

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

August 9, 2026

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM

ELEVENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST



Elijah finds the presence of God not in earthquake, wind, or fire, but in the sound of sheer silence. When the disciples face a great storm on the sea, they cry out with fear. Jesus says: "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Amid the storms of life, we gather to seek the calm presence of Christ that soothes our fears. In comforting words of scripture and in the refreshing bread and cup of the eucharist, God grants us peace and sends us forth to be a sign of God's presence to others.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(rise in body or spirit)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity ☩ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

☛ Amen.

☞ Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

☞ Compassionate God,

☛ we confess to you all our sins.

Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves.

In your mercy, call us back to you.

Your yoke is easy and your burden is light.

Restore us to dwell in your peace.

In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

☞ Jesus says, "Come to me,
all you who are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest."
In the name of God,
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Rest in God's love.

☛ Amen.

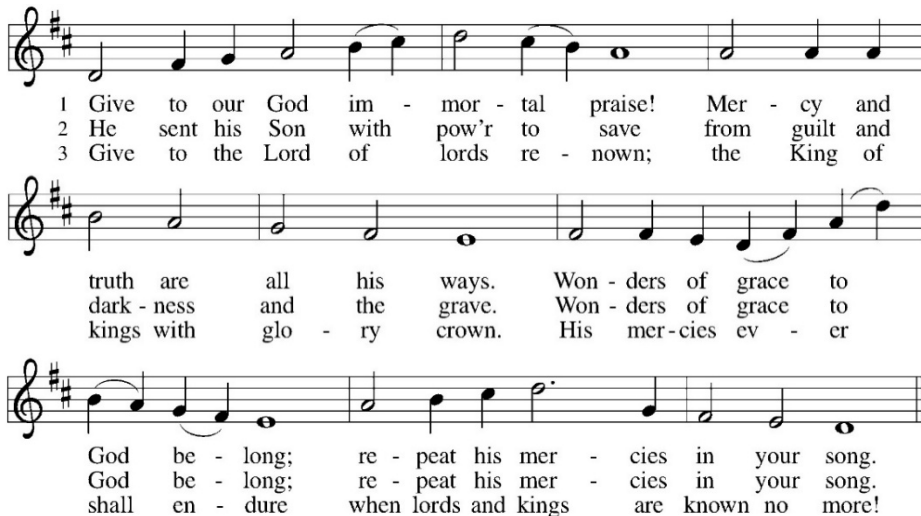
- 1 Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.
Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.
Oh, sing to the Lord, oh, sing God a new song.
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.
- 2 For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders.
For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders.
For God is the Lord, and God has done wonders.
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.
- 4 Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit.
Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit.
Oh, shout to our God, who gave us the Spirit.
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.
- 5 For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!
For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!
For Jesus is Lord! Amen! Alleluia!
Oh, sing to our God, oh, sing to our God.

Text: Brazilian folk song; tr. Gerhard M. Cartford, b. 1923, Spanish and English
Spanish and English text © Gerhard Cartford, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid
license from copyright administrator.

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE



1 Give to our God im - mor - tal praise! Mer - cy and
2 He sent his Son with pow'r to save from guilt and
3 Give to the Lord of lords re - nown; the King of

truth are all his ways. Won - ders of grace to
dark - ness and the grave. Won - ders of grace to
kings with glo - ry crown. His mer - cies ev - er

God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
God be - long; re - peat his mer - cies in your song.
shall en - dure when lords and kings are known no more!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ O God our defender,

☞ **storms rage around and within us and cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

WORD

(sit)

FIRST READING

1 Kings 19:9-18

On Mount Horeb, where God had appeared to Moses with typical signs of God's presence—earthquake, wind, and fire—Elijah now experienced God in "sheer silence." God assured Elijah that he is not the only faithful believer. Seven thousand Israelites are still loyal. God instructed Elijah to anoint two men as kings and to anoint Elisha as his own successor.

At Horeb, the mount of God, Elijah came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the Lord came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"¹⁰ He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

¹¹ He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake,¹² and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence.¹³ When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?"¹⁴ He answered, "I have been very zealous for the Lord, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."¹⁵ Then the Lord said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram.¹⁶ Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.¹⁷ Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill, and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill.¹⁸ Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

☞ Word of God, Word of Life.

