

+ Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost +

September 24, Year of Our Lord 2023 | DS4



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.

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

Absolution

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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

+ Service of the Word +

Introit

Psalm 116:12–13, 15–16; antiphon: v. 17



P I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving*
and call on the name | of the LORD.

C What shall I render | to the LORD*
for all his bene- | fits to me?

I will lift up the cup of sal- | vation*
and call on the name | of the LORD.

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

O LORD, I am your | servant;*

I am your servant, the son of your maidservant. You have | loosed my bonds.

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.

I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanks- | giving*
and call on the name | of the LORD.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



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

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro- claimed at Je-sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, since we cannot stand before You relying on anything we have done, help us trust in Your abiding grace and live according to Your Word; 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

Isaiah 55:6–9

“Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalms 34:9, 19, alt.

C Fear the LORD, you his saints,
for those who fear him lack nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

Epistle

Philippians 1:12–14, 19–30

I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. . . .

for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

John 20:31



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



C Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:1–16

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twentieth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**



[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ So the last will be first, and the first last.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Apostles’ Creed

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
 The third day He rose again from the dead.
 He ascended into heaven
 and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
 From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy Christian Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: 555 Salvation unto Us Has Come



1 Sal - va - tion un - to us has come By God's free grace and
 2 What God did in His Law de - mand And none to Him could
 3 It was a false, mis - lead - ing dream That God His Law had
 4 From sin our flesh could not ab - stain, Sin held its sway un -



fa - vor; Good works can - not a - vert our doom, They
 ren - der Caused wrath and woe on ev - 'ry hand For
 giv - en That sin - ners could them - selves re - deem And
 ceas - ing; The task was use - less and in vain, Our



help and save us nev - er. Faith looks to Je - sus
 man, the vile of - fend - er. Our flesh has not those
 by their works gain heav - en. The Law is but a
 guilt was e'er in - creas - ing. None can re - move sin's



Christ a - lone, Who did for all the
 pure de - sires The spir - it of the
 mir - ror bright To bring the in - bred
 poi - soned dart Or pu - ri - fy our



world a - tone; He is our one Re - deem - er.
Law re - quires, And lost is our con - di - tion.
sin to light That lurks with - in our na - ture.
guile - ful heart— So deep is our cor - rup - tion.

+ Sermon +

Judging and Begrudging He Who Pays Equally

- 5 Yet as the Law must be fulfilled Or we must die despairing,
Christ came and has God's anger stilled, Our human nature sharing.
He has for us the Law obeyed And thus the Father's vengeance stayed
Which over us impended.
- 6 Since Christ has full atonement made And brought to us salvation,
Each Christian therefore may be glad And build on this foundation.
Your grace alone, dear Lord, I plead, Your death is now my life indeed,
For You have paid my ransom.
- 7 Let me not doubt, but truly see Your Word cannot be broken;
Your call rings out, "Come unto Me!" No falsehood have You spoken.
Baptized into Your precious name, My faith cannot be put to shame,
And I shall never perish.
- 8 The Law reveals the guilt of sin And makes us conscience-stricken;
But then the Gospel enters in The sinful soul to quicken.
Come to the cross, trust Christ, and live;
The Law no peace can ever give, No comfort and no blessing.
- 9 Faith clings to Jesus' cross alone And rests in Him unceasing;
And by its fruits true faith is known, With love and hope increasing.
For faith alone can justify; Works serve our neighbor and supply
The proof that faith is living.
- △ 10 All blessing, honor, thanks, and praise
To Father, Son, and Spirit,
The God who saved us by His grace;
All glory to His merit.
O triune God in heav'n above,
You have revealed Your saving love;
Your blessed name we hallow.

Text: Paul Speratus, 1484–1551; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg Text and tune: Public domain

Rite of Installation of New Members: Joshua Arguien (Prof. of Faith, from Oregon)
Linda Davis (Prof. of Faith)
Becky Hamby (Transfer from Maine)
Julian, Emily, Soren Martinez (Baptism, Confirmation, Transfer for Emily)
Susan Finch-Mohr (Prof. of Faith)
Gary & Faye Schauerman (Transfer from Texas)
Nicholas, Jamie, Boston, Baylor, Addler Sutherland (Transfer from Illinois)

Announcement of Offering

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).

Prayer of the Church

World: Praying for the end of the conflict between **Ukraine** and **Russia**. Hundreds who lost family members and homes and business in **Maui (fires)**. Floods in **Libya**. Earthquake in **Morocco**.

Church: For the **Holy Spirit's work** to bring about repentance and faith in Jesus. For **safety and protection** for all who will be building a new Sanctuary, narthex, and parking lots for Praise Lutheran Church. For **safety for our friends in Kenya** (Pastor Jasper and family). Pastor **Seth Korte** who accepted call to serve at St. Paul, Sevierville.

