

## + Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost +

August 25, Year of Our Lord 2024 | DS4

## + 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

*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

*[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 26:1–2, 6–7; antiphon: v. 8



**P** O LORD, I love the habitation | of your house\*  
and the place where your | glory dwells.

**C** Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my in- | tegrity,\*  
and I have trusted in the LORD without | wavering.

Prove me, O LORD, and | try me;\*  
test my heart | and my mind.

I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, | O LORD,\*  
proclaiming thanksgiving aloud, and telling all your | wondrous deeds.

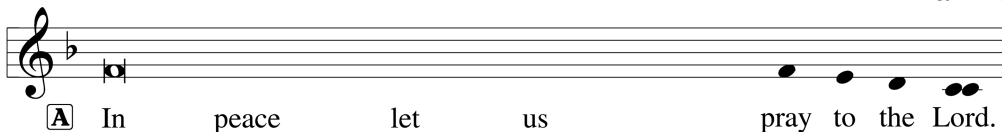
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son\*  
and to the Holy | Spirit;

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

O LORD, I love the habitation | of your house\*  
and the place where your | glory dwells.

## Kyrie

Mark 10:47



## Refrain



**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray | to the Lord. *Refrain*

**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray | to the Lord. *Refrain*

**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray | to the Lord. *Refrain*

**A** Help, save, comfort and defend us, | gracious Lord. *Refrain*

## Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



- C** 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;  
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;  
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with your spirit.

**P** Let us pray. Almighty and merciful God, defend Your Church from all false teaching and error that Your faithful people may confess You to be the only true God and rejoice in Your good gifts of life and salvation; 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

Isaiah 29:11–19

The vision of all this has become to you like the words of a book that is sealed. When men give it to one who can read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot, for it is sealed."

And when they give the book to one who cannot read, saying, "Read this," he says, "I cannot read."

And the Lord said:

"Because this people draw near with their mouth  
and honor me with their lips,  
while their hearts are far from me,  
and their fear of me is a commandment taught by men,  
therefore, behold, I will again  
do wonderful things with this people,  
with wonder upon wonder;  
and the wisdom of their wise men shall perish,  
and the discernment of their discerning men shall be hidden."

Ah, you who hide deep from the LORD your counsel,  
whose deeds are in the dark,  
and who say, "Who sees us? Who knows us?"

You turn things upside down!

Shall the potter be regarded as the clay,  
that the thing made should say of its maker,

"He did not make me";

or the thing formed say of him who formed it,

"He has no understanding"?

Is it not yet a very little while

until Lebanon shall be turned into a fruitful field,  
and the fruitful field shall be regarded as a forest?

In that day the deaf shall hear

the words of a book,

and out of their gloom and darkness

the eyes of the blind shall see.

The meek shall obtain fresh joy in the LORD,

and the poor among mankind shall exult in the Holy One of Israel.

**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 5:22–33*

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. For the husband is the head of the wife even as Christ is the head of the church, his body, and is himself its Savior. Now as the church submits to Christ, so also wives should submit in everything to their husbands.

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, that he might sanctify her, having cleansed her by the washing of water with the word, so that he might present the church to himself in splendor, without spot or wrinkle or any such thing, that she might be holy and without blemish. In the same way husbands should love their wives as their own bodies. He who loves his wife loves himself. For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as Christ does the church, because we are members of his body. “Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and hold fast to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.” This mystery is profound, and I am saying that it refers to Christ and the church. However, let each one of you love his wife as himself, and let the wife see that she respects her husband.

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

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Verse of the Day

*Jeremiah 15:16a*

**P** Alleluia. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart. Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

*Mark 7:1–13*

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

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

When the Pharisees gathered to [Jesus], with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands, holding to the tradition of the elders, and when they come from the marketplace, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” And he said to them, “Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written,



“This people honors me with their lips,  
but their heart is far from me;

in vain do they worship me,  
teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.’

You leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men.”

And he said to them, “You have a fine way of rejecting the commandment of God in order to establish your tradition! For Moses said, ‘Honor your father and your mother’; and, ‘Whoever reviles father or mother must surely die.’ But you say, ‘If a man tells his father or his mother, Whatever you would have gained from me is Corban’ (that is, given to God)— then you no longer permit him to do anything for his father or mother, thus making void the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down. And many such things you do.”

**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: 865 Lord, Help Us Ever to Retain



1 Lord, help us ev - er to re - tain The Cat - e -  
2 Help us Your ho - ly Law to learn, To mourn our  
3 Hear us, dear Fa - ther, when we pray For need - ed  
4 Lord, when we fall or go a - stray, Ab - solve and



chism's\_\_\_\_ doc-trine plain As Lu - ther taught the  
sin and from it turn In faith to You and  
help from day to day That as Your chil - dren  
lift us up, we pray; And through the Sac - ra -



Word of truth In sim - ple style to ten - der youth.  
to Your Son And Ho - ly Spir - it, Three in One.  
we may live, Whom You bap - tized and so re - ceived.  
ment in - crease Our faith till we de - part in peace.

