

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

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

2650 Farnam Street
Omaha, NE 68131-3616
402-341-7761
www.kmlchurch.org

September 28, 2025

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those “at our gate,” visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold—who comes to us risen from the dead—who can free us from the death grip of greed.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Intrada, Op. III

by Jean Sibelius
Peggy Wolverton, *organ*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(rise in body or spirit)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

C Amen.

P Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Merciful and loving God,

C we are your stubborn people.

We trample on the needy.

We grumble about your grace to others.

We turn away from the poor.

Have mercy on us and forgive our sins.

Rejoice over us as ones who were lost

and have been found.

Amen.

P Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful.

Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.

You who were lost have been found.

In the name of ✠ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

C Amen.

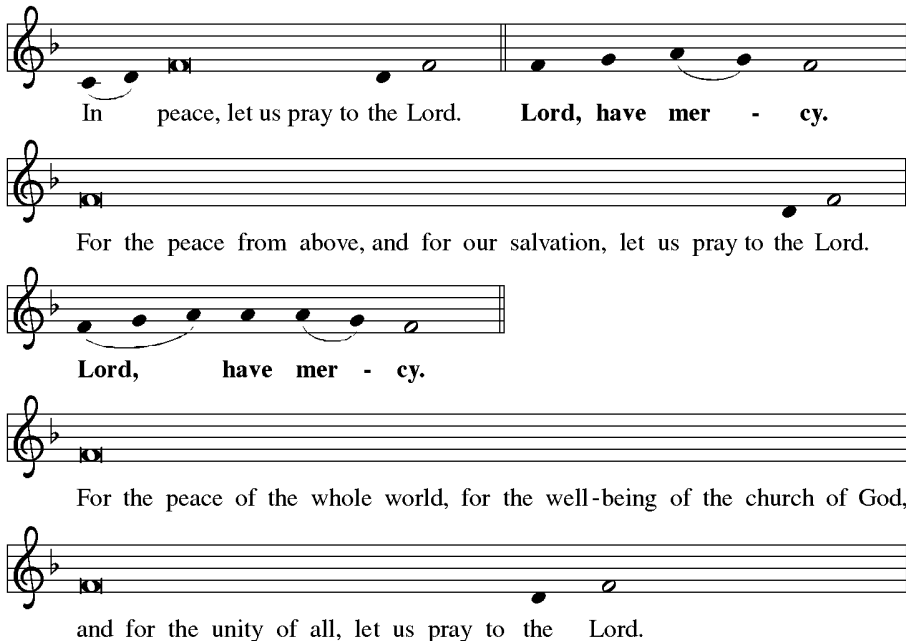
- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>1 God of grace and God of glory,
on your people pour your pow'r;
crown your ancient church's story;
bring its bud to glorious flow'r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.</p> <p>2 Lo! the hosts of evil round us
scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us
free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage
for the living of these days,
for the living of these days,</p> | <p>3 Cure your children's warring madness;
bend our pride to your control;
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,
rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal,
lest we miss your kingdom's goal.</p> <p>4 Save us from weak resignation
to the evils we deplore;
let the gift of your salvation
be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,
serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.</p> |
|---|---|

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878-1969

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



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

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, 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 unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

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

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

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

al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

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

al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich-es, wis - dom, and

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

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

al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 3 Sing with all the peo-ple of
 God, and join in the hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing, hon-or,
 glo-ry, and might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia,
 al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia. 4 For the Lamb who was
 slain has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia.
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.
 Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** O God, rich in mercy,
C you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

(*sit*)

FIRST READING

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes.

Who to those who are at ease in Zion
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.

⁴ Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and lounge on their couches
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the stall,

⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp
and like David improvise on instruments of music,

⁶who drink wine from bowls
and anoint themselves with the finest oils
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!

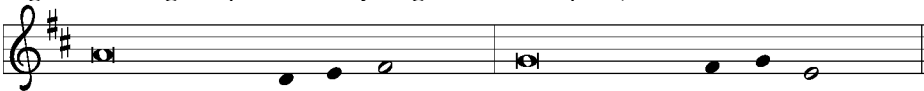
⁷Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

L Word of God, Word of Life.

