

# KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

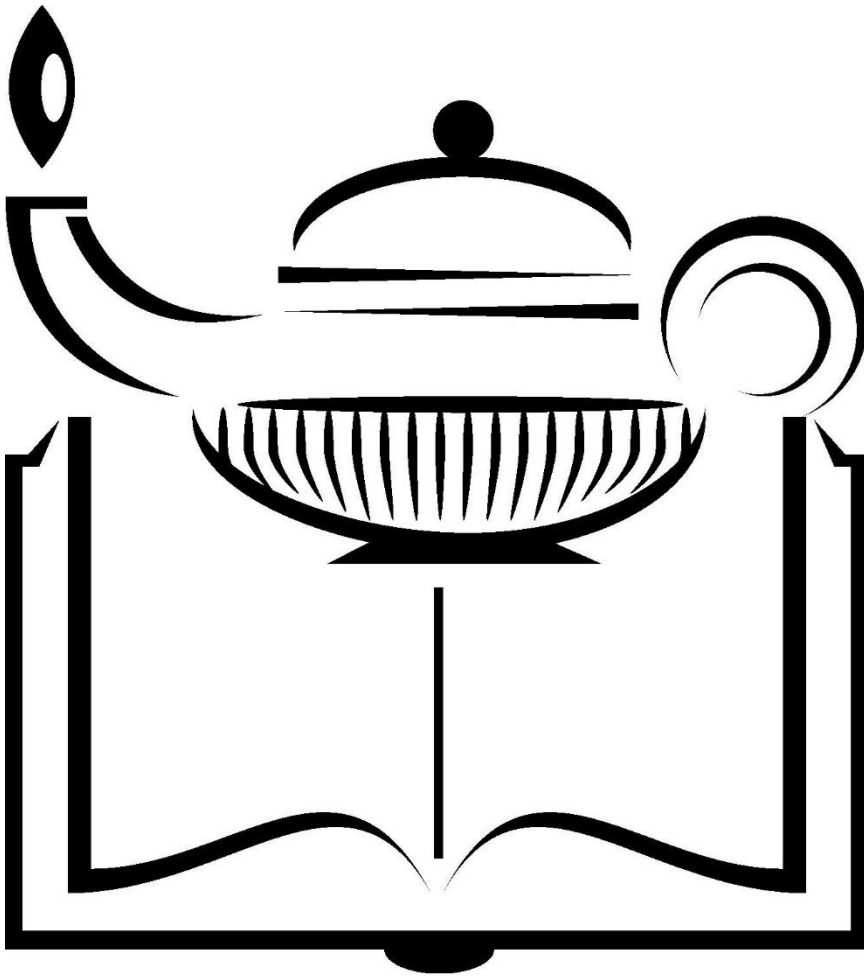
Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor  
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor

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

August 10, 2025

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

NINTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



*Jesus says, "It is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom." It is God's promise from the beginning—to Abraham, to the early church, and to the "little flock" of which we are a part in today's assembly. Faith, God's baptismal gift, trusts the promises of God. Have no fear.*



## GATHERING

### PRELUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*(rise in body or spirit)*

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**P** In the name of the Father,  
and of the ✙ Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** Merciful God,

**C** you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.  
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,  
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.  
You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity,  
but we grow weary in doing what is right.  
In your mercy, forgive us.  
Do not give up on us.  
Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life.  
Amen.

**P** You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith.  
In the cross of ✙ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven.  
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.

**C** Amen.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p><b>1</b> God is here! As we your people<br/>meet to offer praise and prayer,<br/>may we find in fuller measure<br/>what it is in Christ we share.<br/>Here, as in the world around us,<br/>all our varied skills and arts<br/>wait the coming of the Spirit<br/>into open minds and hearts.</p> <p><b>2</b> Here are symbols to remind us<br/>of our lifelong need of grace;<br/>here are table, font, and pulpit;<br/>here the cross has central place.<br/>Here in honesty of preaching,<br/>here in silence, as in speech,<br/>here, in newness and renewal,<br/>God the Spirit comes to each.</p> | <p><b>3</b> Here our children find a welcome<br/>in the Shepherd's flock and fold;<br/>here as bread and wine are taken,<br/>Christ sustains us as of old.<br/>Here the servants of the Servant<br/>seek in worship to explore<br/>what it means in daily living<br/>to believe and to adore.</p> <p><b>4</b> Lord of all, of church and kingdom,<br/>in an age of change and doubt,<br/>keep us faithful to the gospel;<br/>help us work your purpose out.<br/>Here, in this day's dedication,<br/>all we have to give, receive;<br/>we, who cannot live without you,<br/>we adore you! We believe!</p> |
|--|--|

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000  
Text © 1979 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## 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.

