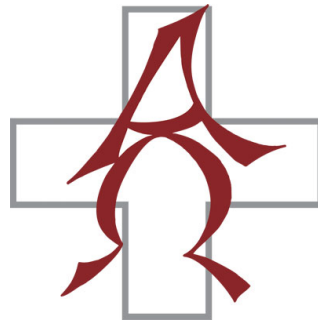


## + Sixth Sunday after Pentecost +

*July 20, Year of our Lord 2025 / DS3*

## + Confession and Absolution +

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



### Invocation

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

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

### Exhortation

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

- P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**C** who made heaven and earth.  
**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,  
**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

### Confession of Sins

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

### Absolution

*[John 20:19–23]*

- P** Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## + Service of the Word +

### Introit

*Psalm 119:57–60, 64; antiphon: v. 105*



**P** Your word is a lamp | to my feet\*  
and a light | to my path.

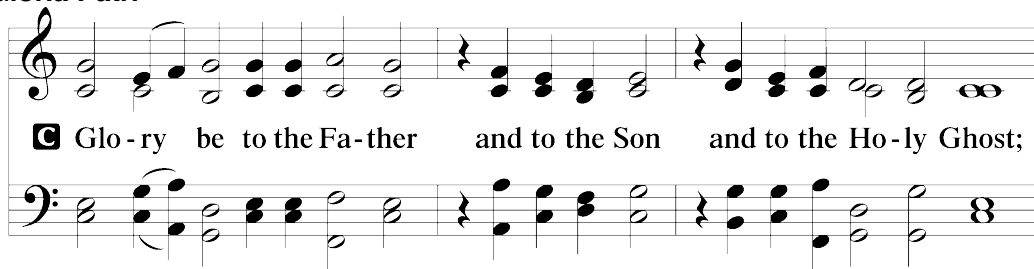
**C** The LORD is my | portion;\*  
I promise to | keep your words.  
I entreat your favor with | all my heart,\*  
be gracious to me according to your | promise.

**When I think | on my ways,\***  
**I turn my feet to your testi- | monies;**

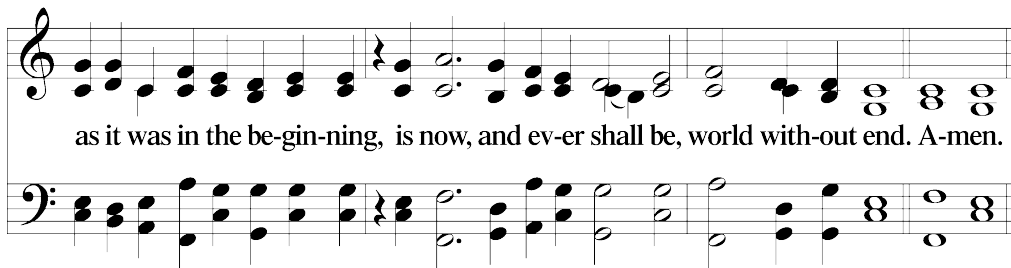
I hasten and do | not delay\*  
to keep your com- | mandments.

**The earth, O LORD, is full of your | steadfast love;\***  
**teach me your | statutes!**

### Gloria Patri



**C** Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther and to the Son and to the Ho-ly Ghost;



as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now, and ev-er shall be, world with-out end. A-men.

## Kyrie

Mark 10:47

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

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

## Gloria in Excelsis, p. 187-189

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

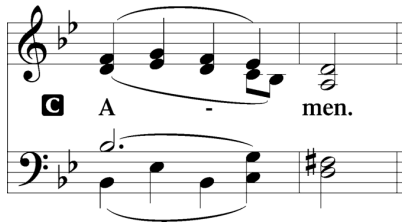
**P** (sung) Glory be to God on high:  
**C** and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.  
 We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,  
 we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
 O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.  
 O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
 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** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spir - it.

