

# + Sixth Sunday of Easter +

May 5, Year of our Lord 2024 | DS1

## + Confession and Absolution +



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

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

### Invocation

- 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 66:1-2, 8-9, 20; antiphon: v. 16*



**P** Come and hear, all you who | fear God,\*  
and I will tell what he has done | for my soul.

**C** Shout for joy to God, | all the earth;\*  
sing the glory of his name; give to him | glorious praise!

Bless our God, O | peoples,\*  
let the sound of his | praise be heard,  
**who has kept our soul among the | living\***  
**and has not let our | feet slip.**

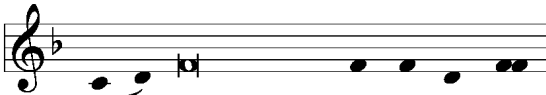
Blessèd | be God,\*  
because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast | love from me!

**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.**

Come and hear, all you who | fear God,\*  
and I will tell what he has done | for my soul.

### Kyrie ~ Lord, Have Mercy (*hymnal p.152*)

*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]



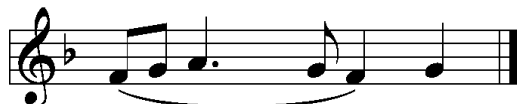
2. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



5. **C** A - men.

## This Is the Feast

Revelation 5:12–13; 19:5–9



**C** This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



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

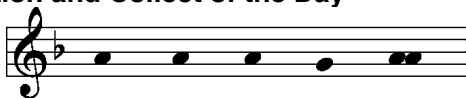


All 1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose  
Men 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and  
Women 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and  
Women 4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to  
All 5 For the Lamb \_\_\_\_\_ who was slain has be -



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. *Refrain*  
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. *Refrain*  
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: *Stanza 4*  
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. *Refrain*  
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. *Final Refrain*

## Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray. O God, the giver of all that is good, by Your holy inspiration grant that we may think those things that are right and by Your merciful guiding accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



## First Reading

*Acts 10:34–48*

Peter opened his mouth and said: “Truly I understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. As for the word that he sent to Israel, preaching good news of peace through Jesus Christ (he is Lord of all), you yourselves know what happened throughout all Judea, beginning from Galilee after the baptism that John proclaimed: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. And we are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and made him to appear, not to all the people but to us who had been chosen by God as witnesses, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. And he commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one appointed by God to be judge of the living and the dead. To him all the prophets bear witness that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, “Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

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

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

God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor.

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

he has put all things under his feet.

## Epistle

*1 John 5:1–8*

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the Father loves whoever has been born of him. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome. For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has

overcome the world—our faith. Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree.

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

### Verse of the Day

*John 16:33b*

- P** Alleluia. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world. Alleluia.

### Alleluia and Verse

*John 6:68*




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

### Holy Gospel

*John 15:9–17*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the fifteenth chapter.



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.

“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lays down his life for his friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. No longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not



know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you. You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. These things I command you, so that you will love one another.”

**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  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

### Hymn of the Day: 556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice (*stnzs 1-5 before sermon*)



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joi - ce, With ex - ul - ta - tion  
2 Fast bound in Sa - tan's chains I lay; Death brood - ed dark - ly  
3 My own good works all came to naught, No grace or mer - it  
4 But God had seen my wretch - ed state Be - fore the world's foun -



spring - ing, And with u - nit - ed heart and voice And ho - ly  
o'er me. Sin was my tor - ment night and day; In sin my  
gain - ing; Free will a - gainst God's judg - ment fought, Dead to all  
da - tion, And mind - ful of His mer - cies great, He planned for



rap - ture sing - ing, Pro - claim the won - ders God has done, How  
moth - er bore me. But dai - ly deep - er still I fell; My  
good re - main - ing. My fears in - creased till sheer de - spair Left  
my sal - va - tion. He turned to me a fa - ther's heart; He



His right arm the vic - t'ry won. What price our ran - som cost Him!  
life be - came a liv - ing hell, So firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.  
on - ly death to be my share; The pangs of hell I suf - fered.  
did not choose the eas - y part But gave His dear - est trea - sure.

