

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

April 20, 2025

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

Alleluia!



GATHERING

PRELUDE

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

(rise in body or spirit)

THE EASTER ACCLAMATION!

- P** Alleluia! Christ is risen.
- C** Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

- P** In the name of ✠ the One
who was, who is, and who is to come.

C Amen.

- P** Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God,
we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own,
that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name.
Baptized into you, O Living One,

C make us one and you are one.

- P** We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers
and give new life to beloved servants of your church;
waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making.
Baptized into you, O Living One,

C make us one as you are one.

- P** Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that each day is shaped by these waters
that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus,
the Crucified and Risen One.

C Amen

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia!
our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
who did once upon the cross, Alleluia!
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!</p> <p>2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia!
unto Christ, our heav'nly king, Alleluia!
who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia!
sinners to redeem and save. Alleluia!</p> | <p>3 But the pains which he endured, Alleluia!
our salvation have procured; Alleluia!
now above the sky he's king, Alleluia!
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!</p> <p>4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia!
praise eternal as his love; Alleluia!
praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!</p> |
|--|---|

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3;
tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4


APOSTOLIC GREETING

- P** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

This is the Feast

Refrain
Assisting minister




This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the people of God and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain

has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Isaiah 65:17-25

Through the prophet, God promises a new heaven and a new earth. Weeping will pass away, life will be abundant for God's people, and the world—including the wild animals—will be at peace.

I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. ¹⁸ But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. ¹⁹ I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. ²⁰ No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. ²¹ They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. ²² They shall not build and

another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. ²³ They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—and their descendants as well. ²⁴ Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. ²⁵ The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

📖 Word of God, Word of Life.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

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



¹Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good;
God's mercy en- dures forever.

²**Let Israel now declare,**
"God's mercy en- dures forever."

¹⁴The LORD is my strength and my song,
and has become my salvation.

¹⁵**Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous:**
"The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

¹⁶The right hand of the LORD is exalted!
The right hand of the LORD acts valiantly!"

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

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

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

²⁰"This is the gate of the LORD;
here the righteous may enter."

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

²²The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

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

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

SECOND READING

Acts 10:34-43

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

Peter began to speak to the people: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality,³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him.³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all.³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced:³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree;⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear,⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead.⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

L Word of God, Word of Life.

G Thanks be to God.

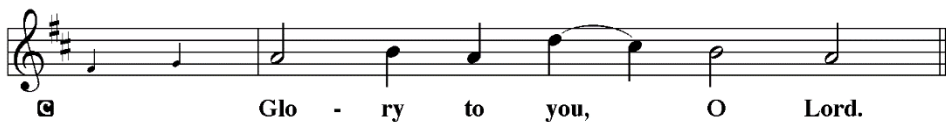
(rise in body or spirit)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John.



G Glo - ry to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL

John 20:1-18

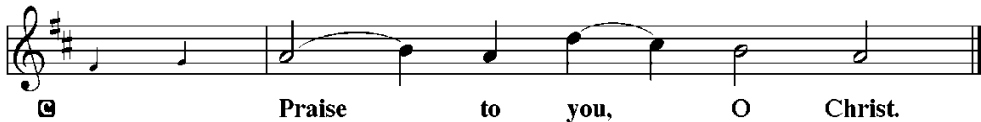
This morning began with confusion: the stone was moved and the tomb was empty. Disciples arrive, then angels, and finally Jesus himself. Out of the confusion, hope emerges, and a weeping woman becomes the first to confess her faith in the risen Lord.

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb.² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him."³ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb.⁴ The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first.⁵ He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there,⁷ and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself.⁸ Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed;⁹ for as yet they did not

understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples returned to their homes.

¹¹ But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; ¹² and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” ¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

▮ The Gospel of our Lord



(sit)

CHILDREN’S BLESSING (9:00 AM)

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

SERMON

Pastor Wynard

(rise in body or spirit)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!

ELW 377

1 Alleluia! Jesus is risen!
Trumpets resounding in glorious light!
Splendor, the Lamb, heaven forever!
Oh, what a miracle God has in sight!

Refrain

Jesus is risen and we shall arise.
Give God the glory! Alleluia!

2 Walking the way, Christ in the center
telling the story to open our eyes;
breaking our bread, giving us glory:
Jesus our blessing, our constant surprise.

