

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

November 16, 2025

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

TWENTYTHIRD SUNDAY after PENTECOST



The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime. The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

CHILDREN'S CHOIR (11:00 AM)

We Are the Church

by Richard Avery & Donald Marsh

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(rise in body or spirit)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- ☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

☞ **Amen.**

- ☞ Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- ☞ Faithful God,

☞ **you have shown us the ways of your heart,
yet we stray from your paths.**

**We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression
and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises.**

We ignore our neighbors.

We exploit the earth.

**We reject your abundance,
trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.**

**Repair our relationships,
restore what we have broken,
renew our hearts,
and bring us to new life. Amen.**

- ☞ Hear the good news:
God the Faithful One loves you,
✙ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

☞ **Amen.**

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>1 Rise, O Sun of righteousness;
with your might creation bless.
Shine upon your church today,
showing all your gentle way.
Have mercy, Lord.</p> <p>2 Rouse our hearts from slumber deep;
may your word within us leap.
Give us voices to proclaim
praises to your holy name.
Have mercy, Lord.</p> | <p>4 Burst the bars of stubborn pride;
make the heav'nly pathway wide.
Raise us up from sin and death
with your Spirit's living breath.
Have mercy, Lord.</p> <p>5 Honor, praise, and glory be
to the holy Trinity!
May your gracious will be done:
make us one, as you are one.
Have mercy, Lord.</p> |
|--|--|

Text: Christian David, et al.; tr. Frank W. Stoldt, b. 1958
Text © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.

APOSTOLIC GREETING

- L** 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

The musical notation for the Kyrie consists of six staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (F major or D minor). The lyrics are in German and are written below the notes.

Staff 1: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

Staff 2: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Staff 3: Lord, have mer - cy.

Staff 4: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

Staff 5: and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Staff 6: 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

- 📖 O God, the protector of all who trust in you,
🙏 without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

Malachi 4:1-2a

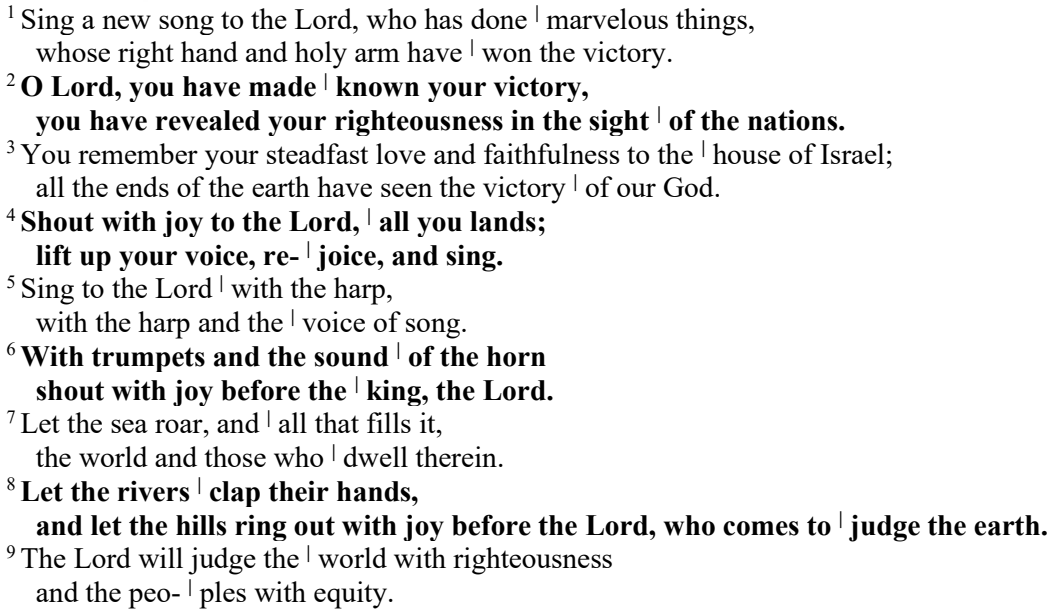
Malachi, whose name means "my messenger," warns that "the day is coming." On that day, the evil will be destroyed like stubble in a fire, but the "sun of righteousness" will shine on those who honor God.

