

+ Fifth Sunday of Easter +

May 7, Year of our Lord 2023 | DS1

+ 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

1 John 1:8–9

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

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

Psalm 30:1-5; antiphon: Psalm 149:1



P Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a | new song,*
 his praise in the assembly of the | godly!

C I will extol you, O LORD, for you have | drawn me up*
 and have not let my foes rejoice | over me.

O LORD my God, I cried to | you for help,*
 and you have | healed me.

O LORD, you have brought up my soul | from Sheol;*
you restored me to life from among those who go down | to the pit.

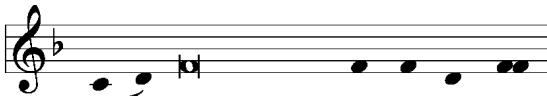
Sing praises to the LORD, O | you his saints,*
 and give thanks to his | holy name.

For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a | lifetime.*
Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the | morning.

**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.**

Praise the LORD! Sing to the LORD a | new song,*
 his praise in the assembly of the | godly!

Kyrie ~ Lord, Have Mercy (Mark 10:47)



A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

- A** For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. [2]
- A** For the peace of the whole world, ...Church of God, ...unity of all, let us pray... [3]
- A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray... [4]
- A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. [5]



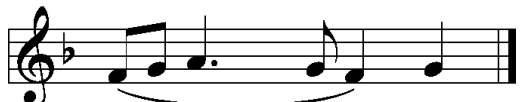
2. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



3. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



4. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



5. **C** A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis ~ hymnal p. 154 for music

Luke 2:14, John 1:29

A A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

C Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:

We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray. O God, You make the minds of Your faithful to be of one will. Grant that we may love what You have commanded and desire what You promise, that among the many changes of this world our hearts may be fixed where true joys are found; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. . . .

And Stephen said:

“Brothers and fathers, hear me. . . .

You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. Which of the prophets did not your fathers persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it.”

Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. And he said, “Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.” But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

C **Christ has risen from the dead.**

God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor.

He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

he has put all things under his feet.

Epistle

1 Peter 2:2–10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up to salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture:

“Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,”

and

“A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

A This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Verse of the Day

John 14:23

P Alleluia. If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. Alleluia.

Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

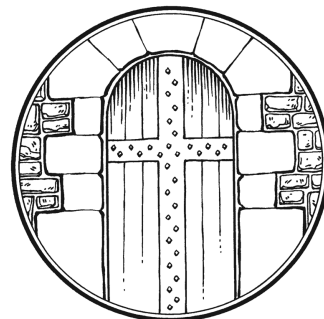
Holy Gospel

John 14:1–14

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

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father’s house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I



am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

“Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.”

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: 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing



1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di - vine Gives His
 3 Where the pas - chal blood is poured, Death's dread
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas - chal



our vic - to - rious King, Who has washed us in the tide
 sa - cred blood for wine, Gives His bod - y for the feast—
 an - gel sheathes the sword; Is - rael's hosts tri - um-phant go
 vic - tim, pas - chal bread; With sin - cer - i - ty and love



Flow - ing from His pierc - ed side. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ the vic - tim, Christ the priest. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Eat we man - na from a - bove. Al - le - lu - ia!

5 Mighty Victim from the sky, Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;
 You have conquered in the fight, You have brought us life and light. Alleluia!

6 Now no more can death appall, Now no more the grave enthrall;
 You have opened paradise, And Your saints in You shall rise. Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy! This alone can sin destroy;
 From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free, Newborn souls in You to be. Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give, Savior, by whose death we live,
 Spirit, guide through all our days: Three in One, Your name we praise. Alleluia!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Robert Campbell, 1814–68, alt.
 Tune: Kirchengeseng, 1566; Ivancice Text and tune: Public domain

