

+ The Epiphany of Our Lord (observed) +

January 7, Year of our Lord 2024 | DS1

+ Confession and Absolution +



Hymn of Invocation: 399 The Star Proclaims the King Is Here



1 The star pro - claims the King is here; But, Her - od,
2 The east - ern sa - ges saw from far And fol - lowed
3 With - in the Jor - dan's sa - cred flood The heav'n - ly
4 And oh, what mir - a - cle di - vine, When wa - ter
△ 5 For this Thy glad e - piph - a - ny All glo - ry,



why this sense - less fear? For He who of - fers heav'n - ly
on His guid - ing star; And, led by light, to light they
Lamb in meek - ness stood That He, of whom no sin was
red - dened in - to wine! He spoke the word, and forth it
Je - sus, be to Thee, Whom with the Fa - ther we a -



birth Seeks not the king - doms of this earth.
trod And by their gifts con - fessed their God.
known, Might cleanse His peo - ple from their own.
flowed In streams that na - ture ne'er be - stowed.
dore, And Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more.

Text: Coelius Sedulius, 5th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug
Text and tune: Public domain

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 45:6–8a; antiphon: v. 17



I will cause your name to be remembered in all gener- | ations;*
therefore nations will praise you forever and | ever.

Your throne, O God, is forever and ever. The scepter of your kingdom is a scepter of up- | rightness;*

you have loved righteousness and hated | wickedness.

Therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your com- | panions;*

your robes are all fragrant with myrrh and aloes and | cassia.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

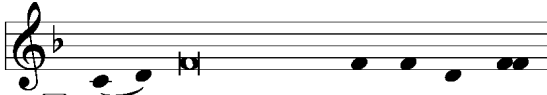
and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

I will cause your name to be remembered in all generations;*
therefore nations will praise you forever and | ever.

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 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, by the leading of a star You made known Your only-begotten Son to the Gentiles. Lead us, who know You by faith, to enjoy in heaven the fullness of

Your divine presence; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 60:1–6

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
For behold, darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will be seen upon you.
And nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your rising.
Lift up your eyes all around, and see;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from afar,
and your daughters shall be carried on the hip.
Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and exult,
because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall bring good news, the praises of the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalms 117:1–2a; 96:8

C Praise the LORD, all nations!
Extol him, all peoples!
For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Epistle

Ephesians 3:1–12

For this reason I, Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus on behalf of you Gentiles— assuming that you have heard of the stewardship of God’s grace that was given to me for you, how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I have written briefly. When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

Of this gospel I was made a minister according to the gift of God’s grace, which was given me by the working of his power. To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord, in whom we have boldness and access with confidence through our faith in him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse of the Day

Matthew 2:2b

P Alleluia. Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship 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.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the Alleluia and the beginning of the verse. The second staff continues the melody. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 2:1–12

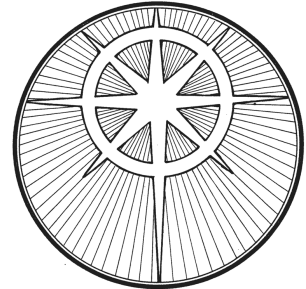
P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the second chapter.

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

The image shows a single staff of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The melody is simple and consists of a few notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him." When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

"And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel."



Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him." After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. And going into the house they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



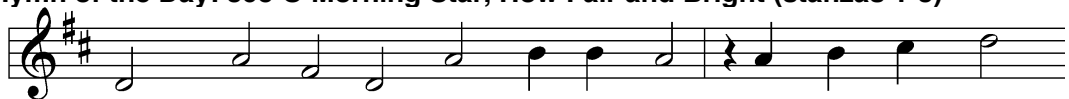
C Praise to You, O Christ.

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: 395 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright (stanzas 1-3)



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's
 2 Come, heav'n - ly Bride - groom, Light di - vine, And deep with - in
 3 Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls



own truth and light, A - glow with grace and mer - cy!
 our hearts now shine; There light a flame un - dy - ing!
 from God a - bove A ray of pur - est plea - sure.



Of Ja - cob's race, King Da - vid's son, Our Lord and mas -
 In Your one bod - y let us be As liv - ing branch -
 Your Word and Spir - it, flesh and blood Re - fresh our souls



ter, You have won Our hearts to serve You on - ly!
 es of a tree, Your life our lives sup - ply - ing.
 with heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure!



