

## + First Sunday in Lent +

Mar 9, Year of our Lord 2025 | DS2

## + 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

*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 91:9–13; antiphon: vv. 15–16*



**P** When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in | trouble;\*  
I will rescue him and | honor him.

**C** **With long life I will sat- | isfy him\***  
**and show him my sal- | vation.**

Because you have made the LORD your | dwelling place—\*

the Most High, who is my | refuge—

**no evil shall be allowed to be- | fall you,\***

**no plague come | near your tent.**

For he will command his angels con- | cerning you\*

to guard you in | all your ways.

**On their hands they will | bear you up,\***

**lest you strike your foot a- | gainst a stone.**

You will tread on the lion and the | adder,\*

the young lion and the serpent you will trample | underfoot.

**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.**

When he calls to me, I will answer him; I will be with him in | trouble;\*  
I will rescue him and | honor him.

## Kyrie

*Mark 10:47*

**A** (sung) In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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



**C** A - men.

*The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted in Lent.*

### Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray. O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; 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.

### Old Testament Reading

*Deuteronomy 26:1–11*

“When you come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you for an inheritance and have taken possession of it and live in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from your land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket, and you shall go to the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name to dwell there. And you shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, ‘I declare today to the LORD your God that I have come into the

land that the LORD swore to our fathers to give us.’ Then the priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God.

“And you shall make response before the LORD your God, ‘A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labor. Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O LORD, have given me.’ And you shall set it down before the LORD your God and worship before the LORD your God. And you shall rejoice in all the good that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house, you, and the Levite, and the sojourner who is among you.”

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

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

### Gradual

*Hebrews 12:2*

**C** **O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,  
the founder and perfecter of our faith,  
who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame,  
and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

### Epistle

*Romans 10:8b–13*

“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

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

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

### Verse of the Day

*Ephesians 6:11*

**P** Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the schemes of the devil.

## Holy Gospel

Luke 4:1–13

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



**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.



Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. The devil said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.” And Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live by bread alone.’” And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, “To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” And Jesus answered him, “It is written,

“You shall worship the Lord your God,  
and him only shall you serve.”

And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you,  
to guard you,’

and

“On their hands they will bear you up,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.”

And Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

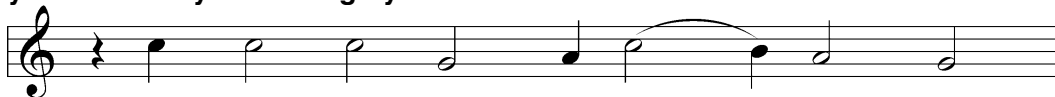
## Nicene Creed

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

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

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

**Hymn of the Day: 656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,  
 2 With might of ours can naught be done,  
 3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,  
 4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;  
 Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;  
 All ea - ger to de - vour us,  
 Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need  
 But for us fights the val - iant One,  
 We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;  
 He's by our side up - on the plain



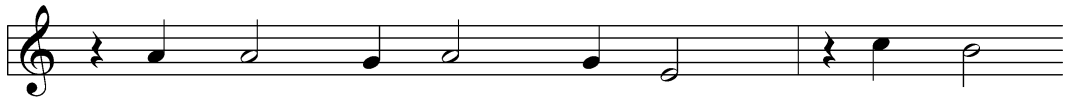
That hath us now o'er-tak - en.  
 Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.  
 They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.  
 With His good gifts and Spir - it.



The old e - vil foe Now means  
 Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus  
 This world's prince may still Scowl fierce  
 And take they our life, Goods, fame,



dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might  
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,  
 as he will, He can harm us none.  
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,



Are his dread arms in fight; On earth  
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds  
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -  
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -



is not his e - qual.  
 the field for - ev - er.  
 tle word can fell him.  
 dom ours re - main - eth.

Text: tr. Composite Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546  
 Text and tune: Public domain

+ Sermon +

Temptation and A Mighty Fortress

Offertory, p. 176 for music

*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.**

## **Offering**

### **+ Prayer +**

*Following the offering, 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 **LA fires** recovery. **Hurricanes Milton and Helene flood relief** and recovery in the Southeast. For **Camp Linn Haven** (North Carolina) reconstruction after flood. 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 **Louise Kropp** (Jerry Kropp's mother) who recently passed 2/20. 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 passed 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 **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 **Rev. John Schulz** (Pastor Emeritus at First Lutheran, Knoxville) in hospice. For **June McDonnell** hospitalized this past week for pleurisy. For **Gary** (possible thyroid cancer) and **Kolene** (heart issues) **Lucht** (Joel and Barbara Morsch's son-in-law's parents). For **Linda Davida** thanksgiving for and recovery from aortic valve replacement on 2/25. For **Chuck Pettyjohn** for lung health (awaiting test results). For **Kim Smolter** health. For **Tom Wittkopp** recovering from knee surgery on 2/24. For **Linda McMichael** upcoming knee surgery 4/15 or sooner. For **Gail Rieman** (Kenna Chorney's mom) upcoming cancer treatments. For **Fred Hansen** upcoming aortic valve replacement. 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 **Tom Wade** (Will Wade's brother) recovering from surgery. For **Nadine Wittkopp** recovering from stomach surgery. 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 George in aking care of her). For **Garrison** with ALS (student of Amy Mohr's daughter, Coleen Williams). For **Marie Guinn** (Jennifer Kropp's mother) cancer treatment and health. 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:** Katie F 3/9, Daniel H 3/10, Soren M 3/10, Meagan C 3/11, Charlie N 3/12, Bob G 3/14, Paul G 3/16, Julian M 3/17, Tyler S 3/20, Andrew H 3/21