- P** Let us pray. O Lord, grant us the Spirit to hear Your Word and know the one thing needful that by Your Word and Spirit we may live according to Your will; 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

*Genesis 18:1–14*

The LORD appeared to [Abraham] by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day. He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth and said, “O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, “Quick! Three seahs of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes.” And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, “Where is Sarah your wife?” And he said, “She is in the tent.” The LORD said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in years. The way of women had ceased to be with Sarah. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I am worn out, and my lord is old, shall I have pleasure?” The LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ Is anything too hard for the LORD? At the appointed time I will return to you about this time next year, and Sarah shall have a son.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Gradual

*Romans 10:15b, 18b; Isaiah 52:7b, alt.*

- C** How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news,  
who publish peace and bring good news of salvation.  
Their voice has gone out to all the earth,  
and their words to the ends of the world.

## Epistle

*Colossians 1:21–29*

You, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

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

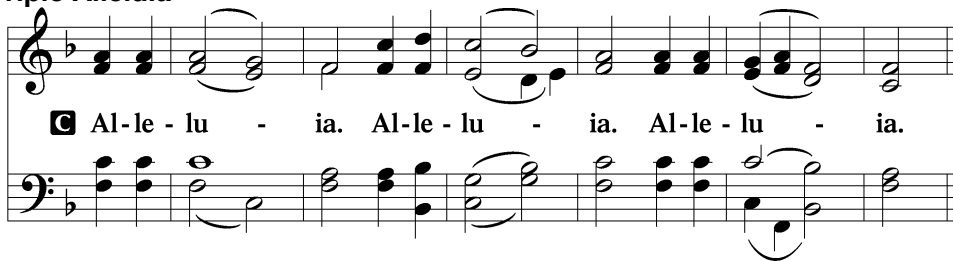
**C** Thanks be to God.

## Verse of the Day

*Colossians 2:6b–7a*

**P** Alleluia. As you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him. Alleluia.

## Triple Alleluia



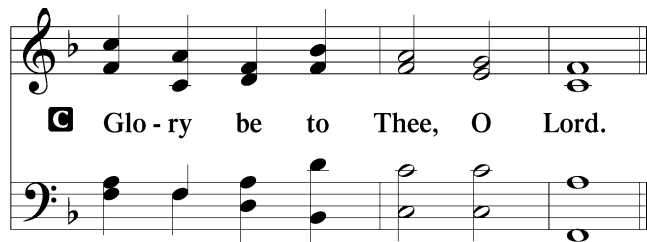
**C** Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

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

## Holy Gospel

*Luke 10:38–42*

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



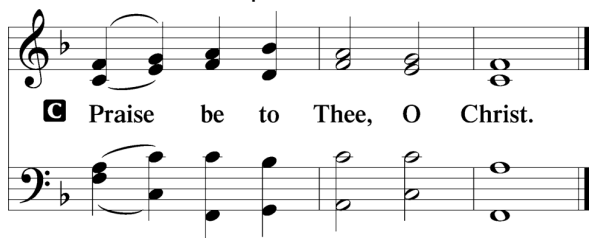
**C** Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

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

Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to his teaching. But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."



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



## 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 of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: 708 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart (see hymnal)

Offertory, p. 192-193

*Psalm 51:10-12*

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

**Announcement of Offering and Greetings of Peace**

The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

**Prayer of the Church** see colored insert

*Reminder for those watching at home to pray **The Lord’s Prayer**.*

*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.

The musical notation for the Preface consists of two staves, treble and bass, in a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics 'And with thy spir - it.' are written below the notes. A square icon with the letter 'C' is placed at the beginning of the lyrics.

**P** Lift up your hearts.

Two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains a series of chords and a single eighth note. The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains a series of chords and a single eighth note. The lyrics 'We lift them up un - to the Lord.' are written below the staves.

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

Two staves of music. The top staff is in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains a series of chords and a single eighth note. The bottom staff is in bass clef with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It contains a series of chords and a single eighth note. The lyrics 'It is meet and right so to do.' are written below the staves.

### Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

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

### Sanctus ~ Holy, Holy, Holy, p. 195

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

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

### Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9–13*

**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.*

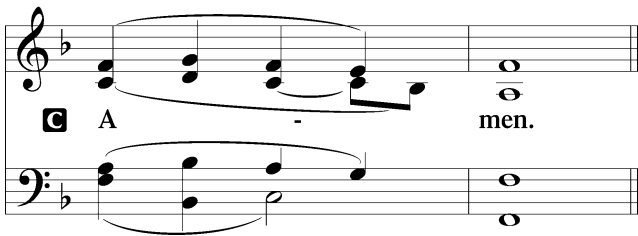
**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✝}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

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** (sung) The peace of the Lord be with you always.



## Agnus Dei, p. 198

*John 1:29*

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

## Distribution

Please see our pastor for details about baptism, instruction, and vow of confirmation of our church’s teachings prior to taking the Lord’s Supper (Communion) at Praise.

**Distribution Hymn: 578 Thy Strong Word** (see hymnal)

**Distribution Hymn: 933 My Soul Rejoices**

**Distribution Hymn: 763 When Peace, like a River**

**Distribution Hymn: 738 Lord of All Hopefulness**

## Nunc Dimittis, p. 199-200

*Luke 2:29–32*

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

## Thanksgiving

*Psalms 107:1*

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

Musical notation for the Thanksgiving section. It consists of two staves, treble and bass, in the key of D major (two sharps). The treble staff begins with a C-clef and the bass staff with an F-clef. The melody is written in the treble staff, starting on a whole note D4, followed by a half note E4, a quarter note F#4, and a quarter note G4. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with a whole note D3, a half note E3, and a quarter note F#3. The lyrics "and His mercy endureth for - ev - er." are written below the treble staff, with the word "and" aligned under the first measure and "er." under the last.

## 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.

Musical notation for the Post-Communion Collect. It consists of two staves, treble and bass, in the key of D major (two sharps). The treble staff begins with a C-clef and the bass staff with an F-clef. The melody is written in the treble staff, starting on a whole note D4, followed by a half note E4, a quarter note F#4, and a quarter note G4. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with a whole note D3, a half note E3, and a quarter note F#3. The lyrics "A - men." are written below the treble staff, with "A" aligned under the first measure and "men." under the last.

## Salutation

*2 Timothy 4:22*

**P** (sung) The Lord be with you.

Musical notation for the Salutation section. It consists of two staves, treble and bass, in the key of D major (two sharps). The treble staff begins with a C-clef and the bass staff with an F-clef. The melody is written in the treble staff, starting on a whole note D4, followed by a half note E4, a quarter note F#4, and a quarter note G4. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with a whole note D3, a half note E3, and a quarter note F#3. The lyrics "And with thy spir - it." are written below the treble staff, with "And" aligned under the first measure and "it." under the last.

## Benedicamus

*Psalm 103:1*

**A** (sung) Bless we the Lord.

Two staves of music in G major (one sharp). The treble staff begins with a G4 quarter note, followed by a half note G4-A4, a quarter note B4, and a quarter note C5. The bass staff begins with a G3 half note, followed by a half note G3-A3, a quarter note B3, and a quarter note C4. Both staves end with a double bar line.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

*Numbers 6:24–26*

**P** (sung) 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  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.

Two staves of music in D major (two sharps). The treble staff begins with a D4 half note, followed by a half note E4, a quarter note F#4, and a quarter note G4. The bass staff begins with a D3 half note, followed by a half note E3, a quarter note F#3, and a quarter note G3. Both staves end with a double bar line.