© Thanks be to God.

PSALM 146

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



¹ Hal- | lelujah!

Praise the Lord, ¹ O my soul!

**² I will praise the Lord as long¹ as I live;
I will sing praises to my God while I¹ have my being.**

³ Put not your | trust in rulers,
in mortals in whom there | is no help.

**⁴When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,
and in that day | their thoughts perish.**

⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob ¹ for their help,
whose hope is in the ¹ Lord their God;

**⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that [|] is in them;
who keeps promis- [|] es forever;**

⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to ¹ those who hunger.
The Lord sets the ¹ captive free.

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

⁹The Lord cares ¹ for the stranger;
the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way ¹ of the wicked.

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

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, ⁸ but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹ But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹ But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶ It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷ As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

L Word of God, Word of Life.

C 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. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Children may follow along using the Spark Bible turning to page 386

Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is “lifted up” and the rich one is “sent away empty.” Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets.

Jesus said: ¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ ²⁷ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house ²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ ³⁰ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ ³¹ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN’S BLESSING

Children (aged 3 years through 5th 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, in the back of the entrance hall, available to those who prefer to stay with their families. Once the service is over, please place the used activity bags in the baskets provided, so they can be sanitized and replenished for next week.

SERMON

Pastor Wynard

- 1 To be your presence is our mission here,
to show compassion's face and list'ning ear,
to be your heart of mercy ever near,
alleluia!**
- 2 To be your presence is our mission bold,
to feed the poor and shelter homeless cold,
to be your hands of justice, right uphold,
alleluia!**
- 3 To be your presence is our mission blest,
to speak for all the broken and oppressed,
to be your voice of hope, your love expressed,
alleluia!**
- 4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice,
to serve your people is our call and choice,
and in this mission we, the church, rejoice,
alleluia!**

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THE APOSTLES' CREED

- ☐ Let us confess together the faith of the Church.**
- ☑ 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,
 G receive our prayer.

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

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

Other Prayers: *Those serving in the military* – Takao Elliott, 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: *Seminarians* – Joseph Daffer, James Holzer

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

Poor Man Lazarus

Arr. by Jester Hariston

(rise in body or spirit)

OFFERTORY HYMN

Here Is Bread

ELW 483



1 Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, he is with us.
2 Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, he is with us.
3 Here we are, joined in one, Christ is with us, he is with us.



Break the bread, taste the wine, Christ is with us here.
Know his grace, find his peace, feast on Je - sus here.
We'll pro-claim till he comes Je - sus cru - ci - fied.



In this bread there is heal-ing, in this cup is life for-ev-er.



In this mo-ment, by the Spir - it, Christ is with us here.

Text and music: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950

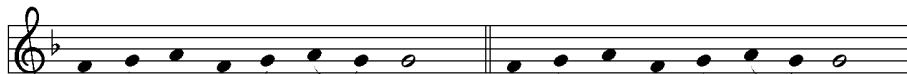
Text and music © 1991 may Way Music, admin. By Music Services in the Western Hemisphere

OFFERING PRAYER

P Lord of the harvest,

C we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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



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



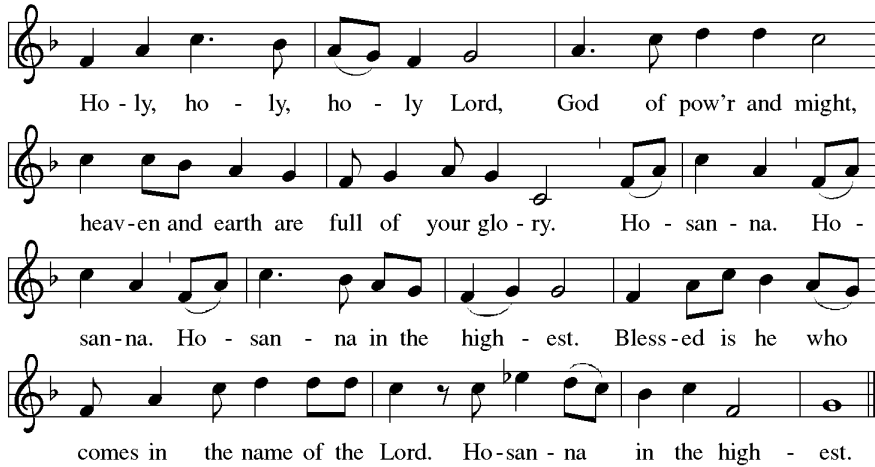
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE FOR SUNDAYS