Refrain

3 Jesus the vine, we are the branches;
life in the Spirit the fruit of the tree;
heaven to earth, Christ to the people,
gift of the future now flowing to me. Refrain

4 Weeping, be gone; sorrow, be silent:
death put asunder, and Easter is bright.
Cherubim sing: O grave, be open!
Clothe us in wonder, adorn us in light.
Refrain

5 City of God, Easter forever,
golden Jerusalem, Jesus the Lamb,
river of life, saints and archangels,
sing with creation to God the I AM! Refrain

NICENE CREED

**☒ We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Response: **P** God of grace,
 G hear our prayer.

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

Prayers this week: Nancy Meyer

On-going Care: Sharon Ambler, Cheri Biggs, John Bodnar, Don Burton, Betty Callies, Mike Cswercko, Marilyn Dichsen, Shirley Dietrich, Mike Edris, Kathy Englert, Wanda Frykberg Jessica Hannon, Julie Hoogestraat, Joan Jacobson-Trotter, Jason Klonglan, Orville & Julie Knapp, Jack & Marie Kubat, Ruth & Charles Martis, Lara McCormick, Jane Meyer, Lynn Meyer, Nita Mueller, Diane Nickeson-Ray, Linda Peltz, Kathy Preininger, Dan & Ginny Rath, Donna Reinig, David Samaria, 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: *Seminarrians* – Joseph Daffer, 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. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate in this portion of worship. You may use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online or mail in your offering or donate online. Thank you!



THE TABLE IS PREPARED

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

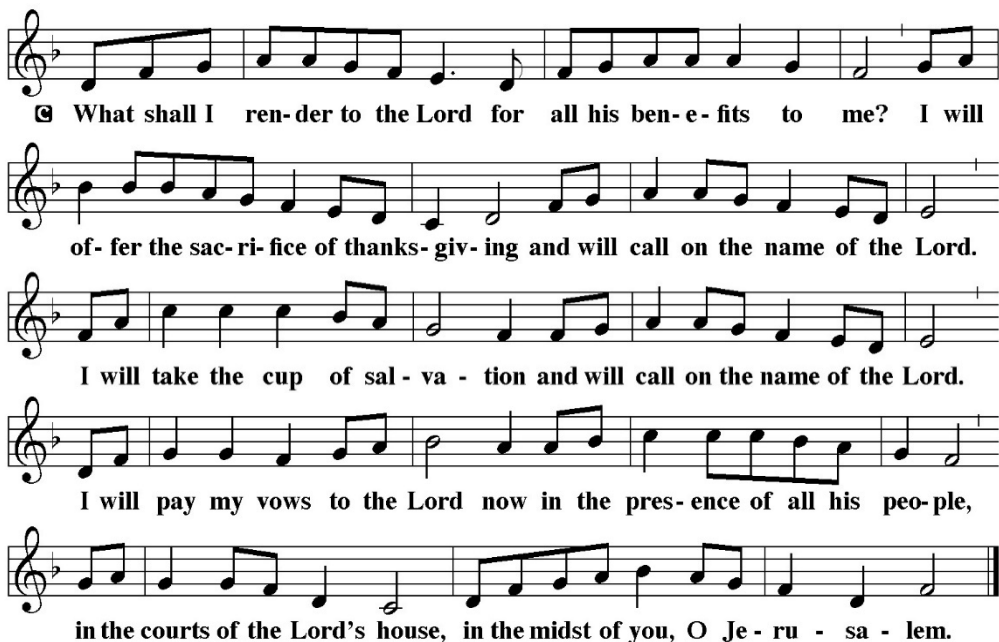
Christ Is Risen, Alleluia!

Words and music by Sally K. Albrect
and Jay Althouse
Kountze Choir, Brass & Timpani

(rise in body or spirit)

OFFERTORY HYMN

What Shall I Render to the Lord



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all his ben-e-fits to me? I will
of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of sal-va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all his peo-ple,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem.

OFFERING PRAYER

- P** Risen One,
C you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

This musical score is for a hymn in G major (one sharp). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has two measures, the second and third staves each have two measures, and the fourth staff has one measure. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words spanning across measures. The music is written in a simple, melodic style with eighth and quarter notes.