5 God said to His beloved Son: "It's time to have compassion. Then go, bright jewel of My crown, And bring to all salvation. From sin and sorrow set them free; Slay bitter death for them that they May live with You forever."

**+ Sermon +**

**A Friend of Christ**

*After Sermon*

- 6 The Son obeyed His Father's will, Was born of virgin mother; And God's good pleasure to fulfill, He came to be my brother. His royal pow'r disguised He bore; A servant's form, like mine, He wore. To lead the devil captive.
- 7 To me He said: "Stay close to Me, I am your rock and castle. Your ransom I Myself will be; For you I strive and wrestle. For I am yours, and you are Mine, And where I am you may remain; The foe shall not divide us.
- 8 "Though he will shed My precious blood, Me of My life bereaving, All this I suffer for your good; Be steadfast and believing. Life will from death the vict'ry win; My innocence shall bear your sin, And you are blest forever.

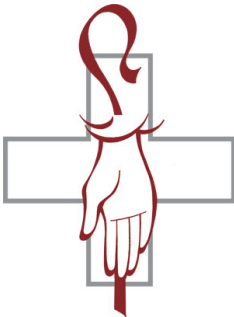
- 9 “Now to My Father I depart, From earth to heav’n ascending, And, heav’nly wisdom to impart, The Holy Spirit sending; In trouble He will comfort you And teach you always to be true And into truth shall guide you.
- 10 “What I on earth have done and taught Guide all your life and teaching; So shall the kingdom’s work be wrought And honored in your preaching. But watch lest foes with base alloy. The heav’nly treasure should destroy; This final word I leave you.”

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt. Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg Text and tune: Public domain

## 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**.

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, Sam Bohnet, Vicar Daniel Bueckman**, and **Vicar Alex Ogden**. For those expecting children including **Jackson and Bri Blankenbeckler**. For the recently engaged including **Sam Bohnet** to **Kate Roberts** and **Turner Gough** to **Mandy Haynes**. For **Daniel and Monica Hendricks** rejoicing in the birth of **Lily** 4/24. Safe travels for **Rachel Vesper** who will be travelling to Australia.

Loss and Mourning: Family of **Corey Baerns** (Marleen’s son, Jeff’s brother) who was fatally shot on 4/26. Family of **Dave Berrier** (friend of the Hebars) who passed away suddenly. Family of **David Job** (friend of Jim Vesper) who passed away. For **Lila Reuer** (Al’s wife; Rhonda Heckman’s mom) who went to be with the Lord of Life on 3/26. For **Terry Gift** (Rick Gift’s father) who entered the Church Triumphant. Family of **Russ Smolter** (William’s father)



who passed away 3/1. Family of **Kathleen Lane** who passed away on 2/27. 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 **Henry Berthiaume** killed in an auto accident, friend of Becky Hamby.

Health: For **Nancy** (Jim Vesper's mother) in finals weeks or days in hospice care. For **Paula** (friend of Jerald Johnston) who was hospitalized. For **Fred Goddard** (nephew of Mary Ellen Brown) lung cancer treatment. For niece of Mary Ellen with a massive blood clot in her leg. For **Herman** her brother recovering from stent procedure. For **Steve Greene** (friend of Jim Vesper) dealing with multiple cancers. For **Gary Kubin** experiencing debilitating back and leg pain. For **Joan Large** stroke recovery (now home). For **Linda Davis** for healing from anemia related procedure. For **Pastor Ed Maanum** who received new kidney on 3/7 at Vanderbilt. For **Mary** (Ed & Sandy Bagley's daughter) blood clot treatments. For **Hermon** (friend of Christopher Snyder) healing for shattered heal and infection. For **Andrew** (son of a friend of Laura Bisconte) treatment for a mass in the base of his brain. For **another friend** of Laura Bisconte who needs good news concerning her heart condition. **Julie Bullock** (Tom Wittkopp's sister) failing heart condition, now in hospice. For **Larry & Cathy Wacker's daughter** and **son-in-law's** health and cancer treatments. For **Carol** (Alex Hick's aunt) recent diagnosis of frontal lobe dementia. For **Tim Smith** heart health. For **Chuck Pettyjohn** (health). For **Jane** (Steve Kaiser's sister) suffering severe back pain. For **Faith** (Jerry and Jennifer Kropp's daughter) health. For **Tanner** speedy recovery (injured in a work accident), Tatum Smolter's fiance. For **Tom Williams** more tests on lungs. For **Frank Davis** (Leah Mohr's father) recovering from a heart procedure. For **Doug Hammond** (Joan Large's son) recovering from heart 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). For **Lyndsie** (Levi & Suzanne's neighbor) cancer treatments. **Ronnie Riggs** (friend of Paul Ruble) declining health. **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. **Sharon Yoder** recovering from mitral valve prosthesis trial (thanksgiving!). **Carol Ehrens** diagnosed with Thyroid cancer (slow growing). **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. **Bob McDermott** dealing with Parkinson's symptoms. For **Judy Kalkitis** health. **Pastor Neil Vanderbush** at Immanuel, Memphis, recurrent multiple myeloma treatment. **Kay** (Myrna Frazier's sister) for health. For **June McDonnell** (lung 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 and shoulder pain treatments. For **Barbara Moyers** health. For **Kathy Bigger** (friend of Donna Wall) pancreatic cancer. **Al Reuer** health. Steve Kaiser's mother **Louise** in Indiana. Andrew Hebar's **Aunt Kara** (health).