SANCTUS



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

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.
The universe declares your praise: ...
... with every breath.

C We praise you, O God.

P Generations bless your faithfulness: ...
... into the future.

C We bless you, O God.

P We give you thanks for your dear Son: ...
... with us now.

C We thank you, O God.

P In the night in which he was betrayed, ...
... Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us ...
... we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P We pray for the gift of your Spirit: ...
... Blessing, praise, and thanks
to you, holy God,
through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit,
in your church,
without end.

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 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 Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.

C We come to this meal of mercy.

(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. If you cannot or choose not to receive the wine, know that the sacrament and God's promised forgiveness are complete in either element.*

HYMNS DURING COMMUNION

By Your Hand You Feed Your People

ELW 469

**1 By your hand you feed your people,
food of angels, heaven's bread.
For these gifts we did not labor,
by your grace have we been fed:**

Refrain

**Christ's own body, blessed and broken,
cup o'er flowing, life outpoured,
given as a living token
of your world redeemed, restored.**

**2 In this meal we taste your sweetness,
bread for hunger, wine of peace.
Holy word and holy wisdom
satisfy our deepest needs. *Refrain***

**3 Send us now with faith and courage
to the hungry, lost, bereaved.
In our living and our dying,
we become what we receive: *Refrain***

Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952

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1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
 2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
 3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
 4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
 where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
 Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
 Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
 For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
 When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
 So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
 Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
 Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.
 None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

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(rise in body or spirit)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P O God,

C through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

- ☞ The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free, ✠ bless you now and forever.

THREE- FOLD AMEN

RECESSIONAL HYMN

The Church of Christ, in Every Age

ELW 729 vs. 1-3, 5

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 The church of Christ, in ev'ry age
beset by change, but Spirit-led,
must claim and test its heritage
and keep on rising from the dead. | 3 Then let the servant church arise,
a caring church that longs to be
a partner in Christ's sacrifice,
and clothed in Christ's humanity. |
| 2 Across the world, across the street,
the victims of injustice cry
for shelter and for bread to eat,
and never live before they die. | 5 We have no mission but to serve
in full obedience to our Lord;
to care for all, without reserve,
and spread his liberating word. |

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903-2000
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DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
☞ Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Carillon

by Herbert Murrill
Peggy Wolverton, *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 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**

September 27 & 28, 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 Pas-
tor Lucy by fol-
lowing the link or
QR Code. [https://
calendly.com/pastor-
lucy/45min](https://calendly.com/pastor-lucy/45min)



Today at Kountze Memorial

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Elaine Drickey given by Emily Drickey; in celebration of wedding anniversary given by Eric & Toby Rees

Children's Choir & Children's Sermon

9:15 AM

Grades K-6

Children in grades K-6 are invited to join the Children's Choir with Barb Carlsen following the 9 AM Children's Blessing. Children in grades K-4 not wanting to participate in Choir may join Kristin Boe for a children's sermon in the Upper Rooms. All 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 AM

Ages 2 years-6th Grade

Join us in the 2nd Floor Sunday School Rooms where the children will see how Jesus taught his followers to live in God's word and spread that message to others through art, games, storytelling, and missions. The kids can enjoy the same breakfast upstairs that is being served in the Fellowship Hall while listening to the lessons of the day. If you would like to support the Sunday School with donations of juice boxes or individual milk cartons, we would appreciate it and will be serving those with the breakfast.

Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

Youth Forum

Sundays, 10:15 AM

Youth Center

Grades 7-12

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

Sept 28: Get to Know You

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.

