

+ Fifth Sunday in Lent +

March 26, Year of Our Lord 2023 | DS4

+ Confession and Absolution +

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.



Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Exhortation

Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3–4; Luke 18:13

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ Service of the Word +

Introit



P Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
is the death | of his saints.

C I love the LORD, because | he has heard*
my voice and my pleas for | mercy.

Because he inclined his | ear to me,*
therefore I will call on him as long | as I live.

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid | hold on me;*
I suffered distress and | anguish.

Then I called on the name | of the LORD:.*
“O LORD, I pray, deliv- | er my soul!”

For you have delivered my | soul from death,*
my eyes from tears, my feet from | stumbling.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Precious in the sight | of the LORD*
is the death | of his saints.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 37:1–14

The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the LORD.”

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live.” So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then he said to me, “Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are clean cut off.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the LORD; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the LORD.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Hebrews 12:2

C **O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,
the founder and perfecter of our faith,
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,
and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

Epistle

Romans 8:1–11

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh

but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God's law; indeed, it cannot. Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day

John 11:25

P I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live.

Holy Gospel

John 11:1–45

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eleventh chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent to him, saying, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it he said, "This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now seeking to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in the day? If anyone walks in the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if anyone walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." After saying these things, he said to them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover." Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they



thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus has died, and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." So Thomas, called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, "Father, I thank you that you have heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out." The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what he did, believed in him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: 430 My Song Is Love Unknown



1 My song is love un - known, My Sav - ior's love to
2 He came from His blest throne Sal - va - tion to be -
3 Some - times they strew His way And His sweet prais - es
4 Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and



me, Love to the love - less shown That they might love - ly
stow; But men made strange, and none The longed - for Christ would
sing; Re - sound - ing all the day Ho - san - nas to their
spite? He made the lame to run, He gave the blind their



be. Oh, who am I That for my sake
know. But, oh, my friend, My friend in - deed,
King. Then "Cru - ci - fy!" Is all their breath,
sight. Sweet in - ju - ries! Yet they at these



My Lord should take Frail flesh and die?
Who at my need His life did spend!
And for His death They thirst and cry.
Them - selves dis - please And 'gainst Him rise.

5 They rise and needs will have My dear Lord made away;
A murderer they save, The Prince of Life they slay.
Yet cheerful He To suff'ring goes
That He His foes From thence might free.

6 In life no house, no home My Lord on earth might have;
In death no friendly tomb But what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was His home
But mine the tomb wherein He lay.

7 Here might I stay and sing, No story so divine!
Never was love, dear King, Never was grief like Thine.
This is my friend, In whose sweet praise
I all my days Could gladly spend!

Text: Samuel Crossman, c. 1624–1683 Tune: John N. Ireland, 1879–1962 Text: Public domain
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+ Sermon +

Take Away the Stone

Announcement of Offering and Greetings of Peace

The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Prayers to God on Behalf of...

World: Praying for the end of the conflict between **Ukraine** and **Russia** (and preservation of life and land). Devastating twin earthquakes in **Turkey** and **Syria**.

Church: For our ongoing **church building/expansion planning** with architect Studio 4, contractor Creative Structures, and our 3-year Capital Campaign with LCEF. Mission work of **Rehema Open Door** (Rehema is Swahili for mercy) palliative care center/hospice in Kenya. Local mission of **Pregnancy Resource Center** of



Maryville and Sevierville. For our DCE **Shelli Haynes**, for blessings upon her service to Praise, and for her family.

Vocation: **Tyler Smith** (Airforce) in Mississippi and **Megan** beginning law school at UT. **Jacob** (Tami DeHaven's grandson) stationed in S. Korea. **Carter Felt** (Navy: stationed in Charleston). **Casey Lawson** (Airforce). For **Emily and Julian Martinez** (rejoicing in birth of Soren). **Alex & Shelby Hicks** (expecting). **Paul & Angela Gift** rejoicing in the birth of **Nyla**. For Bill & Diane Miller's new grandson **Isaiah**. **Tatum Smolter** (and Tanner, rejoicing in birth of **Tylen**). **Eugene & Vicky Gorman** (expecting).