+ Sermon +

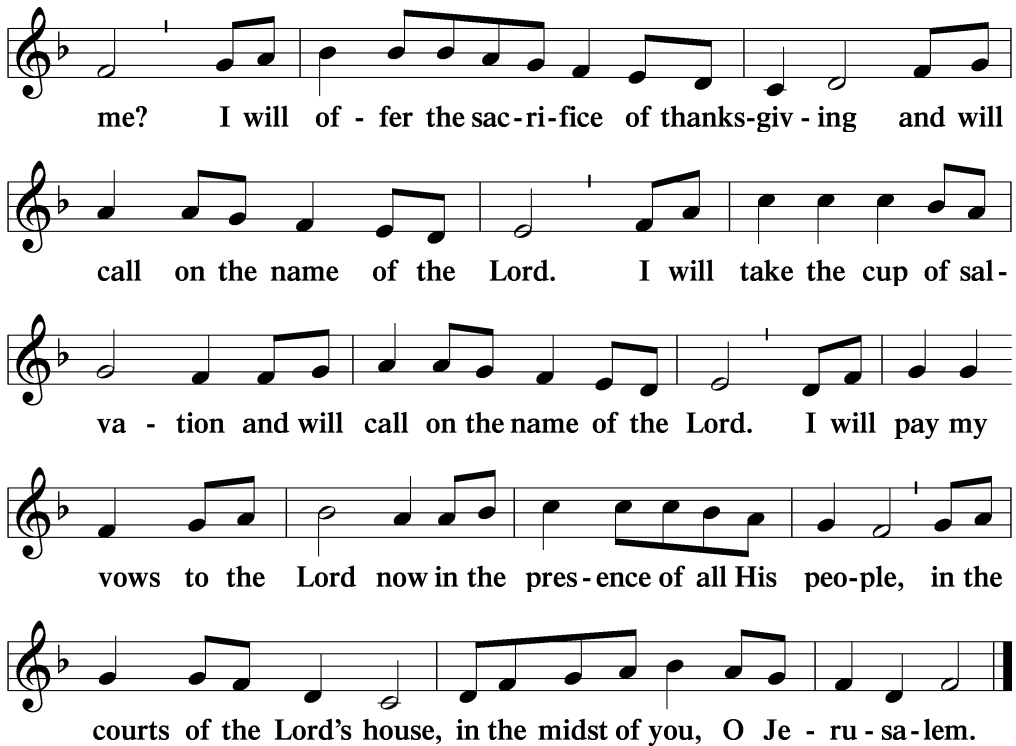
The Way to Where I am Going

Offertory

Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19



What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e - fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will
 call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -
 va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my
 vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

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). **Victims of gun violence** (including recent shooting in Nashville.)

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). **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); and **Vicky** starts a fulltime job as an archivist in Oak Ridge in early May! **Ann Brown** giving thanks: a new great grandson. **Mary Schopmann** giving thanks for 4th greatgrandchild. **Alex, Shelby, and Samuel Hicks** giving thanks for safe birth of **Hannah Joy** on 4/15.

Mourning: For the family of a Praise Lutheran founding member, **Wanda Jenkins**, who passed 4/19. For family of **Arnold Solis** (Nunnink's and Lee's father and [great] grandfather) who passed away. Family of **Terry** (Seth Pierce's uncle) who passed away. Family of **Taryn Sebright** (including Billye Raye, Kris, Tiana, Taylor, and JJ) on the occasion of the 3rd anniversary of her passing. 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: **Melissa Lyke** (Ed & Sandy Bagley's daughter) open heart surgery recovery. **Myrna Frazier** cancer treatments. **Sharon Yoder** recovering from tricuspid valve procedure. **Pastor Neil Vanderbush** at Immanuel, Memphis, recurrent multiple myeloma treatment. **Billye Raye Smith** upcoming chemo treatment for multiple myeloma. **Kay & Dwight** (Myrna's sister and Brother-in-law) for health and Dwight's cancer treatments. For **Analisa** (Karen Fortune's daughter in Cincinnati), her baby was born early, please pray for health. **Janice Kaiser** sciatic pain treatment. **Gary Kubin** recovering from back surgery. **Soren** (newborn to Julian & Emily Martinez) breathing and oxygen levels. For **Chuck Pettyjohn** upcoming valve and heart surgery on May 31. **Larry Moore** upcoming ankle surgery in early May at Vanderbilt. **Paula** (Corlis William's mother) health, hospitalized recently, doing better. **Jeannie Lindenfesler** for lung cancer treatments. Rick & Lisa Gift's family, **Terry & Ann Gift** (both with cancer). **Mark Cutler** (Randy & Carol Groen's brother-in-law) lung cancer surgery recovery. **Ole Johnson** upcoming tests for cancer. **A Teacher at Justin Gift's school**, fighting cancer. **Mary Schopmann** for strength and health. **Amy Mohr** recovering from surgery and treatment for sepsis. **Ed & Sandy Bagley** recovering from long covid. **Pastor Ed Maanum** of First Lutheran Knoxville, kidney function. For **June McDonnell** (lung health). **Jennifer Morsch** (Joel & Barbara's daughter) health. **Delora Roth** good leg circulation health. **Rachel Ernst's mother**: cancer treatments. For **Alan Stremsterfer's mother** health issues. For **Lisa Stremsterfer's father** health and stability. **Brad** (Phil and Carol Barnett's son) cancer surgery recovery. **Sheila Schnepf** (friend of Tom & Lois Schering) experiencing 24/7 back pain. **Judy Kalkitis** health and mobility. **Nancy** (Jim Vesper's mother) health. **Aurora Stevens** back treatments. For **Carolyn Dickie** (health). For **Barbara Moyers** health.

