+ Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany +

Feb 16, Year of our Lord 2025 I 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

- ${f P}$ In the name of the Father and of the ${f H}$ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** 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,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- 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,
- 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.
- Amen.

+ Service of the Word +





P I will praise you with an I upright heart,*
when I learn your just and righ-I teous decrees.

■ Blessèd are those whose way is I blameless,* who walk in the law I of the LORD!

Blessèd are those who keep his testi- I monies,* who seek him with their I whole heart.

You have commanded your I precepts* to be kept dil- I igently.

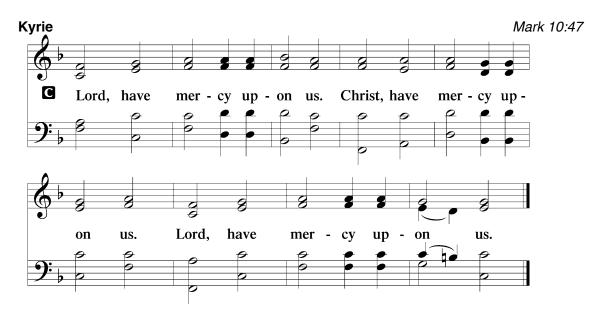
Oh that my ways may be I steadfast* in keeping your I statutes!

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

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. I Amen.

I will praise you with an I upright heart,*
when I learn your just and righ- I teous decrees.



Gloria in Excelsis pg. 187-189 for music

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

- **P** (sung) Glory be to God on high:
- (sung) and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

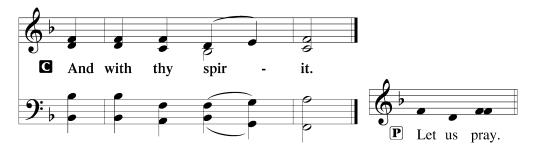
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

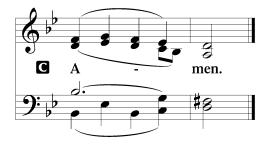
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P (sung) The Lord be with you.



P O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading

Jeremiah 17:5–8

Thus says the LORD: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the

wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. "Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. He is like a tree planted by water, that sends out its roots by the stream, and does not fear when heat comes, for its leaves remain green, and is not anxious in the year of drought, for it does not cease to bear fruit."

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

Gradual *Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8*

Praise the LORD, all nations! Extol him, all peoples! For great is his steadfast love toward us, and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Epistle 1 Corinthians 15:1–20

Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that he raised Christ, whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

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

Verse of the Day

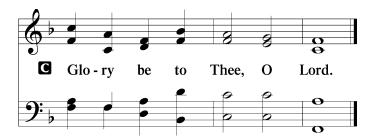
Luke 6:23a

P Alleluia. Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven. Alleluia.

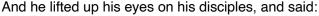


Holy Gospel Luke 6:17–26

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



[Jesus] came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all.



- "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.
- "Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.
- "Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.



"Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

"Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

"Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

"Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.





Nicene Creed

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: 901 Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty (see hymnal)

+ Sermon +

Blessings and Woes of Luke 6

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.

Offering

+ Prayer +

World: For the families of the Reagan Airport plane and helicopter collision. For LA fires (damage victims). 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 Elijah & Faith Miessler expecting! For Sam & Kate Bohnet expecting (in August)! For Turner and Mandy Gough who were married on 12/30. For Joshua Arguien and Adelaide Yoder upcoming blessing of their marriage on 4/12. 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 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). David Chorney (and for Kenna) as he accepted a new position as Deputy Director of Air Force Weather at the Pentagon, beginning in March.