Mourning: Family of **Taryn Sebright** (including Billye Raye, Kris, Tiana, Taylor, and JJ) on the occasion of the 3rd anniversary of her passing. Family of **Larry** (Marleen's brother in law, Jeff's uncle) who passed away in Colorado. Family of **Clayton Narveson** who passed away 1/20. Family of **Janet Moore's mother, Mary Lou**, who passed away. Family of **Stan Stubelt** of Friendsville (Sharon Felker's brother) who passed away. Family of **Priscilla Sullenberger** (Debbie's Johnston's sister). Family of **Dick Mohr** who passed away 9/17/22.

Health: **Janice Kaiser** double pneumonia from covid (now home recovering). **Gary Kubin** scheduled for surgery on his back this Tuesday. **Soren** (newborn to Julian & Emily Martinez) breathing and oxygen levels. **Billye Raye Smith** awaiting biopsy results. Rick & Lisa Gift's family, **Terry & Ann Gift** (both with cancer). **Mike Crinklaw** (friend of Larry Moore since high school) open heart surgery to repair a valve the end of March. **Mark Cutler** (Randy & Carol Groen's brother-in-law) having surgery on Apr 6 for removal of a cancerous lesion in his lung. **Mary Schopmann** recovering. **Amy Mohr** recovering from surgery and treatment for sepsis (and shoulder separation). **Myrna Frazier** upcoming 6 weeks of cancer treatments starting 3/31. **Ed & Sandy Bagley** recovering from covid. **Pastor Ed Maanum** of First Lutheran Knoxville, kidney function. For **June McDonnell** (lung health). **Sharon Yoder** trouble with oxygen levels, heart, and leg pain. **Ed McGillick** vertigo and blood pressure/heart health. **Jennifer Morsch** (Joel & Barbara's daughter) with many health issues. **Delora Roth** good leg circulation health. **Rachel Ernst's mother:** cancer treatments. For **Alan Stremsterfer's mother** recovering from kidney stones and health issues. For **Lisa Stremsterfer's father** who fell and is recovering. **Brad** (Phil and Carol Barnett's son) cancer surgery recovery. **Sheila Schnepf** (friend of Tom & Lois Schering) experiencing 24/7 back pain. **Judy Kalkitis** recovering after a fall on Christmas Eve. **Nancy** (Jim Vesper's mother) heart attack recovery; **Arnold Solis** (Nunnink's and Lee's father and [great] grandfather) health. **Aurora Stevens** broken back treatment. For **Carolyn Dickie** (health). **Jeannie Lindenfelser** for lung cancer treatments. For **Barbara Moyers** health. **Debbie Johnston** kidney health. For **Kathy Bigger** (friend of Donna Wall) pancreatic cancer. **Bob McDermott** dealing with Parkinson's symptoms. **Mark** (Judy Kalkitis's son-in-law) knee treatment. For **all suffering from mental health issues**. For **Lindsey** (cancer). **Barry** (Wendy Slifka's brother in St. Louis, eye cancer) **Al Reuer** health. **Gregory Strege** (Phyllis's son, health). **Tom Williams**, health and care for heart. **Ken Payne's** health (friends of a friend of Jim Vesper).

Paula (Corlis William's mother) recovering from a stroke. Ruth Kistler's son **William** (tests and possible cancer treatments). Kenna Chorney's mother: **Gail Rieman** (wound care). **Tim Smith** (heart health). Steve Kaiser's mother **Louise** (age 92) in Indiana. Andrew Hebar's Aunt **Kara** (struggling from cancer treatments). **Connie** (Andrew Hebar's friend) brain and lung cancer. **Bill** (Cathy Wacker's father) dementia, health. **Lee Schuck** (health, unable to walk). **Janeen Meier** (Maureen Robert's sister) health. **Melissa Gilmore** (friend of Jim Vesper) COPD.

Prayers of Thanksgiving: For **Mavis Johnson** good results from heart cath. **Chuck Pettyjohn** good results from heart cath. For **Cathy Wacker** had successful hip surgery (praying for her recovery). For **Larry Wacker** had three successful procedures at Vanderbilt (praying for good results of the procedures). For **Judy Kalkitis's friend** (old classmate) had successful surgery to remove cancer. For **Janet** (Matthew Flaska's mother) who is recovering from a kidney infection.

Birthdays: Desmond L 3/26, Megan S 3/26, Chloe P 4/4, Art P 4/6, Steve K 4/8, Larry M 4/8

Anniversaries: Fred & Faye H 3/26, Charles & Carol E 4/5, Lawrence & Linda McM 4/15, Steve & Tammy C 4/16

* **Benediction** for those worshipping on the livestream.

