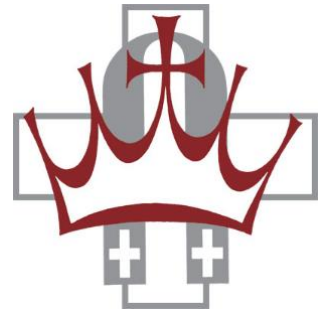


+ Seventh Sunday of Easter +
May 17, Year of Our Lord 2026 | DS4

With Special Guest: Rev. Dr. Stephen Starke

+ 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 T 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

+ Service of the Word +

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



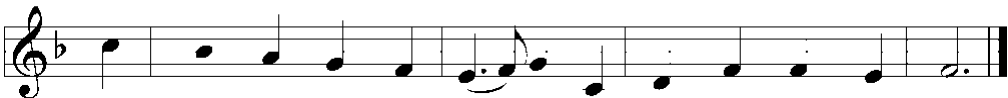
C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole-be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



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.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with your spirit.**

P Let us pray.

O King of glory, Lord of hosts, uplifted in triumph far above all heavens, leave us not without consolation but send us the Spirit of truth whom You promised from the Father; for You live and reign with Him and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

First Reading

Acts 1:12–26

Then [the apostles] returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away. And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

In those days Peter stood up among the brothers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, "Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. For he was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry." (Now this man bought a field with the reward of his wickedness, and falling headlong he burst open in the middle and all his bowels gushed out. And it became known to all the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that the field was called in their own language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.) "For it is written in the Book of Psalms,

"May his camp become desolate,
and let there be no one to dwell in it";

and

"Let another take his office.'

So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these men must become with us a witness to his resurrection." And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed and said, "You, Lord, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place." And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

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

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

- C **Christ has risen from the dead.
God the Father has crowned him with glory and honor.
He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;
he has put all things under his feet.**

Epistle

1 Peter 4:12–19; 5:6–11

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. But let none of you suffer as a murderer or a thief or an evildoer or as a meddler. Yet if anyone suffers as a Christian, let him not be ashamed, but let him glorify God in that name. For it is time for judgment to begin at the household of God; and if it begins with us, what will be the outcome for those who do not obey the gospel of God? And

“If the righteous is scarcely saved,
what will become of the ungodly and the sinner?”

Therefore let those who suffer according to God's will entrust their souls to a faithful Creator while doing good. . . .

Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God so that at the proper time he may exalt you, casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you. Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour. Resist him, firm in your faith, knowing that the same kinds of suffering are being experienced by your brotherhood throughout the world. And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you. To him be the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

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

Verse of the Day

John 14:18

- P Alleluia. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Alleluia.

Alleluia and Verse (with Gospel Procession)



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Holy Gospel

John 17:1–11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the seventeenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

When Jesus had spoken these words, he lifted up his eyes to heaven, and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all flesh, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they know you the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth, having accomplished the work that you gave me to do. And now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had with you before the world existed.



“I have manifested your name to the people whom you gave me out of the world. Yours they were, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything that you have given me is from you. For I have given them the words that you gave me, and they have received them and have come to know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world but for those whom you have given me, for they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I am glorified in them. And I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, keep them in your name, which you have given me, that they may be one, even as we are one.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Gospel procession returns to the chancel.

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: 539 Christ Is the World's Redeemer



1 Christ is the world's Re - deem - er, The lov - er of the pure,
2 Christ has our host sur - round - ed With clouds of mar - tyrs bright,
3 Down through the realm of dark - ness He strode in vic - to - ry,
△ 4 Glo - ry to God the Fa - ther, The un - be - got - ten One,



The font of heav'n-ly wis - dom, Our trust and hope se - cure,
Who wave their palms in tri - umph And fire us for the fight.
And at the hour ap - point - ed He rose tri - um - phant-ly.
All hon - or be to Je - sus, His sole - be - got - ten Son,



The ar - mor of His sol - diers, The Lord of earth and sky,
Then Christ the cross as - cend - ed To save a world un - done
And now, to heav'n as - cend - ed, He sits up - on the throne
And to the Ho - ly Spir - it— The per - fect Trin - i - ty.



Our health while we are liv - ing, Our life when we shall die.
And, suf - f'ring for the sin - ful, Our full re - demp - tion won.
Whence He had ne'er de - part - ed, His Fa - ther's and His own.
Let all the worlds give an - swer: A - men! So let it be.