Low - ly, ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, All vic - to - rious,
 Now, though dai - ly Earth's deep sad - ness May per - plex us
 Let Your mer - cy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us!



Rich in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
 And dis - tress us, Yet with heav'n - ly joy You bless us.
 For You teach us God's own love through You has reached us.

Text: tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978, alt. Text and tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608 Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110020024 Tune: Public domain

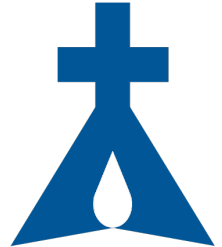
395 O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright (Stanzas 4-6, see hymnal)

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).

Prayer of the Church

World: Praying for a quick end to the war between modern-day **Israel** and the **Hamas**. For an end of the conflict between **Ukraine** and **Russia**. All areas and peoples around the world affected by fires, flood, earthquakes, and the like. Residents and businesses in northern **Nashville** and **Clarksville**, Tennessee recovering from tornado damage.



Church: For **missionaries, teachers, and evangelists**. 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).

Vocation: For **foster children in our community**. For **veterans and our military** (including **Carter Felt** and **Tyler Smith** and **William Smolter**). For **those serving in hospitals and homeless shelters**. For **parents with children and those expecting**. For **teachers** in our community schools. For seminary students at CTSFW: **Aaron Wade, Will Bales, and Sam Bohnet**. For **Larry and Phyllis Bembas** celebrating birth of new grandson.

Loss and Mourning: Family of **Michael Brown** (Joan Large's nephew), funeral was 1/6. Family of **Ed Scarano** (former member of Praise, wife: JoAnn). Family of **Delora Roth** who passed to be with Christ on 11/13. Family of **Greg Nunnink** (98 yrs old, father of Tim Nunnink) who passed on 10/25, Family of **Joan Hoffman** (90 yrs old, faithful friend of Steve & Janice Kaiser) who passed away in Indiana. Family of **Jeanette** (Deb Wales's sister-in-law) who passed away on 10/7. Family of **Jeanne Lindenfelser** (78 yrs old, passed away 10/3). Family of **Carylon Dickie** (91 yrs old, passed away 9/24). Family of **Maggie McCarty** (two-year old daughter of Pastor Nathan McCarty from camp) who passed away.

Health: For **Bill Colver** (brother of Al) hospice after head injury. For **Joan Large's sister-in-law** in hospice. **Heather Schopmann** (Mary's daughter) for recovery from back

