

+ Second Sunday after Christmas +

Jan 5, Year of our Lord 2025 | DS1

+ Confession and Absolution +

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



Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

Invocation

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

Exhortation

1 John 1:8–9

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

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

Confession of Sins

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

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

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

+ Service of the Word +

Introit

Psalm 147:1, 5, 11–12; antiphon: John 1:14



P The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his | glory,*
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of | grace and truth.

C Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises | to our God;*
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is | fitting.

Great is our Lord, and abun- | dant in power,*
his understanding is beyond | measure.

**But the LORD takes pleasure in those who | fear him,*
in those who hope in his | steadfast love.**

Praise the LORD, O Je- | rusalem!*
Praise your God, O | Zion!

**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 Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his | glory,*
glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of | grace and truth.

Hymn: 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 ~ (hymnal p. 154 for music)

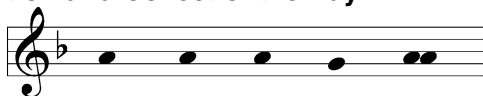
Luke 2:14, John 1:29

A (sung) Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

C Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:
We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:

**You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.
For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

- P** Let us pray. Almighty God, You have poured into our hearts the true Light of Your incarnate Word. Grant that this Light may shine forth in our lives; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

1 Kings 3:4–15

The king went to Gibeon to sacrifice there, for that was the great high place. Solomon used to offer a thousand burnt offerings on that altar. At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, “Ask what I shall give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant David my father, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you. And you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne this day. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of David my father, although I am but a little child. I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of your people whom you have chosen, a great people, too many to be numbered or counted for multitude. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, that I may discern between good and evil, for who is able to govern this your great people?”

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. And God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, behold, I now do according to your word. Behold, I give you a wise and discerning mind, so that none like you has been before you and none like you shall arise after you. I give you also what you have not asked, both riches and honor, so that no other king shall compare with you, all your days. And if you will walk in my ways, keeping my statutes and my commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.”

And Solomon awoke, and behold, it was a dream. Then he came to Jerusalem and stood before the ark of the covenant of the LORD, and offered up burnt offerings and peace offerings, and made a feast for all his servants.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Isaiah 9:6; Psalm 98:1a

C To us a child is born, to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder.
And his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things!

Epistle

Ephesians 1:3–14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day

Luke 2:40

P Alleluia. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him. Alleluia.

Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68



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

Luke 2:40-52

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



Glo - ry to You, O Lord.



The child [Jesus] grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favor of God was upon him.

Now his parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

- C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: 410 Within the Father's House

Luke 2:41-52 {1}



- 1 With-in the Fa-ther's house The Son has found His home,
2 The doc-tors of the Law Gaze on the won-drous child
3 Yet not to them is giv'n The might-y truth to know,
4 The se-cret of the Lord Es-capes each hu-man eye,



And to His tem-ple sud-den-ly The Lord of life has come.
And mar-vel at His gra-cious words Of wis-dom un-de-filed.
To lift the earth-ly veil that hides In-car-nate God be-low.
And faith-ful pon-d'ring hearts a-wait The full e-piph-a-ny.

- 5 Lord, visit Thou our souls And teach us by Thy grace Each dim revealing of Thyself
With loving awe to trace

- \triangle 6 Till we behold Thy face And know as we are known Thee, Father, Son, and Holy
Ghost, Coequal Three in One.

Text: James R. Woodford, 1820–85, alt. Tune: Johann Balthasar König, 1691–1758; adapt. William H. Havergal, 1793–1870 Text and tune: Public domain

+ Sermon +

Why were You Looking for Me?

Offertory

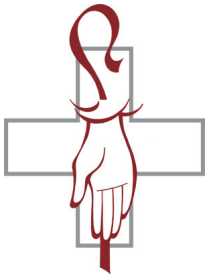
Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19

☞ (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: 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 Recent Baptism of **Sunday H. Smith**, daughter of Cole and Tamia, (baptized 12/22). For recent Baptism of **Rowan Blankenbeckler** (baptized 12/15).

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 at home. For **Gary Kubin** hip surgery rehab. For **Will Wade** knee surgery rehab. For **Brian Strege** knee replacement rehab. 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 (in Oak Ridge). For **Linda Davis** anemia treatments prior heart valve procedure next year. For **Marty Smith** strength and comfort for dealing with cancer (Tyler and Megan Smith's father[-in-law]). 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 **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 **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. 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). **Debbie Johnston** kidney health. **Bob McDermott** dealing with Parkinson's symptoms. 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: Audrey F 1/4, Theresa L1/4, Lawrence McM 1/10, Randy G 1/13, Camden S 1/13, Jules F 1/17

Anniversaries: David & Kenna C 1/4, Joel & Barbara M 1/11, Tim & Karen F 1/17

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

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

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

C A - men.

Agnus Dei

John 1:29



C Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a - way 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: 385 From East to West (see hymnal)

Distribution Hymn: 376 Once in Royal David's City

Distribution Hymn: 523 O Word of God Incarnate

Distribution Hymn: 725 Children of the Heavenly Father

Thank the Lord

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



C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



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

Post-Communion Collect

p. 166

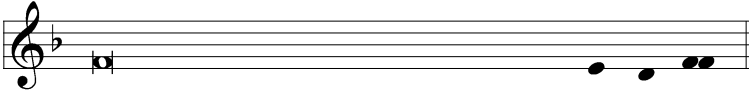
A Let us pray. ... one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



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



C A - men.

Acknowledgments

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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	\$192,057	\$1,163,589
Pledged	\$277,877	\$179,106	\$1,065,270
Remaining	\$67,875 [over]	\$12,951 [over]	\$98,319 [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.

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.
- **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.

Youth Catechesis with Pastor Roberts

TODAY: Sun, Jan 5 from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. in the Social Hall
Followed by: Sun, Jan 19 from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. in the Social Hall

This Week

Youth Group Middle School 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., High School 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

Choir Rehearsal resumes this Wed, Jan 8 (only Bass, Tenors, Director, and Pianist are required for this rehearsal as just the men will be singing for the Epiphany Service, *Of the Father's Love Begotten*).

Men's Bible Study resumes this Wed, Jan 8 at 7:00 p.m.

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

Pastor Roberts will attend the Knoxville Circuit Pastors Meeting this Thurs, Jan 9 (at First Lutheran Church and School)

Upcoming Events



The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord (observed) NEXT Sun, Jan 12

Men's Lunch meets Wed, Jan 15 at Smoky Mountain Brewery near Target at 11:30 a.m.

Baby Shower on Sun, Jan 19 after 11:00 a.m. service for Cole and Tamia Smith's baby girl, Sunday. Registered at Target.com under Tamia & Cole's Baby Registry.

Voters Meeting (typically in February) dates to be confirmed soon. Agenda: (re-)election of officers and board members and the previously presented proposed changes to the constitution and bylaws.

Christmas Thank You!

Dear Church Family at Praise Lutheran, my family and I are blessed by your generous show of love this Christmas with Christmas cards, cookies, fudge, faith shared and faithful fellowship in the Lord's name, and even by the generous gift of funds that our Vice President Tim Nunnink presented to me this Christmas on your behalf. Thank you! My family and I will again set apart this gift for some family vacation time later this year. God gives us such joy in the birth of His Son and the life that flows through His incarnation and redemption. Giving thanks and remembering you all in our prayers with joy and thankfulness during Christmas, Epiphany, and throughout the year of worship and praise. Christ is born for us, Alleluia+ Pastor Roberts, Gretchen, Kate (& Sam), Sophia, Jonathan, and Xavier.