

KOUNTZE MEMORIAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CITY-WIDE CHURCH WITH A WORLD-WIDE MINISTRY

Lucy Wynard, Senior Pastor

Eric Haitz, Deacon

H. Ashley Hall, Associate Pastor

2650 Farnam Street

Omaha, NE 68131-3616

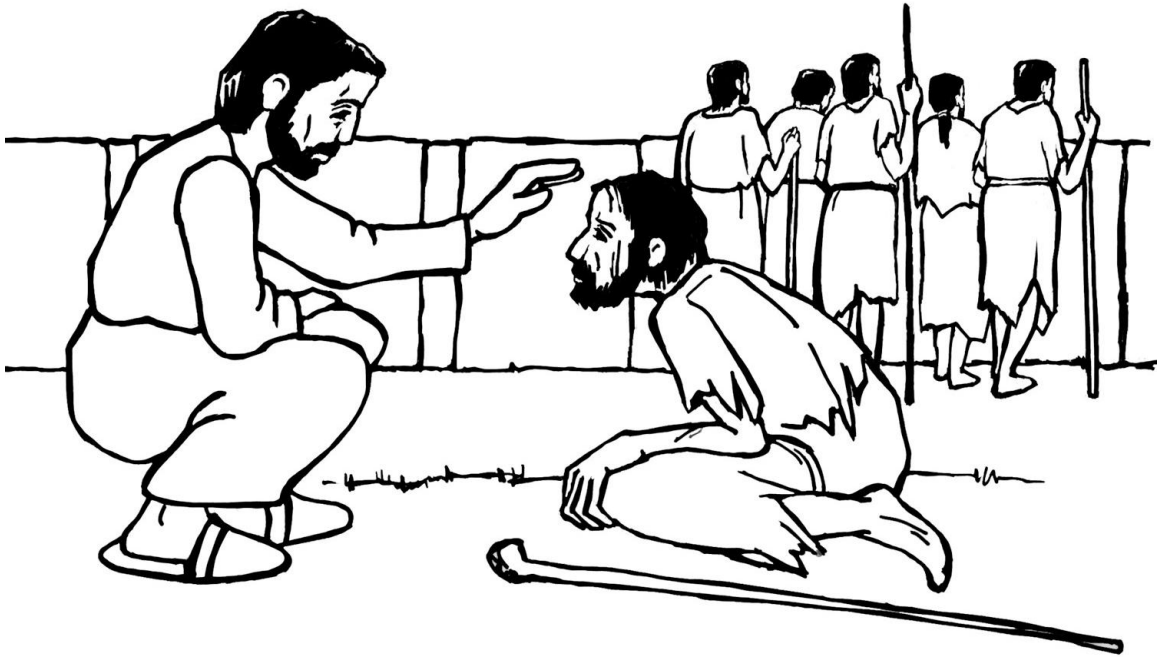
402-341-7761

www.kmlchurch.org

October 12, 2025

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



It's a miracle! Multiple miracles! The waters of holy baptism have healed us. The body and blood of Jesus in holy communion have made us clean. We have died with Christ and been raised with him. For all this we have returned to offer thanks. From this place we are sent on our way rejoicing to share the good news.

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 Give to our God immortal praise!
Mercy and truth are all his ways.
Wonders of grace to God belong;
repeat his mercies in your song.**

**2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save
from guilt and darkness and the grave.
Wonders of grace to God belong;
repeat his mercies in your song.**