+ **Service of the Sacrament** +

A Word to Our Guests and Visitors about Communion at Praise

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very Body and Blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death and resurrection until He comes. Scripture warns that those who come forward to eat and drink our Lord's Body and Blood in an unworthy manner do so to their great spiritual harm. The Lord's Supper is also a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar. Therefore, any who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet to desire to receive the Sacrament (Communion), are encouraged to seek guidance from the pastor.

Preface

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

P The Lord be with you. **C** **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts. **C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, ... evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho - san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

p. 161 or 178

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, ...now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in You Kingdom and teach us 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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

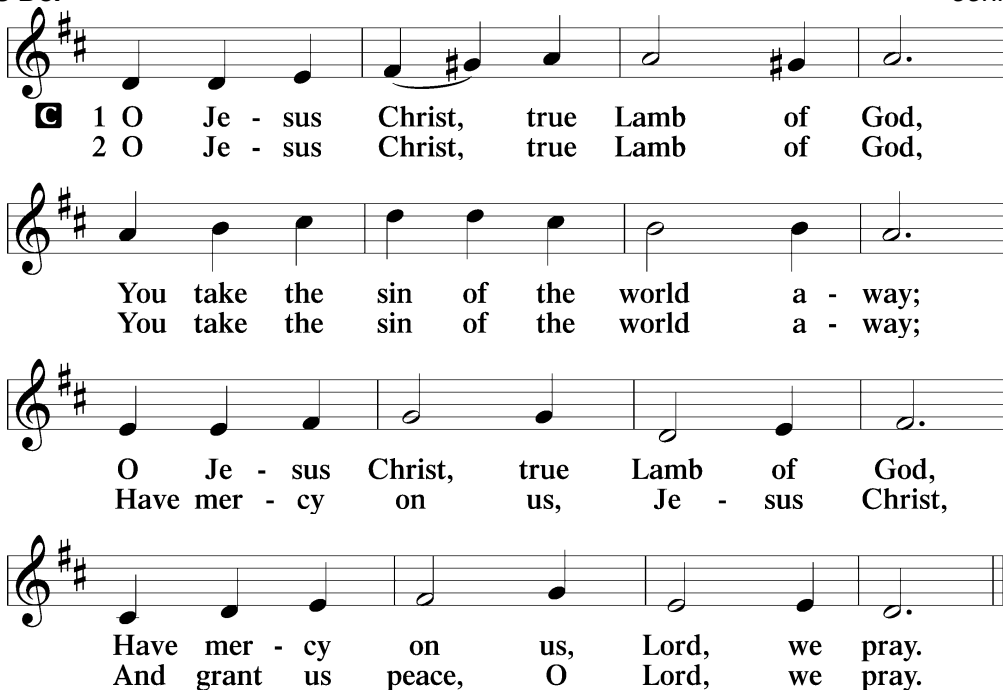
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✝ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C Amen.**

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke



Distribution

Please see our pastor for details about baptism, instruction, and vow of confirmation of our church's teachings prior to taking the Lord's Supper (Communion) at Praise.

Distribution Hymn: 741 Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense

Distribution Hymn: 686 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Distribution Hymn: 543 What Wondrous Love Is This

Distribution Hymn: 433 Glory Be to Jesus

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29-32

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All

part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the

glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is

to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -



Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

- A** Let us bless the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
C Amen.

Acknowledgments

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Praise Lutheran Church (LCMS)

Sunday Divine Services weekly at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.; Bible Study and Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.

Address: 1850 Big Springs Rd. Maryville, TN 37801

Phone: (865) 977-5810, Website: praiselutheran.com

Online giving: praiselutheran.com (click the blue "Give" button)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PraiseLutheranChurch/>

Staffed Office Hours: Monday through Thursday 9:00 to Noon, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. (EST)

Office Administration: Vicky Gorman, vicky@praiselutheran.com

Pastor: Rev. Derek Roberts, pastor@praiselutheran.com, cell: (865) 229-6024 (Pastor's day off: Fridays)

DCE: Shelli Haynes, shelli@praiselutheran.com

Congregational President: Dr. Tom Wittkopp, Capital Campaign Info: Ed Hannah; Joel Morsch

Prayer requests: if possible, please submit by 9:00 a.m. on Thursdays

Organist/pianists: Janice Kaiser, Susan Johnson, Choir Director: Laura Bisconte, Choir Pianist: Susan Johnson



Announcements (see next page as well)

DCE Shelli (and husband Travis) Haynes wants to Visit You Please see the bulletin board in the Narthex where you can see her calendar and email shelli@praiselutheran.com or text her at (909) 226-3179 to arrange a time.

