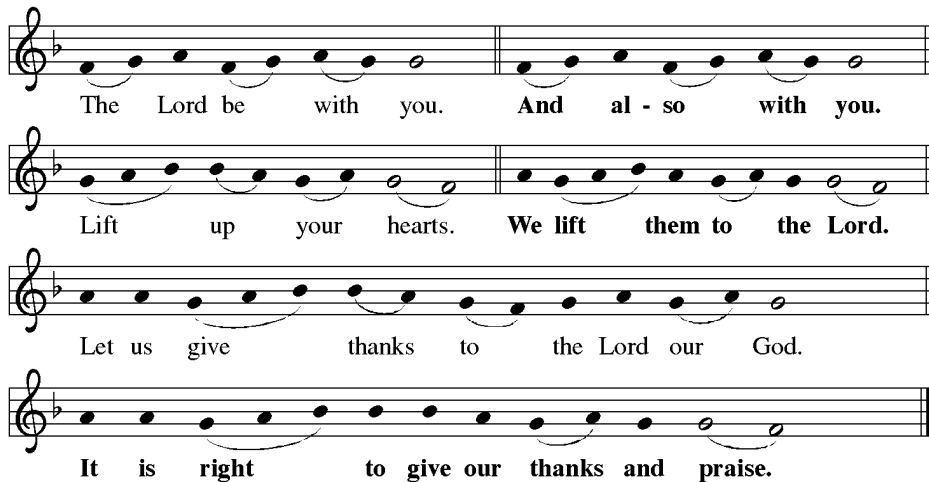
Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711, alt.

OFFERING PRAYER

- ☐ God of grace,
- ☑ **your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

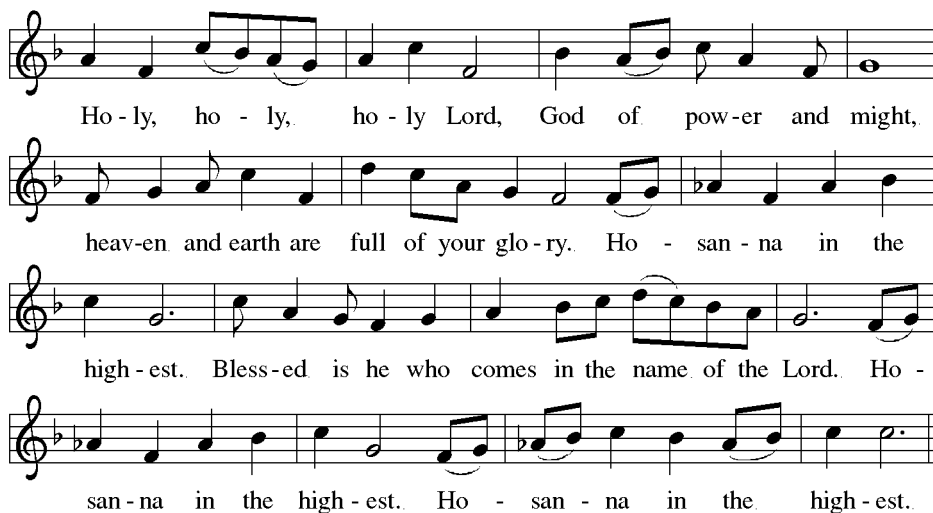


The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE FOR SUNDAYS

- ☐ 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 - en 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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

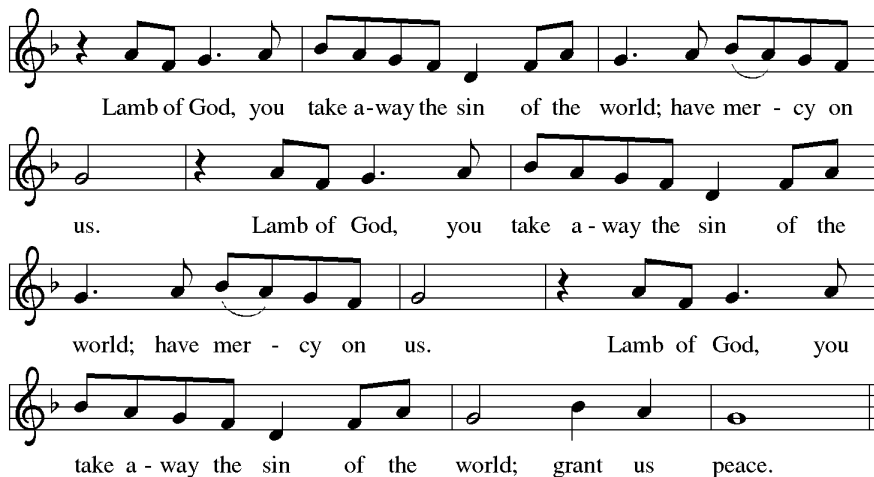
P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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



