

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

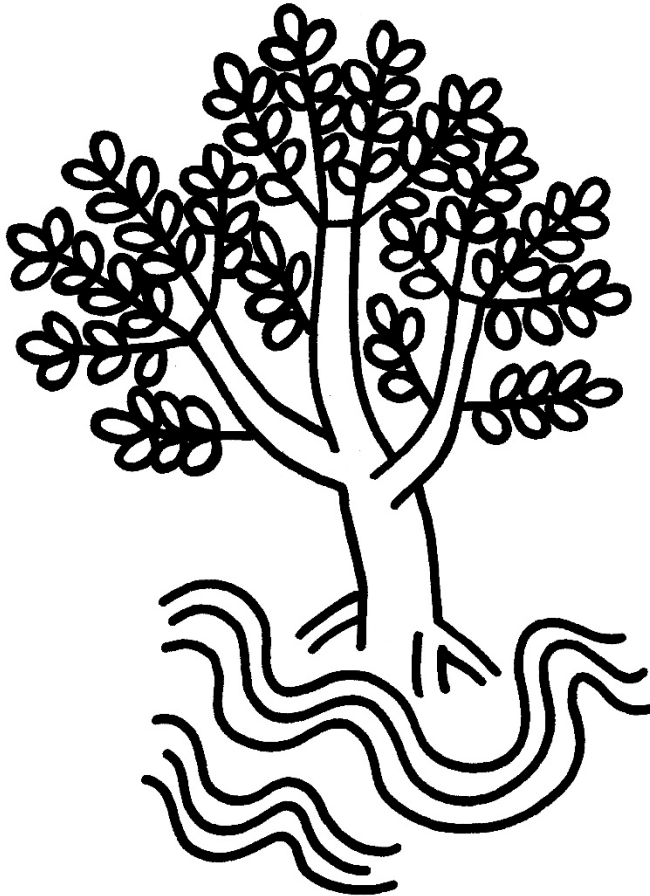
Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor
H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor

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

October 5, 2025

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(rise in body or spirit)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✠ one God,
our 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.

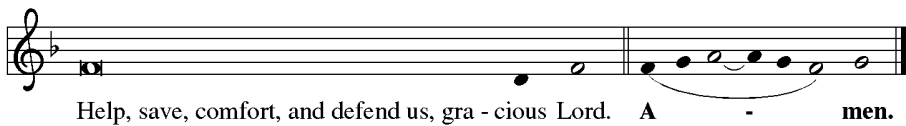
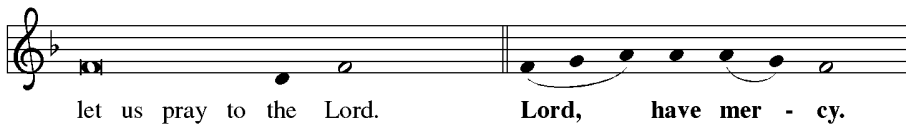
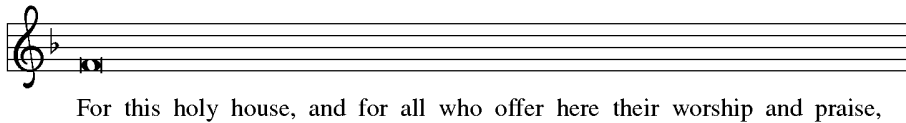
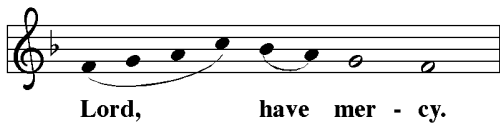
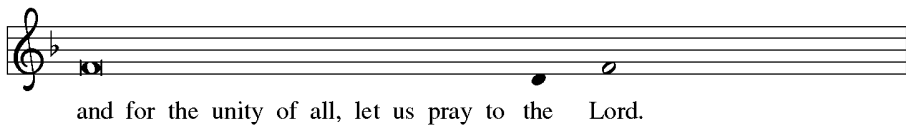
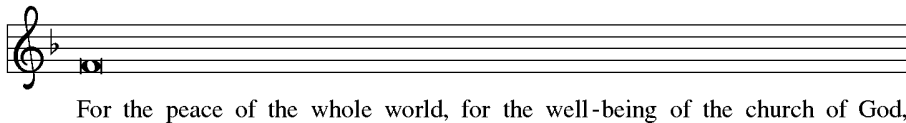
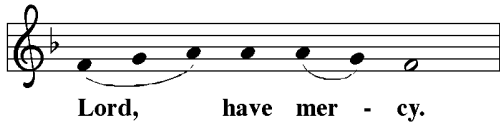
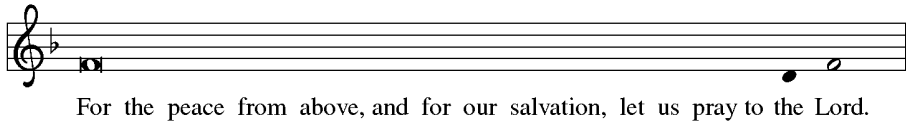
- 1 All creatures, worship God most high!
Sound ev'ry voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright;
sing, sister moon and stars of night:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 2 Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain
you grow the gifts of fruit and grain: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear sister water, useful, clear,
make music for your Lord to hear:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 3 Sing, brother fire, so mirthful, strong,
drive far the shadows, join the throng: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear mother earth, so rich in care,
praise God in colors bright and rare:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 4 All who for love of God forgive,
all who in pain and sorrow grieve: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Christ bears your burdens and your fears;
still make your song amid the tears:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
- 5 And you, most gentle sister death,
waiting to hush our final breath: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Since Christ our light has pierced your gloom,
fair is the night that leads us home.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Text: Francis of Assisi, 1182-1226; tr. composite
Text © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