Vocation: For **the unemployed**. For **veterans and our military**. For **those serving in hospitals and homeless shelters**. For **parents with children and those expecting**. For **School children** in our communities. For seminary students at CTSFW: **Aaron Wade, Will Bales, and Sam Bohnet**. For **Eugene and Vicky Gorman** rejoicing in the birth of **Aiden**.

Loss and Mourning: Family of **Maggie McCarty** (two-year old daughter of Pastor Nathan McCarty from camp) who passed away. Family of **Daidan Lance** (friend of Adam Uebelacker) who died from a motorcycle accident. Family of **Dwight** (Myrna's brother in law) who passed away, especially for Kay (Myrna's sister). **Stokes Family** (friend of Kim Smolter) who lost their home in recent tornado thru Knoxville. Family of **Albert Caspers** (Sally Collver's father in MI) 97 years old who passed away. Family of **Ted Wilson's nephew** in MI, who passed away.

Health: **Carolyn Dickie** in hospice at Morningview. **Jeannie Lindenfesler** recently hospitalized from cancer treatments. **Carol Ehrens** diagnosed with Thyroid cancer (slow growing). **Deb Wales's sister-in-law** in Texas is in hospice. **Myrna Frazier** recovering after bad reaction to contrast dye, cancer treatments. **Billye Raye Smith** chemo treatment for multiple myeloma. **Deb Wales's father** (health). **Anna Strege** broke arm in three places. **Landen** (family of Brian and Anna Strege) treating a rare virus. Rick & Lisa Gift's family,

Terry & Ann Gift (both with cancer), Terry also fell and fractured his hip. **Jules Felt** recovery of health and then upcoming treatment for a hematoma. **Harvey Booher** (Lori Smith's brother) recovering from heart attack and 3 stents. **April Torres** recovery after a gall bladder procedure. **Steve** (Lainey from Bible Study's husband) hip surgery recovery. **Ed McGillick** persistent dizziness caused by abnormal blood pressure fluctuations. **Janice Kaiser** health. **Larry Wacker** thanksgiving for heart cath. and replaced stent, for sustained heart health. **Lee Schuck** at home receiving physical therapy. **Gary Moehling** seeing a specialist to help recover of balance and stability. **Rick Gift** recovering after a cycling accident. **Bronson Butcher** (Mary Schopmann's great-grandson) upcoming robotic kidney procedure. **Adam Uebelacker** knee injury rehab. **Delora Roth** thankful for recent procedure for her leg. **Debbie Johnston** kidney health. **Carol Webb** (cousin of Linda Davis) recovering from fall from window. **Tim Smith** watchman heart procedure recovery. **Chuck Pettyjohn** recovering from open heart surgery. **Gary Kubin** recovering from back surgery. For **Alan Tokar** (Judy's husband) recovery from back surgery. **Mary** (Ed & Sandy Bagley's daughter) Legionnaires' disease treatment. **Bob McDermott** dealing with Parkinson's symptoms. For **Karen** (Larry & Janet Moore's niece) recovering from surgery. For **Judy Kalkitis** health. **Sharon Yoder** heart health. **Pastor Neil Vanderbush** at Immanuel, Memphis, recurrent multiple myeloma treatment. **Kay** (Myrna's sister) for health. **Mary Schopmann** for strength and health. **Pastor Ed Maanum** of First Lutheran Knoxville, kidney function. For **June McDonnell** (lung health). **Jennifer Morsch** (Joel & Barbara's daughter) health. **Rachel Ernst's mother:** cancer treatments. For **Alan Stremsterfer's mother** health issues. For **Lisa Stremsterfer's father** health and stability. **Sheila Schnepf** (friend of Tom & Lois Schering) back pain. **Nancy** (Jim Vesper's mother) health. **Aurora Stevens** back treatments. For **Barbara Moyers** health. For **Kathy Bigger** (friend of Donna Wall) pancreatic cancer. For all suffering from mental health issues. **Al Reuer** health. **Gregory Strege** (Phyllis's son, health). **Ken Payne's** health (friends of a friend of Jim Vesper). **Tim Smith** (heart and back health). Steve Kaiser's mother **Louise** (age 92) in Indiana. Andrew Hebar's Aunt **Kara** (struggling from cancer treatments). **Bill** (Cathy Wacker's father) dementia, health. **Janeen Meier** (Maureen's sister) health. Clients and friends of Jim Vesper: **Myron Farmer** (needing liver transplant), **Debbie Buckner** (peace and restoration), **Steve Phipps** (recovery from fall that broke both legs).