## KYRIE

- P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all,  
let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** Lord, have mercy.
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** Amen.

## HYMN OF PRAISE

- P** Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.
- C** To you alone, O God, we cry;  
the Holy One we name you, for you alone are God.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ Almighty God,

☞ **you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## WORD

(sit)

### FIRST READING

Genesis 15:1-6

*God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.*

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." <sup>2</sup> But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" <sup>3</sup> And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." <sup>4</sup> But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." <sup>5</sup> He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." <sup>6</sup> And he believed the Lord, and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

☞ Word of God, Word of Life.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 33:12-22 (read responsively)

<sup>12</sup> Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord!

Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!

<sup>13</sup> **The Lord looks down from heaven,  
and sees all humankind.**

<sup>14</sup> God sits firmly enthroned and watches  
all who dwell on the earth.

<sup>15</sup> **God fashions all their hearts  
and observes all their deeds.**

<sup>16</sup> A king is not saved by the size of the army,  
nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.

<sup>17</sup> **The horse gives vain hope for victory;  
despite its great strength it cannot save.**

<sup>18</sup> Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O Lord,  
upon those who wait for your steadfast love,

<sup>19</sup> **to deliver their lives from death,  
and to keep them alive in time of famine.**

<sup>20</sup> Our innermost being waits for you, O Lord,  
our helper and our shield.

<sup>21</sup> **Surely, our heart rejoices in you,  
for in your holy name we put our trust.**

<sup>22</sup> Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us,  
even as we place our hope in you.

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

*Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.*

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. <sup>2</sup> Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. <sup>3</sup> By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. <sup>8</sup> By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. <sup>9</sup> By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. <sup>10</sup> For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. <sup>11</sup> By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. <sup>12</sup> Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

<sup>13</sup> All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, <sup>14</sup> for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. <sup>15</sup> If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. <sup>16</sup> But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

**L** Word of God, Word of Life.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*(rise in body or spirit)*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**C** Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

**You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

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

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

## HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 12:32-40

*Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.*

Jesus said: <sup>32</sup> "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. <sup>33</sup> Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. <sup>34</sup> For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

<sup>35</sup> "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; <sup>36</sup> be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. <sup>37</sup> Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. <sup>38</sup> If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

<sup>39</sup> "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>40</sup> You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

**P** The Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

## CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Children (aged 3 years through 5<sup>th</sup> grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, they may either return to their seat and use the Spark Bible and/or activity bags during the regular sermon, or follow Ms. Boe upstairs for an activity in the Sunday School room.

## SERMON

Deacon Eric Haitz

(rise in body or spirit)

## HYMN OF THE DAY

*Earth and All Stars!*

**ELW 731**

- 1 Earth and all stars! Loud rushing planets!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Hail, wind, and rain! Loud blowing snowstorm!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

*Refrain*

God has done marvelous things.  
I too sing praises with a new song!

- 2 Trumpet and pipes! Loud clashing cymbals!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Harp, lute, and lyre! Loud humming cellos!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*
- 3 Engines and steel! Loud pounding hammers!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Limestone and beams! Loud building workers!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*
- 4 Classrooms and labs! Loud boiling test tubes!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Athlete and band! Loud cheering people!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*
- 5 Knowledge and truth! Loud sounding wisdom!  
Sing to the Lord a new song!  
Daughter and son! Loud praying members!  
Sing to the Lord a new song! *Refrain*

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926  
Text © 1968 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## THE APOSTLES' CREED

- P** God has made us God's people through our Baptism into Christ.  
Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.
- C** **I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**  
**who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**  
**born of the virgin Mary,**  
**suffered under Pontius Pilate,**  
**was crucified, died, and was buried;**  
**he descended to the dead.**  
**On the third day he rose again;**  
**he ascended into heaven,**  
**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**  
**and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**  
**the holy catholic church,**  
**the communion of saints,**  
**the forgiveness of sins,**  
**the resurrection of the body,**  
**and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- Response: **P** God of grace,  
**C** **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:** David Tollefson