Loss and Mourning: For the Family of **Sharon Yoder** who entered the Church Triumphant on 2/10. For Family of **Marty Smith** (Tyler and Megan Smith's father[-in-law]) who passed 2/3. For the family of **Alan Morton** (John Johnson's cousin) who passed away on 2/2. For the family of **Brian** (56 yr. old son of Fred & Faye Hansen) who passed away in Texas in his sleep. For the family **Dana Husky** (niece of Ed & Sandy Bagley) who passed away 1/20. For the family of **Peggy Gullickson** (Tom Wittkopp's sister in Spokane, WA). 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 Kim Smolter health. For Gail Rieman (Kenna Chorney's mom) upcoming cancer treatments. For **Darrel Wehmeier** (Deb Wales's brother) multiple internal lesions, cancer tests. For Fred Hansen (upcoming aortic valve replacement). For Linda Davis (upcoming aortic valve replacement). For **Neil Gulas** recovering from open-heart surgery (Suzanne Nunnink's father). For **Emma Lu Kerekes** health and hospice care (in Oak Ridge). For **Gary Kubin** hip surgery rehab (now home). Ted Frazier recovery of strength after hospitalizations. For Linda McMichael (upcoming knee surgery). For **Tom Wade** (Will Wade's brother) recovering from surgery. For Nadine Wittkopp recovering from stomach surgery. Pastor Kent Dockery knee surgery. recovery. For Sandy Bagley knee pain and stroke recovery. For Ed & Barbara McGillick health, pain and dizziness management. For **Haley Jenkins** (Ed & Sandy Bagley's niece) esophageal issues. For Katie Felt's uncle, **Tim** in Florida, final months. For **Don Hammond** heart a-fib (Joan Large's son), For **Rachel Ernst** upcoming rescheduled surgery, For **Bill Frazho** (Paul Ruble's brother-in-law) lung and overall health. For Steve Pierce's health (uncle of Seth and Tina Pierce). For **Bill** undergoing 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 Btaking care of her). For Garrison with ALS (student of Amy Mohr's daughter, Coleen Williams). 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 Mary (Ed & Sandy Bagley's daughter) health. For June Latham (Phyllis Bembas' sister) stroke and vision recovery. 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: Ed B 2/18, Joshua K 2/2, Sarah K 2/23, Betty G 2/26, Mildred B 2/27, Lincoln H 2/28, Henry J 2/28, Colin S 2/28, Larry L 3/1

Anniversaries: Bob & Rhonda H 2/18, Luke & Blair J 2/22

+ 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.

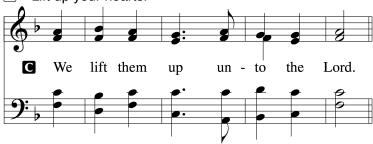
Preface P (su

2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]

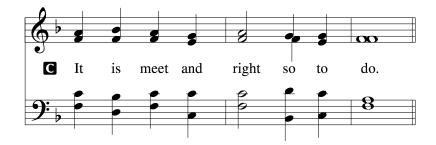
And with thy spir - it.

(sung) The Lord be with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



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



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

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

Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9–13

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.

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.



Agnus Dei pg. 198 for music

John 1:29

(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: 623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray (see hymnal)

Distribution Hymn: 557 Seek Where You May to Find a Way

Distribution Hymn: 821 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Distribution Hymn: 923 Almighty Father, Bless the Word

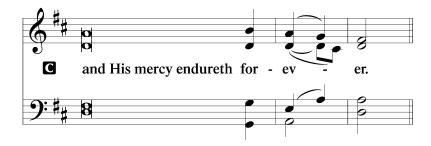
Nunc Dimittis pg. 199-200 for music

Luke 2:29-32

(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.

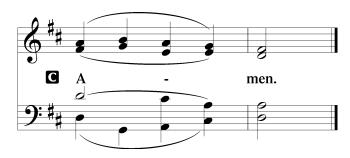
Thanksgiving Psalm 107:1

(sung) O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



Post-Communion Collect

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.



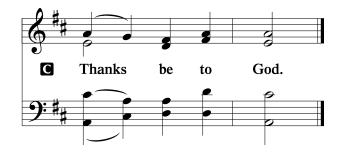
Salutation 2 Timothy 4:22

P (sung) The Lord be with you.



