

+ Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost +

August 18, Year of our Lord 2024 | DS1
with Rite of Holy Baptism for Everett and Iris Fritts

+ Confession and Absolution +

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



Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

Exhortation

1 John 1:8–9

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

+ Service of the Word +

Introit

Psalm 111:1–5, 9; antiphon: v. 10



P The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.*

His praise endures for- | ever!

Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my | whole heart,*
in the company of the upright, in the congre- | gation.

G Great are the works | of the LORD,*
studied by all who de- | light in them.

Full of splendor and majesty | is his work,*
and his righteousness endures for- | ever.

He has caused his wondrous works to be re- | membered;*
the LORD is gracious and | merciful.

He provides food for those who | fear him;*
he remembers his covenant for- | ever.

He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant for- | ever.*
Holy and awesome | is his name!

Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my | whole heart,*
in the company of the upright, in the congre- | gation.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;

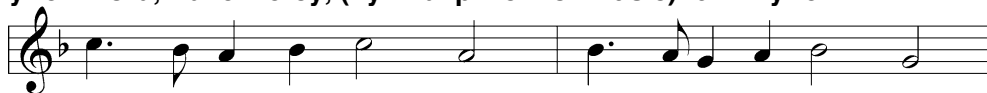
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good under- | standing.*

His praise endures for- | ever!

Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my | whole heart,*
in the company of the upright, in the congre- | gation.

Kyrie ~ Lord, Have Mercy, (hymnal p. 152 for music): 944 Kyrie — II



1 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.
3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.



Ky - ri - e e - le - - - i - son.
Chris - te e - le - - - i - son.
Ky - ri - e e - le - - - i - son.

Text: Traditional Tune: Russian Orthodox Text and tune: Public domain

Gloria in Excelsis (hymn): 947 All Glory Be to God on High



1 All glo - ry be to God on high And thanks for all His
 2 We praise and laud and wor - ship You; We give You thanks for -
 3 O Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son Be - got - ten of the
 4 O Ho - ly Spir - it, our de - light And source of con - so -



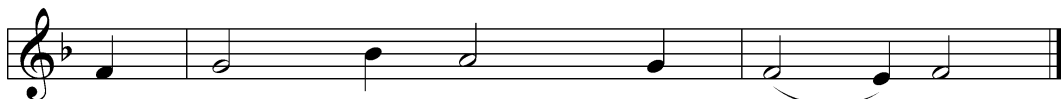
fa - vor; No harm can touch or ter - ri - fy A
 ev - er, O Fa - ther, for Your rule is true And
 Fa - ther, Your sav - ing death has made us one With
 la - tion, Pro - tect us from the dev - il's might Through



child of God for - ev - er. God shows His good and
 just and chang - es nev - er. With bound - less pow'r, Your
 God and with each oth - er. O Lamb of God, to
 Je - sus, our sal - va - tion, Who by His death up -



gra - cious will And grants His peace, the world to fill—
 might - y reign Ful - fills what - ev - er You or - dain.
 You on high In our dis - tress we sin - ners cry,
 on a tree Has res - cued us from mis - er - y:



All strife at last has end - ed.
 Lord, grant us ev - 'ry bless - ing!
 Have mer - cy on us, a - men!
 To this we hold for - ev - er.

Text: Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485—after 1546; tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006 Tune: attr. Nicolaus Decius, c. 1485—after 1546
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Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

- P** Let us pray. Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow His steps in the way that leads to life eternal; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading

Proverbs 9:1–10

Wisdom has built her house; she has hewn her seven pillars. She has slaughtered her beasts; she has mixed her wine; she has also set her table. She has sent out her young women to call from the highest places in the town, “Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!” To him who lacks sense she says, “Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Leave your simple ways, and live, and walk in the way of insight.” Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself abuse, and he who reproves a wicked man incurs injury. Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you; reprove a wise man, and he will love you. Give instruction to a wise man, and he will be still wiser; teach a righteous man, and he will increase in learning. The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom, and the knowledge of the Holy One is insight.

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

Gradual

Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

- C** Fear the LORD, | you his saints,*
for those who fear him lack | nothing!
Many are the afflictions of the | righteous,*
but the LORD delivers him out | of them all.

Epistle

Ephesians 5:6–21

Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore do not associate with them; for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart, giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

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

Verse of the Day

John 6:68

- P** Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. 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 6:51–69

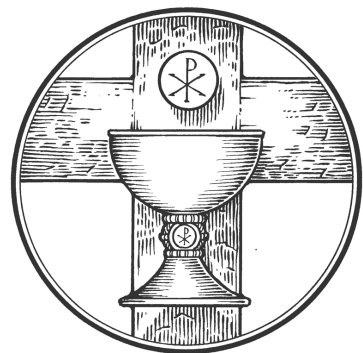
- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the sixth chapter.