**On-going Care:** John Bodnar, Don Burton, Betty Callies, Nina Castro, Mike Cswercko, Marilyn Dichsen, Shirley Dietrich, Mike Edris, Kathy Englert, Wanda Frykberg, Tracey Gehringer, Dale Grundman, Joan Jacobson-Trotter, Linda Johnson, Jason Klonglan, Julie Knapp, Jack & Marie Kubat, Glenn Lindgren, Ruth & Charles Martis, Lara McCormick, Jane Meyer, Sharon Miley, Nita Mueller, Walter Nash, Dan & Ginny Rath, Joyce Wachal, Gary Westerman, Allyson White, Deb Woosley

**Other Prayers:** *Those serving in the military* – Takao Elliot, fiancé of Dannika Rees; 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

- 📌 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. 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

*This Is the Spirits Entry Now*

setting by Anne Krentz Organ  
Kountze Bell Choir

(rise in body or spirit)

OFFERTORY HYMN

*We Place upon Your Table, Lord*

ELW 467

1 We place up - on your ta - ble, Lord, where you by  
2 With - in these sim - ple things there lie the height and  
3 Ac - cept them, Lord; they come from you; we take them

grace have bid us dine, these to - kens of our dai - ly  
depth of hu - man life: our pain and tears, our thoughts and  
hum - bly from your hand; put these your gifts to high - er

work, the food of life, the bread and wine.  
toils, our hopes and fears, our joy and strife.  
use: the ho - ly meal that you com - mand.

Text: M. F. C. Willson, 1884-1944, alt.

## OFFERING PRAYER

- P** Creator God,
- C** in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor, that we may work for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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:
- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

## EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- P** You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.  
... we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
- C** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
- P** Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,  
... be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

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

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- ☞ The kingdom of God is set before you.
- ☞ **Let us eat and rejoice.**

(sit)

## THE DISTRIBUTION

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

## HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

*Come to the Table*

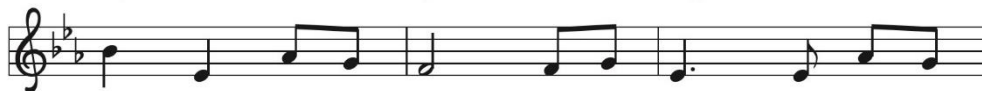
**ELW 481**

**Come to the table of mercy,  
prepared with the wine and the bread.  
All who are hungry and thirsty,  
come, and your souls will be fed.  
Come at the Lord's invitation;  
receive from his nail-scarred hand.  
Eat of the bread of salvation;  
drink of the blood of the Lamb.**

Text: Claire Cloninger, b. 1942  
Text © 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music (ASCAP) c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695; Juniper Landing Music  
(admin. Word Music); and Word Music (ASCAP).



1 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken by the  
 2 Loaves were bro - ken, words were spo - ken in a  
 3 Loaves are bro - ken, words are spo - ken, as in  
 4 By the loaves you break and give us, send us



Gal - i - le - an shore. Je - sus, Bread of life from  
 qui - et room one night. In the bread and wine you  
 faith we gath - er here. Je - sus speaks a - cross the  
 in your name to share bread for which the mil - lions

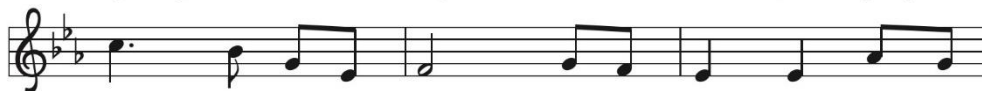


heav - en, was their food for - ev - er - more.  
 gave them, Christ, you came as Light from Light.  
 a - ges: "I am with you; do not fear!"  
 hun - ger, words that tell your love and care.

*Refrain*



By your bod - y bro - ken for us, by your



wine of life out - poured, Je - sus, feed a - gain your



peo - ple. Be our Host, our Life, our Lord.

