



+ Third Sunday in Advent +

Dec 15, Year of our Lord 2024 | DS3

+ 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

Hebrews 10:22; Psalm 124:8; Psalm 32:5

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth.
P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

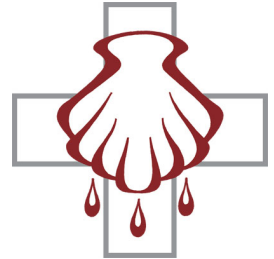
Confession of Sins

- P** O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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 146:5–8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4



P Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will say, | Rejoice.

C **Blessèd is he whose help is the God of | Jacob,***
whose hope is in the | LORD his God,
who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is | in them,*
who keeps faith for- | ever;
who executes justice for | the oppressed,*
who gives food to the | hungry.

The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes | of the blind.*

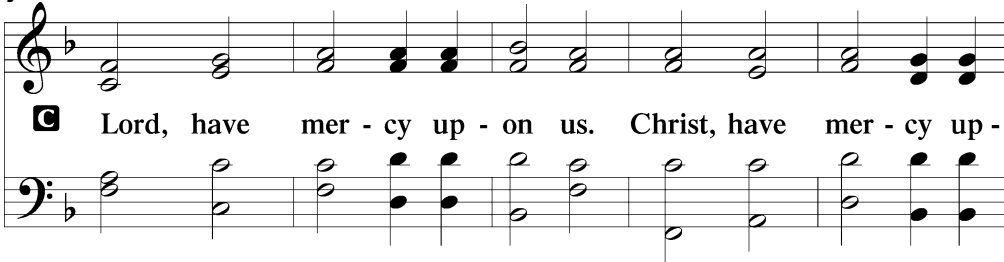
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the | righteous.

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.

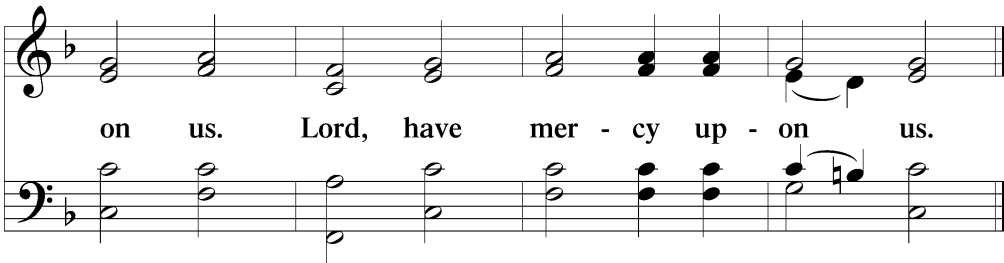
Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will say, | Rejoice.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

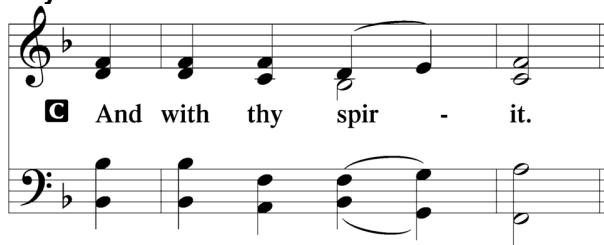


on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.



P Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 3:14–20

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The LORD your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will no longer suffer reproach. Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes," says the LORD.

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

Gradual

Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.

C Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.
Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.
Behold, your king is coming to you;
righteous and having salvation.
Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
From the house of the Lord we bless you.

Epistle

Philippians 4:4–7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

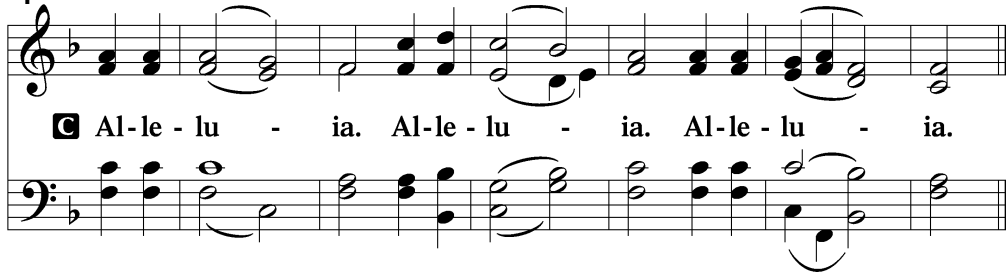
A This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day

Matthew 11:10b

P Alleluia. Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia.