surgery. For **Brad** (Phil & Carol Barnett's son) lung blood clots treatment. For **Billye Raye Smith** to build back immunity after multiple myeloma treatments. **Myrna Frazier** cancer treatment and health. For **Mary Ellen Brown** (heart health). For **Faith** (Jerry and Jennifer Kropp's daughter) health. For **Bill Miller** recovery from ruptured appendix surgery. For **Jackson Blankenbeckler** (Blair Johnson's brother) recovery from appendix surgery. For **Tom Williams** procedure in January for a spot on the lung. For **Rick Gift** (recovering from shoulder surgery). **Aunt Janeen** healing for physical and mental health (Maureen Roberts' sister and Pastor Roberts' Aunt). For **Deborah** Johnston recovering from flu. For **Frank Davis** (Leah Mohr's father) health. For **Pete Gay** (Catherine Boute's brother-in-law) terminal cancer. For **Marty Smith** (Tyler [and Megan] Smith's father) rapidly advancing cancer treatment. For **Victor Sebahar** (friend of Fred Hansen), cancer in brain, lungs, and bone. For **Pastor Phil Young** (gall bladder removal) and his wife **Amy** (cancer treatments). For **Jeff Ratliff** (Mark's younger brother in Florida) cancer, kidney removal, and cancer in the back. For **Bob Goodrich** adjusting to new pacemaker. For **Steve Clemmer** hip replacement recovery. **Alan Tokar** shoulder surgery recovery. Charleston Snyder's grandmother **Nancy** (Sarah Thaemert's mother) in Knoxville, health. For **Lyndsie** (Levi & Suzanne's neighbor) cancer treatments. **Ronnie Riggs** (friend of Paul Ruble) declining health. **David** (friend of Jerald Johnston's brother) congestive heart failure. **Lawrence McMichael** thanksgiving for prognosis from tests and good treatment plan to come. **Bill Solomon** (Amy Mohr's brother) eye condition. For **Marge** (Ted Wilson's former wife) valve replacement. **Gary Kubin** experiencing debilitating back and leg pain. **Sharon Yoder** recovering from mitral valve prosthesis trial (thanksgiving!). **Carol Ehrens** diagnosed with Thyroid cancer (slow growing). **Bronson Butcher** (Mary Schopmann's great-grandson) thanksgiving for successful robotic kidney tract stent and soon follow-up procedure. **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. **Harvey Booher** (Lori Smith's brother) recovering from heart attack and 3 stents. **Steve** (Lainey from Bible Study's husband) hip surgery recovery. **Ed McGillick** persistent dizziness caused by abnormal blood pressure fluctuations. **Janice Kaiser** health. **Lee Schuck** at home, for her health and mobility. **Gary Moehling** recovery of balance and stability. **Adam Uebelacker** knee injury rehab. **Debbie Johnston** kidney health. **Chuck Pettyjohn** recovering from open heart surgery. **Mary** (Ed & Sandy Bagley's daughter) Legionnaires' disease treatment. **Bob McDermott** dealing with Parkinson's symptoms. For **Judy Kalkitis** health and Judy's son in law, **Larry** (health). **Pastor Neil Vanderbush** at Immanuel, Memphis, recurrent multiple myeloma treatment. **Kay** (Myrna's sister) for 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. **Al Reuer** 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). 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: Lawrence M 1/10, Randy G 1/13, Camden S 1/13, Rhonda H 1/14, Jules F 1/14

Anniversaries: Joel & Barbara M 1/11, Alan & Jeanne H 1/19, Gus & Lee S 1/19, Jim & Valerie V 1/20

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

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.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

P Lord, remember us in Your 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

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 \dagger 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

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



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: 394 Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

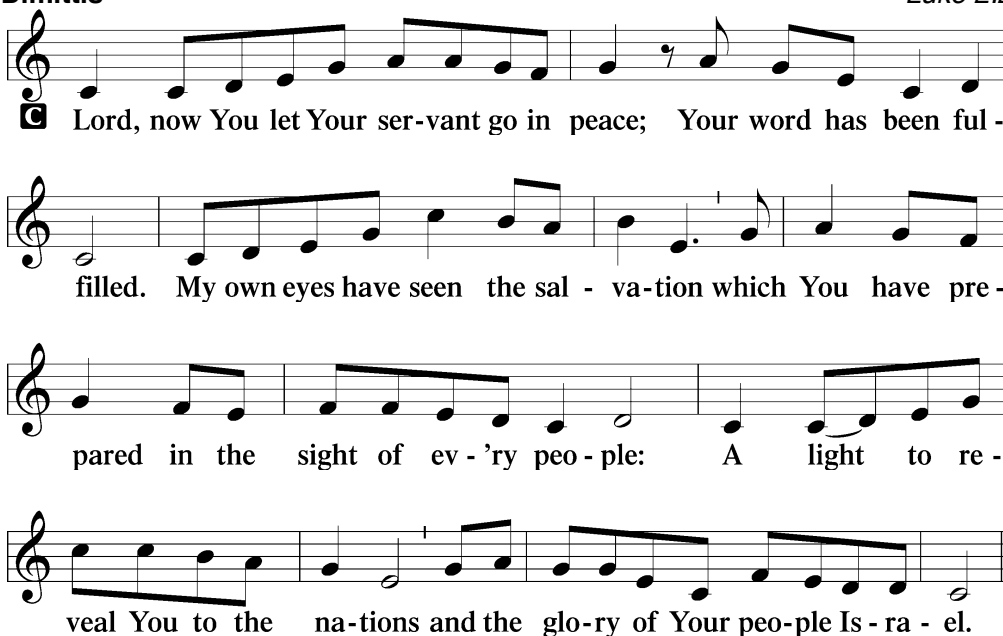
Distribution Hymn: 397 As with Gladness Men of Old

Distribution Hymn: 396 Arise and Shine in Splendor

Distribution Hymn: 374 Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32





Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Spir-it;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.