Text: Herman G. Stuempfle Jr., 1923–2007

Text © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

*(rise in body or spirit)*

## POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**P** Mothering God,

**C** you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name. Amen.

# SENDING

## BLESSING

**P** The love of God abound in you; the grace of our Savior Jesus Christ fill your hearts; and the life of the Spirit ✠ bless you and give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

### *God's Work, Our Hands*

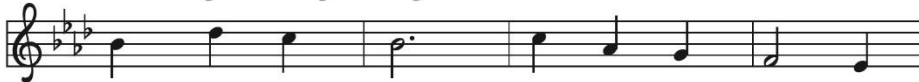
ACS 1000



1 God's work, our hands: work - ing to - geth - er,  
2 God's work, our feet: trav - 'ling to - geth - er,  
3 God's work, our voice: sing - ing to - geth - er,  
4 God is at work in and a - round us:



build - ing a fu - ture, re - pair - ing the world,  
fol - low - ing Je - sus to plac - es un - known,  
prais - ing, pro - claim - ing to all who will hear,  
seed - lings are sprout - ing and bread's on the rise!



rais - ing up homes, plant - ing new gar - dens,  
walk - ing as friends, march - ing for free - dom,  
pray - ing for peace, shout - ing for jus - tice,  
Washed and set free, hum - bled and hon - ored,



feed - ing the hun - gry and shelt - 'ring the cold.  
run - ning the race with God's fu - ture the goal.  
claim - ing God's love for the lost and the least.  
gift - ed by grace, we re - spond in God's love.



Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,  
Bless, God, our feet as we fol - low your way,  
Bless, God, our voice as we speak in your name,  
Bless, God, our lives as we an - swer your call,



shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.  
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.  
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.  
shar - ing the good news of your gos - pel.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954

Text © 2019 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, admin. Augsburg Fortress

**DISMISSAL**

- P** Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
- C** Thanks be to God.

**POSTLUDE**

Mark Jones, *organ*





From Sundays and Seasons.com. ©2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006828. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-705181. New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition Bible, ©2021, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Evangelical Lutheran Worship ©2006 Augsburg Fortress. All Creations Sings ©2020 Augsburg Fortress, an imprint of 1517 Media. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26828.



### 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
Toby Rees	Director of Kountze Commons



# KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street  
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131  
[www.kmlchurch.org](http://www.kmlchurch.org)

August 9 & 10, 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 or anyone who does not commune will receive a blessing. It is the understanding of the universal Church that those who wish to commune with bread only (for health or other reasons) have communed fully. Our form of distribution is Intinction, meaning you will receive the wafer in your hand and then dip it 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 plates 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

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

### Children's Sermon

9:15 AM

Following the 9 AM Children's Blessing, children in grades Preschool - 5<sup>th</sup> grade may join our Faith Formation Leaders for a children's sermon in the Upper Rooms. All the children will return to their seats in time to receive communion.

### Kountze Café Lite

9:30—11:00 AM

### Free-will Offering

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

### Adult Forum

Sundays, 10:10 AM

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

**August 10:** Meet & Greet with Deacon Eric Haitz

**August 17:** Congregational Meeting

### Meet & Greet with Deacon Eric Haitz

Deacon Eric will join us this weekend to preach during worship, share in a Saturday potluck, and lead Sunday's Forum. This is an opportunity for you to get to know him and to prayerfully consider calling him to serve with us in ministry.

### KMLC Book Group

Sunday, Aug. 10

**The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store** by James McBride

12:15 PM

### Fellowship Lounge

Join us for a fun discussion about this popular book among book groups.

## This Week at Kountze Memorial

### August 10 Sunday

Pentecost 9

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast

10:10 AM Adult Forum—Meet & Greet

12:15 PM Book Group

### August 11 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

11:30 AM Endowment Board

### August 12 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

### August 13 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group

12:15 PM Worship

1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese Manor

4:00 PM Executive Committee

### August 14 Thursday

Council Reports Due

9:30 AM WELCA Board

11:30 AM Property Committee

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

### August 15 Friday

Good News Deadline

5:00 PM Pantry

### August 16 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

### August 17 Sunday

Pentecost 10

Blessing of Backpacks

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast

10:10 AM Congregational Meeting—  
Vote on Council & Deacon Eric

---

## For Your Calendar/News & Notes

### Communion Assistants & Lectors Needed

Please consider signing up to serve as a Communion Assistant or Lector in August. We still need people for most dates. Summer schedules can be tricky, and having volunteers in place ahead of time really helps! You can use the links below to sign up. Thank you for being part of this important ministry.

