



Office of Vespers

with Rites of Blessing and Public Dedication of New Church Building

Prelude on Praise to the Lord, The Almighty (starting at 3:25 p.m.)

+ Outside Rite of Blessing +

The pastors and congregational leaders and LCEF representatives along with the general contractor and architects (the builders) gather at or under the portico entrance of the new church building to hand over of the keys and to take pictures.

Opening of the Doors and Blessing of the Threshold

- P** Let the doors of this church be opened for the preaching of the saving Word of God in accordance with the confessions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, for the administration of the holy Sacraments according to the institution of Christ, and for offering to God the sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **G Amen.**

The builder gives the keys to the presiding minister and congregational president. The presiding minister, using the base of the processional cross, marks the threshold with the sign of the cross as he says:

- P** Peace be to this house and to all who enter here in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **G Amen.**

+ The Processional Entrance Rite +

The procession (including the congregational leaders and builders) moves into the church building. The presiding minister stands at the entrance of the Sanctuary for the address and collect. They process in order behind the cross towards the altar during the hymn.

3:30 p.m.

Address and Collect

Exodus 20:24b

- P** Beloved in the Lord, Christ Jesus is present wherever His holy Word is taught purely and the holy Sacraments are administered according to His institution. As the Lord said through Moses, "In every place where I cause My name to be remembered I will come to you and bless you."
- P** Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, though You are not contained in houses built by human hands, we pray that You will be pleased to dwell with us here and to make known to us Your glory. Be present in this place where we are gathered to receive Your forgiveness, hear Your holy Word, and praise Your holy name. Graciously hear the prayers we will offer to You; bless the marriages to be solemnized; comfort those who will mourn; and let harmony and peace rest upon all in this place. Bring us at last to the heavenly Jerusalem, where the Lamb is the temple, that we may unite with all the saints and angels in His praise; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **G Amen.**

While saying the following blessing, the presiding minister makes the sign of the cross toward each of the four corners of the church building.

Blessing of the Building

- P** The Lord Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless this church building, the corpus of Christ on the cross, and the stained glass windows. **G Amen.**

Processional Hymn: 790 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty
(congregation only on 5th stanza)

- Congregation: *with trumpet* 1 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear
Now to His temple draw near,
Joining in glad adoration!
- Congregation: 2 Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning
And, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not seen
All that is needful has been
Sent by His gracious ordaining?
- Congregation: 3 Praise to the Lord, who has fearfully, wondrously, made you,
Health has bestowed and, when heedlessly falling, has stayed you.
What need or grief
Ever has failed of relief?
Wings of His mercy did shade you.
- Congregation: *with trumpet* 4 Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
Surely His goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew
What the Almighty can do
As with His love He befriends you.
- Choir only stanza:* 5 *Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!*
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the Amen
Sound from His people again;
Gladly forever adore Him!

Text: Joachim Neander, 1650–80; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text: Public domain

Common Versicles

Psalm 51:15; Psalm 70:1

- L** O Lord, open my lips,
C and my mouth will declare Your praise.
- L** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
C make haste to help me, O Lord.
- C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.

+ Psalmody +

Psalm 84



- L** How lovely is your dwelling place,*
O LORD of hosts!
- C** My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD;*
my heart and flesh sing for joy to the living God.
- L** Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,*
at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.
- C** Blessed are those who dwell in your house,*
ever singing your praise!
- L** Blessed are those whose strength is in you,*
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.
- C** As they go through the Valley of Baca they make it a place of springs;*
the early rain also covers it with pools.
- L** They go from strength to strength,*
each one appears before God in Zion.
- C** O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;*
give ear, O God of Jacob!
- L** Behold our shield, O God;*
look on the face of your anointed!
- C** For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.*
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell
in the tents of wickedness.
- L** For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor.*
No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.
- C** O LORD of hosts,*
blessed is the one who trusts in you!

Sit

Choral and Congregational Anthem: Holy, Holy, Holy

*arr. John B. Dykes
setting by John A. Behnke*

Choir sings Holy... holy... holy... holy...