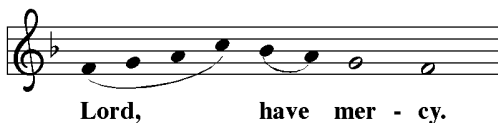
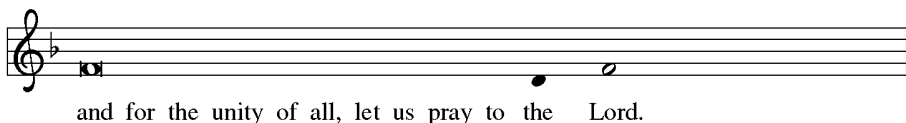
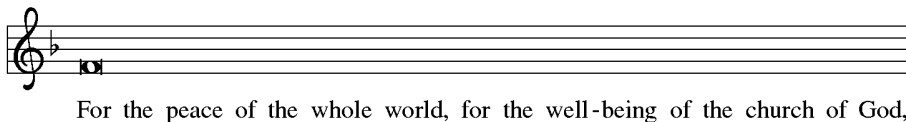
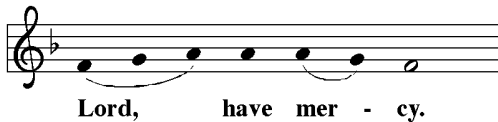
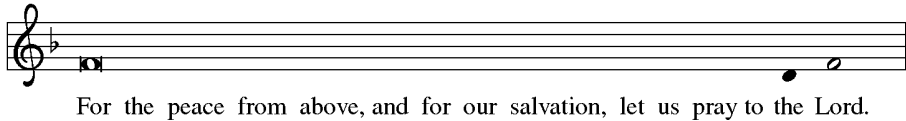
**3 Give to the Lord of lords renown;
the King of kings with glory crown.
His mercies ever shall endure
when lords and kings are known no more!**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

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



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

- ☞ Almighty and most merciful God,
☛ your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Children may follow along using the Spark Bible turning to page 148

Naaman, a Syrian general, suffers from leprosy. In this passage Elisha miraculously cures his illness, but only after Naaman realizes, with the help of his servants, that he also needs healing for his pride. This foreign general then acknowledges the sovereignty of the God of Israel.

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease. ² Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³ She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease."

⁷ When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

⁸ But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹ So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰ Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." ¹¹ But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease! ¹² Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³ But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" ¹⁴ So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

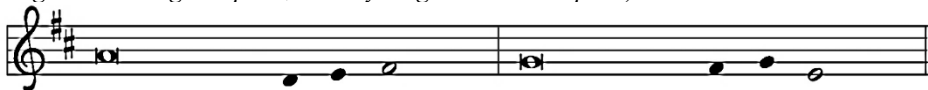
^{15a, b, c} Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel."

L Word of God, Word of Life.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 111

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



¹ Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with | my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the | congregation.

² **Great are your | works, O Lord,**
pondered by all who de- | light in them.

³ Majesty and splendor | mark your deeds,
and your righteousness en- | dures forever.

⁴ **You cause your wonders to | be remembered;**
you are gracious and full | of compassion.

- ⁵ You give food to | those who fear you,
remembering forev- | er your covenant.
- ⁶ **You have shown your people the power | of your works
in giving them the lands | of the nations.**
- ⁷ The works of your hands are faithful- | ness and justice;
all of your pre- | cepts are sure.
- ⁸ **They stand fast forev- | er and ever,
because they are done in | truth and equity.**
- ⁹ You sent redemption to your people and commanded your cove- | nant forever;
holy and awesome | is your name.
- ¹⁰ **The fear of the Lord is the begin- | ning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise en- | dures forever.**

SECOND READING

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Though Paul is chained as a prisoner, the word of God is never shackled or confined. Timothy is encouraged to proclaim that word of freedom in an honest and upright life as well as in his teaching and preaching.

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, ⁹ for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. ¹⁰ Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. ¹¹ The saying is sure:

If we have died with him, we will also live with him;

¹² if we endure, we will also reign with him;

if we deny him, he will also deny us;

¹³ if we are faithless, he remains faithful—

he cannot deny himself.

¹⁴ Remind them of this, and warn them before the Lord that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. ¹⁵ Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

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.

Jesus’ mission includes making people clean again. Unexpectedly, a Samaritan healed of leprosy becomes a model for those who would praise and worship God and give thanks for God’s mercy.