### Looking for Sunday School Volunteers

We need your support! The Sunday School department is in need of leadership for the 2025/2026 school year. Each classroom requires a teacher and assistant. All lessons are scripted and materials are provided.

If you can help, please sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/3yvhh3fy>

or email Kristin Boe at [kristin@kmlchurch.org](mailto:kristin@kmlchurch.org) with questions or a link to sign up. Thank you for your consideration.



### 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 **vegetables from your garden, ramen noodles, and soup**. 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. Please join us as a volunteer in the pantry in the Kountze Commons volunteer as it fits your schedule. We have options for volunteers of all abilities. Please use the link below to sign up and join our mission.

<https://tinyurl.com/uasdddp>

If you have questions about the Pantry, you can call Toby Rees at 402-979-1425.



### Street Car Construction ALERT!

#### Effective Monday, August 11

We have been notified that the North bound off ramp to Harney/Dodge Street from I-480 will close on Monday August 11 for approximately 10 weeks for manhole relocation and water main construction. They will post detour signs. If you are coming from the South, you will need to exit at the Leavenworth exit, go East (right) to 24<sup>th</sup> Street then North (left) to Farnam Street, and then West (left) to the church.

### Next Sunday!

#### Annual Congregational Election Meeting

Sunday, August 17

10:10 AM



### Exciting News!

After a process of interviews, prayer, and discernment, the Call Committee and Church Council are thrilled to recommend Deacon Eric Haitz (pronounced "Heights") as our new Associate pastoral team member. Look for more information about Deacon Eric in the August *Good News*. Feel free to speak with members of the Call Committee or Council about what excites them about his potential ministry here at Kountze Memorial. Please plan to be here next **Sunday, August 17**, when the congregation will vote on whether to extend a call to Deacon Eric during our Annual Election Meeting.

**All Aboard for Men's Lunch!**

**Thursday, August 21**

**11:30 AM**

**Suggested Donation: \$10**

**Please RSVP by Tuesday, August 19**

This month we're pulling into the station with a 1930's train dining car theme—and you won't want to miss the ride! Come enjoy a hearty meal, great company, and a bit of railroad flair. Join us for good food, conversation, and a few surprises along the way! Please RSVP by Tuesday, August 19—Call the church office, sign up at the Welcome Desk, or email Jim at [jim@kmlchurch.org](mailto:jim@kmlchurch.org) to let us know you plan to be aboard.

**Dinners for Eight(ish)**

**September, October, & November**

**Sign up by Monday, August 25**

Get to know others in the congregation over 3 dinners for 3 months in groups of eight(ish).

- Meet each month for a meal in September, October, and November.
- Consider meeting for lunch instead of dinner!
- Enjoy a meal and conversation with one another.
- Singles, couples, you and a plus 1 - all are welcome!
- Sign up at the Welcome Desk or call the church office by Monday, August 25. See you around the table!

**Confirmation Orientation (& Meal)**

**August 27, 2025**

**6 PM**

**St. Timothy's Lutheran Church**

**(93<sup>rd</sup> & Dodge)**

**Grades 7 & 8**

Do you have a student who will be in 7th or 8th grade this fall? We are once again partnering with St. Timothy's, Lord of Love, and Luther Memorial Lutheran Churches for Confirmation on Wednesday nights from 6 -7:15 PM. Mark your calendars!: Our Confirmation programming kicks off with an orientation Meeting & Meal for both students and their adults at St. Timothy's on August 27 at 6 PM AND... a lock-in and service night here at Kountze, September 5-6. Watch for more information in your email and mailbox. Please let the church office or Pastor Lucy know if you have a student.

**Kountze Memorial Adult Choir**

**Rehearsal, Wednesday, September 3, 7 to 8:30 PM**

**Begin Singing at Worship, Sunday, September 7**

Join our Kountze Memorial Adult Choir, where we sing praises to God and enjoy fellowship together. Previous singing experience a plus but not necessary. Contact Barb Carlsen (402-341-7761) if you're interested or have questions.