Debbie Johnston kidney health. For **Kathy Bigger** (friend of Donna Wall) pancreatic cancer. **Bob McDermott** dealing with Parkinson's symptoms. For **all suffering from mental health issues**. **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). Ruth Kistler's son **William** (tests and possible cancer treatments). Kenna Chorney's mother: **Gail Rieman** (wound care). **Tim Smith** (heart and back 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 Roberts's sister) health. **Melissa Gilmore** (friend of Jim Vesper) COPD.

Prayers of Thanksgiving: For **Larry Wacker** new device to help with tremors. For **Brad** (Phil & Carol Barnett's son) who heard good news that he is now cancer free!

Birthdays: Delora R 5/7 (93 today!), Westley B 5/8, Mike G 5/8, Alan S 5/10, Abel A 5/17, Eugene G 5/20, Liam H 5/20

+ 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

p. 160; 2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so 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.

Proper Preface ~ Altar Book (appropriate to the day or season)

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

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C 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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

p. 161 or 178

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, ...now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

Mt 26:26-30; Mk 14:22-26; Lk 22:14-23; 1 Cor 11:23-25.

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 \dagger 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."

Proclamation of Christ

1 Cor. 11:26

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. **C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

P O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and grant us Your peace.

Pax Domini

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways. **C** A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29

C 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.



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: 829 Christ the Eternal Lord

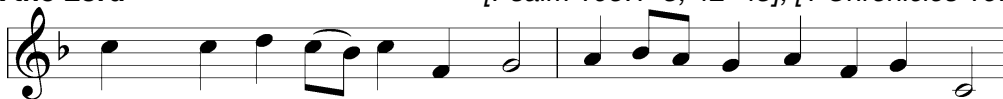
Distribution Hymn: 564 Christ Sits at God's Right Hand

Distribution Hymn: 739 Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Distribution Hymn: 644 The Church's One Foundation

Thank the Lord

[Psalm 105:1-3, 42-43]; [1 Chronicles 16:8-10]



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy

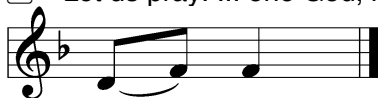


with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

Post-Communion Collect

p. 166

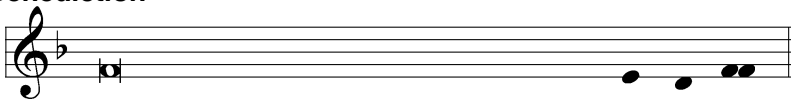
A Let us pray. ... one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



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 A - men.



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 also next page)

Sunday morning Bible study for students in middle or high school has begun and meets in the office behind the Pastor's office from 10:00 to 10:45 a.m. Please bring your Bible! We are studying Genesis.

Parents of middle and high school students! We want to partner with you with your kids! We have several important youth events and activities coming up. Are you receiving the monthly newsletter? Are you signed up for *Remind*, the group messaging app? We are using both to communicate with you. Please see Shelli Haynes to get connected.

Message from Shelli Haynes: Thank you to the members who have invited Travis and me into your homes so far! We have been so blessed by your generous hospitality and important conversations! We are trying to visit with each family and person in this community! If you haven't set up a time to meet, let's get a date on the calendar!

Announcements (see also previous page announcements)

Seeking Hosts for a Guess Who's Coming to Dinner event on **Sun, June 11**. "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" is a fun way to meet other Praise members. We need 8 hosts who can accommodate groups of 5 to 8 people in their homes. Please let Shelli Haynes know by emailing: shellihaynes@gmail.com (or sign-up in the narthex today).

Women's Retreat sponsored by Ladies Bible Study at Praise is being planned for mid-to-late September at a nearby venue (to be determined). Stay overnight or come for the day. Please sign-up TODAY if interested (no final commitments yet) and specify whether or not you would stay overnight. See Kris Smith to sign-up.

Young Adults meets TODAY at 5:00 p.m. at Levi & Suzanne Nunnink's home (1416 Lonas Dr. Maryville) for Meal and Bible Study on the Apostles' Creed (ends at 8:00 p.m.).

Catechesis meets after church TODAY (and May 21). *Questioning of the Confirmands* on Sunday, May 28 during Bible Study hour, 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

This Week

Choir Practice this week at 6:00 PM

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

Next Sunday and beyond

Scripture Readings Acts 17: 16-31, 1 Peter 3:13-22, John 14:15-21

Easter to Pentecost Schedule 2023

Ascension of Our Lord, Thurs, May 18

Pentecost and Confirmation, Sun, May 28

Ground Breaking coming soon (late May, early-mid June) on new sanctuary and narthex, nursery, and more! Please consider gifts to our **building fund** as we soon begin construction. Weekly, monthly, or yearly commitments are still encouraged as we enter the building phase.