KYRIE



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.

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** Benevolent, merciful God:
C When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the righteous will live by faith.

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.
² O Lord, how long shall I cry for help,
and you will not listen?
Or cry to you “Violence!”
and you will not save?
³ Why do you make me see wrongdoing
and look at trouble?
Destruction and violence are before me;
strife and contention arise.
⁴ So the law becomes slack,
and justice never prevails.
The wicked surround the righteous;
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.
^{2:1} I will stand at my watchpost
and station myself on the rampart;

I will keep watch to see what he will say to me
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.

² Then the Lord answered me and said:

Write the vision;

make it plain on tablets,
so that a runner may read it.

³ For there is still a vision for the appointed time;
it speaks of the end and does not lie.

If it seems to tarry, wait for it;
it will surely come; it will not delay.

⁴ Look at the proud!

Their spirit is not right in them,
but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

📖 Word of God, Word of Life.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

PSALM 37:1-9

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



¹ Do not be provoked by | evildoers;
do not be jealous of those | who do wrong.

² **For they shall soon wither | like the grass,**
and like the green grass | fade away.

³ Put your trust in the Lord | and do good;
dwell in the land and | find safe pasture.

⁴ **Take delight | in the Lord,**
who shall give you your | heart's desire.

⁵ Commit your way to the Lord; put your trust | in the Lord,
and see what | God will do.

⁶ **The Lord will make your vindication as clear | as the light**
and the justice of your case like the | noonday sun.

⁷ Be still before the Lord and wait | patiently.
Do not be provoked by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in | evil schemes.

⁸ **Refrain from anger, leave | rage alone;**
do not be provoked; it leads on- | ly to evil.

⁹ For evildoers shall | be cut off,
but those who hope in the Lord shall pos- | sess the land.

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 1:1-14

This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

² To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³ I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷ for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸ Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹ For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹² and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. ¹³ Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

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.

On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.

The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” ⁶ The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

⁷ “Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? ⁸ Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’ ”

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 Hall

(rise in body or spirit)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Creating God, Your Fingers Trace

ELW 684

- | | |
|--|---|
| <div><div>1</div><div>Creating God, your fingers trace
the bold designs of farthest space;
let sun and moon and stars and light
and what lies hidden praise your might.</div></div> | <div><div>3</div><div>Redeeming God, your arms embrace
all now despised for creed or race;
let peace, descending like a dove,
make known on earth your healing love.</div></div> |
| <div><div>2</div><div>Sustaining God, your hands uphold
earth's myst'ries known or yet untold;
let water's fragile blend with air,
enabling life, proclaim your care.</div></div> | <div><div>4</div><div>Indwelling God, your gospel claims
one fam'ly with a billion names;
let ev'ry life be touched by grace
until we praise you face to face.</div></div> |

Text: Jeffery Rowthorn, b. 1934
Text © 1979 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved.