**We're Looking for a Part-time**

**Youth Ministry Director**

Are you called to inspire the next generation of faith at Kountze Memorial?

**Position Details:**

- 15–20 hours/week
- \$20,000–\$25,000 salary (based on experience)
- In-person Sundays plus flexible remote planning
- Start Fall 2025

**Responsibilities Include:**

- Lead Sunday Youth Forum (Sept–May)
- Plan mission trips, retreats, service & social events
- Engage with Synod & camp programs
- Recruit & equip volunteers
- Communicate via newsletter & social media

**We're Looking For Someone Who:**

- Connects deeply with faith & youth
- Is creative, organized, tech-savvy
- Communicates well and builds relationships
- Loves teens, teamwork, and church life

**Interested?** Request a job description for more information and submit a letter of interest, resume, and three references to the church office. If you know someone who may be interested, please have them contact the church office.

**Attendance & Giving**

**Thursday, July 31—Wednesday, August 6**

**Saturday: 41**

**Sunday: 9:00: 123 11:00: 64**

**Wednesday: 12:15: 15**

**Total: 243**

**Streaming: 48**

**Pantry Guests Served: 825 (inc. 260 children)**

**Medical Clinic Guests Served: 14**

**Offering:**

\$18,246.93 (Regular)      \$3,861.00 (Specials)

\$827.00 (Debt Reduction)

*Be secure in God's love.*

#### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 12:32-40	Seek treasures in heaven
Monday	Genesis 15:1-6	Abram believes the Lord
Tuesday	Hebrew 11:1-3, 8-16	The meaning of faith
Wednesday	Proverbs 3:1-6	Trust and honor God
Thursday	Psalms 112	Blessings of the righteous
Friday	Isaiah 41:8-13	The Lord's chosen servant
Saturday	Psalms 33:12-22	Trust only in God
Sunday	Luke 12:49-56	Following Jesus causes division



© 2024 Milestones Ministry, LLC. All rights reserved.  
In addition to Taking Faith Home, celebrate milestones in your daily life  
as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)

#### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*"Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom."* **Luke 12:32 (NRSV)**

#### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

##### A Prayer for the Week:

God of power and might, help us to turn to you with confidence, trusting that you care for us and promise us peace and joy through Christ our Savior. Amen.

##### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, for this food we give you thanks; for all that you promise to do for us, we give you our hope and trust through Christ. Amen.

##### A Blessing to Give:

May God's love give you peace.

#### CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- What worries do you have?
- What keeps a person from fully trusting in God?

#### DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Luke 12:22-40.

Jesus wants us to trust God for what we need. Jesus told his disciples, "[S]trive for his [God's] kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well" (v. 31). He was emphasizing that God knows our basic needs in life. We should not worry about "what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear" (v.22). It is a tall order to put one's life on the line and give full trust in God. Jesus goes on to tell the disciples that they should sell their possessions and rely on the stuff of life that is eternal, "where no thief comes near and no moth destroys" (v. 33b). Faith is looking to and looking for God in everything around us. It is God who gives us what we need. We are to look to God instead of bank accounts, promotions, or a sense of personal security. This is something that is much easier said than done. However, the benefit is a life without fear, a life that need not compare our comfort with that of others. It is a life ready for what God promises.

*Discuss:* How does faith in God make you feel secure?

*Pray:* **Almighty God, you know our weaknesses and worries; give us faith to trust in you above anything else so that we may have a life of peace and joy through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

#### SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, what organization can you contribute to that serves the needs of others?

#### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In the reading from Genesis 15:1-6, God made a special covenant with Abram promising him as many descendants as there were stars in the sky! And again, in the reading from Hebrews, we learn that Abraham (Abram), was faithful and that he and Sarah fulfilled the covenant. "[D]escendants were born, 'as many as the stars of heaven'" (Hebrews 11:12b). Go outside on a clear night and take a moment to look at all the stars in the sky. Can you count them? Think or talk about God's promise to Abram. *Pray:* **Dear Lord, we are in awe of your presence in our lives. We ask that you give us faith in all your promises. Amen.**

**NEXT WEEK'S READINGS:** Jeremiah 23:23-29; Psalm 82  
Hebrews 11:29—12:2; Luke 12:49-56