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ^{2a} But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

📖 Word of God, Word of Life.

🙏 Thanks be to God.

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



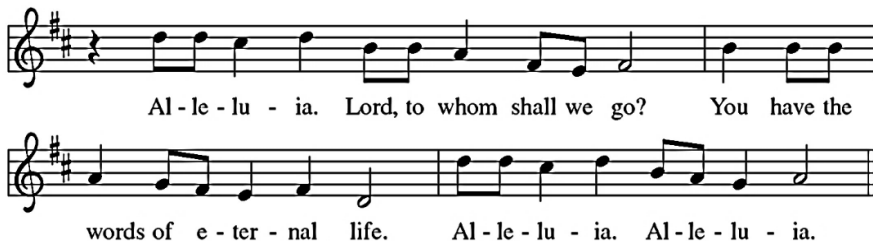
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸ and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

© Thanks be to God.

(rise in body or spirit)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

☑ Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 21:5-19

Children may follow along using the Spark Bible turning to page 408

As history moves toward God's fulfillment there will be frightening signs and events. Before the end, believers will draw strength from their relationship to God and will be given the words they need to testify and to endure without fear.

When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, Jesus said, ⁶“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

⁷ They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸ And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

⁹ “When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” ¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹² “But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

☐ The Gospel of the Lord.

☑ Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN'S BLESSING 9:00 AM

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

(rise in body or spirit)

HYMN OF THE DAY

O God of Every Nation

ELW 713 vs. 1, 2, 4

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 O God of ev'ry nation,
of ev'ry race and land,
redeem your whole creation
with your almighty hand;
where hate and fear divide us
and bitter threats are hurled,
in love and mercy guide us
and heal our strife-torn world.</p> | <p>2 From search for wealth and power
and scorn of truth and right,
from trust in bombs that shower
destruction through the night,
from pride of race and station
and blindness to your way,
deliver ev'ry nation,
eternal God, we pray.</p> |
| <p>4 Keep bright in us the vision
of days when war shall cease,
when hatred and division
give way to love and peace,
till dawns the morning glorious
when truth and love shall reign,
and Christ shall rule victorious
o'er all the world's domain.</p> | |

Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923

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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: **L** Hear us, O God.

G **Your mercy is great.**

(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 Dannika Rees & Takao Elliott (11/15/2025)

Thanksgiving: for the birth of Johnathan David & Connor Roy Jones, twin sons of Jacob & Nicole Jones, grandsons of Chuck & Janet Campbell

Sympathy: to the family and friends of Bill Johnson (brother of Ken Johnson); and to the family and friends of Deb Woosley

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, Larry & Michele Hunzeker, Joan Jacobson-Trotter, Linda Johnson, Jason Klonglan, Julie Knapp, Jack & Marie Kubat, Glenn Lindgren, Elizabeth Luczynski, Charles Martis, Lara McCormick, Sharon Miley, Nita Mueller, Walter Nash, Dan & Ginny Rath, David Tollefson, Joyce Wachal, Allyson White

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, 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

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

Morning Has Broken

arr. by Jason W. Krug
Kountze Bell Choir

(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

- ☞ God of healing and hope,
☞ you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with your abundance and unite us in the body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

This musical score is for a hymn in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is written on a single staff. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.' The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics: 'Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.' The third staff continues with the lyrics: 'Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.' The fourth staff concludes the phrase with the lyrics: '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.

This musical score is for a hymn in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (Bb). The melody is written on a single staff. The lyrics are: 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,'. The second staff continues the melody with the lyrics: 'heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -'. The third staff continues with the lyrics: 'san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who'. The fourth staff concludes the phrase with the lyrics: 'comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.'