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

[Jesus said:] “I am the living bread that came down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread, he will live forever. And the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.”

The Jews then disputed among themselves, saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to eat?” So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him. As



the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not as the fathers ate and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live forever.” Jesus said these things in the synagogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, “This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?” But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples were grumbling about this, said to them, “Do you take offense at this? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is of no avail. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But there are some of you who do not believe.” (For Jesus knew from the beginning who those were who did not believe, and who it was who would betray him.) And he said, “This is why I told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted him by the Father.”

After this many of his disciples turned back and no longer walked with him. So Jesus said to the Twelve, “Do you want to go away as well?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Rite of Holy Baptism (11:00 a.m. service):

Everett (age 5) and Iris (age 4) Fritts
Children of Justin & Nicole Fritts

[or]

Apostles' Creed (9:00 a.m. service)

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
 the holy Christian Church,
 the communion of saints,
 the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body,
 and the life † everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: 639 Wide Open Stand the Gates



1 Wide o - pen stand the gates a - dorned with pearl, While
 2 He speaks the Word the bread and wine to bless: "This
 3 The cher - u - bim, their fac - es veiled from light, While



round God's gold - en throne The choirs of saints in
 is My flesh and blood!" He bids us eat and
 saints in won - der kneel, Sing praise to Him whose



end - less cir - cles curl, And joy - ous praise the Son!
 drink with thank - ful - ness This gift of ho - ly food.
 face with glo - ry bright No earth - ly masks con - ceal.



They watch Him now de - scend - ing To vis - it wait-ing earth.
 All hu - man thought must fal - ter— Our God stoops low to heal,
 This sac - ra - ment God gives us Binds us in u - ni - ty,



The Lord of Life un - end - ing Brings dy - ing hope new birth!
 Now pres - ent on the al - tar, For us both host and meal!
 Joins earth with heav'n be - yond us, Time with e - ter - ni - ty!

Text: J. K. Wilhelm Loehe, 1808–72; tr. Herman G. Stuempfle, Jr., 1923–2007 Tune: Christlich Neu-vermehrt . . . Gesangbuch, 1663, Erfurt
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+ Sermon +

Seminarian Aaron Wade (CTSFW)

Offertory, p. 159-160 for music

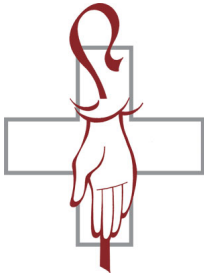
Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19

C (sung) **What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

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 +



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**.

Vocation: For the **Holy Baptism of Everett and Iris Fritts** (today). 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 **Cole & Tamia Smith**. For those who are engaged including: **Turner Gough** to **Mandy Haynes**, and **Joshua Arguien** to **Adelaide Yoder**. Birth of **Shepherd** (born to Madeline) the Nunninks' family. Birth of **Rowan Blankenbeckler** to Jackson and Bri (7/25). The recently married at Praise: **Sam & Kate Bohnet**.

Loss and Mourning: Family of **Jeff Frazier** (Ted & Myrna son, Danny's nephew) who passed away. Family of **Stephanie Hunze Lee** who passed away suddenly on 7/26. For family of **Cody** (friend of Alex & Shelby Hicks) who passed away suddenly 7/27. Family of **Tony** (Jennier Hebar's uncle). Family of **Jacqueline Heathcoat** (Steve's mother, who passed away). Family of **Bill Millsaps** (Cathy Wacker's father in Kansas) entered into the Church Triumphant. Family of **Victor Sebahar** of Chicago (friend of Fred Hansen) who recently passed due to cancer. Family of **Cheri Phillips** (Chuck Pettyjohn's sister in Missouri who passed away 5/25). Family of **Ruth** (Rachel Ernst's beloved mother) who passed away suddenly due to a heart attack. Family of **Aunt Beverly** (Becky Hamby's Aunt) who passed away. Family of **Julie Bullock** (Tom Wittkopp's sister) who passed away. Family of **Corey Baerns** (Marleen's son, Jeff's brother) who was fatally shot on 4/26. Family of **Lila Reuer** (Al's wife; Rhonda Heckman's mom) who went to be with the Lord of Life on 3/26. Family of **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 **Jeff Ratliff** (Mark's younger brother) who passed away 2/1. Family of **Myrna Frazier** who passed away on 1/27.