**Birthdays:** Kris S 5/3, Mandy H 5/6, Tom S 5/6, Westley B 5/8, Mike G 5/8, Alan S 5/10

**Anniversaries:** *none this week*

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

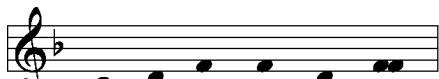
## + Service of the Sacrament +

### 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.



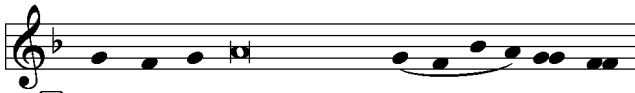
**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** And al - so with you.



**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 *(hymnal pg. 161 for music)*

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

**C** (sung) **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow’r and might: Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

*p. 161 or 178*

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

**C** Amen.

### Lord’s Prayer

**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 ✠ 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**

*John 20:19*

Two staves of musical notation in G major. The first staff contains the notes G4, A4, B4, C5, with lyrics 'The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.' The second staff contains the notes G4, A4, B4, C5, with lyrics 'A - men.'

**Agnus Dei** (*hymnal p.163 for music*)

*John 1:29*

**G** (sung) **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**  
**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**  
**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**



**Distribution**

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

**Distribution Hymn: 642 O Living Bread from Heaven** (see hymnal)

**Distribution Hymn: 548 Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious**

**Distribution Hymn: 770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

**Distribution Hymn: 655 Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word**

**Distribution Hymn: 829 Christ the Eternal Lord**

**Thank the Lord**

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

First staff of musical notation in G major with lyrics: 'Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.'

Second staff of musical notation in G major with lyrics: 'Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and proud-ly bear His name.'

Third staff of musical notation in G major with lyrics: 'He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy'



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

### Post-Communion Collect

p. 166

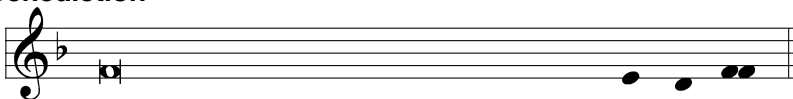
**A** Let us pray. ... one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

### Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\dagger$  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: 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. Please ask those who are helping as ushers to locate a large print hymnal for you.



**Our address has changed:** 315 Southdowne Dr., Maryville, TN 37801. Please update the church’s mailing address if you mail in your contribution check or with your broker if you give gifts through a qualified charitable distribution.



**The Altar Guild** kindly suggests that women who use the common cup to please remove lipstick prior to communing. The linens require hand scrubbing to remove lipstick and it is breaking down the fabric. Thank you.