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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come, eat this meal of gladness.

C **The joy of the Lord is our strength.**

(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.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd

ACS 954



1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us,
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!



You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
 stripped of might up - on the cross,
 sit in pow - er at God's side.
 Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!



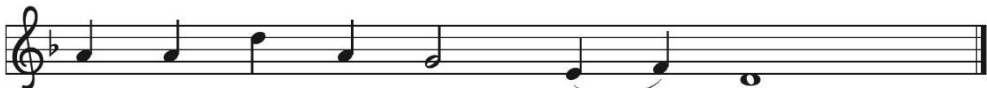
You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
 shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
 You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
 Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;



of the way you took and gave.
 beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,
 have a love that reach - es wide.
 wor - thy still your peace and strife.



You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;



you, whom we both scorn and crave.
 you, who are both gift and cost.
 you, who are our pil - grim guide.
 you, who are our death and life.

(rise in body or spirit)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

☐ Nourishing God,

☑ **at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray, Amen.**

SENDING

DISMISSAL OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

BLESSING

- ☞ The Spirit of the triune God ✠ bless you with joy, anoint you with compassion, and send you in love.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Alleluia, Song of Gladness

ELW 318

- | | |
|---|--|
| <p>1 Alleluia, song of gladness,
voice of joy that cannot die;
alleluia is the anthem
ever dear to choirs on high;
in the house of God abiding
thus they sing eternally.</p> <p>2 Alleluia you are sounding,
true Jerusalem and free;
alleluia, joyful mother,
bring us to your jubilee;
here by Babylon's sad waters
mourning exiles still are we.</p> | <p>3 Alleluia cannot always
be our song while here below;
alleluia our transgressions
make us for a while forgo;
for the solemn time is coming
when our tears for sin shall flow.</p> <p>4 In our hymns we pray with longing:
Grant us, blessed Trinity,
at the last to keep glad Easter
with the faithful saints on high;
there to you forever singing
alleluia joyfully.</p> |
|---|--|

Text: Latin hymn, 11th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.

DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace. Live in hope.
☞ 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
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

March 1 & 2, 2025

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 Anna Kidder's 22nd birthday.

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. Thank you to our Children's Choir this morning for sharing their musical talents with us.

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

The kids can enjoy the same breakfast upstairs while listening to the lessons of the day (the same breakfast that is being served in the Fellowship Hall). 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 breakfast.

Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

Youth Forum Youth Center 10:10 AM Grades 7—12

You are invited to join us each week in the Youth Center during the Sunday Faith Formation hour.

- 3/2 Join the adult forum at the youth table
- 3/9 activities and get-to-know-each-other games

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.

During the month of March, we'll start a study of the Council of Nicaea, its content, and the upcoming 1,700th anniversary. Join us.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

March 2 Sunday

Homebound Communion
Transfiguration of Our Lord
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

March 3 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

March 4 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

March 5 Wednesday

Ash Wednesday
11:00 AM Lenten Meal
12:15 PM Worship
5:00 PM Lenten Meal
6:30 PM Worship
7:30 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

March 6 Thursday

2:00 PM Cards with Friends
4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

March 7 Friday

Wedding Rehearsal
5:00 PM Pantry

March 8 Saturday

2:30 PM Schumert & Sundquist
Wedding
5:00 PM Worship

March 9 Sunday

Lent 1
Daylight Savings--spring ahead 1 hour
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

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday, March 5

Worship 12:15 & 6:30 PM

Meals: 11 AM & 5 PM

Our Ash Wednesday worship will be a time to receive the ashes of repentance and the word of God's forgiveness.