Health: For **Barbara Moyers** upcoming back surgery on August 20. For **Will Wade** knee surgery recovery. **Sharon Yoder** (recovering from gall procedure). **Rowan Blackenbeckler** (Jackson & Bri's baby boy, born early) and for **Bri's** health. For **Brad Barnett** (Phil & Carol's son) cancer return. For **Larry Wacker** surgery recovery (broken elbow and ribs). For **Carole Vitzthum** (and **George** taking care of her). For **Ted Frazier** severe headaches treatment. For **David Lloyd** (friend of Tom & Lois Schering) who cannot swallow. For **Greg** (Linda Davis's son) recovery from bicycling accident. For **Garrison** with ALS (student of Amy Mohr's daughter, Coleen Williams). For **John Machadow** (friend of Larry Moore) cancer. For **Dominic Steer** (Steve Kaiser's brother in law) health. For Jerry & Jennifer Kropps's mothers: **Louise Kropp** and **Marie Guinn** (both turning 90 and recently diagnosed with lung mass [Louise] and cancer [Marie]). For **Linda McMichael** (hamstring and knee fractures healing). For **Dana** (Ed & Sandy's) niece recovering from tongue and throat cancer surgery. For **Bradley Happel** (Becky Hamby's brother) open heart surgery/quadruple bypass recovery. For **Sandy Bagley** (health and mobility). For **Mary** (Ed & Sandy Bagley's daughter) health. For **Marleen Baerns** recovering from gall bladder surgery. Bill & Diane's son **Luke Miller** (a Lutheran pastor in the WELS) treatment after (first) onset of seizures. For **June Latham** (Phyllis Bembas' sister) stroke and vision recovery. For **Edward Faberzak** (son of friends of Jim Vesper, former Navy serviceman) fighting cancer. For **Pastor Ed Maanum** kidney acceptance. For **Nancy** (Jim Vesper's mother) hospice care. For **Fred Goddard** (nephew of Mary Ellen Brown) lung cancer treatment. For **Steve Greene** (friend of Jim Vesper) dealing with multiple cancers. For **Gary Kubin** experiencing debilitating back and leg pain. 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. 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 **Tom Williams** maintenance chemo treatments. For **Brad** (Phil & Carol Barnett's son) lung blood clots treatment. 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 **Carol Ehrens** diagnosed with Thyroid cancer (slow growing). **Ed McGillick** persistent dizziness caused by abnormal blood pressure fluctuations. **Debbie Johnston** kidney health. **Bob McDermott** dealing with Parkinson's symptoms. **Pastor Neil Vanderbush** at Immanuel, Memphis, recurrent multiple myeloma treatment. For **Alan Stremsterfer's mother** health issues. For **Lisa Stremsterfer's father** health and stability.

Aurora Stevens back and shoulder pain treatments. For **Kathy Bigger** (friend of Donna Wall) pancreatic cancer. Andrew Hebar's **Aunt Kara** (health).

Birthdays: Carol E 8/17, Sabrina B 8/22, Jane N 8/22, Emily M 8/23, Tim S 8/23, Chris F 8/24, Bob McD 8/24, Donna C 8/25, Nick J 8/25, J.J. S 8/25, Chris B 8/26, Susan H 8/26, Alora B 8/27, Karen F 8/28, Gretchen R 8/28, Gracie S 8/30, Calvin H 8/31

Anniversaries: **Alan & Patricia L** 50th Wedding Anniversary today, Alex & Shelby 8/18, Seth & Tina P 8/25, Derek & Gretchen R 8/28, Al & Sharon F 8/28, Steve & Rebecca K 8/28

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 (sung) The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Proper Preface ~ Altar Book (appropriate to the day or season)

P It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising you and saying:

Sanctus, p. 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

Matthew 6:9-13

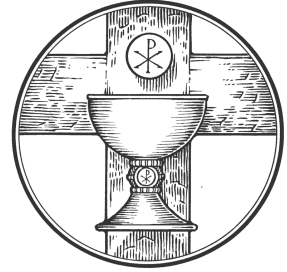
P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

Mt 26:26-30; Mk 14:22-26; Lk 22:14-23; 1 Cor 11:23-25.

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✝ 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

P (sung) The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - - men.

Agnus Dei, p. 163 for music

John 1:29

C (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: 671 Sing with All the Saints in Glory

Distribution Hymn: 813 Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng

Distribution Hymn: 818 In Thee Is Gladness

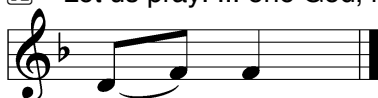
Thank the Lord, p. 164 for music

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

C (sung) **Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Post-Communion Collect

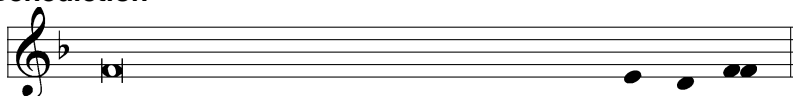
A Let us pray. ... one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



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



C A - men.

Acknowledgments

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Praise Lutheran Church (LCMS)

Our address: 315 Southdowne Dr., Maryville, TN 37801
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 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

Prayer requests: if possible, please submit by 9:00 a.m. on Thursdays

Organist/pianists: Janice Kaiser, Susan Johnson, Gary Schauer mann

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.