Text: attr. Columba, 521–597; tr. Duncan MacGregor, 1854–1923, alt. Tune: Irish Text and tune: Public domain

+ Sermon +

Kept in His Name
(based on John 17:11, 17)
Rev. Dr. Stephen Starke

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 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... evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus, p. 208

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

C (sung) **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving ~ (see altar book)

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 T 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 T 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, p. 210

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: 623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

Distribution Hymn: 664 Fight the Good Fight

Distribution Hymn: 650 Holy Spirit, Ever Dwelling

Distribution Hymn: 544 O Love, How Deep

Nunc Dimittis, p. 211

Luke 2:29–32

C (sung) **1 O 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 ~ (see altar book)

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 T give you peace.

C **Amen.**



315 Southdowne Dr, Maryville, TN 37801 | (865) 977-5810 | praiselutheran.com
Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Sunday Divine Services weekly at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
Sunday Congregational Bible Study and Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Office Administration: Elissa Upward, officeadmin@praiselutheran.com, (865) 977-5810
Pastor: Rev. Derek Roberts, pastor@praiselutheran.com, (865) 421-9988 (Day off: Fridays)
Director of Worship Arts: Caleb Hesse, caleb@praiselutheran.com

Congregational President: Tim Nunnink, **Vice President:** Dr. Tom Wittkopp
Organist/pianists: Janice Kaiser, Susan Johnson, Gary Schauerman
Choir Director: Caleb Hesse, Choir Pianist: Susan Johnson

Church Calendar: Visit praiselutheran.com/events for upcoming events.
Newsletter: Subscribe at the bottom right of our homepage.
Social Media: Connect with us at facebook.com/PraiseLutheranChurch and youtube.com/@PraiseLutheran.
Online Giving: Go to praiselutheran.com and click the blue “Give” button.

Additional Information: Please submit prayer requests by 9:00 a.m. each Thursday to ensure they are included in the upcoming service. If your contact information has changed, kindly notify the church office. Large-print hymnals are available upon request. Please speak with an usher for assistance.

Acknowledgments

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Sunday, May 17, 2026

+ Prayers +

World: For the news and victory of **Christ's bodily Resurrection** to bring joy and comfort to many suffering tribulations. For the end of persecution and genocide of **Nigerian Christians**. For the end of the fighting between the **U.S., Israel, and Iran** and soon we pray between **Ukraine and Russia**.

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 **Hymn Fest** this afternoon at 3:00 p.m. and all serving for it. For safe return to Michigan for Pr. Starke tomorrow. For upcoming weddings for **Isaak Buchanan & Julliette Wilkerson** (this month!) and for **Jack Nunnink & Rachel Holst** (June). For **Rachel Vesper** safe travels in Cambodia from May through July 4. For the upcoming baptism of **Wesley** to **Joshua & Adelaide Arguien** on May 24. For our parents expecting children this year: **Bryan & Kaite Baer**, and **Justin & Nicole Fritts**. For the engagement of member **Rachel Vesper** to **Aiden Morrison**. For **veterans and our military** for **Mason Burkett** (Mary Schopmann's grandson-in-law) deployed to Poland. For military servants: **Michael Strange** and **Carter Felt**. For **those serving in hospitals and homeless shelters**. For our circuit's seminary students: **Aaron Wade, Sam Bohnet** (vicarage placement in Louisville, KY). For **children and families** dealing with difficult situations due to drugs, alcohol, violence, abuse, stress, and strife.

Recent Loss and Mourning: For family of **Carolyn Howard** (husband Tom is a friend of Paul Ruble) who passed away. For family of **Charlene Smith** (Rev. George Smith's wife) who passed away on Good Friday. For **Fran Wehmeier** (Deb Wales's mother) who passed away Easter Sun, 4/5. For the family of **Melvin Wehmeier** (Deb Wales's father) who passed away 4/1. For the family **Tom Williams** (wife Corlis) who passed away 3/26. For the family of **Ron Williams** (wife Pamela) who passed away 3/24. For family of **Mildred Balash** who passed away 3/21 (104 yrs old). For the Family of **Mavis Johnson** who passed away 2/28. For the family of Elder **Chuck Pettyohn** who died on 2/25. *Christ is risen!*

