+ Forth Sunday after the Epiphany+

January 28, Year of Our Lord 2024 I DS4

+ Confession and Absolution +



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

Invocation (hymnal pg. 203)

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

- ightharpoonup 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,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **B**ut with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- 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

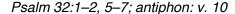
Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

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.
- Amen.

+ Service of the Word +





- Many are the sorrows of the | wicked,* but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts | in the LORD.
- Blessèd is the one whose transgression is for- | given,* whose sin is | covered.

Blessèd is the man against whom the LORD counts no in-I iquity,* and in whose spirit there is I no deceit.

I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my in- I iquity;*

I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the iniquity I of my sin.

Therefore let everyone who is godly offer prayer to you at a time when you I may be found;* surely in the rush of great waters, they shall not I reach him.

You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from I trouble;* you surround me with shouts of de-I liverance.

Glory be to the Father and I to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

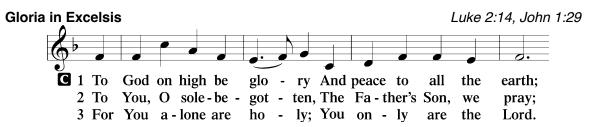
is now, and will be forever. I Amen.

Many are the sorrows of the I wicked,*

but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts I in the LORD.



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





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.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- **And with thy spirit.**
- Let us pray. Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

"The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among you, from your brothers—it is to him you shall listen— just as you desired of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly, when you said, 'Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.' And the LORD said to me, 'They are right in what they have spoken. I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers. And I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him. But the prophet who presumes to speak a word in my name that I have not commanded him to speak, or who speaks in the name of other gods, that same prophet shall die."

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

Gradual *Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8*

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 1 Corinthians 8:1–13

Concerning food offered to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." This "knowledge" puffs up, but love builds up. If anyone imagines that he knows something, he does not yet know as he ought to know. But if anyone loves God, he is known by God.

Therefore, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "an idol has no real existence," and that "there is no God but one." For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many "gods" and many "lords"— yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

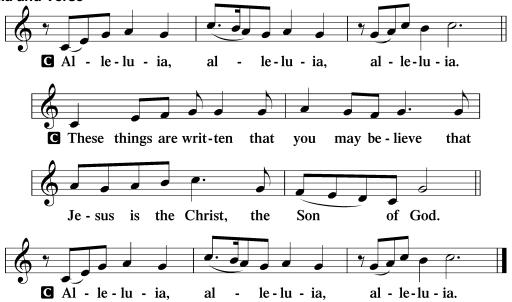
However, not all possess this knowledge. But some, through former association with idols, eat food as really offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. But take care that this right of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak person is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brothers and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble.

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

Verse of the Day Mark 1:22a

P Alleluia. They were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority. Alleluia.

Alleluia and Verse

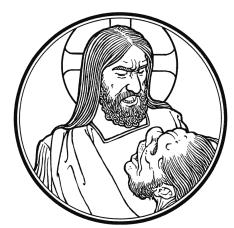


Holy Gospel Mark 1:21–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

They went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath [Jesus] entered the synagogue and was teaching. And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit. And he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying out with a loud voice, came out of him. And they were all amazed, so that they

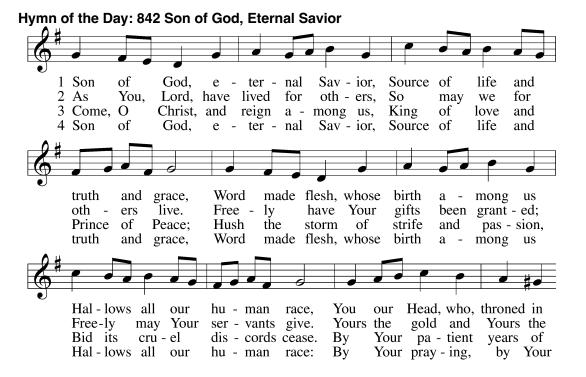


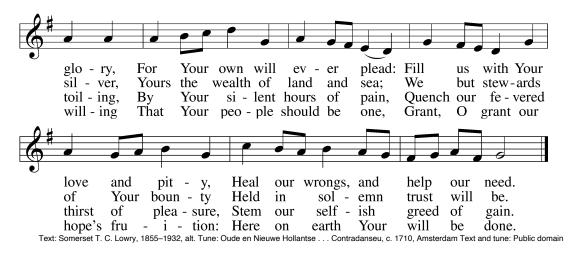
questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

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.