PREFACE FOR THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

SANCTUS

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

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

This musical score is for a hymn in G major (one sharp). It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has two measures, the second and third staves each have two measures, and the fourth staff has one measure. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words spanning across measures. The music is written in a simple, melodic style with eighth and quarter notes.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P** Blessed are you, O God of the universe.
... With this bread and cup ... we proclaim the mystery of faith



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

- P** O God of resurrection and new life: ...
... Grace our table with your presence.
- C** Come, Holy Spirit.
- P** Reveal yourself to us in the breaking of the bread ...
Send us forth, burning with justice, peace, and love.
- C** Come, Holy Spirit.
- P** With your holy ones ... we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity, now and forever.



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

THE LORD'S PRAYER

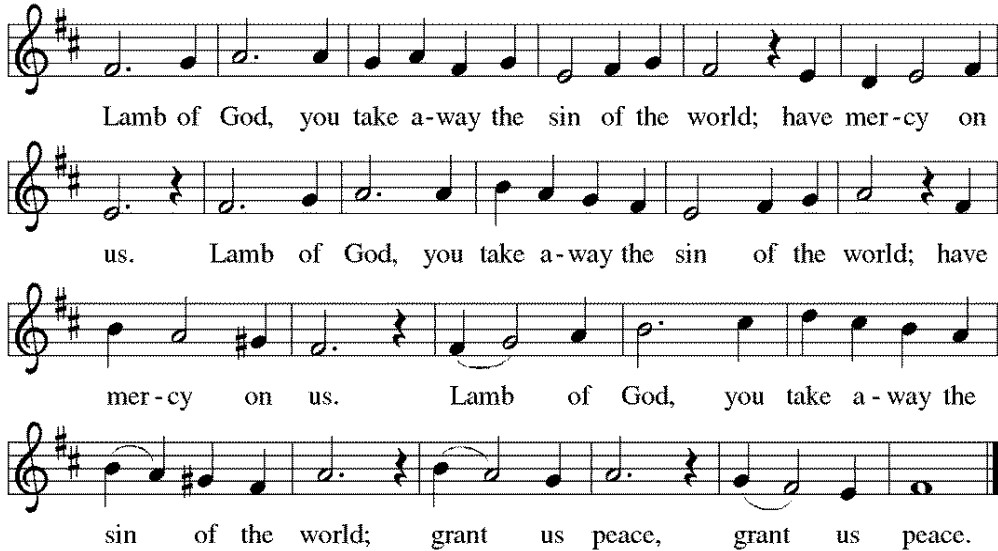
- P** Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us all to pray:

- C** Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

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

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

AGNUS DEI



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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- P** Come and receive the gift of new life.
- C** We come to the table of grace.

(sit)

THE DISTRIBUTION

All baptized Christians who confess Jesus Christ as Lord and his Real Presence in, with and under the bread and wine, are welcome to the Lord's Supper. We believe that this is the Lord's table and is he who invites you. So, you who are strong in faith, come with gratitude. You who feel weak in faith, come to be strengthened. And you who feel you have no faith, come so that the God of steadfast love will touch your heart with hope and joy. The form of distribution is intinction: you will receive the consecrated bread and then you may dip the bread into the wine. Gluten free bread is available upon request.

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!

ELW 385

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

Text: Cyril A. Alington, 1872-1955, alt.
Text © 1952, ren. 1986 Hymns *Ancient & Modern*, admin.
Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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- 1 That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
th'apostles saw their risen Lord!
- 2 O Jesus, king of gentleness,
with constant love our hearts possess;
to you our lips will ever raise
the tribute of our grateful praise.

- 3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all
in this our Easter festival,
for you will be our strength and shield
from ev'ry weapon death can wield.
- 4 All praise, O risen Lord, we give
to you, once dead, but now alive!
To God the Father equal praise,
and God the Spirit, now we raise!