☞ **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 85:8-13 (read responsively)

⁸ I will listen to what the Lord God is saying;

for you speak peace to your faithful people and to those who turn their hearts to you.

⁹ **Truly, your salvation is very near to those who fear you,
that your glory may dwell in our land.**

¹⁰ Steadfast love and faithfulness have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

¹¹ **Faithfulness shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.**

¹² The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.

¹³ **Righteousness shall go before the Lord
and shall prepare for God a pathway.**

SECOND READING

Romans 10:5-15

A right relationship with God is not something we achieve by heroic efforts. It is a gift received in the proclamation whose content is Jesus Christ. This proclaimed word creates our faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. Hence Christian proclamation is an indispensable component of God's saving actions.

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say?

“The word is near you,

in your mouth and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹ because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

📖 Word of God, Word of Life.

🙌 Thanks be to God.

(rise in body or spirit)

GOSEL ACCLAMATION

📖 Alleluia!

🙌 **Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?**

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia!

📖 The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

🙌 **Glory to you, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

Children may follow along using the Spark Bible turning to page 294
Matthew's gospel typically portrays Jesus' disciples as people of "little faith," who fail despite their best intentions. In this story, Matthew shows how Jesus comes to the disciples when they are in trouble and sustains them in their time of fear and doubt.

Jesus made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them

on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸ Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹ He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

 The Gospel of the Lord.

 Praise to you, O Christ.

(sit)

CHILDREN’S BLESSING 9:00 AM

Children (aged 2 years through 4th grade) are invited to come forward for a blessing. Then, they may either return to their seat and use the Spark Bible and/or activity bags, located in the back of the entrance hall, during the regular sermon or go to the Upper rooms for a story time. All children will return to their families in time to receive communion. 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

My Life Flows On in Endless Song

ELW 763 vs. 1, 2, 4

- 1

My life flows on in endless song;
above earth's lamentation,
I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.

2

Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*

4

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing? *Refrain*
- Refrain*
No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899

THE APOSTLES' CREED

☞ Let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed:

☞ **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: ☞ Merciful God,
☞ **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: Ilse Grage

Sympathy to the family and friends of Wanda Frykberg

On-going Care: Judi Boe, Carol Carlson, Rod Carlson, Warren Cooke, Mike & Candace Edris, Kathy Englert, Lucy Etherton, Bob & Sandy Fonda, Judith Hamaker, Chris Jensen, Linda Johnson, Jason Klonglan, Kate McCoy, Ralph Morse, Lynnette Olson, Noelle Phelps, Allyson White

Other Prayers: *Those serving in the military* – Mallory Hoogestraat, daughter of JD & Julie Hoogestraat, Wyatt Johnson, grandson of Ken & Linda Johnson; Tyler Johnston, son of Robert & Michelle Johnston, Daniel Milstead, nephew of Darlene Anderson; Cody Ray, grandson of Betty Callies; Dannika Rees & Takao Elliott, daughter & son-in-law of Eric & Toby Rees; Brayden Renken, son of Lenny & Aundrea Renken; Joel Woosley, nephew of Steph Stephens

Other Prayers: *Those serving in mission* – Rev. Chandran Paul Martin, India; Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson, Tanzania; Rev. Katie Larson, Colombia; Rev. Bridget Gautieri, Wittenberg Center, Germany; Rev. Robert & Kathy Moore, Leipzig, Germany; our sister congregation, the American Church in Berlin

Other Prayers: *Seminarrians* – 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. We encourage everyone to give. If you are visiting with us today, please do not feel obligated to participate in this portion of worship. If you would like, use the QR code scanner on your smart phone to give online or place your offering in the plates that are located at the entrances to the Sanctuary. For those of you watching through our media outlets, if you are able, please mail in your offering or donate online. Thank you!



THE TABLE IS PREPARED

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *For the Beauty of the Earth* by Conrad Kocher, arr. by Pam Turner
Amy Wemhoff, piano

(rise in body or spirit)

OFFERTORY HYMN

Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil

ELW 512

Lord, let my heart be good soil, o-pen to the seed of your word.