Kroger Community Awards (Easy way to help raising funds for church build, etc.) With so many exciting things happening for our church, sometimes it can be hard to find new ways to join the effort, especially with the generous giving so many have shared and pledged. Praise God that there are some simple ways for families to give just by buying groceries, gas, and other necessities. Community partners like Kroger offer a percentage back to the nonprofit organization of your choice. If you have a Kroger card, simply visit their community rewards tab and select **Praise Lutheran** from the drop-down menu. You can get step by step directions by clicking on <https://www.kroger.com/i/community/community-rewards>

Also, for **Thrivent Financial** members, you can help our church in two ways with a few clicks of your mouse! Here are your options:

1. Direct your Thrivent Choice dollars to benefit Praise. Visit: <https://www.thrivent.com/about-us/membership/thrivent-choice> to learn exactly what to do. This is a perk available to you since Thrivent partners with organizations like ours!
2. Use your Thrivent Action Team (you get two each year!) to help with ministry work projects in your life! We would love to partner with you in events Praise is doing this year (talk with Shelli if you have an idea or questions), and you can also use Action Teams to help others. *If you are not a Thrivent member, visit <https://www.thrivent.com/> to learn what their company offers!*

Lutheran Church Extension Fund (LCEF.org) currently is offering investments including 4% One-Year Fixed Rate Term Notes.

Good news to share: our *God Grants Life* event in January raised \$34,117.08 (above our \$25,000 goal!) such that the synod will be matching our gift via the Million Dollar Life Grant and making the total: \$59,117.08 for the Pregnancy Resource Center in Maryville and Sevierville. Thanks be to God! Kate Roberts is submitting the documentation for the match.

Baby Shower for Emily & Julian Martinez postponed until later in April (TBA). Registry at Target (see gift registry). *Pray for Soren who was born early!*

Young Adults next meet **Check with Suzanne:** next meets on **Apr 2 (Palm Sunday/Holy Week)** at 5:00 p.m. at Levi & Suzanne Nunnink's home (1416 Lonas Dr. Maryville) for Meal and Bible Study on the Apostles' Creed (wraps up by 8:00 p.m.).

Announcements

Final Midweek Lent Service on WED at 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m. Soup & Sandwiches at 6:00 p.m. Theme: *I am a Christian: What does this mean?* **Sign-up** in Social Hall TODAY to help provide food for the final midweek meal.

Palm Sunday Breakfast is next **Sun, April 2**, and our youth are hoping you will invite friends and family members to join you for church and a delicious meal between the services, starting at 10:00 a.m. The kids will cook, serve, and clean up! They are trying to earn money for their summer *Campfirmation* week in North Carolina and would appreciate you coming and eating and contributing to their efforts! Pastor will be offering a special abbreviated Bible study that morning at 9:20 a.m., so come early if you are going to be part of both!

Youth Catechesis next meets TODAY

This Week

Choir Practice this Wednesday at **5:30 p.m.** (and will wrap up by 6:15 p.m.)

Ladies Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays with Barbara Morsch

Next Sunday and beyond

Scripture Readings Is 50:4-9a, Phil 2:5-11, Matt 27:11-66

Holy Week Schedule 2023

Apr 2 Palm Sunday with Palm Procession at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Breakfast between services served by our Youth

Apr 6 Holy Thursday at 12 noon and 7:00 p.m. Divine Service

Apr 7 Good Friday at 12 noon and 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae

Apr 9 Resurrection of Our Lord Divine Services at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

*Following church: lunch and afternoon together at the Pastor and Gretchen Roberts home
Ham and drinks will be provided.*

Please bring a side dish or dessert to help us celebrate together!

Palm Sunday Plan to Join Us!

Join us for brunch on Palm Sunday! Our youth will prepare the meal, and would love for you to come and enjoy it along with time together with your Praise family!

Please connect with Shelli Haynes to learn how you can help!

Brunch

Youth Fellowship Fundraiser April 2, 2023
in between services