**C** A - men, a - men, 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: [facebook.com/PraiseLutheranChurch/](https://facebook.com/PraiseLutheranChurch/)

YouTube: [youtube.com/@PraiseLutheran](https://youtube.com/@PraiseLutheran)

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

Office Administration: Elissa Upward, **[officeadmin@praiselutheran.com](mailto:officeadmin@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

Director of Worship Arts: Caleb Hesse, [caleb@praiselutheran.com](mailto:caleb@praiselutheran.com)

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 or phone? Please let the church office know.**

**Three Large Print Hymnals** are available. Please check with an usher for availability.

**Subscribe to our newsletter at [praiselutheran.com](http://praiselutheran.com) at the bottom right of the homepage.**



## + Prayers +

World: For **protection** and **peace**. For God to cease the wars between modern-day **Israel** and the **Hamas** and the conflict between **Ukraine** and **Russia**. For **fire, flood, and hurricane** recovery. For **Flood Victims** and their families in Texas and other states with storm and flood.

Concern for the Lost: For family and friends who do not know or have fallen away from the truth, grace, and love of the Savior, Christ Jesus.

Vocation: For our youth and youth leaders at **the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans** this week. For **veterans and our military** for **Mason Burkett** (Mary Schopman grandson in-law) being deployed to Poland next week leaving behind his wife and new baby; military servants: **Carter Felt, Casey Lawson, Tyler Smith** and **William Smolter**. For our singles, parents, grandparents, and families. For our families expecting a baby: **Alex & Shelby Hicks, Luke and Blair Johnson, Elijah & Faith Miessler** (boy in Sept.), **Sam & Kate Bohnet** (boy in Aug.), and **Samual and Sarah Kropp** (girl in Sept.). For **those serving in hospitals and homeless shelters**. For **teachers** in our community schools. For our circuit's seminary students: **Aaron Wade, Sam Bohnet** (vicarage placement in Louisville, KY), **Daniel Bueckman**, and **Alex Ogden** (call placements). **Michael Saxton** was placed as a convertible vicar at Grace Lutheran, Knoxville. For **children and families** dealing with difficult situations due to drugs, alcohol, violence, abuse, stress, and strife.

Recent Loss and Mourning: **Shauna** (friend of Laura Bisconte) who passed away in Knoxville. **Ruth** (sister-in-law to Phil & Carol Barnett) who passed away in Wisconsin and **Ruth's grandson** who died in a car accident. **Mona** (Angela Gift's mother) who passed away in Alabama. **Rev. Paul Meunch** retired LCMS pastor and missionary, 6/15.

Health: For **Joel Morsch** treatment for a brain bleed. For **Carol Ehrens** health and good days (hospice care at home). For **Ed Hannah** health requiring tests and hospitalization this past week. For **Larry Bembas** recovering from kidney stone surgery. For **Chuck Pettyjohn** for lung and heart health. For **Stephanie** (Larry & Cathy Wacker's daughter) for cancer treatment and stem cell treatment for **Kevin** her husband. For **Becky Hamby's brother** with a brain bleed, and her another brother **Jeffrey Happel** with ongoing health issues. For **Kris Smith** recovering from pneumonia and heart valve replacement. For **Sandy Bagley** recovering from procedure to clear 3 blockages and 2 stents. For **Larry Wacker** recovering from elbow surgery. For **Charlotte** newborn great-granddaughter to Mary Schopmann in the NICU (born a little early) and for her mother **Alexis**. For **Cole Hammond** (Joan Large's grandson) comfort in dealing with epilepsy. For **Margaret** (Justin Gift's great grandma) in ICU. For **Pat Sweet** (friend of Ole & Mavis) fragile health condition. For **June McDonnell** recovering from falls and lung health. For **Tim Smith** heart and blood pressure health. For **Ted Frazier** headaches and blood pressure drops. For **Lee Schuck** and **Gus** taking care of her. For **Pam** (Jim Roberts's sister) heart and respiratory issues. For **Derek Bryant** (friend of Mary Schopmann) kidney reception. For **Fred Hansen** recovery of strength after receiving aortic valve replacement. For **Bob Goodrich** health. For **George Vitzthum** cataract surgery recovery and for **Carole**. For **Ken Kropp** recovering from heart surgery. For **Kim Smolter** health. For **Emma Lu Kerekes** health and hospice care (in Oak Ridge). For **Gary Kubin** hip surgery rehab (now home). For **Ed & Barbara McGillick** health, pain and dizziness management. For **Haley Jenkins** (Ed & Sandy Bagley's niece) esophageal issues. For **Don Hammond** heart a-fib (Joan Large's son). For **Rachel Ernst** upcoming rescheduled surgery. For **Margarete** (neighbor to Jim & Maureen Roberts) dealing with advancing cancer. For **Bill Frazho** (Paul Ruble's brother-in-law) lung and overall health. For **Ron Williams** (back at Foothills) and for his wife Pamela. For **Barbara Moyers** recovery from back surgery (now