Lord, let my heart be good soil, where love can grow and peace is un-der-stood.

When my heart is hard, break the stone a - way. When my heart is cold,

warm it with the day. When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.

Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Text: Handt Hanson, b. 1950
Text © 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing, Changing Church, Inc., admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

- L** Loving God,
- C** we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- L** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.
- L** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them to the Lord.
- L** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- L** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

- ℣ Blessed are you, O God, ...
... may not perish but may have eternal life.

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

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, ...
... Do this for the remembrance of me.

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

- ✠ **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

- ℣ Pour out your Holy Spirit ...
... Power of the Most High, now and forever.

- ✠ **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

- ✠ **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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

- ℣ Come, share in the feast!
✠ **Heaven has come near.**

(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.*

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

Text & music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

COMMUNION HYMN

What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine

ELW 774

- 1 What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain

- Leaning, leaning, (Leaning on Jesus, leaning on Jesus,) safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, (leaning on Jesus, leaning on Jesus,) leaning on the everlasting arms.
- 2 Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain*
 - 3 What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain*

Text: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1839-1929

(rise in body or spirit)

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- ☞ Compassionate God,
- ☞ **through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. Amen.**

SENDING

BLESSING

- ☞ Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✝ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

THREE-FOLD AMEN

RECESSIONAL HYMN

O God, Our Help in Ages Past **ELW 632 vs. 1-3, 6**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home: | 3 Before the hills in order stood
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting you are God,
to endless years the same. |
| 2 Under the shadow of your throne
your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is your arm alone,
and our defense is sure. | 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. |

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

DISMISSAL

- ☞ Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
- ☞ **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Mark Jones, *organ*

✝ ✝ ✝

From Sundays and Seasons.com. ©2026 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS006828. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-705181. New Revised Standard Version Bible, ©1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Evangelical Lutheran Worship ©2006 Augsburg Fortress. All Creations Sings ©2020 Augsburg Fortress, an imprint of 1517 Media. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #26828. CCLI License # 2347179.

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	Facility & Events Director
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
Dan Collett	Facility Assistant
Louis Flake	Night Manager
Mark Jones	Organist
David Gerard	Saturday Accompanist
Heidi Pospisil	Pantry Director
Shannon Picha	Nursery Director



KOUNTZE

Memorial Lutheran Church

2650 Farnam Street
402-341-7761

Omaha, NE 68131
www.kmlchurch.org

August 8 & 9, 2026

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 the 60th wedding anniversary of Neal & Ardis Von Seggern, given by their daughters, Amy & Lisa;

Eternal Candle is given to the glory of God in memory of Randall Fike given by Mary Jo Fike and family

Television Broadcast is sponsored to the glory of God by Tom Jensen in honor of Ron Muchmore's 80th birthday.

Kountze Café Lite
9:30—11:00 AM

Free-will Offering

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

Children's Sermon

Children are invited to sit with their families at the beginning of the service. Following the children's sermon, youth who are going into grade four and younger are invited to follow the adult leader upstairs for the Kountze Summer Reading Program. The kids will enjoy a story book on important life lessons. Coloring sheets, fidgets, and sensory items will be provided. They will return to their families for communion.



Summer Reading

Are you an adult interested in reading to our youth?
Use the following link or QR code to sign up to read. You may also reach out to Kristin at kristin@kmlchurch.org.
<https://tinyurl.com/2epndk6z>

Adult Forum
Sundays, 10:10 AM

Join us Sunday mornings in the Fellowship Hall.

August 9: Fellowship

August 16: Rev. David Mayen of Serving Hands of Hope

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, *continued*

Blessing of the Backpacks

August 8 & 9

Saturday, 5 PM

Sunday, 9 & 11 AM

Bring your school or work bag to church to receive prayers for a safe, productive, and exciting educational

year. Following the 9 AM worship service, students are invited to the Fellowship Lounge to stuff backpacks with school supplies. Bags and supplies are generously donated throughout the summer by congregation members and are given to pantry guests at our Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry.