Triple Alleluia



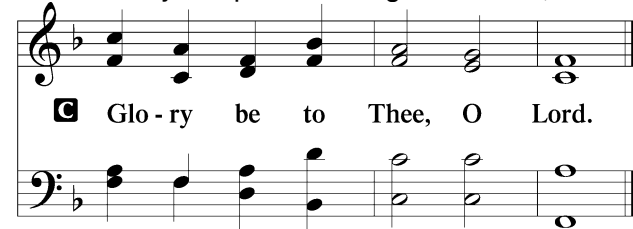
C Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef and the accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.

Holy Gospel

Luke 7:18–28

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



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef and the accompaniment in the bass clef. The lyrics are placed below the treble staff.




The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

When John's messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings' courts. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is he of whom it is written,

"Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you."

I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed (8:30 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.**

Rite of Holy Baptism for Rowan Timothy Blankenbeckler (11:00 a.m. Service)

Born: July 25, 2024

Parents: Jackson and Briana Blankenbeckler

Sponsors: Luke & Blair Johnson, Brianna Rodriguez

Hymn of the Day: 345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is
2 Star - tled at the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the
3 See, the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with
4 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the
△ 5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do - min - ion To the



near," we hear it say. "Cast a - way the
earth - bound soul a - rise; Christ, its sun, all
par - don down from heav'n. Let us haste, with
world is wrapped in fear, He will shield us
Fa - ther and the Son With the ev - er -



works of dark - ness, All you chil - dren of the day!"
sloth dis - pel - ling, Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
with His mer - cy And with words of love draw near.
liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt. Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89
Text and tune: Public domain

+ Sermon +

Doubting John?

Offertory pg. 192-193 for music

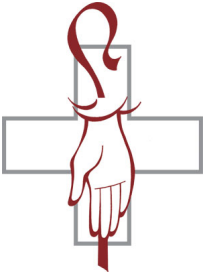
Psalm 51:10–12

**☑ (sung) Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.**

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: For **Hurricanes Milton and Helene flood relief** and recovery in the Southeast. For **Camp Linn Haven** (North Carolina) flood cleanout and reconstruction. For God to cease the wars between modern-day **Israel** and the **Hamas** and the conflict between **Ukraine** and **Russia**.

Vocation: For our singles, parents, grandparents, and families. For **Sunday H. Smith**, daughter of Cole and Tamia, born 10/2. Birth of **Autumn Lea** (granddaughter to Rick & Lisa Gift). For **Joshua Arguien** and **Adelaide Yoder** who were married on 9/20. 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 who are engaged: **Turner Gough** to **Mandy Haynes**. For **Elijah Miessler** to **Faith Kropp** (upcoming blessing of their marriage). For **children and families** dealing with difficult situations due to drugs, alcohol, violence, abuse, stress, and strife. Birth of **Hudson Hamby**, born 12/12 (Great-grandson of Becky Hamby).

Loss and Mourning: For the family of **Pete Gay** (Catherine Boute's bother in-law). For the family of **Curtis** (Joshua Buslovich's brother in Virginia) who passed away. For the family of **Phyllis Strege** who passed away 9/18 and whose memorial service was held at Praise on 9/26. For the family of **Nancy Vesper** (Jim's mother) who passed away 9/9. Family of **Brad Barnett** (Phil & Carol's son) who passed away and whose memorial service was 9/3. For many remembering loved ones who passed away.