Cong. sings 1 **Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Choir only Holy... holy... holy... holy...

Choir only 2 *Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee,*
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee,
Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Choir only 3 *Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see,
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.*

Choir *Holy... holy... holy... holy...*
Cong. **4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**
with choral **All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.**
descant **Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!**
 God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783–1826 Text: Public domain

+ Readings +

1 Kings 8:22–30

L A reading from 1 Kings, chapter 8.

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the LORD in the presence of all the assembly of Israel and spread out his hands toward heaven, and said, “O LORD, God of Israel, there is no God like you, in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and showing steadfast love to your servants who walk before you with all their heart, who have kept with your servant David my father what you declared to him. You spoke with your mouth, and with your hand have fulfilled it this day. Now therefore, O LORD, God of Israel, keep for your servant David my father what you have promised him, saying, ‘You shall not lack a man to sit before me on the throne of Israel, if only your sons pay close attention to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.’ Now therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed, which you have spoken to your servant David my father.

“But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you; how much less this house that I have built! Yet have regard to the prayer of your servant and to his plea, O LORD my God, listening to the cry and to the prayer that your servant prays before you this day, that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you have said, ‘My name shall be there,’ that you may listen to the prayer that your servant offers toward this place. And listen to the plea of your servant and of your people Israel, when they pray toward this place. And listen in heaven your dwelling place, and when you hear, forgive.”

L O Lord, have mercy on us. **C** Thanks be to God.

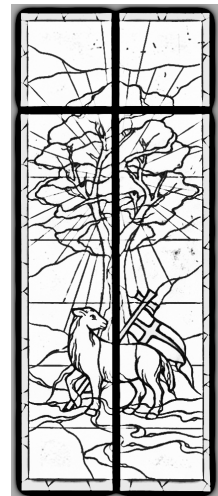
Gradual

C O LORD, I love the habitation of your house,
and the place where your glory dwells.
Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.
Blessèd are those who dwell in your house,
ever singing your praise.

Revelation 21:1–5

L A reading from Revelation, chapter 21.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with



Hymn: 648 Glorious Things of You Are Spoken

*Congregation
sings all
stanzas.*



1 Glo - rious things of you are spo - ken, Zi - on, cit - y
2 See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters, Spring - ing from e -
3 Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - 'ring, See the cloud and
4 Sav - ior, since of Zi - on's cit - y I through grace a



of our God; He whose word can - not be bro - ken Formed you
ter - nal love, Well sup - ply your sons and daugh - ters And all
fire ap - pear For a glo - ry and a cov - 'ring, Show - ing
mem - ber am, Let the world de - ride or pit - y, I will



for His own a - bode. On the Rock of A - ges found - ed,
fear of want re - move. Who can faint while such a riv - er
that the Lord is near. Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner
glo - ry in Your name. Fad - ing are the world's vain plea - sures,



What can shake your sure re - pose? With sal - va - tion's
Ev - er will their thirst as - suage? Grace, which like the
Light by night and shade by day, Safe they feed up -
All their boast - ed pomp and show; Sol - id joys and



walls sur - round - ed, You may smile at all your foes.
Lord, the giv - er, Nev - er fails from age to age.
on the man - na Which God gives them on their way.
last - ing trea - sures None but Zi - on's chil - dren know.

Text: John Newton, 1725–1807, alt. Tune: Franz Joseph Haydn, 1732–1809 Text and tune: Public domain

+ Sermon +

*The Reverend David Graves
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Wartburg
Circuit Visitor for the Knoxville Circuit*

+ Canticle +

Stand

Antiphon (Common)

Psalm 141:2

- L** Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
- C** and the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.