This Week at Kountze Memorial

August 9 Sunday

Pentecost 11

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast

10:10 AM Adult Forum

12:15 PM Book Group

August 10 Monday

10:00 AM Pantry

August 11 Tuesday

9:00 AM Staff Meeting

August 12 Wednesday

9:00 AM Sewing Group

12:15 PM Worship

3:00 PM Devotions @ deFreese

Manor

7:00 PM Handbell Rehearsal

August 13 Thursday

Council Reports Due

9:30 AM WELCA Board

11:30 AM Property Committee

4:00 PM Healing Gift Free Clinic

August 14 Friday

5:00 PM Pantry

August 15 Saturday

Good News Deadline

5:00 PM Worship

6:00 PM All Congregation Pizza & Game Night!

August 16 Sunday

Pentecost 12

9:00 AM & 11:00 AM Worship

9:00 AM Nursery (0-2 yrs)

9:30 AM Kountze Cafe - Breakfast

10:10 AM Adult Forum

For Your Calendar/News & Notes

All Congregation Game Night!

Saturday, August 15

6:00 PM

The Christian Education Committee is hosting a Game Night for the entire congregation. This cross generational fellowship will begin after the 5 PM Saturday Service. Join us for friendly competition and finger foods. Bring your favorite game night snack or appetizer to share. Games provided, but if you have one to share, bring it! Please RSVP at the Welcome Desk, call (402-341-7761) or email the church office.

Men's Lunch

Thursday, August 20

11:30 AM

Suggested Donation \$10

Jim will be gone, so we're calling in The B-Team and it will be an "All-B" menu. They'll be serving burgers, brats, beans, potato salad, beverages, and Blue Bunny ice cream. Please call the church office, sign up at the Welcome Desk, or email info@kmlchurch.org by Tuesday, August 18 if you plan to attend! Hope to see you there.

Dinners for Eight(ish)

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

☞ Meet each month for a meal in September, October, and November
☞ Enjoy a meal and conversation with one another.
☞ Consider meeting for lunch instead of dinner!
☞ Sign up at the Welcome Desk or call the church office by Monday, August 24.
See you around the table!

Help Wanted: People Who Sing!!!

First Rehearsal: Wednesday, September 9, 7 to 8:30 PM

Begin Singing at Worship: Sunday, September 13

Past singing experience in high school or college is a plus but not required. High School students who are involved in their choirs at school are also welcome. Director, Barb Carlsen, would like to hear you sing before joining the choir just to make sure that this group will blend with your type of voice. If you want more information about choir or would like to reserve a time to sing for Barb, please call the church office at 402-341-7761. Rehearsals are generally the first Wednesday of the month, September - May, and on Sunday mornings. (Extra rehearsals scheduled as needed.)

Sunday School Leaders Needed

The Faith Formation program is looking for enthusiastic volunteers for the Sunday School students. All lessons are

For Your Calendar/News & Notes, *continued*

scripted and materials provided. The children start with breakfast upstairs, providing time for fellowship with the youngest members of Kountze. They then split into their classrooms for a lesson that follows the lectionary of the day. Please contact Kristin at kristin@kmlchurch.org with questions. You can sign up at:

<https://tinyurl.com/wwjk3zut>



Sunday School
Leaders

Kountze Food Pantry

Our Love Thy Neighbor Food Pantry is in need of your gifts and service. The current needs for the pantry are ketchup, mustard, and toothpaste. 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. We are always in need of gently used grocery bags.

<https://tinyurl.com/uasdddp>



Pantry

Table Grace Café Golf Tournament

Friday, August 28

Miracle Hills Golf Course

(1401 N 120th St)

Tee Time 8 AM

Entry Fee: \$125 Per Person

\$500 Per Team of 4

Excitement is in the air! Get ready to be part of something extraordinary at Table Grace Ministries' fundraising event. It's an event like no other, and you won't want to miss it! Every registration to this event will bring Table Grace closer to achieving their mission. Together, we can create a brighter, more compassionate world for all. Our support is invaluable. Golf and network and help others with a hand up! Cost includes 18 holes of golf, cart, lunch, mulligans, and a raffle ticket per player. Not able to golf? Be a golf hole sponsor or putting green sponsor. More information can be found by using the link below or the QR code.