+ Sermon + When Demons Talk

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**. Safety for **those travelling in these winter months**.

Church: For **Christians in Nigeria** suffering persecution and martyrdom. For **the seminaries of synod and for the Siberian Evangelical Lutheran Church**. For **safety and protection** for those building our new Sanctuary, narthex, and facilities for Praise Lutheran Church. For **safety for our friends in Kenya** (Pastor Jasper and family).

Vocation: For veterans and our military (including Carter Felt and Tyler Smith and William Smolter). For those serving in hospitals and homeless shelters. 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. For parents with children and those expecting including: Luke and Blair Johnson. For the recently engaged including Sam Bohnet and Kate Roberts.

Loss and Mourning: Family of Charlotte Kaiser (aunt of Steve & Janice Kaiser) who passed away in Indiana. Family of Bill Colver (Al Collver's brother) passed away 1/6. Family of Michael Brown funeral was 1/6 and Alice Brown passed away 1/6 (Joan Large's nephew and sister-in-law), Family of Ed Scarano (former member of Praise, wife: JoAnn). Family of For 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 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: Myrna Frazier ceasing cancer treatments and beginning hospice care. For Chuck Pettyjohn safe and healing procedure on Monday (hernia). For Faith (Jerry and Jennifer Kropp's daughter) health. For **Tom Williams** recovering from lung surgery (thanksgiving that cancer was isolated). For **Matthew Flaska** elbow surgery recovery. For Frank Davis (Leah Mohr's father) recovering from a heart procedure. For Gary (and wife Nancy, friends of Matthew Flaska) broken face bones from a fall. For **Doug** Hammond (Joan Large's son) recovering from heart surgery. Heather Schopmann (Mary's daughter) recovering 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. For Bill Miller recovery from ruptured appendix surgery. For Rick Gift (recovering from shoulder surgery). For Janeen Meier healing for physical and mental health (Maureen Roberts' sister and Pastor Roberts' Aunt). 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 **Rick Synyder** (Christopher's brother) heart surgery on 1/30). For **Amy Young** (cancer treatments). For **Jeff Ratliff** (Mark's younger brother in Florida) cancer in the back. 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). 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. 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 procedure in early February. Debbie Johnston kidney health. 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 Movers** 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: Rick G 1/28, Kathleen D 1/29, Judy K 1/29, Luke J 1/30 | Lisa S 2/5, John B 2/6, Myrna F 2/9

Anniversaries: Chuck & Candace P 2/4

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** The Lord be with you.
- And with thy spirit.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- It is right to give Him thanks and praise.
- It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (hymnal p. 208 for music)

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

(sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Prayer of Thanksgiving

p. 161 or 178

- P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, ...hear us as we prayer in His name and as He taught us:
- C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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.

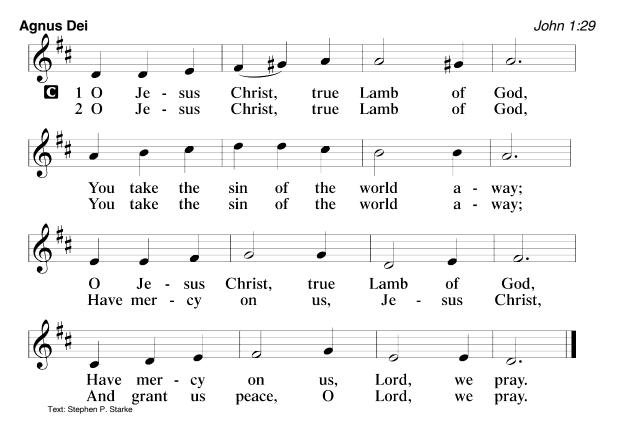
The Words of Our Lord

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 +1 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.





Distribution

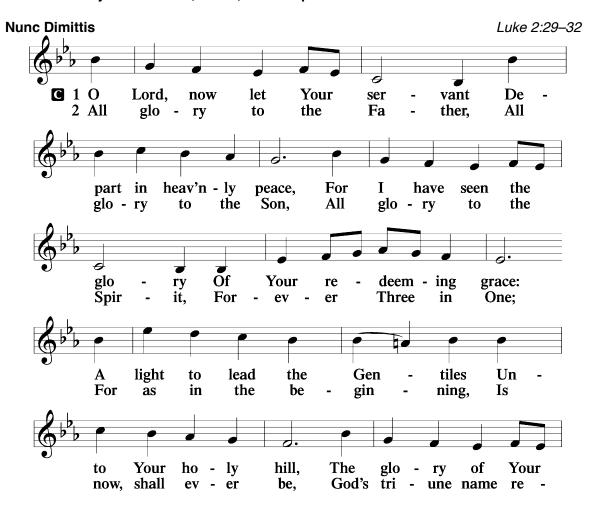
Please see our pastor for details about baptism, instruction, and vow of confirmation of our church's teachings prior to taking the Lord's Supper (Communion) at Praise.