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹² As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³ they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” ¹⁴ When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵ Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶ He prostrated himself at Jesus’s feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷ Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? So where are the other nine?” ¹⁸ Did none of them return to give glory to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹ Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

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

Teresa Houser
Founder & Executive Director, Magdalene Omaha

(rise in body or spirit)

HYMN OF THE DAY

Healer of Our Every Ill

ELW 612 vs. 1-3

Refrain

- 1**

**You who know our fears and sadness,
grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. *Refrain***

2

**In the pain and joy beholding
how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love. *Refrain***

3

**Give us strength to love each other,
ev'ry sister, ev'ry brother;
Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. *Refrain***

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)

Prayers this week: Kevin Hertz (father of Toby Rees), Larry & Michele Hunzeker, 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

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

arr. Mark Patterson

(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.



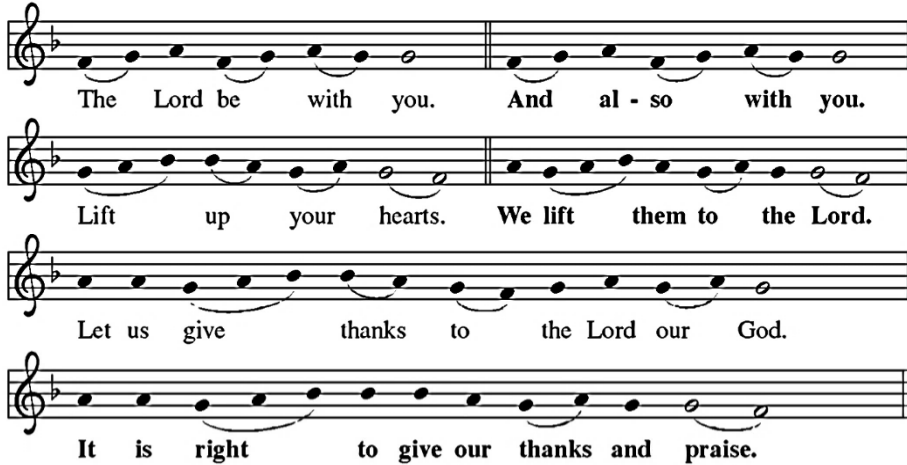
In this mo - ment, by the Spir - it, Christ is with us here.

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.

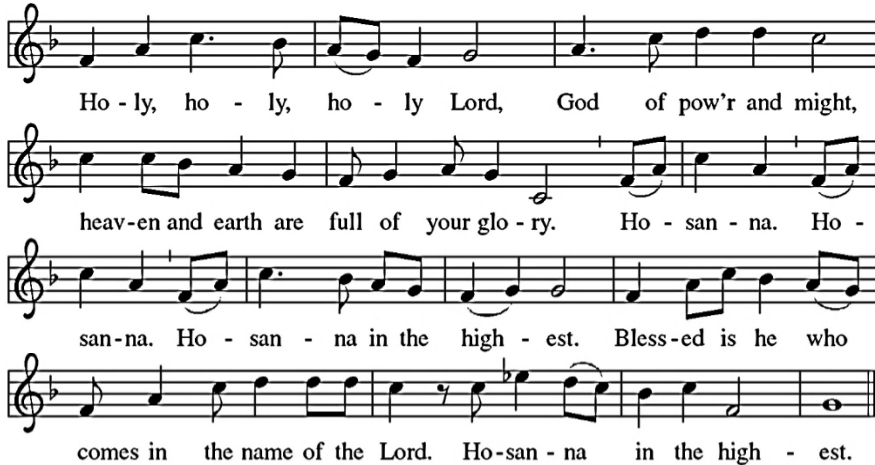
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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