<https://tinyurl.com/mtdzy94y>



Table Grace Golf

Kountze Care Companions

Do you have a few hours to share each month? We are forming a team of volunteers to assist some of our older members with simple tasks such as sorting and organizing around the house, light cleaning, carrying or putting away groceries, and spending time in

conversation and companionship. No special skills are required—just a willing heart and a desire to serve. Whether you can help occasionally or on a regular basis, we would love to have you join us as we care for one another and live out Christ's call to bear one another's burdens. If you are interested in volunteering, please sign up at the welcome desk, or contact the church office for more information.

Halloween "Boo-tique"

Kountze Commons is going to host its first "Boo-tique" in September. This event will allow families in need to come shop at Kountze Commons for Halloween costumes. How can you help? Please donate your new or gently used costumes. Costumes can be placed in the donation box under the coat rack on the west side of Fellowship Hall. If you have questions or would like to volunteer to prepare for the "Boo-tique" or the day of the event, please reach out to Toby Rees at 402-979-1425 or

toby@kountzecommons.org.

Save the Date!



Sunday, September 13

Classes begin
September 20

We will kick off our Sunday School year with prayers, celebration, games, and fellowship. We are planning a fun and interesting faith-filled school year. We hope you join us!

Attendance & Giving Thursday, July 30—Wednesday, August 5

Saturday: 31

Sunday: 9:00: 103 11:00: 78

Wednesday: 12:15:

Total: 212

Streaming: 47

Pantry Guests Served: 490 (inc. 143 children)

Medical Clinic Guests Served: 17

Offering:

\$17,274.34 (Regular)

\$1,908.80 (Specials)

\$127.00 (Debt Reduction)

We are sent to bring the good news of Christ to others.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 14:22-33	Jesus walks on water
Monday	1 Kings 19:9-18	The Lord appears to Elijah
Tuesday	Romans 10:5-15	Anyone can be saved
Wednesday	Genesis 41:37-49	Joseph's rise to power
Thursday	Psalms 105:1-11	God's faithfulness to Israel
Friday	1 Thessalonians 3:6-13	Timothy brings good news
Saturday	Psalms 85:8-13	Restoration of God's favor
Sunday	Matthew 15:21-28	A woman's faith



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

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Romans 10:15 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Lord Jesus, just as you saved Peter from the stormy waves, we praise you for saving us from the things that overwhelm us.
Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

You who walked upon the sea, come and join our meal, we plea. Thank you for your care this day; lead us, Jesus, in your way.
Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God's word be near you. (Romans 10:8)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

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

- Describe something you think is beautiful. What makes it beautiful?
- Who do you know that is spreading the good news of Jesus through their work? What do they do?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Romans 10:5-15.

Paul continues an intricate dance that balances the covenant given to Abraham, Moses, and the larger Hebrew community with fulfilling the new covenant given through Jesus. It is the same God and the same promise: salvation is meant for all. Therefore, our job is not to judge but to proclaim the good news that Christ is the fulfillment of the law. That message only helps if it is heard. What is so beautiful is not really people's feet—what some may consider the least attractive part of a person's body—but the person themselves. People cannot receive the message of salvation without hearing. We are those sent to tell the good news of Jesus Christ to others. We are the ones that are beautiful souls, not because of our feet, noses, or eyes, but because of the good news of Christ told to others.

Discuss: How do you use your hands, feet, and voice to spread the good news of Christ?

Pray: **Living God, may we see the beauty of the gospel and the beauty of those who share your saving message with us and others 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, where can you go to tell others about Jesus?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Jesus came to the disciples in the middle of the night and calmed their fears. Bedtimes are special opportunities to reflect on one's life in prayer. When you go to bed, think or talk about fears you may have. How does it make a difference to know that Jesus is with you and calms any "storms" or fears that you might experience? Pause for a moment and reflect on your answer. Then say: ***"I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety."*** (Psalm 4:8)

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8; Psalm 67
Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32; Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28