Birthdays: Matthew F 9/24, Jennifer K 9/26, Jack N 9/26, John P 9/28, Audrey G 9/30, Paul R 10/1, Larry W 10/1, Nancy P 10/2, Susan J 10/5, Alan H 10/7

Anniversaries: Ed & Susan H 9/26, Rick & Pam T 10/2

+ 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, and salutary ... 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 Blessed are You ... Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer

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



The musical notation for Agnus Dei is written on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of the following notes: C4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (quarter), C4 (quarter). The notes are grouped into measures: the first three notes (C, D, E) are in the first measure; the next four notes (F#, G, A, B) are in the second measure; the next three notes (C, B, A) are in the third measure; the final four notes (G, F#, E, D) are in the fourth measure.

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: 738 Lord of All Hopefulness

Distribution Hymn: 619 Thy Body, Given for Me, O Savior

Distribution Hymn: 783 Take My Life and Let It Be


Distribution Hymn: 680 Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise

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 -

peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

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

Psalms 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

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

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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 Thurs. 9:00 to Noon, Thurs. also: 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Office Administration: Tina Pierce, tina@praiselutheran.com

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

DCE: Shelli Haynes, shelli@praiselutheran.com, cell: (909) 226-3179

Congregational President: Dr. Tom Wittkopp, Vice President: Tim Nunnink

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

Moved? Changed your email address? Changed cell phone or home phone? Please let the church office know.

Two Large Print Hymnals are available in the back of church. Please ask those who are helping usher, play music, or manage the livestream equipment in the back of church.



Capital Campaign reminder: please review your personal commitments made to the capital campaign for the build to help keep our borrowing costs low as the build soon begins. Consider a "ground-breaking" gift to our building fund.

Youth and Families

Please encourage your kids of all ages to attend **Sunday morning Bible study**. Our children meet in the Sunday School Classroom across from the mailboxes and students from 6th grade through 12th grade (or equivalent) will meet in the Social Hall.

1st through 5th are the upcoming Sunday readings; 6th – 12th are studying Genesis

Middle and High School students

Middle School Youth Group will begin at **6:00 p.m.** *Studying the upcoming Sunday readings*

High School youth group will begin at **7:00 p.m.** *Studying the upcoming Sunday readings*

College/Young Adults meet **THIS Thurs, Sept 28, 8 – 10 p.m.**, for **trivia at Blackhorse Brewery**. Please connect with Travis Haynes with any questions!

Youth Catechesis Here's the upcoming schedule, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.:

Sun, Oct 1 10 Commandments (4-5) with Pastor Roberts

Sun, Oct 15 10 Commandments (6-7) with Pastor Roberts



Fall Church Picnic

Sunday, September 24, 2023
Rain Date – October 1, 2023
1:00 pm until...

Mohr Park Picnic Grounds
222 Woodcrest Drive
Maryville, TN

Chef Jeff Baerns Will Provide the Main
Entrée of a Low Country Boil
Plus, Hamburgers and Hot Dogs,
Potato Salad & Other Sides
Beverages Provided

Bring a Dessert to Share | Camp Chairs
Yard Games | Guitars | Songs to Share



Announcements

This Week

Youth Group Wednesdays for Middle School: 6 to 7 p.m.; Highschool: 7 to 8 p.m.

Choir Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Men's Bible Study starts **THIS WED, Sept 27** at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

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

Progress on our build



Visit praiselutheran.com/build to see a video on the progress! Current projects: roofing, placement of electrical, and interior framing. Parking lot preparation. Our steeple is reportedly finished and will be scheduled for installation.

Building Fund Update	2023 Receipts	Total Receipts
Actual	\$221,474	\$844,014
Pledged	\$277,877	\$1,065,270
Remaining	\$56,403	\$221,257

Gifts to the Building Fund now will help us delay borrowing. Please consider giving new funds or scheduled commitments for the build early in order to help delay interest payments.

General Fund Giving Update: Thank you for remembering both regular giving and commitments to building fund. We are up to date with our fiscal year budget.

Mowing Party at the church this week, TBD. See Jim Roberts.

Baby Shower for Eugene & Vicky Gorman's newborn boy: Aiden on Sun, Oct. 8 at 2:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Registry is at Amazon <https://www.amazon.com/baby-reg> and search for "Victoria Gorman."

Women's Retreat sponsored by Ladies Bible Study at Praise will be held Fri-Sun, Nov 3-5 at the Bear Lodge at Tuckaleechee Retreat Center: tuckaleecheeretreatcenter.com Stay overnight or come just for the day (Friday evening and/or Saturday). Topic: The Road to Emmaus. *See brochure.*

Congregational Picnic TODAY: in the forest of +Dick+ and Amy Mohr's residence at 1:00 p.m. Bring desserts, guitars, games, and a chair. All other food and drinks provided. Address: **222 Woodcrest Dr. Maryville, Tenn.** *Entrance is at the end of street.*

Knitting Hats for area children, please complete and bring to church for blessing on or before **Nov 5**. Distributed in November by Blount County Fire Department.