Parking Reminders:

- There is no Kountze Memorial parking in the lot on the South side of Farnam. That is apartment parking only.
- No parking Monday - Friday 8 AM - 4:30 PM in the Methodist Clinic parking lot.
- You may park in the deFreese Manor parking lot, at the meters* (must pay), or in the West parking lot.

Rally 4 Kids

Thursday, March 6

6 - 9 PM

DJ Sokol Arena

701 Florence Blvd

Dinner | Raffle | Live Auction

Lutheran Family Services makes a difference in the lives of children and families through their comprehensive intervention and prevention programs. This is a chance to celebrate all of the great work of LFS. Grab some friends and join in a casual evening of pure joy and magic. When you support Rally4Kids, you support 40+ programs that empower people across the region! The event is for people

21 years or older. Get tickets at:

https://www.onelfs.org/lfs_events/r4k25/

Cards with Friends

Thursday, March 6

2:00 PM

Join us in the Fellowship Hall on the first Thursday of each month for a fun and relaxed time playing cards and enjoying great company. Feel free to bring a snack to share, but most importantly, just bring yourself! Everyone is welcome—come be part of the fun!

Table Grace 2025 Gala

Friday, March 7

6-9 PM

Livestock Exchange Ballroom

4920 South 30th Street, Omaha

We are invited to a wonderful evening of food, entertainment, and giving. The Gala will not only help raise money for those who are hungry but also help give them a hand up in life - providing meals with dignity and an opportunity to start a new life with training and job experience. The Gala will feature stories of impact that will be shared around the tables by people who have experienced transformative life changes through Table Grace first-hand. Tickets & info are available at:

<https://tinyurl.com/3cd5vtfu>

For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

Nebraska Synod - Advocacy 101

In-person at Kountze Commons

Saturday, March 8

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM (Bring your own lunch)

Everyone is Welcome—No Cost for this Class

In our baptismal promises, we strive for justice and peace on the earth. We do this in many ways, often by meeting the immediate needs of God's people, from feeding the hungry to offering shelter or providing support. If you are ready to work for long-term solutions but unsure where to start, this class is for you! In this "on-ramp to advocacy," we will discuss practical ways to lobby for the issues and programs that matter to you. The goal is for you to leave feeling empowered to use skills. We will cover everything from how to talk to someone in casual conversation when you disagree with them to how to call a legislator or write a letter and even how to best use social media for advocacy. We'll have time to practice and to wordsmith messages/ We'll also talk about advocacy as an accompaniment process and how to ensure that your advocacy is working for good and not to harm those you want to help. There is no charge to attend, but please register in advance using the link below:

<https://tinyurl.com/2v5cmj86>

Women's Spring Gathering

Saturday, March 15

11 AM

Pastors Lucy and Dan Wynard will be our guest speakers, sharing about their time living as missionaries in Belarus and Russia. Come and enjoy a delicious soup lunch and hear about faith shared across cultures!

St. Patrick's Day Dinner Reservations

First Christian Church

6630 Dodge Street

March 17

6 - 8 PM

\$30/pp - Proceeds to benefit Table Grace Café and "It's All About Employment"

It's All About Employment (IAAE) is dedicated to guiding individuals on their journey to becoming employment-ready, enabling them to work and improve their lives. At IAAE collaborates with various agencies in the community to help individuals overcome barriers so they can advance toward their employment goals. For more information or to get your tickets, go to:

tickets@tablegracecafe.com

KMLC Camp Week

Camp Carol Joy Holling

June 15-20

Join your Kountze friends at Camp Carol Joy Holling. Spend the week making new friends, spending time in nature, and growing in faith through song, lessons, and testimonies. If you didn't register by the Early Bird registration date, you will need to pay the additional cost and Kountze

Memorial will cover the rest of the registration for any Kountze Memorial child/youth. Kountze Camp Week is June 15—20, but you can attend camp whenever it is convenient for you. Check out the schedule for the different camp opportunities for grades K-12 as well as day camps and leadership training for high school-age youth and Special Needs camps. In order for the church to pay the fee, choose:

- to mail your payment,
- select "Pay items in Full"
- then "Pay by Check/Money Order"
- email a copy of the receipt to info@kmlchurch.org and we will submit the Early Bird payment on behalf of your youth.