home). 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 **Carol** (Alex Hick’s aunt) frontal lobe dementia. For **Tom Williams** maintenance chemo treatments. For **Janeen Meier** healing for physical and mental health (Maureen Roberts’ sister and Pastor Roberts’s Aunt). **Debbie Johnston** kidney health. **Bob McDermott** dealing with Parkinson’s symptoms. For **Alan Stremsterfer’s mother** and **Lisa Stremsterfer’s father** health. **Aurora Stevens** back and shoulder pain treatments. For **Kathy Bigger** (friend of Donna Wall) pancreatic cancer. Andrew Hebar’s Aunt **Kara** (health).

**Birthdays:** Samuel H (7/21), Tammy C (7/22), Mike W (7/22), Rowan B (7/25), Casey L (7/28), Courtney B (7/30), Ted W (7/30)

**Anniversaries:** George & Linda Walker (7/25), Alan & Judy Tokar (7/29), Tyler & Megan Smith (7/31)

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Building Fund	2024 Receipts	2025 Receipts	Total Receipts
Actual	\$211,037	\$35,830	\$1,213,825
Pledged	\$179,106	\$42,744	\$1,065,270
Remaining	\$31,931 [over]	-\$6,914 [under]	\$148,555 [over]

*Build Project total cost: \$2,973,613 (approximately 38% funded).*

Visit [praiselutheran.com/build](https://praiselutheran.com/build) to see our build completion video! Gifts to the Build Fund are still encouraged (the extended Capital Campaign ends on December 31, 2025). Our total monthly mortgage payments to Lutheran Church Extension Fund: \$11,413 [breakdown: \$10,309 (new building) + \$1,104 (older building)].

Thank you to everyone who’s already signed up for **Kroger Community Rewards**! With your support, we earned \$93 last quarter. If you haven’t signed up yet, it’s an easy way to contribute to our church while you shop! Just head to their website to get started and start earning for our community today!

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## Youth and Families

**Summer Sunday School Series** is for all children and students, age 2 through 12th grade. Join us for a fun-filled and faith-growing summer! Drop off and pick up will be in the nursery, which begins at 9:45 a.m. on Sundays.

The **Habits of the Household** series led by Travis Haynes will meet for a few more Sundays in the larger classroom. This group is perfect for parents of all ages—whether you have young children or older elementary, middle, or high school kids. Join us for valuable insights and support!

**Middle and High School Midweek** Please join us for midweek youth group! Middle School meets Wednesdays 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. for students going into 6<sup>th</sup> grade through 8<sup>th</sup>. High School meets Wednesdays 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Please bring your water bottle, comfy clothes you can move easily in, and your Bible!

Be part of the **LCMS Youth Gathering** experience on Facebook! We'll be sharing our journey and experiences on Facebook, so be sure to follow the LCMS Youth Gathering page for updates. Additionally, we will post updates on the Praise Lutheran Church account as well. We'll return by the end of this week!

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## Music at Praise

As August begins, so are exciting opportunities for music here at Praise Lutheran Church!