Benedicamus Psalm 103:1

(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.



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Praise Lutheran Church (LCMS)

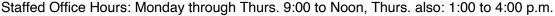
Sunday Divine Services weekly at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

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/



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	2024 Receipts	2025 Receipts	Total Receipts
Actual	\$211,037	\$7,235	\$1,185,230
Pledged	\$179,106	\$42,744	\$1,065,270
Remaining	\$31,931 [over]	-\$35,509 [under]	\$119,960 [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.

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

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.

Middle and High School Midweek Youth meet Wednesdays (6-7pm Middle School and NEW TIME 7-8pm High School)

The LCMS Youth Gathering is coming to New Orleans July 19-23! Praise will send a group of 11 to the gathering. Please see Linda McMichael or April Torres for details.

• 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.

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

 All parents and students interested in being part of this wonderful week of worship, catechesis, hiking, serving, campfires, and (s)more(s) please make sure to submit your deposit of \$50 in by March 1, 2025.

Youth Catechesis with Pastor Roberts

TODAY from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. in the large Sunday School Room (followed by Mar 2)

Personalized Lutheran Mugs Available (member made by Suzanne Nunnink) See order forms in Narthex; suggested donation \$25 each; use, wash, and store here at church or take home if you want. Funds benefit Youth Campfirmation this summer.

Joshua & Adelaide Arguien request your presence at their **Blessing of Marriage** at Praise Lutheran Church on Sat, April 12 at 3:00 p.m. **Please RSVP** by visiting: https://www.theknot.com/us/joshua-arguien-and-adelaide-yoder-apr-2025

Upcoming Events

Feb 16 (Sun) at 9:45 a.m. Present updates to Constitution & Bylaws since the last Voters Meeting, Facility Use Policy, and Marriage, Gender, and Appropriate Behavior Policy **Feb 23** (Sun) Voters Meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Feb 25 (Tues) Cards Creation at 1:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. All welcome!



Mar 5 Ash Wednesday Service with the imposition of ashes at Noon and 7:00 p.m.

Mar 12, 19, 26, Apr 2, 9 Midweek Wednesday Service Noon and 7:00 p.m. with Soup Suppers at 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper Sign Ups will be in the Narthex next week.



What does this Mean?

Adult Catechesis Class leading to Membership or a great review of the chief parts of the faith using *Luther's Small Catechism*: Starting THIS Tues, Feb 18 at 3:30 p.m. (followed by Feb 25) and lasts 6-8 weeks. Contact Pastor Roberts to sign up. Meet in person initially and via Google Meet for some classes.

Little Children in Church. We love our little children and how blessed we are to have them present in the Divine Service! It is wonderful to hear them learning to pray, sing, and speak the parts of the Divine Liturgy. Thank you, faithful parents, for bringing your children to the House of the Lord to hear and participate! No child is too young or too old. We are all learning and hearing the Word of God and participating in age-appropriate ways. The Spirit is at work. *Concerning noise-levels and what to do:* Most often, members can withstand the occasional sounds of children being children and can still focus on the service. However, when sounds go beyond what is good for your neighbor to hear of focus well, then please remember that the nursery/children's room may be helpful. Then bring them back into the Sanctuary as soon as seems right. It can be an unintended "reward" for a child to get to go play for being disruptive, yet you may discern how long is just right and what's best to help a child reset. The room can serve as a place to encourage calming and being caring for others in church and reminding them why we are here: to hear and honor Jesus.

Today

Please sign the Birthday Card (in the Narthex on the tall table)

This Week

Adult Catechesis Tuesday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. in the Social Hall with Pastor Roberts Youth Group Wednesdays Middle School 6:00 – 7:00 p.m., High School 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. (both men and women this week) Men's Lunch Wednesday 11:30 am at El Jimador Men's Bible Study Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Ladies Bible Study Thursdays at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall with Barbara Morsch Elders Meeting Thursday 7:00 p.m.