Magnificat: 933 My Soul Rejoices

Congregation
sings all
stanzas



1 My soul re - joic - es, My spir - it voic - es— Sing the
2 His arm now bar - ing, His strength de - clar - ing— Sing the



great - ness of the Lord! For God my Sav - ior Has shown me
great - ness of the Lord! The proud He scat - ters, Their rule He



fa - vor— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! With praise and
shat - ters— Sing the great - ness of the Lord! Op - pres - sion



bles - sing, Join in con - fess - ing God, who is sole - ly Might - y and
halt - ed; The meek ex - alt - ed. Full are the hun - gry; Emp - ty, the



ho - ly— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! His mer - cy
wealth - y— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord! Here is the



sure - ly Shall rest se - cure - ly On all who fear Him,
to - ken All that was spo - ken To A - br'ham's off - spring



Love and re - vere Him— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!
God is ful - fill - ing— O sing the great - ness of God the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955 Tune: Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, c. 1556–c. 1622 Text: © 1991 Stephen P. Starke, admin. Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110020024 Tune: Public domain

Sit



Mission Offering for Always Mercy gifts given during this service will help fund a recently opened palliative care center in Kenya. Always Mercy's director is LCMS Deaconess Pamela Boehle-Silva and Praise Lutheran's office administrator, Tina Pierce, serves as the mission's treasurer. If your congregation would like a visit from Deaconess Pamela or for more information about the mission and to donate online, visit alwaysmercy.org

+ Prayer +

Kyrie

Stand

Mark 10:47



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

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.

Introduction to Collects

Psalm 102:1



L O Lord, hear my prayer.



C And let my cry come to You.

Collect of the Day

P (sung) Almighty God, You have promised to be with Your Church forever. We praise You for Your presence in this place of worship and ask Your ongoing blessing upon those who gather here. Dwell continually among us with Your holy Word and Sacraments, strengthen our fellowship in the bonds of love and peace, and increase our faithful witness to Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Collect for Peace

L (sung) O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benedicamus*Psalm 103:1*

L Let us bless the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction*2 Corinthians 13:14*

P The grace of our Lord ✠ Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



C A - men.

Recessional Hymn: 793 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

*Congregation
remains
standing and
sings all
stanzas.*

1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en; To His feet your
2 Praise Him for His grace and fa - vor To His peo - ple
3 Fa - ther - like He tends and spares us; Well our fee - ble
4 An - gels, help us to a - dore Him; You be - hold Him



*Please turn
and face the
processional
cross as it
passes and
remain facing
the cross
throughout the
recession.*

trib - ute bring; Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress; Praise Him still the same as ev - er,
frame He knows; In His hand He gent - ly bears us,
face to face; Sun and moon, bow down be - fore Him,