Health: For **Bob Goodrich** fell and is dealing with several fractures, rehab. For **Errol Feilback** (Karen Trebus's brother in Ohio) declining health. For **Ed Bagley** diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis. For **Tim Gift** upcoming procedure to test/remove spot on his lung. For **Rick Gift** upcoming heart test. For **Wendy Underwood** (friend of George & Linda Walker) recently diagnosed with cancer. For **Lori Smith** surgery recovery. For **Gail Reiman** (Kenna Chorney's mom) with advanced lymphoma. For **Stevie** (Auroa Stepen's son) health. **Debbie Johnston** kidney dialysis. For **Larry Bembas** upcoming radiation treatments. **Lou Trebus** knee replacement recovery. For **Lou Ann Lott** (broken elbow recovery). For **Cindy DiPasqua** recovering from heart attack, surgery, and valve replacement. For **Fred Hansen's** health. For **Larry & Cathy Wacker** (health and recovery from surgery). For **Carole Vitzthum** and for **George** taking care of her. For **Ron Dozier** (Renee Hickmon's brother) heart incident. For **Piper** (9 yr old. niece of Mary Brown) cancer diagnosis and treatment. For **Todd Stubelt** (nephew of Sharon Felker) stage 4 brain cancer. For **Anna Roberts** (Jim & Maureen's daughter-in-law) cancer treatments. For **Alan Bell** (Barbara Morsch's brother) stroke recovery. For **Al Reuer** stroke recovery. For **Catherine Buote** surgery recovery from broken shoulder. For **Sarah** (friend of Suzanne Nunnink) intensive chemotherapy.

For **Kathi Hawn** (friend of Faye Schauerman) recovering from surgery for a double lung transplant. For **John Reese** (Mary Ellen Brown's niece's husband) recovery of health. For **Ann** (Rick Gift's stepmother) leukemia and health. For **Tonia Latham** (Phyllis Bembas's niece) health recovery. For **Ed McGillick** dizziness spells. For **Sherrie** (Renee Hickmon's sister) health recovery. For **George Gorghis** (friend of Donna Wall) treatment for Lymphoma cancer, stage 4. For **Janeen Meier** healing for physical and mental health (Maureen Roberts' sister and Pastor Roberts's Aunt). For **Bob Heckman's** health. **Sandy Bagley** health. For **Pat Sweet** (friend of Ole & Mavis Johnson) fragile health condition. For **June McDonnell** stability and lung health. For **Tim Smith** heart and blood pressure health. For **Lee Schuck** and **Gus** taking care of her. For **Derek Bryant** (friend of Mary Schopmann) kidney reception. For **Gary Kubin** back and leg pain. For **Haley Jenkins** (Ed & Sandy Bagley's niece) esophageal issues. For **Margarete** (neighbor to Jim & Maureen Roberts) dealing with advancing cancer. For **Barbara Moyers** health. 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 **Alan Stremsterfer's mother** health. **Aurora Stevens** pain and health. Andrew Hebar's Aunt **Kara** (health).

Birthdays: Eugene Gorman III (5/20), Liam Hendricks (5/20), Shelby Hicks (5/21), Charlette Upward (5/21), Blair Johnson (5/22), Deb Wales (5/22), Marleen Baerns (5/23), Mary Ellen Brown (5/24), Gary Kubin (5/27), Elizabeth Leiser (5/27), Maureen Roberts (5/30)

Anniversaries: Ray & Diane Zumwalt (5/22)

Church Operations & Christian Stewardship

| General Fund | 2026 Budget | 2026 Actual | Remaining for Budget |
|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| | \$400,000 | \$161,438 (5/3/26) | \$238,562 |
| Building Fund | 2025 Receipts | 2026 Receipts | Total Receipts |
| Actual | \$71,247 | \$9,102 | \$1,259,975 |
| Pledged | \$42,744 | <i>Budget: \$25,000</i> | \$1,065,270 |
| Remaining | \$28,503 [over] | 15,898 [under] | \$194,705 [over] |

Thank you to all who gave or fulfilled commitments to the Capital Campaign, which ended Dec. 31, 2025. As of 12/31/25 the new loan balance is \$1,861,079. Gifts to the Building Fund or Loan Principal Fund are encouraged to help reduce principal and for future projects. Visit praiselutheran.com/build to see our build completion video! Gifts to the Build Fund are still encouraged. Our total monthly mortgage payments to Lutheran Church Extension Fund: \$11,413 [breakdown: \$10,309 (new building) + \$1,100 (extra mortgage payment monthly)].