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

C **We praise you, O God.**

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

C **We bless you, O God.**

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

C **We thank you, O God.**

L 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.**

L 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

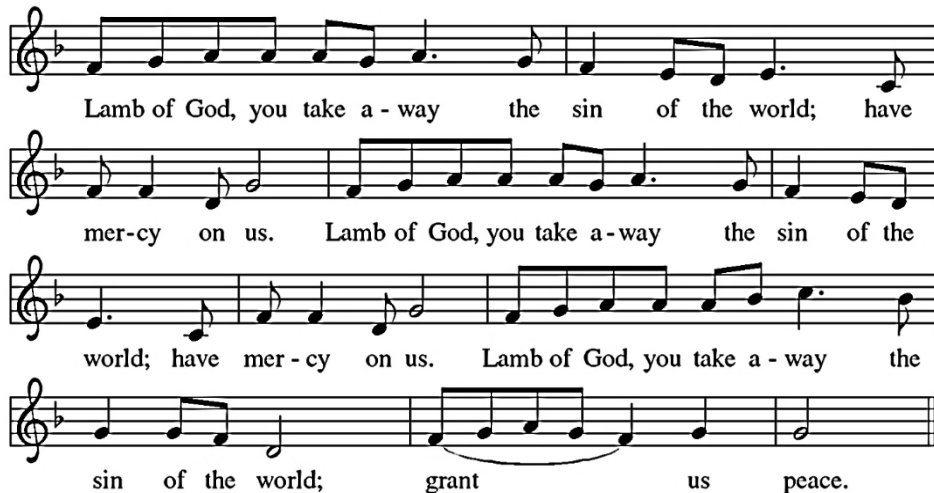
L Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us all to pray:

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

- ☐ Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.
- ☑ **There is a place for us at the table of God.**

(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 My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.
Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.

- 2 Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*

- 3 From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*

- 4 Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. *Refrain*

- 1 **How firm a foundation, O saints of the Lord,
is laid for your faith in Christ Jesus, the Word!
What more can he say than to you he has said
who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?**
- 2 **"Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
I'll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."**
- 3 **"When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all-sufficient, shall be your supply.
The flames shall not hurt you; I only design
your dross to consume and your gold to refine."**
- 4 **"Throughout all their lifetime my people shall prove
my sov'reign, eternal, unchangeable love;
and then, when gray hairs shall their temples adorn,
like lambs they shall still in my bosom be borne."**

Text: J. Rippon, *A Selection of Hymns*, 1787, alt.

(rise in body or spirit)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- ☐ God of field and flower, wheat and grape,
- ☑ **you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

- ☞ The love of God the Most High strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.

The holy Trinity bless you ✝ and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

RECESSIONAL HYMN

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

ELW 632 vs. 1-4, 6

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>1 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:</p> <p>2 Under the shadow of your throne
your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is your arm alone,
and our defense is sure.</p> | <p>3 Before the hills in order stood
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting you are God,
to endless years the same.</p> <p>4 A thousand ages in your sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.</p> |
| <p>6 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
still be our guard while troubles last
and our eternal home.</p> | |

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

DISMISSAL

- ☞ Go in peace. Share the harvest.
☛ Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

✝ ✝ ✝

KOUNTZE STAFF

Pr. Lucy Wynard	Senior Pastor
Dn. Eric Haitz	Deacon
Pr. Ashley Hall	Associate Pastor
Barbara Carlsen	Dir. of Music & Fine Arts
Kristin Boe	Director of Faith Formation
Jim Smejkal	Bldg. Super./Dir. of Cong. Activities
Toby Rees	Director of Kountze Commons
Sheila Valquier	Youth Director
Debbie Bogue	Office Manager
Danielle Fleming	Administrative Assistant
Noni Cambridge	Staff Treasurer
Judi Boe	Financial Secretary
Louis Flake	Night Manager
Kayla Slaight	Janitorial Staff
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Shannon Picha	Nursery Director



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

**2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761**

**Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org**

November 15 & 16, 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.