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

Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

ELW 367

- 1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
in praise of love that still abounds:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear!
Repeat their song of glory here:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Eternal is the gift he brings,
therefore our heart with rapture sings:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Now still he comes to give us life
and by his presence stills all strife.
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

- 3 Oh, fill us, Lord, with dauntless love;
set heart and will on things above
that we conquer through your triumph;
grant grace sufficient for life's day
that by our lives we truly say:
"Christ has triumphed! He is living!"
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 4 Adoring praises now we bring
and with the heav'nly blessed sing:
"Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!"
Be to the Father, and our Lord,
to Spirit blest, most holy God,
all the glory, never ending!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Paul Z. Strodach, 1876-1947, alt.
Text © 1958 *Service Book and Hymnal*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

- 1 With high delight let us unite
in songs of sweet jubilation.
You pure in heart, all bear your part,
sing Jesus Christ, our salvation.
To set us free forever, he
is ris'n and sends to all earth's ends
good news to save ev'ry nation.**
- 2 True God, he first from death has burst
forth into life, all subduing.
His enemy now vanquished see;
his death has been death's undoing.
“And yours shall be like victory
o'er death and grave,” says he, who gave
his life for us, life renewing.**
- 3 Let praises ring; give thanks, and bring
to Christ our Lord adoration.
His honor speed by word and deed
to ev'ry land, ev'ry nation.
So shall his love give us above,
from misery and death set free,
all joy and full consolation.**

Text: Georg Vetter, 1536-1599;
tr. Martin H. Franzmann, 1907-1976, alt.
Text © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

(rise in body or spirit)

THE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- P** Living One,
- C** in this feast you have made yourself known to us. Send us now to tell of your wonders, sing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life to a wounded and weary world. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

P Alleluia! Christ is risen!

C Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

P The triune God,

who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

HYMN

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing

ELW 389

**1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**3 In ev'ry insult, rift, and war,
where color, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.**

**2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching ev'ry place and time.**

**4 Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.**

**5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love, and praise.**

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936
Text © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company,
Carol Stream, IL 60188.
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DISMISSAL

P Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

C Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*



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 Slight	Janitorial Staff
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Shannon Picha	Nursery Director
Toby Rees	Director of Kountze Commons



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

April 19 & 20, 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

CHRIST
IS RISEN
INDEED *Alleluia*

Easter Breakfast

8 - 10:45 AM

The youth will be providing egg casseroles, pastries, fruit, and yogurt on Easter morning. All proceeds will go to support our Youth Mission Trip to Nashville this summer, so please be generous if you are able. All are encouraged to join us in the Fellowship Hall.



Easter Sunday
Breakfast

Easter Egg Hunt 10:10 AMish

Join us for the Easter Egg Hunt this morning in the Link, following the 9 AM service. Bring your basket and get ready to hunt some eggs!



Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

Sunday School

Ages 2 years-6th Grade

No Sunday School today, but join us in the 2nd Floor Sunday School Rooms next Sunday, April 27.

Children's Choir

Grades K-6

No Children's Choir today, but join Barb Carlsen on the 2nd floor in the Sunday School Music Room next Sunday, April 27.

Youth Forum

10:10 AM

Grades 7—12

Lower Level Youth Room

This Week: Serving Easter Breakfast

Next Week: Reception for Confirmands

Adult Forum

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

This Week: Fellowship (Easter Sunday)

Next Week: Reception for Confirmands

This Week at Kountze Memorial

April 20 Sunday

Easter

7:30 AM Sunrise Easter Worship

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

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:30 AM Easter Breakfast

April 21 Monday

OFFICE CLOSED

10:00 AM Pantry

April 22 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

12:30 PM Circle 3

April 23 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Confirmation at St. Timothy's

April 24 Thursday

9:00 AM KETV Board

11:30 Property Committee

1:00 PM Circle 4

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

6:00 PM Circle 5

April 25 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

April 26 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

April 27 Sunday

Easter 2

Affirmation of Baptism

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

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:00 AM Affirmation of Baptism

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

9:30 AM Kountze Café - Breakfast

10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour

10:15 AM New Member Class

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Explore! 2025

Saturday, April 26

9 AM - 3:30 PM

Grades 1 - 6

Cost: \$25

Camp Carol Joy Holling

Elementary students are invited to experience a fun-filled day of camp activities, worship, and fellowship at CJH!

Whether your child is new to camp or eager to return, Explore! offers a great chance to reconnect with nature, friends, and faith. We'll revisit this summer's theme, "Created to Be," through Bible study and camp favorites like games, songs, and environmental learning. Every Explore! Day is unique—perfect for both first-time and returning campers! Learn more and register at:

<https://tinyurl.com/ec4789ua>

Affirmation of Baptism (Confirmation)

Sunday, April 27

9 AM

Reception 10:10 AM

We will celebrate with our 8th grade students confirming their faith during Worship. Please join us for a reception in

the Fellowship Hall during the Faith Formation Hour.

