

+ Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany +

Feb 23, Year of Our Lord 2025 | 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 37:1–5; antiphon: vv. 7a, b



P Be still before the LORD and wait patiently | for him;*
fret not yourself over the one who prospers | in his way.

C Fret not yourself because of evil- | doers;*
be not envious of wrong- | doers!

For they will soon fade | like the grass*
and wither like the | green herb.

Trust in the LORD, | and do good;*
dwelt in the land and befriend | faithfulness.

Delight yourself | in the LORD,*
and he will give you the desires | of your heart.

Commit your way | to the LORD;*
trust in him, and | he will act.

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.

Be still before the LORD and wait patiently | for him;*
fret not yourself over the one who prospers | in his way.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis (Setting Four)

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-shipped 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.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

P Let us pray. O God, the strength of all who put their trust in You, mercifully grant that by Your power we may be defended against all adversity; 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

Genesis 45:3–15

Joseph said to his brothers, "I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?" But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence.

So Joseph said to his brothers, "Come near to me, please." And they came near. And he said, "I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years, and there are yet five years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. And God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God. He has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, 'Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt. Come down to me; do not tarry. You shall dwell in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, and your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. There I will provide for you, for there are yet five years of famine to come, so that you and your household, and all that you have, do not come to poverty.' And now your eyes see, and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see, that it is my mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father of all my honor in Egypt, and of all that you have seen.

Hurry and bring my father down here.” Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, and Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them. After that his brothers talked with him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8

C 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 15:21–26, 30–42

For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. . . .

Why am I in danger every hour? I protest, brothers, by my pride in you, which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die every day! What do I gain if, humanly speaking, I fought with beasts at Ephesus? If the dead are not raised, “Let us eat and drink, for tomorrow we die.” Do not be deceived: “Bad company ruins good morals.” Wake up from your drunken stupor, as is right, and do not go on sinning. For some have no knowledge of God. I say this to your shame.

But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” You foolish person! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And what you sow is not the body that is to be, but a bare kernel, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. For not all flesh is the same, but there is one kind for humans, another for animals, another for birds, and another for fish. There are heavenly bodies and earthly bodies, but the glory of the heavenly is of one kind, and the glory of the earthly is of another. There is one glory of the sun, and another glory of the moon, and another glory of the stars; for star differs from star in glory.

So is it with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable; what is raised is imperishable.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day

Luke 6:36

P Alleluia. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful. Alleluia.

Alleluia and Verse



Holy Gospel

Luke 6:27–38

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “But I say to you who hear, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. To one who strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from one who takes away your cloak do not withhold your tunic either. Give to everyone who begs from you, and from one who takes away your goods do not demand them back. And as you wish that others would do to you, do so to them.

“If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the



Most High, for he is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful.

“Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. Good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap. For with the measure you use it will be measured back to you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

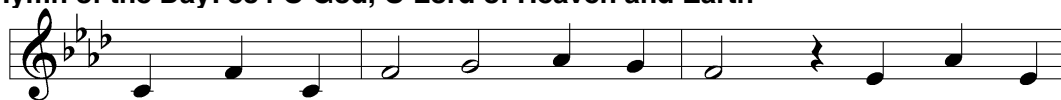
Apostles' Creed

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

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

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

Hymn of the Day: 834 O God, O Lord of Heaven and Earth



1 O God, O Lord of heav'n and earth, Thy liv - ing
 2 Our fa - tal will to e - qual Thee, Our reb - el
 3 Thou cam - est to our hall of death, O Christ, to
 Δ 4 O Spir - it, who didst once re - store Thy Church that



fin - ger nev - er wrote That life should be an aim -
 will wrought death and night. We seized and used in pride -
 breathe our poi - soned air, To drink for us the dark
 it might be a - gain The bring - er of good news



less mote, A death - ward drift from fu - tile birth.
 ful spite Thy won - drous gift of lib - er - ty.
 de - spair That stran - gled our re - luc - tant breath.
 to men, Breathe on Thy clo - ven Church once more,



Thy Word meant life tri - um - phant hurled In splen - dor through
 We housed us in this house of doom, Where death had roy -
 How beau - ti - ful the feet that trod The road that leads
 That in these gray and lat - ter days There may be those



Thy bro - ken world. Since light a - woke and life be - gan,
 al scope and room, Un - til Thy ser - vant, Prince of Peace,
 us back to God! How beau - ti - ful the feet that ran
 whose life is praise, Each life a high dox - ol - o - gy



Thou hast de - sired Thy life for man.
 Breached all its walls for our re - lease.
 To bring the great good news to man!
 To Fa - ther, Son, and un - to Thee.

Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–76, alt. Tune: Jan O. Bender, 1909–94

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+ Sermon +

Measure and it will be Measured Back

Offering

+ Prayer +

Following the prayers, 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).

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 the family of **Darrel Wehmeier** (Deb Wales's brother) who recently 2/15. 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 **Pastor John Schultz** hospitalized, for health and oxygen levels. For **Kim Smolter** health. For **Gail Rieman** (Kenna Chorney's mom) upcoming cancer treatments. For **Linda Davis** upcoming aortic valve replacement this Tues, 1/25. For **Fred Hansen** upcoming aortic valve replacement (and heart cat this week). For **Kris Smith** 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 taking 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: 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, Noah G 3/2, Willie DC 3/4, Teddy L 3/5, Kate B 3/6, Owen S 3/6, Everett F 3/7, Gary S 3/7

Anniversaries: Luke & Blair J 2/22

Benediction for those worshipping via 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 that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, 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 ✠ 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

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: 637 Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord (see hymnal)

Distribution Hymn: 544 O Love, How Deep

Distribution Hymn: 814 O Bless the Lord, My Soul

Psalms 103 {1}

Distribution Hymn: 851 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

Nunc Dimittis pg. 211 for music

Luke 2:29–32

C (sung) 1 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.

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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 Schauerma

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 | \$8,600 | \$1,186,595 |
| Pledged | \$179,106 | \$42,744 | \$1,065,270 |
| Remaining | \$31,931 [over] | -\$34,144 [under] | \$121,325 [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@praiselutheran.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.

- **Culver's Fundraiser** in Alcoa on Monday, March 3, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
- **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.
- **Swig** dirty soda shop \$10 gift cards. Purchase from our Youth in the Narthex.

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, NEXT Saturday.

Youth Catechesis with Pastor Roberts

March 2 from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. in the large Sunday School Room (followed by Mar 16)

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>



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*: meets again THIS Tues at 3:30 p.m., lasting a total of 6-8 weeks. Contact Pastor Roberts for details. 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 or 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

Voters Meeting at 9:45 a.m. in the Social Hall

This Week

Cards Creation Tuesday at 1:00 p.m. in the Social Hall. All welcome!

Adult Catechesis Tuesday 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. in the Social Hall with Pastor Roberts

Men's Lunch Wednesday at 11:30 a.m. at El Jimador

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 Bible Study Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

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

Upcoming Events

Transfiguration of our Lord, Sun, Mar 2 final Sunday in the Epiphany season and we'll pack away the Alleluias until Easter. *Wear white next Sunday in honor of Transfiguration!*

Mar 3 (Mon) Culver's in Alcoa Youth Fundraiser, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.



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

Mar 12, 19, 26, Apr 2, 9 (Weds) Midweek Service Noon and 7:00 p.m. with Soup Suppers at 6:00 p.m. Soup Supper sign-ups are in the Narthex. Please take a look! Theme for Midweek Lent Services: *Singing with the Saints*. Come learn about the Saints of old and their songs of Christ and our Redemption.