If you have any questions, please reach out to the church office. To register, use the link below and follow the directions above:

<http://NLOM.org/caroljoyholling/register>

Youth Mission Trip

Kountze Memorial will join other high school youth and leaders from around the Nebraska Synod this summer on mission in Nashville. The Nebraska Synod Journey is a week-long experience for youth who have completed grades 8-12 by the summer of 2025 and their adult leaders. The 2025 Journey to Nashville will feature service learning throughout the Nashville area, worship, fellowship and other activities throughout the city.

- Date: July 6-12, 2025
- Location: Nashville, TN
- Cost of event: \$680/person
- We will fundraise to offset the cost to families
- Contact Pr. Lucy or Kristin Boe if you are interested!

To help with fundraising for this trip, there are envelopes in the Fellowship Hall. We ask you to support our youth by taking an envelope and putting a donation inside matching the number on the envelope before returning it. Checks/envelopes should be made out to Kountze Memorial and clearly marked "Youth Mission Trip" in the memo line.

Many, many thanks!

Attendance & Giving

Thursday, February 20—Wednesday, February 26

Saturday: 32

Sunday: 9:00: 137 11:00: 67

Wednesday: 12:15: 13

Total: 249

Streaming: 55

Pantry Guests Served: 975 (inc. 286 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 14

Offering:

\$12,695.64 (Regular) \$3,790.18 (Specials)

\$687.15 (Debt Reduction)

Jesus' glory shines on the mountaintop.

Sunday	Luke 9:28-43a	Jesus is transfigured
Monday	Exodus 34:29-35	The shining face of Moses
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2	God's new agreement
Wednesday	Psalms 51:1-17	A prayer for forgiveness
Thursday	Acts 10:1-33	God speaks to Peter
Friday	Acts 10:34-48	Peter talks with Cornelius
Saturday	Psalms 99	Our Lord is King
Sunday	Luke 4:1-13	The temptation of Jesus



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In addition to Taking Faith Home, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

And while he [Jesus] was praying, the appearance of his face changed, and his clothes became dazzling white. Luke 9:29 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, give us faith to witness your glory in our lives and to be obedient to your reign through Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this food; may it remind us of your glory and power that cares for us each and every day through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Glory of God in Christ be your strength.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- Think or tell about a mountaintop experience you have had or someone you know has.
- When have you felt God's presence in your life?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 9:28-43a.

This was a mountain top experience. Threatening clouds, confusion, and the divine voice came together for three disciples to witness the glory of the Lord Jesus. After they descended the mountain, this other-worldly experience of Jesus' transfiguration was followed by an exorcism that frees a little boy of a demon (v. 42). Jesus continued his healing and teaching ministry as he journeyed to Jerusalem. One day this mountain top experience, the story of Jesus' transfiguration, would be retold again and again by the three disciples. We may find ourselves longing for such a powerful mountaintop experience to give us the assurance of God's presence in our lives. Just as Peter, James, and John experienced Jesus' glory, it may leave us in silence with a feeling of fear and bewilderment as we take time to understand our mountaintop experiences.

Discuss: What experience have you had that has given you the assurance of God's presence?

Pray: **Awesome God, thank you for the story of Jesus' glory witnessed by his disciples; may your glorious presence through Jesus Christ strengthen our faith. 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 encourage someone to live with faith and courage?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, March 5. The day before the start of Lent is called Shrove Tuesday. The name 'shrove' comes from the practice of being "shriven": going to church to confess your sins and receive absolution. Shrove Tuesday is also called Pancake Tuesday or Fat Tuesday because households used up their remaining eggs and fats before Lent by making pancakes on this day. Observe Shrove Tuesday with a pancake breakfast or dinner. While you are eating, think or talk about what you might wish to give up or add for Lent.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]; Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11