**Anniversaries:** Mark & Sonja R 3/9, Randy & Carrie G3/14, Rick & Lisa G 3/20

*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** (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, p. 178 for music**

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

**C** (sung) **Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

**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**

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

**Pax Domini**

*John 20:19*



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

**C** A - men.

**Agnus Dei, p. 180 for music**

*John 1:29*

**C** (sung) **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, 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: 418 O Lord, throughout These Forty Days** (see hymnal)

**Distribution Hymn: 718 Jesus, Lead Thou On**

**Distribution Hymn: 424 O Christ, You Walked the Road**

**Distribution Hymn: 877 God, Who Made the Earth and Heaven**

*Psalm 91:9-12 {3}*

**Post Communion Collect**

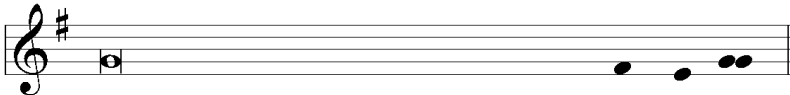
*p. 183*

**L** Let us pray... now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**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.

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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 9:45 a.m.

Address: 315 Southdowne Dr, Maryville, TN 37801

Phone: (865) 977-5810; Website: [praiselutheran.com](http://praiselutheran.com)

Online giving: [praiselutheran.com](http://praiselutheran.com) (click the blue "Give" button)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PraiseLutheranChurch/>

Staffed Office Hours: Monday through Thurs. 9:00 to Noon, Thurs. also: 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

Office Administration: Tina Pierce, [tina@praiselutheran.com](mailto:tina@praiselutheran.com)

Pastor Derek Roberts, [pastor@praiselutheran.com](mailto:pastor@praiselutheran.com), cell: (865) 421-9988 (Day off: Fridays)

DCE: Shelli Haynes, [shelli@praiselutheran.com](mailto:shelli@praiselutheran.com), cell: (909) 226-3179

Congregational President: Dr. Tom Wittkopp, Vice President: Tim Nunnink

Prayer requests: if possible, please submit by 9:00 a.m. on Thursdays

Organist/pianists: Janice Kaiser, Susan Johnson, Gary Schauerman

Choir Director: Laura Bisconte, Choir Pianist: Susan Johnson

Church Calendar: [praiselutheran.com/events](http://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](http://praiselutheran.com/build) to see our build completion video!

Building Fund	2024 Receipts	2025 Receipts	Total Receipts
Actual	\$211,037	\$9,060	\$1,187,055
Pledged	\$179,106	\$42,744	\$1,065,270
Remaining	\$31,931 [over]	-\$33,684 [under]	\$121,785 [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](http://praiselutheran.com), homepage, right hand side, blue box. Need help? Contact [tina@praiselutheran.com](mailto: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, DCE or Linda McMichael with questions on specific meeting places for each group.

**Middle and High School Midweek Youth** WILL NOT meet Wednesdays during Lent so families can worship together. We will resume youth nights after Easter!

**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.
- **Swig** The popular Swig dirty soda shop has partnered with Praise to offer \$10 gift cards perfect for the Swig Fans in your life. If you haven't had a chance to try Swig, don't forget to grab a gift-card first! Our students are in the narthex ready to sell each Sunday!



Ex **shoes** us, please. Our NYG group is collecting shoes in any condition (including singles) to help those in need or support micro-businesses in other countries. A Florida-based company will pay us by the pound for all shoes collected during March and April. If you have any shoes you no longer need, please consider donating them at church. Your support is greatly appreciated! Leave

donated shoes in the marked bin in the Narthex. We are hoping to collect 400 pairs of new or gently worn shoes by the end of March! Let's put our best foot forward and help send our group to NYG!

**DEPOSITS DUE: 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*. All parents and students interested in being part of this wonderful week of learning, please make sure to send your deposit of \$50 at your first opportunity. **We need to have all soft commitments noted as soon as possible.**

**Youth Catechesis** with Pastor Roberts

Mar 16 from 12:30 – 1:30 p.m. in the large Sunday School Room (followed by Apr 6)

**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 2:00 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 **March 18, 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.

**Thank you** to those who came out to Culver's this past Monday to support Praise Lutheran Youth (fundraiser for the National Youth Gathering). Great to see so many who were there to help serve or to eat and enjoy an evening out. *Sophia Roberts, coordinator for this event on behalf of the Youth Group.*

### **This Week**

**Lent Midweek Service** on Wednesday at Noon and 7:00 p.m.

**Soup and Sandwich Supper** in the Social Hall on Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

Did you sign up to bring food? Don't forget to bring on Wednesday. See Suzanne Nunnink if any questions.

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

**Middle and High School Youth** Wednesday evenings (attending Lent Midweek Services)

**Men's Bible Study** (on break) resumes after Easter

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

### **Return to the Lord: Midweek in Lent**



**Mar 12, 19, 26, Apr 2, 9** (Wednesdays) Midweek Service **Noon** and **7:00 p.m.** Enjoy also Soup and Sandwich Suppers (free) at 6:00 p.m. Theme for Midweek Lent Services: *The Saints and their Songs* Come learn about the Saints of old and their songs of Christ and our Redemption.

Help provide food for Soup and Sandwich Supper: Sign-ups are in the Narthex.