Children and Youth Ministry

Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday for all children and students age 2 on up. Confirmed youth are encouraged to join the Congregational Bible Study with Pastor Roberts.

Midweek Youth Group will meet on Weds at 7:00 p.m. starting with Compline in the Sanctuary.

Youth Catechesis will meet **today** at 12:30 p.m. with Pastor Roberts for the final class to review assigned memorization from Scripture and the Catechism. On **Sun, May 31**, all catechumens are invited to gather in the Social Hall at 9:45 a.m. to present before their parents and the congregation in a question-and-answer session, demonstrating what they have memorized from Scripture and the Catechism. Then at the 11:00 a.m. Divine Service (on Holy Trinity Sunday) Audrey Flaska, Justin Gift, Olivia McCarty, Christian Nagle, Baylor Sutherland, and Charleston Synder of the Youth Catechumens will receive the **Rite of Confirmation**.

Campfirmation is July 5–11 for youth ages 12 and up. The total cost is \$115 per camper due June 1. Payments can be placed in the collection plate with note or memo “Campfirmation” or dropped off at the front office.

Worship and Music Ministry

Choir Practice meets this Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

Piano and Organ lessons are available at Praise with our Director of Music, Caleb Hesse. Anyone age 6 and up (with a parent/guardian for children) is welcome to sign up. For additional information, please reach out to Caleb at caleb@praiselutheran.com.

Congregational Life & Fellowship

Donations for the Veterans Pantry may be placed in the basket in the Narthex. They are delivered on a regular basis to the Blount County Office of Veterans Affairs.

Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) supports Christ-centered growth through mission work, fellowship, and devotion. Meetings are held quarterly in the Social Hall from 10:00–11:30 a.m. Future meeting dates for 2026 are Saturdays Aug 15th and Nov 21st.

Meals of Comfort Ministry provides meals for grieving families, easing the burden of hosting visiting loved ones and allowing them to focus on mourning and sharing Christ’s comfort. We are currently seeking a Coordinator. If you’re interested, please connect with Elissa or Pastor.

Today

Please join us in **welcoming Rev. Dr. Stephen Starke**, contributor to more than 30 hymns in the *Lutheran Service Book* and author or contributor to more than 200 hymns, including beloved favorites such as *The Tree of Life* and *We Praise You and Acknowledge You*. Pastor Starke will preach at both services today and lead the Congregational Bible Study, exploring what makes a hymn a hymn in his presentation, *The Word Sung: Dogma and Doxa in Dialogue*. Then, at 3:00 p.m., join us for ***Where Praises Never End***, a hymn festival highlighting his work, as he narrates the themes and theology between hymns. A meet-and-greet reception with refreshments will follow the festival. *Remember, the hymn fest begins at 3:00 p.m. TODAY.*

Youth Catechesis will meet TODAY at 12:30 p.m. with Pastor Roberts for the final class to review assigned memorization from Scripture and the Catechism.

This Week

Choir Rehearsal meets on Wed at 6:00 p.m.

Youth Group meets Wed at 7:00 p.m. starting with Compline in the Sanctuary.

Men's Bible Study meets Wed at 7:00 p.m. starting with Compline in the Sanctuary.

Ladies Bible Study meets Thurs at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall.

Verse of the Day

The following Bible verses were selected by an anonymous Elder from Praise who offers these in prayer that they may be beneficial to all the congregation for daily devotions.

| | |
|-------------------|------------------------|
| Monday: | Psalm 146:2 |
| Tuesday: | Ephesians 1:3-4 |
| Wednesday: | Proverbs 3:5-6 |
| Thursday: | Phillippians 4:7-8, 19 |
| Friday: | Psalm 48:1,9 |
| Saturday: | Deuteronomy 31:8 |

Upcoming

The Day of Pentecost is Sun, May 24. Please wear **Red** to match the church paraments.

This service will also include the Rite of Holy Baptism for Wesley Arguien.

Cards Creation will meet on Tues, May 26, at 1:00 p.m.

Questioning of the Confirmands on May 31 at 9:45 a.m. in the Social Hall before their parents and the congregation, demonstrating their memorization from Scripture and the Catechism.

Holy Trinity Sunday on May 31 with Divine Services at 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Please wear white to match the paraments. **Rite of Confirmation** will take place during the 11:00 a.m. service.