Visit praiselutheran.com/build to see our build completion video!

Building Fund	2023 Receipts	2024 Receipts	Total Receipts
Actual	\$345,752	\$155,834	\$1,127,386
Pledged	\$277,877	\$179,106	\$1,065,270
Remaining	-\$67,875	\$23,272	-\$62,116

Build Project total cost estimate: ~ 2.8 million (approximately 38% funded).

Gifts to the Build Fund are still encouraged (through at least the extended end of the Capital Campaign in December 2025). Please prayerfully (continue to) give gifts.

Shop at Kroger? Link your account to Praise Lutheran Church in the “Community Rewards” area from your digital account for Praise Lutheran to receive community funds from Kroger. Thank you to those of you who are already signed up. Please reach out to the church office for help: (865) 977-5810 or tina@praiselutheran.com

Ride Sharing to Church We’re looking for volunteer drivers for our Ride to Church Program. Please contact Mark (865-724-5657) or Sonja (423-802-9955) Ratliff. Frequency of once per month or once every other month, depending on the number of drivers.

Ladies Autumn Retreat (ages 18 yrs. and up) Oct 4 – Oct 6 Still room for more, if you don’t mind a top bunk. Sign-up in Narthex or see Kris Smith or Barbara Morsch if interested. Scholarships available. The theme for this year’s (second annual) retreat is: *The Prodigal Son*. **Payments** preferred now if possible, or please pay by Sun, August 25. Cash or check made payable to Praise Lutheran Church, designate for Ladies’ Retreat. Sign-up in the narthex today. *Please submit payment to Kris Smith.*

Youth and Families

Sunday School (weekly on Sundays)

2 year olds - 5th grade kids will meet at a new time (starting next Sunday, Aug 25) from **9:45 a.m.** to 10:45 a.m. August 25th is our annual Rally Day at Praise with donuts and drinks. If your child doesn't eat donuts, please plan to bring an appropriate snack for them to enjoy. There is a special Rally Day presentation for parents on Rally Day (learn more about the life the congregation and ways you can sign up to help (choir, picnic, etc.).

6th - 12th Graders: On Rally Day (Aug. 25) meet in the main Social Hall are with the adults to learn about what is happening at Praise and how everyone can sign-up for fall activities (choir, picnic help, etc.). Starting September 1st, we will meet in one of the **NEW CLASSROOMS**.

Wednesday Evening Youth Group (weekly on Wednesdays)

Middle School Youth (grades 6th - 8th) meets in the Social Hall for games and a devotion from 6:00 – 7:00 p.m. Bring your Bible and a water bottle!

High School Youth (grades 9th - 12th) meets in the Social Hall for games and Bible study from 8:00 – 9:00 p.m. Bring your Bible, a highlighter, a pen, and a water bottle.

Special event:

LCMS Youth Gathering (triennial) is coming to New Orleans from July 19 – 23, 2025.

Praise has held its first parent meeting to discuss funding this first ever experience for students who will be entering 9th grade through college freshmen in 2025! If you want to be part of that conversation, please reach out to April Torres.

Today

Board of Christian Education meets today after church.

This Week at Praise

Youth Group Wednesday 6:00 p.m. for Middle School; and 8:00 p.m. (new time!) for High School

Choir Rehearsal on break; resumes Wed, Sept. 4

Men's Bible Study this Wed, August 21 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Upcoming Events

Please note for Next Sunday (Aug 25): early service time changes to **8:30 a.m.** and Bible Study will start at **9:45 a.m.**



August 24 (Sat) 10th Annual German Fest, First Lutheran in Knoxville 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

August 25 (Sun) Rally Day and New Service Time (see above)

September 7 (Sat) 6 p.m. Praise Trivia Night (in the Social Hall) Please plan to join us! Cost to play is \$10 (all proceeds will help fund our students going to the Youth Gathering). We will have drinks and snacks for sale as well. If childcare, please let Shelli know by 8/31.

September 22 (Sun) Annual Church Picnic from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

September 28 (Sat) LCMS Knoxville Circuit Convocation at Praise Lutheran Church

October 4-6 (Fri-Sat) Ladies Retreat (Theme: The Prodigal Son); Location: Townsend.

October 26 (Sat) Octoberfest at Praise Lutheran Church

Nov 2 (Sat) Lutheran Women in Mission East TN Zone Fall Rally at Praise: 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. RSVP deadline Oct 26: Free Event. More info in the Narthex. Rally will help support the Pregnancy Resource Center and SafeSpace (which serves battered women and their children).

November 30 (Sat) Advent by Candlelight, Coordinator: Shelli Haynes: (909) 226-3179