Text: Ludwig Helmbold, 1532–98; tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt. Tune: As hymnodus sacer, 1625, Leipzig  
Text and tune: Public domain

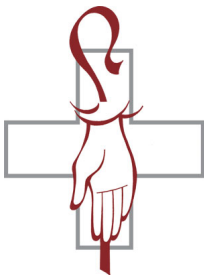
### + Sermon +

### Your Words were Found and I ate Them

### 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 **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** recovery from back surgery. 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 **Ron** (health) and Pamela Williams (peace and comfort during trying times). 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:** Chris F 8/24, Bob MD 8/24, Donna C 8/25, Nicholas 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, Owen P 9/1, Sandra W 9/1, Justin G 9/3, Pam T 9/3, Jacob W 9/4, Emma Lu K 9/6, Delaney S 9/7

**Anniversaries:** Seth & Tina P 8/25, Derek & Gretchen R 8/26, Al & Sharon F 8/28, Steve & Rebecca K 8/28, Bill & Diane M 9/7

**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 your 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.

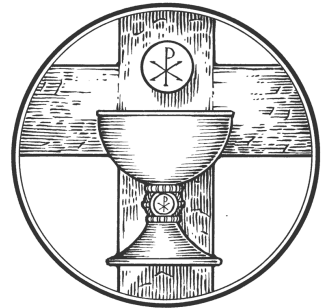
## Lord's Prayer

- 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, pg. 210 for music

*John 1:29*

- C** (sung) 1 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.

2 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.

Text: Stephen P. Starke



## **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: 563 Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness** (see hymnal)

**Distribution Hymn: 585 Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide**

**Distribution Hymn: 644 The Church's One Foundation**

**Distribution Hymn: 543 What Wondrous Love Is This**

**Nunc Dimittis**, pg. 211 for music

*Luke 2:29–32*

**C** (sung) **1 O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace,  
For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:  
A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,  
The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**2 All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,  
All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;  
For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,  
God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

## **Post-Communion Collect**

**A** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen.**

## **Benedicamus**

*Psalm 103:1*

**A** Let us bless the Lord.

**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

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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](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 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  
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.



Visit [praiselutheran.com/build](http://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 (over)	- \$23,272 (under)	\$62,116 (over)

*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.*

**Lectors** revised schedules are in your mailboxes and one hanging in the old Narthex (new Library), Tom Schering, coordinator for Lectors.

## Youth and Families

### **Sunday School** (weekly on Sundays)

**2 year olds - 5<sup>th</sup> graders** meet at a new time: **9:45 a.m.** to 10:45 a.m. TODAY is our annual Rally Day at Praise with donuts and drinks. If your child doesn't eat donuts, please provide 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.).

**6<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> 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 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup>) 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 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup>) 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.

### Upcoming special YOUTH events:

**LCMS Youth Gathering** (triennial event for high school youth) 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 9<sup>th</sup> grade through college freshmen in 2025! If you want to be part of that conversation, please reach out to April Torres. Commitments and registration due by end of October, 2024.

**Campfirmation** (yearly event for middleschoolers and highschoolers) at Camp Linn Haven, North Carolina from July 7-11, 2025. Theme for 2025: *The Sacraments: Signed, Sealed, and Delivered*. Designated fundraising events will take place throughout the year.

## Today

**Rally Day** TODAY at 9:45 a.m. in the Social Hall. Learn ways to serve one another (sign up for Sunday School, Choir, Picnic help, etc.). Donuts, drinks, and presentation and more.

## This Week at Praise

**Cards Creation** Tues, Aug 27, 1:00 p.m., Social Hall (meets monthly on last Tues)

**Youth Group** Wed, **6:00 p.m.** for Middle School; **8:00 p.m.** (new time!) for High School

**Choir Rehearsal** on break; resumes NEXT Wed, Sept. 4

**Men's Bible Study** this Wed at 7:00 p.m. Topic: *Romans Chapter 13*.

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

**Young Adult/College** Thursday, Aug 29 at 8:00 p.m. Trivia Night, Blackhorse Brewing; please text or call Shelli Haynes: (909) 226-3179) if you're planning on going.

NOTE OUR NEW  
**SERVICE TIME**

SUN, AUG  
**25**

8:30 a.m (formerly 9:00 a.m.)  
Divine Service  
9:45 a.m. Rally Day (Social Hall)  
11:00 a.m. Divine Service

## Upcoming Events

**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)