New Member Classes

April 27 & May 4

10:15 AM

Explore the potential of joining Kountze Memorial by attending our upcoming new member classes. Please plan to attend both sessions. We will welcome new members on Sunday, May 18. Questions or planning to attend? Contact the church office (info@kmlchurch.org) or 402-341-7761. We look forward to connecting with you!

High School Graduate Quilt Blessing

Sunday, May 4

9AM

A reception of Congratulations and Celebration will take place from 10:10 to 10:50 AM. Along with breakfast, cake will be served. High School Seniors, please submit 5 to 7 photos to include in the video presentation no later than April 27. The photos may be brought to church or emailed to info@kmlchurch.org. Please be sure to have your names on the photos.

For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

Honoring our High School and Other Graduates

Sunday, May 4

If you are a graduate in this past year, please let us know by Tuesday, April 15. We need to know your name, who your parents are, where you are graduating from, major if applicable, and what will be next for you. On May 4 we will uplift the names of all who have celebrated a graduation this past year. Call the church office at 402-341-7761 or email info@kmlchurch.org, so we can celebrate with you.

Together/Omaha Tornado 50th Anniversary Interfaith Worship Service

Tuesday, May 6

7:00 - 8:30 PM

**First United Methodist Church
7020 Cass St, Omaha**



This event remembers the devastating tornadoes that struck Omaha that day, and the subsequent establishment of Together, an organization that seeks to end hunger and homelessness in our community. The non-profit formed in the wake of this devastating event after seven Omaha faith communities came together—including Kountze Memorial—to help the people affected by the disaster. Please register for this free event by using the QR code or the link below so they know how many to prepare for.

<https://tinyurl.com/jhfk9e7>

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. Please call the church office and we'll give you details on how to register so we can pay the registration fee minus the early bird discount. To check on available dates use the QR code or the link below.

<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 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

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!

Lutheran Collaborative VBS (All free!)

Held at Luther Memorial Church

1031 Sunset Trail (61st St. & Western Ave.)

July 20-23

Preschool (potty trained) to Grade 5

5:15 PM: Family Meal

6-8 PM: Programming

This year, we are going on a "Road Trip with God". Our studies will be based off of the Bible verse Joshua 1:9 – "The Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Join us as we discover God's presence everywhere as we explore new places, make new friends, and experience God's goodness together. Register or volunteer by using the QR code or link below. If you have questions/concerns, please contact Kristin Boe (kristin@kmlchurch.org) or Pastor Becky (402-740-1985 or pastorbecky@lord-of-love.org).

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



Kountze Food Pantry

Our Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry is in need of your gifts and service. **The current needs this week for the pantry are macaroni & cheese, rice, Ramen.** You may leave your donation in the box marked "Food Pantry," located in the Fellowship Hall. Tax deductible slips are available on the inside pocket of the box. Also, if you get cards, calendars, pens, etc. in the mail that are taking up room in your "junk drawer," you might consider donating those items to the pantry as well. Please join us as a volunteer in the pantry in the Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center. You are welcome to volunteer as it fits your schedule. We have options for volunteers of all abilities. We are using a new sign up format, so please use the link or QR code to sign up (even if you are a regular volunteer or signed up on the old form) and join our mission.

<https://tinyurl.com/uausdddp>



Attendance & Giving

Thursday, April 10—Wednesday, April 16

Saturday: 39

Sunday: 9:00: 192 **11:00:** 115

Wednesday: Not available at time of printing

Total: 346

Streaming: 53

Pantry Guests Served: 696 (inc. 232 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 25

Offering:

\$8,549.73 (Regular) \$3,201.33 (Specials)

\$327.00 (Debt Reduction)

Jesus' resurrection brings amazement and questions.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 24:1-12	The resurrection of Jesus
Monday	Acts 10:34-43	Peter speaks of faith in Jesus
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 15:19-26	Confidence in the resurrection
Wednesday	Mark 16:1-8	Jesus has been raised
Thursday	Deuteronomy 11:13-21	Teach the children
Friday	2 Corinthians 4:7-15	Apostles speak the faith
Saturday	Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24	The Lord is always merciful
Sunday	John 20:19-31	Seeing Christ's wounds



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as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened. **Luke 24:12 (NRSV)***

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Gracious and Living God, give us ears to hear and believe the message of the resurrection and the voice to speak to others of Jesus victory over death. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this food; this is the day that you have made; let us rejoice and be glad in it through Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen. (Psalm 118:24)

A Blessing to Give:

May you rejoice that Christ is risen.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- Do you talk about your faith with others? Explain.
- Jesus' disciples reacted in different ways to the resurrection. How do you think you would have reacted?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 24:1-12.

