

# + Second Sunday in Lent +

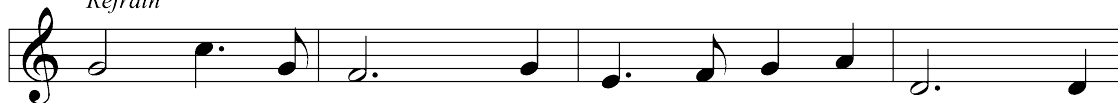
February 25, Year of Our Lord 2024 | DS4

## + Confession and Absolution +



### Hymn of Invocation: 837 Lift High the Cross

*Refrain*



Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim Till



all the world a - dore His sa - cred name.



1 Come, Chris - tians, fol - low where our Cap - tain trod,  
2 Led on their way by this tri - um - phant sign,  
3 All new - born sol - diers of the Cru - ci - fied  
4 O Lord, once lift - ed on the glo - rious tree,

*Refrain*

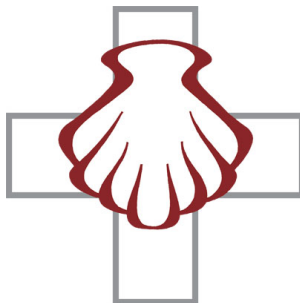


Our king vic - to - rious, Christ, the Son of God.  
The hosts of God in con - qu'ring ranks com - bine.  
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died.  
As Thou hast prom - ised, draw us all to Thee.

5 Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell  
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. Refrain

6 So shall our song of triumph ever be:  
Praise to the Crucified for victory! Refrain

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



## Invocation

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** **Amen.**

## Exhortation

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

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** **who made heaven and earth.**

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?  
**C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

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

## Confession of Sins

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

## Absolution

**P** In 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 115:11–13, 18; antiphon: Psalm 25:6*



**P** Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your | steadfast love,\*  
for they have been | from of old.

**C** **You who fear the LORD, trust | in the LORD!\***  
**He is their help | and their shield.**

The LORD has remembered us; he will | bless us;\*  
he will bless the house of Israel; he will bless the house of | Aaron;  
**he will bless those who | fear the LORD,\***  
**both the small | and the great.**

We will | bless the LORD\*  
from this time forth and forevermore. | Praise the LORD!

**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.**

Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your | steadfast love,\*  
for they have been | from of old.

### Kyrie

*Mark 10:47*



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

*The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted during Lent*

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Let us pray. O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

*Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16*

When Abram was ninety-nine years old the LORD appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless, that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.” Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, “Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. And I will establish my covenant between me and you and your offspring after you throughout their generations for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you. . . .

And God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover, I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Hebrews 12:2*

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

**Choral anthem (11:00 only)** *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent, see hymnal p. 621 for words*

## Epistle

*Romans 5:1–11*

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

## Verse of the Day

Mark 8:34b

- P** If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

## Holy Gospel

Mark 8:27–38

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eighth chapter.

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

And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they told him, “John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.” And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.” And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.”

And he called to him the crowd with his disciples and said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

- 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: 708 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart

1 Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne'er from  
 2 Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich boun-ty gave My bod - y, soul, and  
 3 Lord, let at last Thine an - gels come, To A - br'ham's bos - om

me de - part, With ten - der mer - cy cheer - me. Earth  
 all I have In this poor life of la - bor. Lord,  
 bear me home, That I may die un - fear - ing; And

has no plea - sure I would share. Yea, heav'n it - self were  
 grant that I in ev - 'ry place May glo - ri - fy Thy  
 in its nar - row cham - ber keep My bod - y safe in

void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me. And should my  
 lav - ish grace And help and serve my neigh - bor. Let no false  
 peace - ful sleep Un - til Thy re - ap - pear - ing. And then from

heart for sor - row break, My trust in Thee can noth - ing shake.  
 doc - trine me be - guile; Let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.  
 death a - wak - en me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,



Thou art the por - tion I have sought; Thy pre - cious  
 Give strength and pa - tience un - to me To bear my  
 O Son of God, Thy glo - rious face, My Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and  
 cross and fol - low Thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and  
 and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust Thy Word.  
 Lord, my God and Lord, In death Thy com - fort still af - ford.  
 tend, my prayer at - tend, And I will praise Thee with - out end.