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: ☞ God of grace,

☞ **receive our prayer.**

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

Thanksgiving: for the marriage of Amanda Saxen & Andy Sifers (9/27/2025)

Sympathy: for the family and friends of Audrey Nelson

Prayers this week: Kevin Hertz (father of Toby Rees), Ken Wise

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

- ☐ 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 ANTHEM

Creation Will Be At Peace

music by Anna Laura Page

(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.

Refrain

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

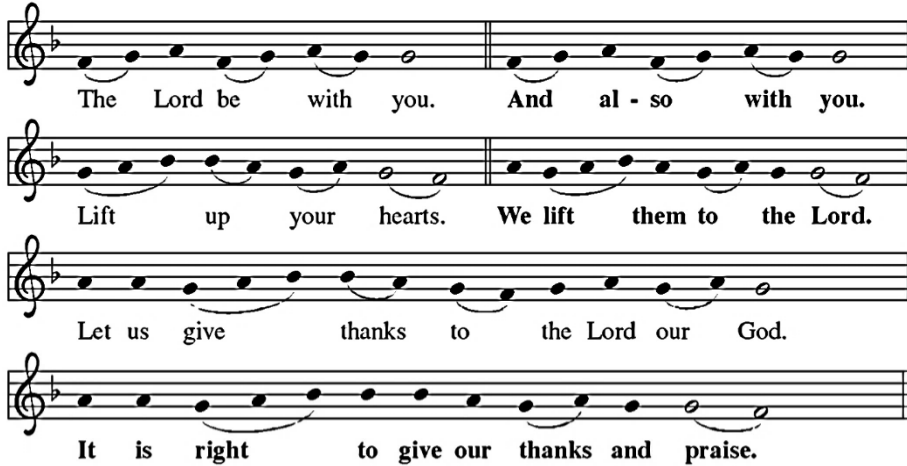
In this mo - ment, by the Spir - it, Christ is with us here.

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.

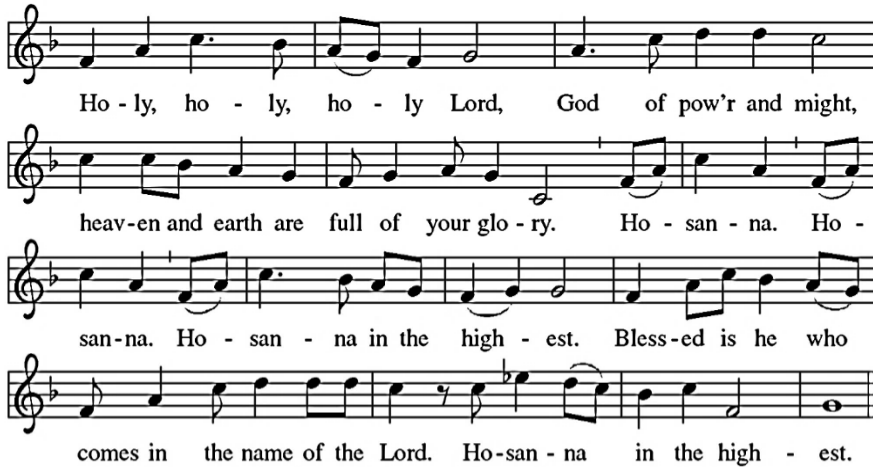
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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

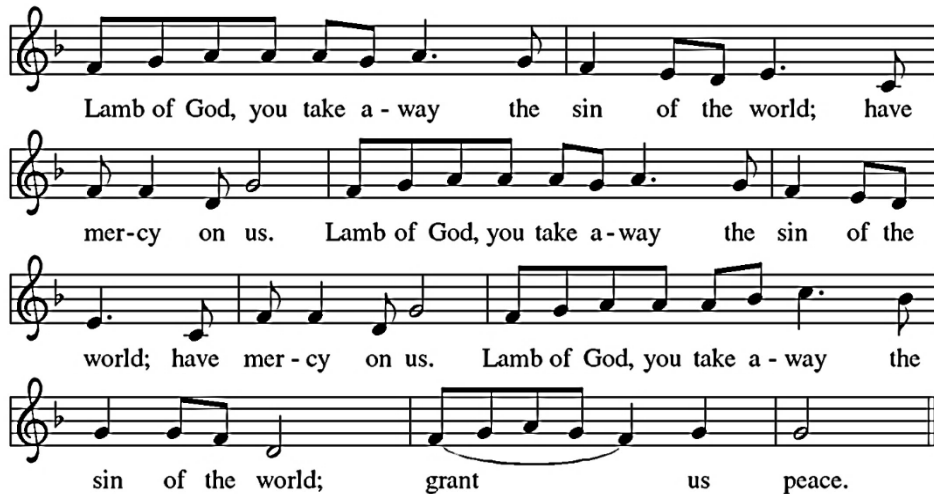
P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us all to pray:

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



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

We Come to the Hungry Feast

ELW 479

- 1** We come to the hungry feast
hungry for a word of peace.
To hungry hearts unsatisfied
the love of God is not denied.
We come, we come to the hungry feast.
- 2** We come to the hungry feast
hungry for a world released
from hungry folk of ev'ry kind,
the poor in body, poor in mind.
We come, we come to the hungry feast.
- 3** We come to the hungry feast
hungry that the hunger cease,
and knowing, though we eat our fill,
the hunger will stay with us; still
we come, we come to the hungry feast.

Text: Ray Makeever, b. 1943
Text © 1982 Ray Makeever, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

1 Awake, my heart, with gladness,
see what today is done;
now, after gloom and sadness,
comes forth the glorious sun.
My Savior there was laid
where our bed must be made
when, as on wings in flight,
we soar to realms of light.

2 Now hell, its prince, the devil,
of all their pow'r are shorn;
now I am safe from evil,
and sin I laugh to scorn.
For Christ again is free;
in glorious victory
he who is strong to save
has triumphed o'er the grave.

3 This is a sight that gladdens—
what peace it does impart!
Now nothing ever saddens
the joy within my heart.
No gloom shall ever shake,
no foe shall ever take,
the hope which God's own Son
in love for me has won.

4 Now I will cling forever,
to Christ, my Savior true;
my Lord will leave me never,
whate'er he passes through.
He rends death's iron chain;
he breaks through sin and pain;
he shatters hell's grim thrall;
I follow him through all.

5 Christ brings me to the portal
that leads to bliss untold,
whereon this rhyme immortal
is found in script of gold:
“Who there my cross has shared
finds here a crown prepared;
who there with me has died
shall here be glorified.”

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676; tr. John Kelly, 1833-1890, alt.

(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

DISMISSAL OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

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

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW 712

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 Lord, whose love in humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose
ev'ry gift which you impart.</p> <p>2 Still your children wander homeless;
still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom;
still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion
healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power
to our world to make it whole.</p> | <p>3 As we worship, grant us vision,
till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness
dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens
your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service,
your abundant life to share.</p> <p>4 Called by worship to your service,
forth in your dear name we go,
to the child, the youth, the aged,
love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort,
counsel, aid and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom
may your mercy know and live.</p> |
|--|---|

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

DISMISSAL

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

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 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

October 4 & 5, 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

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Steve Dragon given by Julie Dragon, Alexis & Sophia; in memory of Arnold & LeClare Steffen given by Tom & Tracey Gehringer-Steffen

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God in memory of Arnold & LeClare Steffen given by Tom & Tracey Gehringer-Steffen

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

Today at Kountze Memorial, *continued*

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.

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.

Oct 5: Imagine with Pr. Lucy

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.

Oct 5: Saint Francis of Assisi

Oct 12: Magdalene Omaha (guest speaker); Imagine: Community

Singing for THEIR Supper—Continued!

There are 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. We'll see what hymn won and which staff member chose that as their favorite. Let's stock the Pantry with Protein!

This Week at Kountze Memorial

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

October 6 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

October 7 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

October 8 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group

12:15 PM Worship

1:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese

Manor

6:00 PM Confirmation @ St.

Timothy

October 9 Thursday

9:30 AM WELCA Board

11:30 AM Property Committee

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

October 10 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

October 11 Saturday

10:00 AM Ruth Martis' Funeral

5:00 PM Worship

October 12 Sunday

Pentecost 18

8:00 AM & 10:00 AM Adult Choir

Rehearsal

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

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

9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast

10:10 AM Faith Formation Hour

12:15 PM Book Group

12:15 PM First Communion Class

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

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.

First Communion

Sunday, October 12

12:15 - 2 PM

Lunch will be provided

The recommended age for taking the First Communion class is around 2nd grade, or if your child has shown a

For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

curiosity about what it means to take Communion. First Communion will be held on October 26 at the 9 AM service. Students will then be recognized at the Adult Forum. For any questions, or to reserve your spot in the class, email Kristin@kmlchurch.org.