Visit [praiselutheran.com/build](https://praiselutheran.com/build) to see the latest on our build and to **RSVP** for our Dedication on May 19 or use URL: [praiselutheran.com/may19](https://praiselutheran.com/may19)

Building Fund	2023 Receipts	2024 Receipts	Total Receipts
<b>Actual</b>	\$345,752	\$81,630 \$85,040	\$1,056,591
<b>Pledged</b>	\$277,877	\$179,106	\$1,065,270
<b>Remaining</b>	-\$68,378	\$97,643	\$8,679

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

**Thank you to all who gave to the Wooden Beams** for the new Sanctuary. We have received more than \$15,000 and an anonymous donor will be matching those gifts!

### Youth and Families

#### Summer Sunday School

**Starting Sun, May 26** Please join us for the summer to learn about all of the different Heros in the bible. Meet for opening in the nursery of our new building (some students may be directed to classrooms from there). We welcome children ages 2 years old up to those entering 5th grade. For those entering 6th grade through high school, please join Shelli Haynes for bible study!

#### Middle and High School Youth Groups on Wednesdays

**Wednesdays: Middle School** 6 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. **Highschool** 7 p.m. – 8 p.m.

**High School Summer Retreat** (save the date): June 7-9, 2024 (please sign up by this Wednesday, May 1)

## Catechesis at Praise



### Youth Catechesis

Announcing the Rite of Confirmation for **Kathleen Del Carpio** on May 19, 2024, Pentecost Sunday at the 11:00 a.m. service. All other catechumens are on break until late summer.

### Adult Catechesis

New group class starting soon!

Date and times (meeting at Praise for 6-8 weeks):

- Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m., starting May 7

Please sign-up with Pastor Roberts ( email [pastor@praiselutheran.com](mailto:pastor@praiselutheran.com) ). So far, 17 people have indicated interest!

What we'll cover: What do members of Praise Lutheran believe and confess about Christ and the Holy Scriptures? How do Lutherans regard the 10 Commandments? What do Lutherans believe about Holy Baptism and the Lord's Supper? What is a Sacrament? How do sacraments differ from sacrifices? What are good works and who needs them? What are our vocations (callings) in life? Why do we call worship on Sundays and other festivals the Divine Service? When and why do we sing Matins? How and when should we pray? What were the some of the events of the Reformation that have had significant impact on our world today?

## Upcoming Congregational Events

**Ascension Day** this Thursday with Divine Service at 12:00 Noon and 7:00 p.m.

Please mark your calendars and make sure to make these events part of your schedule:

May 17, 6:30 p.m. **Ladies' Potting Party** (See DCE Shelli Haynes)

June 2, 5:00 p.m. **Guess Who's Coming to Dinner** (Sign-up now to be a host)

**Josh Wall** will be graduating with his Doctorate of Physical Therapy on May 10th. Donna is hosting a celebration with lots of food and drinks on Sat, May 18, starting at 5:00 p.m. at 2860 Tuckaleechee Pike, Maryville. Folks can call or text Donna with questions and to RSVP (865-973-2450).

**Wedding Invite:** Rev. Derek and Gretchen Roberts invite you to celebrate their daughter's wedding, Kate Roberts to Samuel Bohnet, on August 17th, 2024 at 3 o'clock in the afternoon at Praise Lutheran Church. Reception to follow.

Please RSVP by July 20th at [www.theknot.com/bohnetandroberts](http://www.theknot.com/bohnetandroberts)

## This Week at Praise

**Youth Group** Wed 6:00 p.m. Middle School and 7:00 p.m. High School

**Choir Rehearsal** Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

**Men's Bible Study** Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall

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

## RSVP TODAY

**RSVP for the Public Dedication** for the New Sanctuary by next Sun, May 5 by filling out a form at [praiselutheran.com/may19](http://praiselutheran.com/may19)

Dedication events: **Sun, May 19:**

1:30 to 3:00 p.m. Open House

3:30 p.m. Dedication Service with Special Guests

5:00 p.m. Celebration meal in Social Hall

**Sign-Up today to Help** with the Dedication. See clipboards in the narthex. Please consider the needs of the planning committee (headed by Tina Pierce).

**Mailboxes** are now moved to the new building of the church. Please note that your new mail box location may change from time-to-time as we expand our membership (and for height considerations). | **Other notes:** our order of matching worship chairs arriving soon.