Sept. 28: Stewardship: Kick Off and "Imagine" Theme Introduction

Oct 5: Imagine: Congregational Activities

Singing for THEIR Supper

During the month of September, you will find boxes in the Fellowship Hall with the title of a beloved hymn on it. Put your canned tuna, chicken, or ham donations in the box of

the song you like the most. At the end of the month, we will see what hymn won and which staff member chose that as their favorite. Let's stock the Pantry with Protein!

Mission Field Nebraska

Sunday, September 28

2 - 4 PM

Glacial Till Cider House

1419 Silver St., Ashland

Sip, support, and celebrate at the Spirit of Ministry Open House at Glacial Till Cider House & Tasting Room. You're invited to an inspiring afternoon in Historic Ashland as we raise awareness and support for the life-changing ministries of Mission Field Nebraska. Your \$20 ticket includes a beverage, hors d'oeuvre, live music, and the opportunity to meet the people behind the mission. Learn more and get your ticket:

<https://nebraskasynod.org/news-events/spirit-of-ministry/>



Mission Field NE

This Week at Kountze Memorial

September 28 Sunday

Pentecost 16

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

2:00 PM Mission Field Nebraska

September 29 Monday

9:00 AM Community Health Fair

Methodist - Open to the Public

10:00 AM Pantry

4:00 PM Global Mission

7:00 PM Youth Committee

September 30 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

11:00 AM Bev Traub Funeral

October 1 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Confirmation @ St. Timothy

7:00 PM Adult Choir Rehearsal

October 2 Thursday

2:00 PM Cards with Friends

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

October 3 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

October 4 Saturday

Homebound Communion

10:30 AM Blessing of Animals @ St.

Cecilia Cathedral

5:00 PM Worship

October 5 Sunday

Pentecost 17

Homebound Communion

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

Rehearsal

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

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

9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast

10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

Free Community Health Fair

Monday, September 29

9 AM - Noon

Methodist Community Health Clinic and the Kountze Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry are hosting a free health fair at Kountze Commons Community Outreach Center. Join us at the Health Fair to learn more about skin health, cancer prevention, heart health, signs and symptoms of stroke, and healthy eating. Screenings will be available for skin, blood pressure, blood sugar, lung health, and breast exams. AND... The Omaha Fire Department will be providing safety training and free smoke detectors. Healthy food samples will be provided as well. The Health Fair is open to all! You do not need to be a patient of Methodist Community Health Clinic or a Food Pantry guest to participate. If you have questions, please reach out to Toby Rees at 402-979-1425 or toby@kmlchurch.org.

Confirmation Classes Continue

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church

(93rd & Dodge)

Grades 7 & 8

Wednesdays

6 - 7:15 PM

Cards with Friends

Thursday, October 2

2 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!

For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, October 4

10 AM—Music & Socializing

10:30 AM—Blessing

St. Cecilia Cathedral

701 N 40th St

Cathedral will host an outdoor celebration of the feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Bring your pets (dogs on a leash please) to the Cathedral front steps and join in this delightful event for all creatures great and small. Come early and bring your pooch with you to the Pancake Breakfast!

St. Francis Peacemaker Service

Saturday, October 4

5 PM

Held at Kountze Memorial

Kountze Memorial and Trinity Episcopal Cathedral collaborate on a Peacemaker Service on the Feast of St. Francis. Join us as we pray for peace in our city, nation, and world. Lutheran Family Services' Chris Tonniges will preach. We will use the Eucharistic Prayer for Peace, written by Br. James Dowd and approved by Episcopal Bishop J. Scott Barker. The Cathedral and Kountze Choirs will sing together. A cookie reception will follow.

World Day Against the Death Penalty

Eucharist

Friday, October 10

7 – 8 PM

Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

113 N 18th Street Omaha

Balancing the Scales invites us to attend World Day Against the Death Penalty Eucharist. World Day Against the Death Penalty is celebrated each year on October 10 to support the call for the end of capital punishment. Episcopal Bishop Barker will preside at the Eucharist and Rev. Stephen Griffith, former executive director of Nebraskans for Alternatives to the Death Penalty and UMC minister, will serve as preacher. Light reception to follow.