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.

Young Adult Gathering

Sunday, October 19

12 PM

Lunch Provided

We'd like to get something started for the young adults of Kountze Memorial and our wider community... but truthfully, we're not sure what! Are you college-aged or in your 20s to early 30s? Join us after the 11 AM service (on the 19th) for a lunch and conversation. We want to get to know each other and hear your thoughts, ideas, etc. for what we might do to help you Worship \$ #Grow \$ # Serve with us here at Kountze Memorial. Sign up at the Welcome Desk or by contacting the church office. (Please advise us of dietary restrictions.)

Bible Sunday

Sunday, October 26

On Bible Sunday, we will be celebrating with children of various ages and grades - listed below - as they receive their own age-appropriate Bibles. Those receiving Bibles this year are:

- Children aged 2 and 4
- Children in 1st, 3rd, or 5th grades
- Youth beginning Confirmation (7th grade)

Please register your child so that we have an accurate count. Join us as we parade into the church with new Bibles and celebrate this exciting part of our Faith Formation.

Youth Fall Fellowship Event

Get to Know Deacon Eric!

Sunday, October 26

5 PM

Location TBD

Grades 7-12

Come hang out for some fall fun, s'mores, cider, and a chance to get to know our new Deacon. Save the date and stay tuned for details!

Confirmation Classes Continue

St. Timothy's Lutheran Church

(93rd & Dodge)

Grades 7 & 8

Wednesdays, 6 - 7:15 PM

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 chili beans, instant potatoes, and Jell-O. 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.



Pantry

<https://tinyurl.com/uausddd>

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

Attendance & Giving

Thursday, Sept. 25—Wednesday, Oct. 1

Saturday: 32

Sunday: 9:00: 130 11:00: 61

Wednesday: 12:15: 9

Total: 232

Streaming: 44

Pantry Guests Served: 605 (inc. 195 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 16

Offering:

\$9,589.54 (Regular) \$2,797.79 (Specials)

\$247.15 (Debt Reduction)

Faith is a way of life.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 17:5-10	Faith the size of a mustard seed
Monday	Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4	The righteous live by faith
Tuesday	2 Timothy 1:1-14	Thanksgiving and encouragement
Wednesday	Isaiah 26:1-9	The Lord can be trusted
Thursday	Hebrews 10:32-39	Faithful endurance
Friday	Romans 5:1-11	Results of justification
Saturday	Psalm 37:1-9	Trust the Lord
Sunday	Luke 17:11-19	One leper gives thanks to God



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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 replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you." **Luke 17:6 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of power and might, give us a living faith that we may see in you the goodness that gives us confidence to live each day through our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this meal and are grateful for your loving acts of goodness and mercy through Jesus our Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

Grace, mercy, and peace to you from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. (2 Timothy 1:2)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- What words describe someone you can trust?
- Where do you find God's presence in your daily life?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 17:1-10.

Jesus is teaching his disciples—and us—to trust him, lean on him, and to be content in our daily lives. We, like Jesus' disciples in this reading, can and will continue to miss the point of faith. Earlier in Luke 14:26-27, Jesus set a very high bar for his followers: putting Jesus above family, wealth, and even personal security. In Luke 17:1-4, he says one needs to forgive when asked, and one should not cause another to sin. No wonder his followers ask for their faith to be increased! And yet, the request misses the point. Any amount of faith will do. Faith is not a quantity that can be measured. Faith, large or small, does not give one a reward. It is a way of life where followers of Jesus learn and grow as they live out their faith, make mistakes and learn from those mistakes. As they learn, they will rely more on Jesus than on their own powers. In a world that many times abuses the humble and needy, the life of faith seeks to live with compassion, generosity, and hope.

Discuss: How does your faith guide your daily living?

Pray: Almighty God, help us to trust in you, learn from you, and continue to turn to you as the source of all that is good and worthy in life through Jesus Christ. 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 who is experiencing discouragement?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Paul encouraged Timothy to rekindle the gift God had given to him (2 Timothy 1:6). God has given each of us gifts to use and develop. Think or talk about what gifts God has given you and others you know. Write each of these on sticky notes. Stick the notes in a visible location as a reminder of the various gifts God has given us to serve others.

Pray: Lord, help us to rekindle the gifts you have given us and seek places where we can use them to serve others. Amen.

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c; Psalm 111
2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19