Today at Kountze Memorial

Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God in celebration of Lynn Schneiderman's birthday; in celebration of the marriage of Dannika Rees & Takao Elliott given by Eric & Toby Rees

Children's Choir & Children's Sermon 9:15 AM

Grades K-6

We thank our children's choir for sharing their musical talents with us this Sunday at both services. Again next Sunday, 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

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, *continued*

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.

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.

Nov 16: Fellowship

Nov 23: Imagine: What's Next?

This Week at Kountze Memorial

November 16 Sunday

Pentecost 23

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

November 17 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

6:00 PM HGFC Clinic Board

November 18 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

12:30 Circle 3

1:00 PM Prayer Shawl Group

6:00 PM Congregation Council

November 19 Wednesday

12:15 PM Worship

6:00 PM Confirmation @ St.

Timothy

November 20 Thursday

11:30 AM Men's Chili Cook-off

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

6:00 PM Circle 5

November 21 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

5:30 PM Council/Staff Dinner

November 22 Saturday

5:00 PM Worship

November 23 Sunday

Christ the King

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

Men's 6th Annual Chili Cook-off Lunch

Thursday, November 20

11:30 AM

Guys, do you have a winning chili recipe—or just love a good bowl of chili and great fellowship? Join us for our 6th Annual Men's Chili Cook-off! Sign up at the Welcome Desk, call the church office, or email jim@kmlchurch.org by Tuesday, November 18 to let us know if you're coming and if you'll be entering a pot of chili or attending as a taster.

Cost:

- Chili entrants: Free
- Tasters: Suggested donation is a new stuffed animal or toy to be given as Christmas gifts to children served by the Kountze Food Pantry.

Cornbread and dessert will be provided. Come sample the entries, vote for your favorites, and enjoy a fun afternoon of food, fellowship, and friendly competition! Prizes will be awarded to the top three chilis.

Young Adult Friendsgiving

Thursday, November 20

6:30 PM

Join us in the Fellowship Hall for our next 20's & 30's gathering! We'll share a potluck meal, play some favorite board games, and spend time connecting and celebrating our growing community. Bring a dish to share and come ready for fun and fellowship! Sign up at the Welcome Desk or email Dn. Eric @ eric@kmlchurch.org.

30th Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Christian, Jewish, Muslim

Sunday, November 23

6 PM

Hosted at Temple Israel

Join us for a meaningful evening of gratitude, reflection, and community as congregations from across Omaha's diverse faith traditions come together for our annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service. This year's theme, *Reconciliation Out of Brokenness*, invites us to explore how forgiveness, compassion, and shared learning can

For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

heal and renew both hearts and communities. Through prayer, music, and messages from multiple faith leaders, we will celebrate the strength that emerges when we gather across differences in the spirit of hope and thanksgiving.

Following the service, all are invited to enjoy a dessert reception, a sweet opportunity to connect and continue the conversation with neighbors old and new. In that same spirit of unity and care, this year's service will also raise funds to support Together, our local Omaha nonprofit working to end hunger and homelessness. Our collective goal is to raise \$5,000 to help fight food insecurity and ensure that every neighbor has access to nourishing meals this season.

Advent Alternative Gift Market

Sundays, November 23 - December 14

9:30 - 11:30 AM

Saturday December 13 (after the Candlelight Carol Service)

Plan to shop now! Shop next door to the Kountze Café area beginning November 23. Shop ELCA Good Gifts for different monetary gifts that fight hunger and transform lives. Shop physical handmade gifts from Global Mamas that support women and their families in Ghana. Donate to the Kountze Memorial Healing Gift Free Clinic and/or our Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry to help local families in honor of your family and friends.

Candlelight Carol Service

Saturday, December 13

Prelude 4:30 PM

Service 5:00 PM

The annual Candlelight Carol Service has become a beloved tradition at Kountze Memorial Lutheran Church! We hope that you, your family, and friends can join us for this special service of Sacred Scripture and Poetry, Congregational Carols, Communion, and Choral, Handbell and Instrumental Music. Please join us for this special evening as we journey through Advent and celebrate the Birth of Our Savior! Nursery care will be provided. Cheese and Dessert Reception Following the Service.