Distribution Hymn: 541 "Away from Us!" the Demon Cried

Distribution Hymn: 810 O God of God, O Light of Light

Distribution Hymn: 533 Jesus Has Come and Brings Pleasure

Distribution Hymn: 825 Rise, Shine, You People





Post-Communion Collect

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.

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. \square 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 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.

Ash Wednesday Services: Feb 14 at Noon and 7:00 p.m. (Lent begins) **Voters Meeting:** Feb 18 at 10:00 a.m. Agenda: election of officers, committees, and reports.

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 31, Middle School 6 p.m. Celebrity and learn about God's word together in devotion and prayer. Highschool 7 p.m. Pictionary and Bible Study!

Feb 7, Middle School 6 p.m. Swab the Poop Deck and learn about God's word together in devotion and prayer. **Highschool 7 p.m.** Seated Volleyball (game on!) and Bible Study!

Middle School Youth Retreat

Feb 16-18, Fri – Sun, in Wear's Valley. Cost is \$60 per student. **Sign-up deadline**: Wed, Feb 14. Hope you can make it!

Youth Catechesis Schedule

with Pastor Roberts after church, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. TODAY Sun, Jan 28 Apostles' Creed

Sun, Feb 11 Apostles' Creed Sun, Feb 25 Apostles' Creed Sun, Mar 10 Apostles' Creed



Progress on our build

Visit **praiselutheran.com/build** to see the latest on our build including videos and info on how you can help.

Building Fund	2023 Receipts	2024 Receipts	Total Receipts
Actual	\$344,752	\$11,201	\$981,748
Pledged	\$277,877	\$179,106	\$1,065,270
Remaining	-\$67,378	\$167,905	\$83,590

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

Final 2.5 months of progress:

Sidewalks (after siding completed)

Ceiling Lights and Beams

Millwork

Altar area (chancel, crosses, rail, kneelers)

Flooring

Fixtures

Landscaping and Signage

Final (top) layer of parking lot

Stained glass windows



Announcements

Thank you to those who helped deconstruct the platform (John Pettyjohn, Chuck Pettyjohn, Jim Roberts, Paul Ruble) and rearrange the Sanctuary as we prepare to install a door for a walkway to the new building. **Thank you** to Steve Lee for helping repair/replace the water line to the current building. **Thank you** to the Ladies who came to enjoy Bunco yesterday!

Bridge Dedication in Memory of Clayton Narveson was held yesterday at the Foothills Parkway entrance/intersection with Highway 321 in Blount County. Clayton would have celebrated his 100th birthday yesterday (he passed on Jan. 20, 2023). Betty (Clayton's wife) and members of Praise were blessed to witness the dedication. Anchorman John Becker of WBIR emceed the event.

2023 Contribution statements placed in your mailbox in the Narthex. If you have any questions about your statements, please contact Financial Secretary Kris Smith or reach out to the church office.

Youth Group Wednesdays 6:00 p.m. for Middleschool and 7:00 p.m. for Highschool **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

Adopt a College Student or Young Military servant (members of Praise): please see Linda McMichael or Pastor Roberts

One of our goals this coming year is to mirror the progress of our physical church sanctuary by providing opportunities to build up the body of Christ here at Praise! Check your weekly bulletin and the bulletin board in the Narthex for more specific event details. Please mark your calendars and make sure to make these events part of your schedule:

February 10 4:30 p.m. Great Date Night April 27 6:00 p.m. Church-wide Trivia Night May 17 6:30 p.m. Ladies' Potting Party June 2 5:00 p.m. Guess Who's Coming To Dinner event

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:* \$4,800 (48 chairs) have been given to date.

Help Fund our Stained Red Oak Wooden Beams for the new Sanctuary. These cost more than originally budgeted but they will be an important architectural and meaningful feature. Seeking gifts to the Building Fund in the amount of **\$30,000** to help pay for this expense.