Text: Martin Schalling, 1532–1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: Zwey Bücher . . . Tabulatur, 1577, Strassburg  
 Text and tune: Public domain

**+ Sermon +**

**The Cross for Peter is our Cross too**

**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, Casey Lawson, Tyler Smith** and **William Smolter**). For **those serving in hospitals and homeless shelters**. For **teachers** in our community schools. For our circuit’s seminary students: **Aaron Wade, Will Bales, Sam Bohnet, Vicar Daniel Bueckman, and Vicar Alex Ogden**. For the healthy birth

of **August Johnson** (to Luke & Blair). For those expecting children including **Jackson and Bri Blankenbeckler**. For the recently engaged including **Sam Bohnet** and **Kate Roberts**.

Loss and Mourning: Family of *Barbara Moyer's grand-children's mother* who passed away. Family of Deputy **Greg McCowan** (killed in the line of duty in Blount County). Family of **Grabriel** (Sharon Shower's grandson) murdered in Alaska. Family of **Jeff Ratliff** (Mark's younger brother) who passed away 2/1. Family of **Myrna Frazier** who passed away on 1/27. Family of a **friend** of Becky Hamby, killed in an auto accident. Family of **Charlotte Kaiser** (aunt of Steve & Janice Kaiser) who passed away in Indiana. Family of **Bill Colver** (Al Colver'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 **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 **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 **Russ Smolter** (William's father) in hospice in Alabama. **Julie Bullock** (Tom Wittkopp's sister) failing heart condition, now in hospice. For **Larry & Cathy Wacker's daughter** cancer diagnosis limited to lymph nodes, for treatment. For **Carol** (Alex Hick's aunt) recent diagnosis of frontal lobe dementia. For **Tim Smith** (home from hospital) heart health. For **Chuck Pettyjohn** recovering from hernia procedure. For **Jane** (Steve Kaiser's sister) suffering severe back pain. For **Adam Uebelacker** recovering from knee procedure. For **Faith** (Jerry and Jennifer Kropp's daughter) health. For **Rick Snyder** (Christopher's brother) thanksgiving for successful heart surgery. For **Tanner** speedy recovery (injured in a work accident), Tatum Smolter's fiance. For **Tom Williams** more tests on lungs. For **Matthew Flaska** elbow surgery recovery. For **Frank Davis** (Leah Mohr's father) recovering from a heart procedure. For **Gary** (friend of Matthew Flaska) thanksgiving after facial reconstruction (recovery 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 **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 **Amy Young** (cancer treatments). 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). Rick & Lisa Gift's family, **Terry & Ann Gift** (both with cancer). **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. **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 Frazier'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). Steve Kaiser's mother **Louise** 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:** Emi H 2/26, Mildred Balash (102) 2/27, Henry J 2/28, Colin S 2/28, Larry L 3/1, Willie DC 3/4, Thomas M 3/4, Teddy L 3/5, Kate R 3/6, Owen S 3/6, Gary S 3/7, Katie F 3/9

**Anniversaries:** Mark & Sonja R 3/9

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

## **+ Service of the Sacrament +**

### **A Word to Our Guests and Visitors about Communion at Praise**

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

## Preface

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

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

**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...evermore praising  
You and saying:



## Sanctus

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



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



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



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



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

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

*p. 161 or 178*

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

**C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

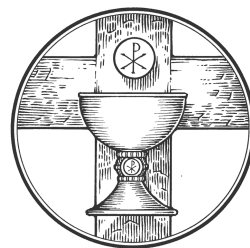
**C** Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,

**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  $\text{✝}$  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  $\text{✝}$  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** (*hymnal pg. 210 for music*)

*John 1:29*

**C** (sung) **O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray. O Jesus  
Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us,  
Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

### **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: 430 My Song Is Love Unknown** (see hymnal)

**Distribution Hymn: 563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness**

**Distribution Hymn: 783 Take My Life and Let It Be**

**Distribution Hymn: 685 Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus**

### **Post-Communion Collect**

**A** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, ... one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

### **Benedicamus**

*Psalm 103:1*

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

### **Benediction**

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

**C Amen.**

### **Acknowledgments**

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.