Health: For **Sharon Yoder** health and hospice care. For **Gary Kubin** hip surgery recovery. For **Will Wade** knee surgery recovery. Pastor **Kent Dockery** knee surgery recovery. For **Sandy Bagley** knee pain and stroke recovery. For **Barbara McGillick** nerve root pain in back. For **Emma Lu Kerekes** health and hospice care. For **Linda Davis** doctor appointments for an upcoming heart surgery. For Katie Felt's uncle, **Tim** in Florida, final months. For **Neil Gulas** upcoming open heart surgery (Suzanne Nunnink's father). **Ted Frazier** recovering from an infection requiring hospitalization. For **Catherine Boute** post-surgery recovery (now home from hospital). For **Blake** (Debbie Johnston's brother) and for **Jack Wittkopp** (Tom's brother) both recovering from total knee replacements. For **Rachel Ernst** upcoming rescheduled surgery. For **Ed McGillick** persistent dizziness and tendencies to fall. For **Bill Frazho** (Paul Ruble's brother-in-law) lung and overall health. For **Don Hammond** having heart problems (Joan Large's son). For **Steve Pierce** recovery from bladder cancer surgery on Friday (uncle of Seth and Tina Pierce). For **Bill** who has started chemo for cancer (friend of Seth and Tina Pierce). For **Ron Williams** (back at Foothills) and for his wife Pamela. For **Barbara Moyers** recovery from back surgery (now

home). For **Carole Vitzthum** (and **George** taking care of her). For **Garrison** with ALS (student of Amy Mohr's daughter, Coleen Williams). 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 **Mary** (Ed & Sandy Bagley's daughter) health. Bill & Diane's son **Luke Miller** (a Lutheran pastor in the WELS) treatment after 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 **Fred Goddard** (nephew of Mary Ellen Brown) lung cancer treatment. For **Steve Greene** (friend of Jim Vesper) dealing with multiple cancers. For **Andrew** (son of a friend of Laura Bisconte) treatment for a mass in the base of his brain. 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 **Tom Williams** maintenance chemo treatments. For **Janeen Meier** healing for physical and mental health (Maureen Roberts' sister and Pastor Roberts' Aunt). For **Marty Smith** (Tyler [and Megan] Smith's father) rapidly advancing cancer treatment. **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: Faye S 12/15, Ed H 12/16, Jamie S 12/17, Shelli H 12/18, Phil B 12/20, Trish H 12/20, Mary S 12/20, Steve L 12/22, Tina P 12/25, Jeff B 12/26, Janice K 12/26, Tim N 12/26, Judy T 12/27

Anniversaries: Tim & Michele N 12/15, Mike & Deb W 12/17, Larry & Janet M 12/20

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 (sung) The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary . . . evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus ~ Holy, Holy, Holy, p. 195 for music

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

C (sung) Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

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 The peace of the Lord be with you al - ways.



Agnus Dei pg. 198 for music

John 1:29

C (sung) O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.



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: 515 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers (see hymnal)