KMLC Book Group

Sunday, October 12

***The Lion Women of Tehran* by Marjan Kamali**

12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

This is a fascinating historical novel about the lives of two women who become "lion women" through a thirty-year friendship in a country during turmoil. Join us for a stimulating discussion.

Men's Lunch - Octoberfest!

Thursday, October 16

11:30 AM

Suggested Donation: \$10.00

Join us for another great time of food, fun, and friendship. Jim always keeps us guessing with his menus—whether it's

brats, sauerkraut, or something completely unexpected, it's sure to be delicious!

Please sign up by Tuesday, October 14 by calling the church office or emailing jim@kmlchurch.org. You can also sign up at the Welcome Desk. Bring a friend. Lederhosen not required.

Handbell Choir

The Kountze bells are looking to start back up again. Our plan is to see how many folks are interested in the group and when would be a good time to rehearse? If you are interested in participating in a bell choir, please talk to Barb Carlsen or call the Kountze office at 402-341-7761. Thank you!

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 toothpaste, soup, & juice boxes. 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 QR code or the following link to sign up and join our mission.

<https://tinyurl.com/uausdddp>

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



Pantry



We're Looking for a Part-time

Youth Ministry Director

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

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, Sept. 18—Wednesday, Sept. 24

Saturday: 17

Sunday: 9:00: 149 11:00: 49

Wednesday: 12:15: 11

Total: 226

Streaming: 50

Pantry Guests Served: 584 (inc. 205 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 21

Offering:

\$18,821.01 (Regular)

\$2,006.00 (Specials)

\$312.00 (Debt Reduction)

Caring for others is the way of Jesus.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 16:19-31	Poor Lazarus and the rich man
Monday	Amos 6:1a, 4-7	Judgment for a self-indulgent life
Tuesday	1 Timothy 6:6-19	The good fight of faith
Wednesday	Proverbs 22:2-16	The value of a good reputation
Thursday	Psalms 119:73-80	The glories of God's law
Friday	2 Corinthians 8:8-15	Generous giving
Saturday	Psalms 146	Praise for God's help
Sunday	Luke 17:5-10	Faith the size of a mustard seed



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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

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

Psalms 146:9 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Loving God, give us faith to see that the true riches in life are filled with compassion for others, especially those in need, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, you who feed the hungry and fill the needy with good things, we thank you for this gift of food through Jesus Christ who cares for all people. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with contentment.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- What gets in the way of helping those in need?
- How have you or someone you know shown God's compassion by giving to someone in need?

DEVOTIONS

Read: 1 Timothy 6:6-19.

All the readings for this week reveal God's compassion for the needy. God's righteousness seeks life-giving relationships. Those who have wealth are to share with those who do not. Caring for a widow, an orphan, or a poor man at a rich man's door is the way of Jesus. God expects more than comfort and luxurious living from God's people. All we really need in life is *"godliness combined with contentment"* (v. 6). It's not that money is evil; it's the love of money. The desire for wealth can get in the way of healthy relationships that God wants for us. The real treasure is not hoarding wealth or basking in luxuries. Rather, the treasure and joy of life is where we put our energies and trust. It is experienced in *"righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness"* (v. 11b). That is the *"good fight of the faith"* (v. 12), freeing us from harmful desires and blessing us with eternal life that begins now by loving our neighbor with all our being.

Discuss: When have you experienced the love of money getting in the way of a relationship?

Pray: **Compassionate God, we thank you for the treasure of a life of faith that we may be generous with others and content with what we have for the sake of Christ Jesus. 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 become more involved in the needs of your community?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Giving is a response to God's generosity. Walk around your house and look in closets and drawers. Make a list of things you no longer use or need. Think or talk about who may appreciate and need them and consider taking them to organizations who can give them to those in need.

Pray: **Lord, fill me with faith and generosity. Amen.**

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4; Psalms 37:1-9
2 Timothy 1:1-14; Luke 17:5-10