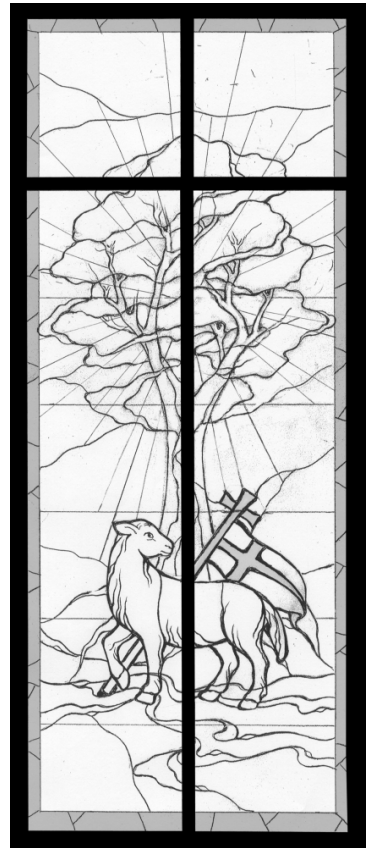
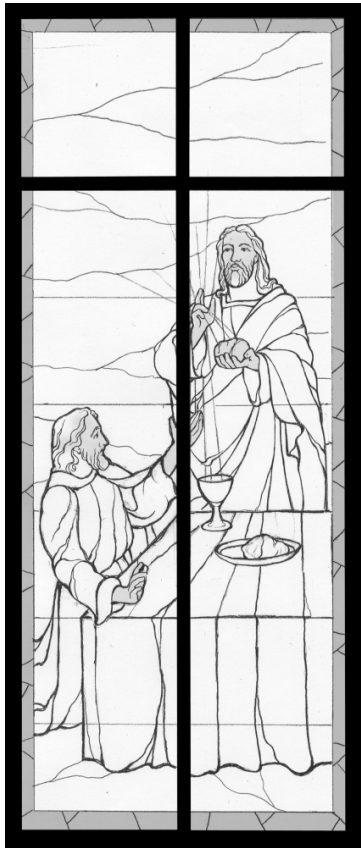
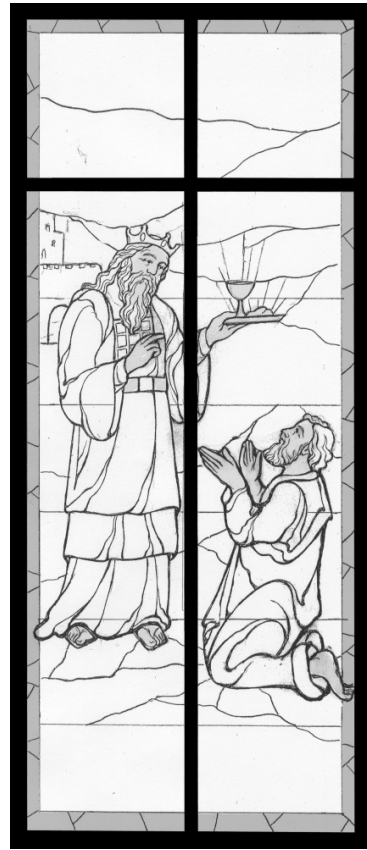
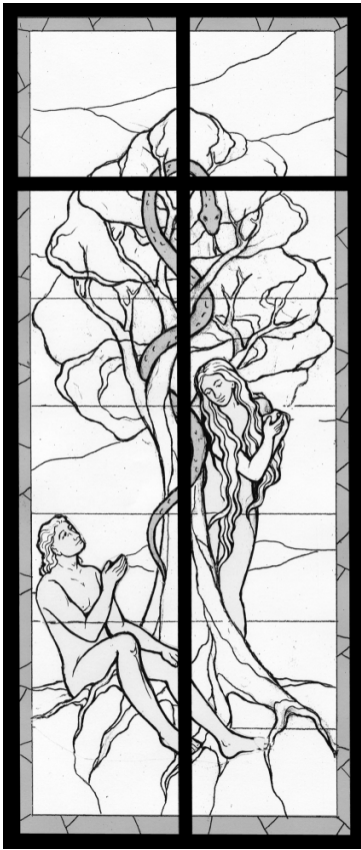
Ev - er - more His prais - es sing: Al - le - lu - ia,
Slow to chide and swift to bless: Al - le - lu - ia,
Res - cues us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia,
All who dwell in time and space. Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King.
al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in His faith - ful - ness.
al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly yet His mer - cy flows.
al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847 Tune: John Goss, 1800–80 Text and tune: Public domain

Lynchburg Stained Glass custom artistry for Praise Lutheran Church, Maryville





Acknowledgments

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Praise Lutheran Church (LCMS)

We are a congregation of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in the Knoxville Circuit of the Mid-South District of the LCMS with Dr. Roger Paavola serving as District President.

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

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

DCE: Shelli Haynes, shelli@praiselutheran.com

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

Organist for today’s service: Gary Schauerman, member of Praise Lutheran Church and former member and organist for Redeemer Lutheran Church in Beaumont, Texas.

Pianists: Janice Kaiser and Susan Johnson. **Trumpet** accompaniment played by Caleb Pierce.

Choir Director: Laura Bisconte, Choir Pianist: Susan Johnson. Thank you to all who served in today’s service and helped with this celebration. **Special thanks** to Tina Pierce who helped organize today’s events and meal.