- **The Choir** will begin weekly rehearsals Wednesday September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 p.m.
- **Piano Lessons** are coming to Praise! Anyone (along with their parents/guardians in the case of children) ages 6+ are welcome to join Caleb Hesse (as instructor) and learn about the exciting world of piano playing.
- **Instrumentalists Wanted!** If you are a string, wind, or percussion player, we would love to have you active in the music here at Praise. Based on availability there will be opportunities for solo, chamber, and ensemble playing within the church music and choir program.

For any questions and extra information, please reach out to our Director of Worship Arts, Caleb Hesse, at [caleb@praiselutheran.com](mailto:caleb@praiselutheran.com).

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## New at Praise

**Elissa Upward** moved from Wisconsin in June 2024 with her family Tim, Blakelyn, Charlette, and Everett. She previously served the School District of Altoona since 2016. She began as an Assistant Administrator and later advanced to Director of Athletics and Activities, where she played a key role in expanding student programs and community engagement. Before her work in education, Elissa worked remotely in graphic design for a small company. Welcome, Elissa!

**Caleb Hesse** moved here recently from Texas with his wife Mattie (and cat Ginger). He enjoys movies, games, and sewing. Professionally, Caleb is a composer, pianist, and organist, and has performed across the United States including notable appearances in Minnesota, Colorado, Texas, and now Tennessee! He is an active member of several professional organizations, including Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, the American Guild of Organists (AGO), and the Music Teachers National Association (MTNA). Caleb recently completed his undergraduate degree in Music Composition at West Texas A&M University. He will begin studies for his Master of Music in Music Composition at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville this fall. Welcome, Caleb!

**Ushers are needed for the First Service.** If you're interested, please contact Chris Broyles.

**Veterans Pantry Donations** are being accepted in the Narthex. All items will be delivered to the Office of Veterans Affairs of Blount County.

**Thrivent members** with Action Team gift-card eligibility (2 per year) can help contribute \$250 towards project needs at church, contact Jim Roberts.

[Final day for] Gifts for the **Baby Shower** of Faith (née Kropp) and Elijah Miessler, as they prepare to welcome their baby boy this September. Gifts will be collected TODAY by Jennifer Kropp for delivery to Faith in Fort Liberty, NC. For Amazon registry see *Faith Miessler, Fort Liberty, NC*.

**Rally Day** is on August 17th! Join us for a joyful morning as we celebrate all that God has done through our ministries and explore exciting opportunities to get involved in the year ahead.

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## Today

**Issues Class Topics** with Pastor Roberts [9:45 a.m. Sundays in the Social Hall]

*Today's Topic: Ghosts, spirits, angels, and demons*

*July 27 topic - Women elders; Mariology; Roles of men and women*

*Aug 3 topic - Luther and the Jews; Race and racism*

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## This Week

**Men's Bible Study** on break until announced in August.

**Middle and High School Youth** on Wednesday this week: see Youth communications.

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

**LCMS National Youth Gathering in New Orleans** returning Wednesday, 23rd

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## Upcoming

**Tuesday, July 29** Cards Creation, 1:00 p.m., Social Hall

**August 2** (Sat) Church Council Planning Day from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**August 17** (Sun) Rally Day at 9:45 a.m. in the Social Hall

**August 23** Bunco at 6:00 p.m.

**September 21 Fall Picnic** Save the date: 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. More details to come.

**September 26-28 Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML)** Fall retreat in Tallassee, TN. Find more information in the Narthex to the right of the mailboxes. Not to be confused with our own Praise Lutheran Ladies Retreat (see below).

**October 24-26 Ladies Fall Retreat** *A Heart After the Lord's Own Heart* at the Tuckaleechee Retreat Center in Townsend. Presenter: Stella Beabout from Crossville, TN. She studied in the Old Testament Exegetical Studies Ph.D. program at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO. Stella has lead numerous Bible studies and retreats Scholarships available. Pick up a brochure in the Narthex. See Kris Smith or Barbara Morsch for more details.