Decorate for Advent

Saturday, November 29

9:30 AM

You and your family can be part of creating an inviting atmosphere that will inspire hope, love, joy, and peace in our community by helping to decorate for Advent. No special skills are required—just your enthusiasm

and willingness to contribute to this joyful project. Join us!

Advent Fair

November 30

10:00 AM - Noon

Join us in making a variety of Christmas decorations including an Advent wreath, Christmas cards, an Advent prayer placemat, an ornament, and more. There will be activities for the children and a photo booth for all. This year we will be collecting toiletries with an emphasis on 3 in one wash, razors, deodorant, lotion, and toothbrushes/toothpaste for the Kountze Pantry guests.

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 pasta, peanut butter, and soup. You may leave your donation in the box marked "Food Pantry," located in the Fellowship Hall. Tax deductible slips are available on the inside pocket of the box. Please join us as a volunteer in the pantry in the Kountze Commons volunteer as it fits your schedule.

We have options for volunteers of all abilities. Please use the QR code or the following link to sign up and join our mission.



Pantry

<https://tinyurl.com/uasdddp>

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

Pantry Dinner in a Bag: Check out the insert in your bulletin and prepare a bag/bags for our Pantry. These kits are designed to be budget-friendly and easy to prepare, containing shelf-stable ingredients and a recipe card. A different recipe card will be in your bulletin now through Advent, and you can find more recipes online if you would like to pack a bag or two or six for our Pantry guests.

Attendance & Giving **Thursday, Oct. 30—Wednesday, Nov. 5**

Saturday: 28

Sunday: 9:00: 130 **11:00:** 87

Wednesday: 12:15: 10

Total: 255

Streaming: 45

Pantry Guests Served: 968 (inc. 365 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served:

Offering: Not available at time of printing.

Jesus promises to protect us in tough times.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 21:5-19	Suffering for Jesus' sake
Monday	Malachi 4:1-2a	The day of judgment
Tuesday	2 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Warning against idleness
Wednesday	Deuteronomy 31:1-8	Joshua is appointed the leader
Thursday	Psalm 27	Trusting God
Friday	John 14:23-31	The Holy Spirit is promised
Saturday	Psalm 98	Make a joyful noise
Sunday	Luke 23:33-43	Christ the crucified king



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SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

And he [Jesus] said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them." Luke 21:8 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of the past, present, and future, help us to endure difficulties knowing that you promise to protect us now and always through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, for the fruit of the earth that feeds us and for your love that protects us we give you our thanks and praise through Jesus Christ. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God give you peace.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- When was a time you were afraid? Explain.
- How can faith in Jesus get you through tough times?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 21:5-19.

This reading in Luke uses apocalyptic language, meaning it has a focus on the end times and worldwide struggles. Jesus tells his followers not to guess when the end times will come. Disasters and tragedies have happened and continue to happen around the world. When such times come and people experience major crises in their lives, it is good to know that *"not a hair of your head will perish"* (v. 18). For those who witness to their faith during times of crisis, it is also helpful to know that Jesus will provide the words and the wisdom. While we may anticipate difficult times, we are not to be led astray and worship that which is not eternal, even a beautiful temple like the one in Jerusalem. We are not to speculate about when the end will come or to follow false saviors. Life can be scary and difficult. We need to hold on to Jesus and his promise to hold on to us to the end.

Discuss: What are some disasters or tragedies happening in today's world? How can faith in Jesus help us endure such times?

Pray: **Almighty God, when wars, earthquakes, and other scary things happen, help us to lean on you alone and trust your eternal care through Jesus Christ our Savior. 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 those who are facing a natural disaster?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Psalm 98 calls on all the earth to make a joyful noise. Take a walk outside and look at God's creation around you. When you return home, draw a picture or write a list of things you saw. Then make up your own tune to use as you sing these words: ***O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things.***

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 46
Colossians 1:11-20; Luke 23:33-43