Post-Communion Collect

p. 166

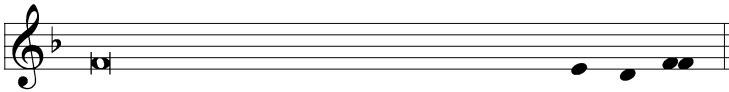
A Let us pray ... one God, now and forever.



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 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 (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, Gary Schauerman
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.

Youth and Families

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

Middle and High School Youth Groups on Wednesdays

Jan 10, Middle School 6 p.m. Come play Mafia and learn about God's word together in devotion and prayer. **Highschool 7 p.m.** Mexican Train Dominoes and Bible Study!

Jan 17, COMBINE Student/Parent Meeting 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. for events and activities for the upcoming year.

Youth Catechesis Schedule

with Pastor Roberts after church, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

NEXT Sun , Jan 14	Apostles' Creed
Sun, Jan 28	Apostles' Creed
Sun, Feb 11	Apostles' Creed

Announcements

Please check your mailbox in the Narthex for cards, letters, etc.

Undecorating after Christmas please join us on Tues, Jan 9 at 10:00 a.m.

Ladies Bunco at Praise on Sat, Jan 27, from 3:30 – 6:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. RSVP to Shelli Haynes (909) 226-3179. Bring own snack to eat and share plus \$5 to play.

Thank you to everyone for the gifts and cards and food this Christmas! We are so blessed to rejoice with you in our Savior's birth and what it means for all the earth. Happy New Year and blessings until next week when we celebrate the Epiphany of Christ Jesus (a.k.a. the Gentile Christmas)! *Pastor Roberts and Family*

Thank you to everyone for your prayers, card, treats and well wishes. I humbly thank everyone for the love shown me by our Praise Family. God has been so gracious and merciful to me. May He continue to bless us all in the New Year! *Sharon Yoder and family*
Baptism of Our Lord next Sun, Jan 14 (with rite of Holy Baptism for **Alora Baer** in the 11:00 a.m. service)

Father Alexey Stretslov and **Elena** his wife will be visiting Praise on **Sun, Jan 21**. Father Alexey will preaching for both services and presenting during Bible Class. He is rector of the seminary in Novosibirsk, Russia and Elena is a frequent translator for visiting pastors and professors. Both are bilingual. Pastor Roberts traveled with the Stretslovs throughout Siberia in 2009 on a trip to teach at their church body’s summer seminars.

Christian Ed meets tomorrow, Mon, Jan 8 at 4:30 p.m.

Planning Council meets on Sun, Jan 14

Elders meet Thurs, Jan 18 at 7:00 p.m.

Adopt a College Student or Young Military servant (members of Praise): please see Linda McMichael or Pastor Roberts about how you can help show care and love all year round and specifically before this Thanksgiving. *Needed: 2 more families to adopt.* Thank you to all of you who have already.

Youth Group Wednesday Middle School 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., Highschool 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.

Choir Wednesday 6:00 p.m.

Men’s Bible Study Wednesday 7:00 p.m. in Sanctuary

Ladies Bible Study Thursday 10:00 a.m. in Social Hall with Barbara Morsch

Lutheran Witness 2024 Subscription Sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Please submit check or gift of \$15 and indicate *Lutheran Witness*.

Please take a poinsettia if you would like one.

Worship chairs: If you’re asking, **“What can I help fund?”** we are in the process of ordering **116 new chairs** in the same fabric and similar frame to complete the new Sanctuary. Cost is approx. **\$100 per chair** with shipping. *Please specify: Worship Chairs with your gift. Status:* \$4,600 (46 chairs) have been given to date.



Progress on our build

Visit praiselutheran.com/build to see a video on the progress! Current projects: Electrical in Sanctuary ceiling, drywall, steeple installation.

Building Fund	2023 Receipts	2024 Receipts	Total Receipts
Actual	\$342,538	<i>not yet available</i>	\$968,333
Pledged	\$277,877	\$179,106	\$1,065,270
Remaining	-\$65,173	\$179,106	\$97,005

Build Project total cost estimate: ~ 2.8 million (approximately 36% funded).