Luke wants future disciples to pause and wonder about faith in the resurrection of Jesus. Easter morning and the announcement of Jesus' resurrection begins with fear and then leads to joy. The women are initially terrified, not jubilant. For the disciples, it begins in disbelief. They even questioned the reliability of the women's testimony. Only Peter goes to the tomb. He is moved to amazement when he sees only linen cloths, and not Jesus' body. Luke gives us an honest story that relates to our own difficulties in trusting God. Belief is not our first reaction to God's grace and mercy. Has Jesus' body been stolen or is resurrection something to believe? Clearly, the disciples aren't buying it right away. As with the disciples on Easter Sunday, we, too, can wonder, "What happened?" The tomb is empty, but the resurrected body has not yet been seen. The beauty of the Christian faith is the honest description of discipleship. Even on Easter morning, there is room for confusion and questions as well as wonderment. We are encouraged to be like Peter and explore what might be true.

Discuss: What questions do you have about the resurrection of Jesus?

Pray: **Awesome God, we thank you for the joy and wonderment that Easter brings; help us to overcome doubts and fears that we may live with hope and confidence through Christ Jesus our Risen Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you encourage someone's amazement and questions about Christ's resurrection?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Place a candle near the cross drawn on the paper on the first week in Lent. Take a moment to trace the cross with your finger and reflect on the words of the Lord's Prayer that were written around the cross during Lent. Then say the Lord's Prayer as written in Luke 11:2-4 with the addition of the doxology: **Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

Light the candle and say: Alleluia! Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29
Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31



Easter 2025

Lilies are given to the glory of God...

in memory of:

Marvin Andersen his family
Randy Anderson Szemplenski and Dean Anderson, Sr. mother and wife, Darlene Anderson
Uncle Tom Sullivan, who we miss so much..... Brett, Jack, and Grandma Kathe Bailey
Grandma Jane Bailey, who we miss so much..... Brett, Jack, and Grandma Kathe Bailey
Grandma Marge Sullivan, who we miss so much..... Brett, Jack, and Grandma Kathe Bailey
Ed & Lily Kinish..... Tonia & Sofia Beck
Axl Ostronic..... Tonia & Sofia Beck
loved ones the Callies, Green, and Ray families
parents, David & Lois Carlsen..... the Campbell and Carlsen families
grandparents, Floyd & Alice Chase the Campbell and Carlsen families
grandparents, Viggo & Viola Carlsen..... the Campbell and Carlsen families
loved ones Ellie Carlson
husband, Dwaine..... wife, Ellie Carlson
Lawrence & Marion Cooke..... Warren Cooke
Pastor Olaf Warren Cooke
Edward & Betty Coufal..... the Coufal family
Myron & Louise Klug..... the Coufal family
Thelma & Joe Councill, Marie & Ed Debus, Jackie & Stephie McCoy, Pat & Lou Granneman,
Vern McAleer, and Kathy Stauffer..... Joe Councill family
Joan & Wally Nellson daughter, Janet
Anna May Anderson granddaughter, Janet
Barb Chrisman Janet Diggins
Elaine Drickey Emily & Evelyn
our parents..... Robert & Patty Ellison
loved ones Gloria Erickson
Kelcey Renae Fike Mary Jo Fike & family
John & Bernetta Johnson Mary Jo Fike
Randall S. Fike..... Mary Jo Fike & family
parents Anne & Charles Forslund..... Christine Forslund
Hannah Rief grandparents, Vicki & Leigh
Rick Thomas Leigh & Vicki
our parents..... Leigh & Vicki
loved ones Jill & Paul Gittler
parents and brother..... Carol Gleason
Albert Grage..... his family