Distribution Hymn: 354 Arise, O Christian People

Distribution Hymn: 636 Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness

Distribution Hymn: 917 Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise

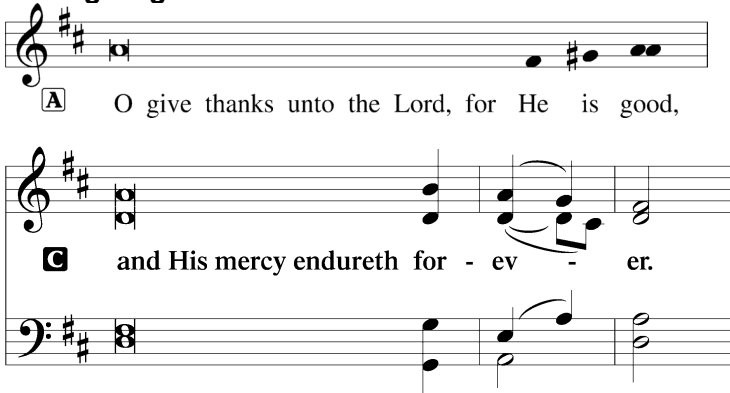
Nunc Dimittis pg. 1999-200 for music

Luke 2:29–32

C (sung) Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving

Psalm 107:1

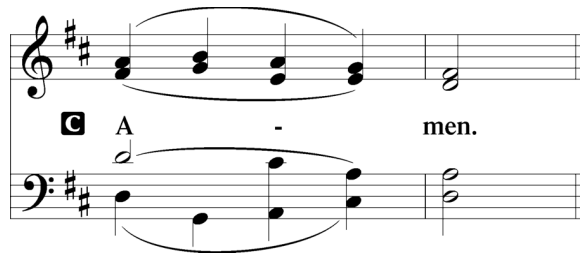


A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

The musical notation consists of three staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). It begins with a whole rest followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The middle staff continues with a whole rest, followed by a half note C5, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note A4. The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of two sharps. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3. The middle staff continues with a whole rest, followed by a half note C4, a quarter note B3, and a quarter note A3. The bottom staff continues with a whole rest, followed by a half note G3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3.

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.



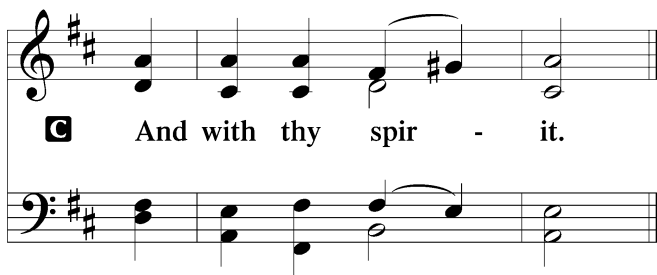
C A - men.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of two sharps. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3.

Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22

P (sung) The Lord be with you.



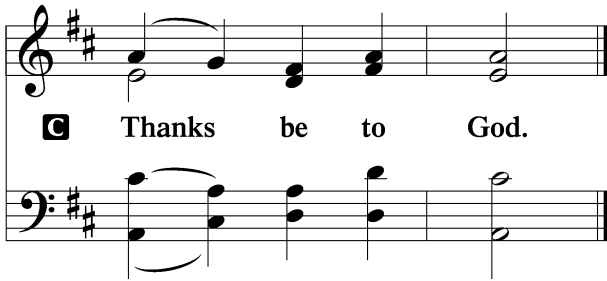
C And with thy spir - it.

The musical notation consists of two staves. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two sharps. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a quarter note B4. The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of two sharps. It begins with a whole rest, followed by a half note G3, a quarter note A3, and a quarter note B3.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

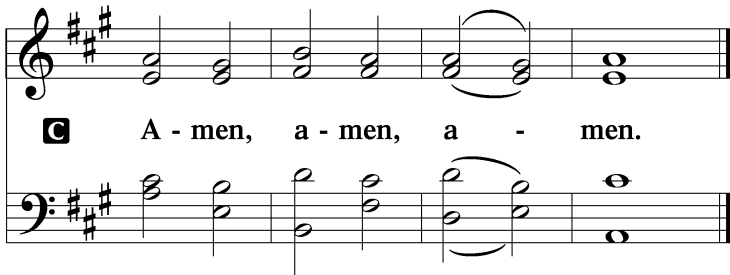
A (sung) Bless we the Lord.



Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.



Acknowledgments

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

Praise Lutheran Church (LCMS)

Sunday Divine Services weekly at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Sunday 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) 421-9988 (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 Schauerman

Choir Director: Laura Bisconte, Choir Pianist: Susan Johnson

Church Calendar: praiselutheran.com/events



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	\$190,461	\$1,161,993
Pledged	\$277,877	\$179,106	\$1,065,270
Remaining	\$67,875 [over]	\$11,355 [over]	\$96,723 [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? \$128.64 was raised this last quarter! 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. Please reach out to the church office for help: (865) 977-5810 or tina@praiselutheran.com

Subscribe to our newsletter at praiselutheran.com, homepage, right hand side, blue box. Need help? Contact tina@praiselutheran.com

PLEASE NOTE: New phone numbers for Pastor Roberts and his family:

Pastor Derek Roberts cell: **(865) 421-9988**

Gretchen Roberts cell: **(865) 336-6265**

Kate Bohnet cell (formerly Roberts, now married to Sam): **(865) 468-9090**

Sophia Roberts cell: **(865) 336-6121**

Jonathan Roberts cell: **(865) 324-9434**

Youth and Families

Sunday School (weekly on Sundays) for 2 year olds - 12th grade kids will meet during the Education hour from 9:45 - 10:45. Please see Shelli Haynes or Linda McMichael with questions on specific meeting places for each group.