### **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: 315 Southdowne Dr, Maryville, TN 37801

Phone: (865) 977-5810; Website: [praiselutheran.com](http://praiselutheran.com)

Online giving: [praiselutheran.com](http://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](mailto:tina@praiselutheran.com)

Pastor: Rev. Derek Roberts, [pastor@praiselutheran.com](mailto:pastor@praiselutheran.com), cell: (865) 229-6024 (Day off: Fridays)

DCE: Shelli Haynes, [shelli@praiselutheran.com](mailto: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 Schaueremann

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 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

**Serve at Midweek Lent Suppers: arrive at 5:30 p.m.** to set up, serve, and help clean up. See sign-up sheet in Narthex for your day to serve. Followed by the service at 7:00 p.m.  
*Please see Shelli for more information.*

### Youth Catechesis Schedule

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

TODAY Sun, Feb 25  
Sun, Mar 17

Apostles' Creed  
The Lord's Prayer

**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:

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

**Screen It First** A husband and wife team, with six children, who are members of Blessed Sacrament Lutheran Church in Idaho, are trying to produce a book review database for parents. They are looking for volunteers to help review books and submit their findings at [screenitfirst.com](http://screenitfirst.com). Their idea was inspired by Proverbs 22:6 "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." You would help thousands of parents be able to screen a book for various content before introducing it to their children. This is similar to a parent review for movies. Please join Mac and Jessica as they grow their book database and also please keep them and their volunteers in your prayers. More information in the Narthex.

**Voters Meeting follow-up:** We will have the Rite of Installation the First Sunday in March for all our Executive Officers, Board Members, and all servants of the church (elected and appointed) with terms starting or renewing on Mar 1.

**Our address is changing:** 315 Southdowne Dr., Maryville, TN 37801

**Planning Council Meeting** NEXT SUN, Mar 3 after services



## Progress on our Build

Visit [praiselutheran.com/build](https://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
<b>Actual</b>	\$345,752	\$27,831	\$999,378
<b>Pledged</b>	\$277,877	\$179,106	\$1,065,270
<b>Remaining</b>	-\$68,378	\$151,275	\$65,160

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

**Final 2 months of progress:** 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 (after occupancy: Apr-May)



**Worship chairs:** *Status:* \$11,600 (116 chairs) are fully funded, ordered, and should arrive later in March. Thanks be to God. *A grant from Faith Lutheran Church (LCMS) in Oak Ridge has been announced and is forthcoming. Thank you to Mark Yoder for helping submit the grant proposal and special thank you to our friends at Faith Lutheran Church where Pastors Chase Lefort and George Smith serve the parish and encouraged us to apply.*

**Help Fund Wooden Beams** for the new Sanctuary. The price of these were more than originally budgeted, these were deemed worthy to do now and an important architectural and meaningful feature. Seeking gifts to the Building Fund. Amount needed: **\$30,000**. Please specify “Wooden Beams” or “Building Fund.”

**Countdown until Occupancy of our New Building** The goal is to be safely in our new building for worship at an appropriate time when our General Contractor can secure a temporary or final occupancy permit from the City of Maryville. We will keep you posted but sometime between Sat, Mar 30 to mid-April (with the later looking more likely), but we won't know for sure until sometime in March. Stay tuned about how you can help the church make the transition and welcome many to hear and know the crucified and living Lord Jesus.

## Announcements



**Midweek Lent Service** every Wednesday through Mar. 20 at 12:00 Noon and 7:00 p.m. Theme: "Christ Handed Over." Come and worship+

**Midweek Lent Supper** Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. Freewill donations for our Youth camps. Please sign-up in the Narthex to bring food on an upcoming Wednesday.

**Card Creation** with Lois Schering this Tues, Feb 27 at 1:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. Come and create cards for our home bound members and students, etc. who are away for college or serving in the military.

**Choir** Wednesdays during Lent at **5:30 p.m.**

**Men's Bible Study** on break until Apr. 10.

**Ladies Bible Study** Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in Social Hall with Barbara Morsch.

**LWML Mid-South District Convention in Memphis, TN** June 7-9, 2024 (28<sup>th</sup> Biennial). Please contact the church office or Pastor if you would like details for this conference.

**Thank You for Housing *The Singing Saints*** who gave a wonderful concert last evening here at Praise. Thank you to all who hosted students or adults in your homes. What a blessing! Thank you to **Jeff Baerns** for the meal for them yesterday.