those who have gone before us	Jason Hage
Joyce E. Hahn	Wayne A. Hahn
Stan & Mary Jane Hansen.....	Len & Janice Hansen
Ben & Lorine Nelson.....	Len & Janice Hansen
Jeff Helgenberger.....	Cathy Helgenberger
Wilfred (Willie) Higa.....	the Higa, Studts, & Roberts families
our Parents	Duane & Penny Hovendick
loved Ones	Duane & Penny Hovendick
Janet Woodhull Young & Byron WoodHull.....	Karen & Steve Jacobson
Brian Jacobson, Evelyn, Norris Jacobson.....	Karen & Steve Jacobson
Debby Engler	Karen & Steve Jacobson
loved ones	the Jensens, Muchmores, and Luczynskis
Sandy Johnson	Curt Johnson
our parents.....	Ken & Linda Johnson
Geri Laney & Carole Olson	Ken & Linda Johnson
Jack & Marlyn Baker	Ken & Linda Johnson
father, Rocco Fili	Calelo, Hunter, Grayson, Sarah, & Josh Kellams
Barbara Kidder.....	the Kidder family
Frank & Marge Sokolik	the Kidder family
Howard & Martha Lindgren	the Kidder family
John R. Berg.....	Ashley Laudenback
Marvin & Ann Lienemann.....	Rick Lienemann & Jane Estabrook
John & Nancy Estabrook	Rick Lienemann & Jane Estabrook
beloved grandparents, Andy, Helen, Moe & Dorothy	Ann Miller
beloved brother, Peter Andrew Miller	Ann Miller
Burdette & Arlene Ledell.....	Anita Joy & Ralph Morse
Don & Eileen Morse	Anita Joy & Ralph Morse
Lyle Nissen	Bruce & Barb Nissen
Richerd Mueller	Bruce & Barb Nissen
Al & Lois Andresen	Susan O'Connor
Don & Jean Nippert	Marvin & Kris Olson
Marvin P. Olson.....	Marvin & Kris Olson
William Green.....	Marvin & Kris Olson
Russ & Donna Olson	Steve Olson
Joe Olson.....	Steve Olson
Lloyd & Ethel	Michael Orris
Richard Orris.....	Michael Orris
Charles Allner	Jeff & Robin Perkins
Elmer Pfeiffer.....	Gary Pfeiffer and family
Lorraine Beil Pfeiffer.....	Gary Pfeiffer and family
Rick Picha	family
our parents.....	Robert & Pat Ranney
Pat's sister, Jean.....	Robert & Pat Ranney
Margaret Sack	Norm Sack
Marjean Sack	Norm Sack

Barbara Saklar.....	Tracy Saklar and Kris Placzek & family
Charles & Augusta Laushman	Tracy Saklar and Kris Placzek & family
Chris & Nadine Saklar	Tracy Saklar and Kris Placzek & family
Joy Beavers	Tracy Saklar and Kris Placzek & family
Lee Sealer.....	Judy Sealer
Art Gersib, John & Elaine Studts.....	Pat & David Studts
Willie Higa.....	Pat & David Studts
Dean & Carl Sum.....	Paul Sum family
Georte & Corky Boonstra	Paul Sum family
Dudley A Syre.....	Mary Jo Syre
M. Eugene & Barbara Tollefson	David Tollefson
Leonard & Dorothy Cross.....	daughter, Nancy Tunzer
James Tunzer	wife, Nancy Tunzer
Sam Weigel.....	Erica Weigel & Prin
Don Wichert.....	wife, Vickie
our parents.....	Dan & Karen Wolf
Randolph & Rachel Anderson	Chet & Sara Worm
August & Evelyn Worm	Chet & Sara Worm

in honor of:

Kountze volunteers	Dale & Tina Broekemeier
our family.....	Ron & Pam Brown
our grandchildren Joey, Jackson, & Lilly Councill, Ty Councill, and Samantha Gillespe	Patt & Joe Councill
Alice Pickinpaugh.....	Emily & Evelyn
children & grandchildren	Ilse Grage
my family	Joan Jacobson Trotter
Ken & Linda Johnson	Kara, Zach, & Bryce
our 13 grandchildren and great granddaughter	Ken & Linda Johnson
Chris Kendall and Pat Studdts	Myrtle Weible
Randal, Autumn, & Teddy.....	Alan & Jena Woster
Matthew & Aelea.....	Alan & Jenna Woster
Charlie Ziegenbein.....	Lyn Ziegenbein

Love Gift:

Bob & Jacque Johnson
Jenni Toeppen