Children's Christmas Service will happen Wed, Dec 18 during the Advent service at 7:00 p.m. All participating families, please note we will have a practice TODAY, December 15 after the 11:00 a.m. service. Pizza lunch will be served!

The LCMS Youth Gathering is coming to New Orleans July 19 - 23, 2025! Praise will send a group of 12 to the gathering! Our students are raising money for this camp and invite you to mark your calendars for a special Mardi Gras themed Gala February 22 here at Praise! Please see Linda McMichael or April Torres with any questions.

- **Tidal Wave Car Wash Vouchers** available now. Secure their BEST car wash (normally a \$30 wash) for \$12, or 2 vouchers for \$20. Purchase from our Youth.
- **BJ's** new club membership available now. Secure a 12-month membership for only \$20 *regularly \$55*. Call (800) 313-8887 and **reference promo code: 814025**. Offer expires Dec. 31. Pick-up membership at the temporary office 139 Foothills Mall Dr.
- **The popular Swig dirty soda shop** has partnered with Praise to offer \$10 gift cards perfect for the Swig Fans on your Christmas list! These cards will be available until Christmas so stop by our youth table and buy yours this morning!

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.

Preparing teams to help restore Camp Linn Haven (LCMS camp and church near Grandfather Mountain in NC). Please see Pastor Roberts if you'd like to go help in the recovery efforts at our beloved place for Campfirmation every summer.

Middle and High School Midweek Youth will resume January 8 (6-7pm Middle School and 8-9pm High School)! Wednesdays leading up to Christmas we will enjoy Advent dinners and worship.

Children's Handbell Choir We have started a children's handbell choir (2 yrs to 7 yrs old) as a part of our Sunday morning Bible class. We are making great progress on two Advent hymns to share in our December worship. Please see Kris Smith with any questions!

Youth Catechesis with Pastor Roberts resumes Sun, Jan 5 from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m.

Photo Directories are placed in your mailbox at Praise.

Corrections? please email corrections (phone number changes, new portrait size family photo) to tina@praiselutheran.com. Thank you.

Today

Poinsettias sign up in the Narthex to designate a flower for Christmas. Suggested donation: \$17.50 each. Funds raised will help our youth attend Campfirmation next summer.

Rehearsal for Children's Christmas Service after 11:00 a.m. service. Pizza lunch provided.

This Week at Praise

Advent Services THIS Wednesday at **12 Noon** and **7:00 p.m.** Theme: "And He Shall Be Called..." (Is. 9) (Note: **Children's Christmas Service** at 7:00 p.m.)

Advent Soup & Sandwich Supper THIS Wednesday, 12/18, in the Social Hall at 6:00 p.m. *Please sign-up to bring food for the meal.* Sheets are on clipboards in the Narthex. Free. Invite a friend to the meal at 6:00 p.m. and to worship at 7:00 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal Wednesdays at **5:30 p.m.** during Advent

Upcoming Events

Dec 18 (Wed) Advent Midweek Services; Noon; Soup & Sandwiches 6:00 p.m.

Dec 18 (Wed) Children's Christmas Service 7:00 p.m.

Dec 22 (Sun) Fourth Sunday in Advent with Rite of Holy Baptism for Sunday Smith

Dec 24 (Tues) Christmas Eve Service 7:00 p.m.

Dec 25 (Wed) Christmas Day service 10:00 a.m.

Dec 28 (Sat) Mandy Haynes's Bridal Shower

Men's Lunch none in the month of December (next meets Jan 15)

Men's Bible Study resumes in January

Ladies Bible Study resumes Thurs, Jan 9