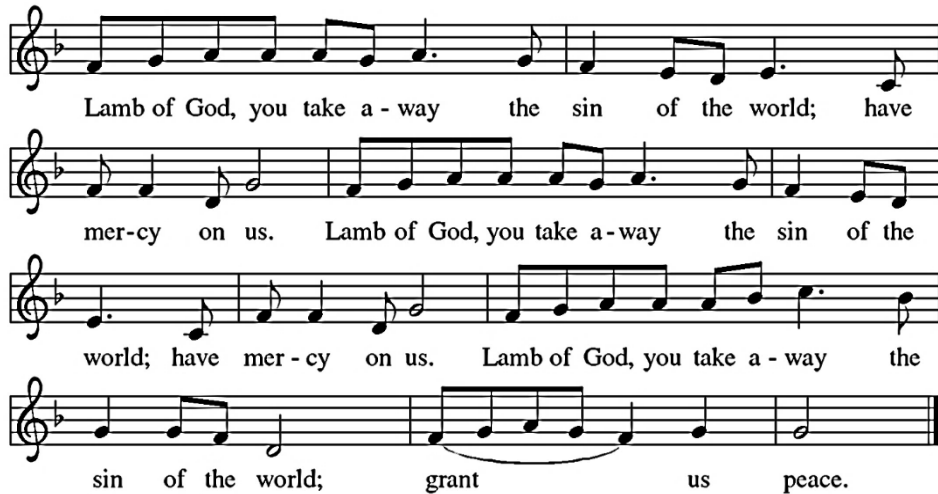
P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us all to pray:

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

- ☐ Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them.
- ☑ 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.*

- 1 Word of God, come down on earth,
living rain from heav'n descending;
touch our hearts and bring to birth
faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere you;
Word made flesh, we long to hear you.
- 2 Word eternal, throned on high,
Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heav'n to die,
crucified for our salvation,
saving Word, the world restoring,
speak to us, your love outpouring.
- 3 Word that speaks God's tender love,
one with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us;
Word of life, with one bread feed us.

Text: James Quinn, SJ, b. 1919
Text © James Quinn, SJ, Selah Publishing Co., Inc., North American agent.

Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

ELW 488

- 1 Soul, adorn yourself with gladness,
leave the gloomy haunts of sadness,
come into the daylight's splendor,
there with joy your praises render.
Bless the one whose grace unbounded
this amazing banquet founded;
Christ, though heav'nly, high, and holy,
deigns to dwell with you most lowly.
- 2 Hasten as a bride to meet him,
eagerly and gladly greet him.
There he stands already knocking;
quickly, now, your gate unlocking,
open wide the fast-closed portal,
saying to the Lord immortal:
"Come, and leave your loved one never;
dwell within my heart forever."
- 3 Now in faith I humbly ponder
over this surpassing wonder
that the bread of life is boundless
though the souls it feeds are countless;
with the choicest wine of heaven
Christ's own blood to us is given.
Oh, most glorious consolation,
pledge and seal of my salvation.
- 4 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure,
truest friend, and dearest treasure,
peace beyond all understanding,
joy into all life expanding:
humbly now, I bow before you,
love incarnate, I adore you;
worthily let me receive you,
and, so favored, never leave you.

Text: Johann Franck, 1618-1677; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship
Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

(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

Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

ELW 886 vs. 886 vs. 1, 3-6

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace! | 4 He speaks, and list'ning to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe. |
| 3 The name of Jesus charms our fears
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears,
brings life and health and peace. | 5 Look unto him, your Savior own,
O fallen human race!
Look and be saved through faith alone,
be justified by grace! |
| 6 To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n. | |

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*



KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Lucy Wynard	Senior Pastor
Dn. Eric Haitz	Deacon
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 Slaughter	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 11 & 12, 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 William and Patricia Grow given by Patricia Danigole

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God by Amanda Plantz in memory of David Penning

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 (Jacque Johnson is filling in this week for Barb while she is on vacation—thanks Jacque) 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 grab breakfast and bring it to the Youth Center each week during the Sunday Faith Formation hour.

Oct. 12: Meet Deacon Eric; Current Events in our church

Oct. 19: Service Project—Pantry Halloween Bags

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

Oct. 19: Imagine: Community, cont.

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 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.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

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

October 13 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

October 14 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

2:30 PM Audrey Nelson Funeral

(Heafey-Hoffmann-Dworak-Cutler, West Center Chapel)

October 15 Wednesday

Good News Deadline

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Confirmation @ St.

Timothy

October 16 Thursday

Council Reports Due

11:30 AM Men's Lunch

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

6:00 PM Circle 5

October 17 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

October 18 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

October 19 Sunday

Pentecost 19

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

12:00 PM Young Adult Gathering

No Parking in
Methodist Lot
this weekend
(Handicapped
Door)

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

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.

For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

Parking Notice

Next weekend

October 18 & 19

The Methodist parking lot (by the handicapped entrance) will be closed for repairs. The lot will be barricaded during this time, so please use alternative parking. For everyone's safety, we kindly ask that you do not move the barricades or drive around them. Thank you for your understanding!

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

Meet at Pr. Lucy's House

Grades 7-12

Come hang out for some fall fun, s'mores, cider, and a chance to get to know our new Deacon. Sign up at the Welcome Desk or contact the church office.

Grief Seminar

Sunday, November 2

12:15 PM

Fellowship Lounge

Grief is difficult and especially during the holidays. If you have lost a relative or close friend, this would be an opportunity to share that grief with others and share how we can move through that grief. A light lunch will be served. Please call the church office at 402-341-7761 or sign up at the Welcome Desk to make a reservation.

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. 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/uasdddp>

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



Pantry

Singing for THEIR Supper—Last Week (For Real)

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!

Attendance & Giving

Thursday, Oct. 2—Wednesday, Oct. 8

Saturday: 59

Sunday: 9:00: 138 11:00: 62

Wednesday: 12:15: 13

Total: 259

Streaming:

Pantry Guests Served: 539 (inc. 164 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 15

Offering:

\$20,660.21 (Regular)

\$3,850.73

(Specials)

\$792.00 (Debt Reduction)

Jesus shows a foreigner mercy.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 17:11-19	One leper gives thanks to God
Monday	2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c	Elisha heals Naaman
Tuesday	2 Timothy 2:8-15	A soldier of Christ Jesus
Wednesday	Jeremiah 30:12-17	Restoration promised to Israel
Thursday	2 Timothy 1:13-18	Encouragement to be faithful
Friday	Leviticus 19:33-34	Love the alien as yourself
Saturday	Psalms 111	Praise God for wonderful works
Sunday	Luke 18:1-8	Parable of the persistent widow



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SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Was none of them [the ten lepers] found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" **Luke 17:18 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Merciful God, your compassion reaches out to those in need; give us thankful hearts for reaching out to us through Jesus Christ, the great healer of our lives. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we are thankful for this gift of food we receive today and for all that you do to care for us. In Jesus' name we pray, amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God show you kindness and mercy.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- Have you ever been left out of a group? Explain.
- Where have you witnessed God's love shown to a stranger?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 17:11-19.

The Bible, especially the Old Testament, tells of an intimate connection between foreigners and God's people who had been slaves in Egypt and poorly treated. It is easy to have negative thoughts about people we do not know personally and sometimes tempting to go on the attack against them. This is especially true of people we may call strangers or foreigners. Jesus confronts our negative bias about others when he lifts up the Samaritan as a *"foreigner"* (Luke 17:18), someone God protects yet others often attack. For Jesus' own people, lepers were unapproachable, and Samaritans were belittled, yet Jesus approaches lepers and praises a Samaritan. For those moments when we, ourselves, may feel unapproachable or belittled, this is good news. For the unapproachable and belittled around us, Jesus' message is a calling to have a thankful heart filled with mercy.

Discuss: How does Jesus' mercy for foreigners encourage you to reflect on the needs of foreigners in your community?

Pray: **Loving God, you know our temptation to criticize people; help us to see others with your mercy that we may have thankful hearts 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, how can you support an organization that helps refugees?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Psalms 111 gives praise for God's wonderful deeds. God is holy and awesome (v. 9). Take a walk around your neighborhood and note the things you see that you consider to be awesome. For example, trees, buildings, the sky, and clouds. Then sit down in your home and write a list of what you saw. Take time to say a prayer of praise to God using words from Psalms 111 to be thankful for *"his wonderful deeds"* (v. 4), *"the power of his works"* (v. 6), and *"the work of his hands"* (v. 7).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Genesis 32:22-31; Psalms 121
2 Timothy 3:14—4:5; Luke 18:1-8