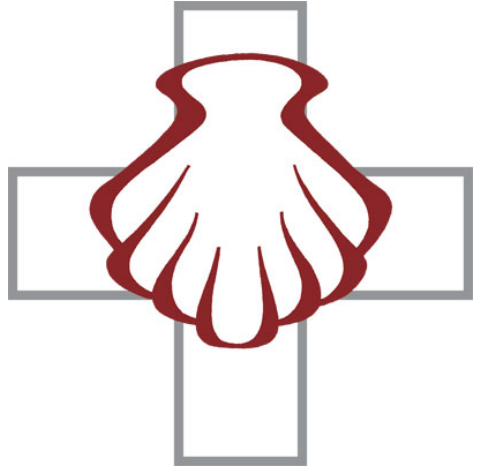


## + Second Sunday in Lent +

March 5, Year of our Lord 2023 | DS1 with guest:  
Rev. Roger James, ILC preaching

### + 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  $\text{✝}$   
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  $\text{✝}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## + Service of the Word +

### Introit

*Psalm 105:4–7; antiphon: v. 8*



**P** He remembers his covenant for- | ever,\*  
the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.

**C** **Seek the LORD | and his strength;\***  
**seek his presence con- | tinually!**

Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,\*  
his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered,

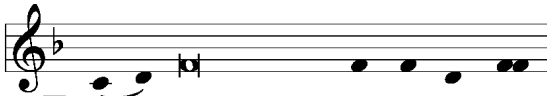
**O offspring of Abraham, his | servant,\***  
**children of Jacob, his | chosen ones!**

He is the | LORD our God;\*  
his judgments are in | all the earth.

**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.**

He remembers his covenant for- | ever,\*  
the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.

### Kyrie ~ Lord, Have Mercy (Mark 10:47)



**A** 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. [2]

**A** For the peace of the whole world, ...Church of God, ...unity of all, let us pray... [3]

**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray... [4]

**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. [5]



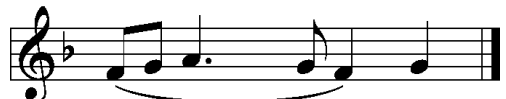
2. **C** Lord, have mer - cy.



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



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



5. **C** A - men.

*Moment of silence as the Hymn of Praise (ordinarily the Gloria in Excelsis)  
is omitted in Lent as part of our Lenten fast.*

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

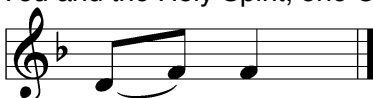


**P** The Lord be with you.



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

- P** Let us pray. O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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

*Genesis 12:1–9*

The LORD said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.” So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

**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.

**Choral Anthem** (11:00 a.m. service only) *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* (Hymn 425)

**Epistle**

*Romans 4:1–8, 13–17*

What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but trusts him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

“Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,  
and whose sins are covered;  
blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin.” . . .

For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

**Verse of the Day**

*John 3:16*

**P** For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

**Holy Gospel**

*John 3:1–17*

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



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

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from

God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him.” Jesus answered him, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”



Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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



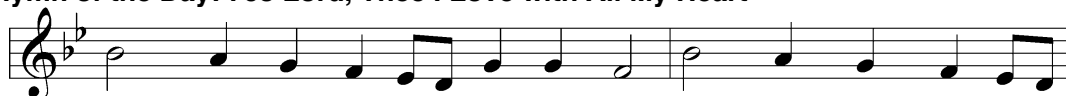
**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### 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 of the world to come. Amen.**

**Hymn of the Day: 708 Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart**



1 Lord, Thee I love with all my heart; I pray Thee, ne'er from  
 2 Yea, Lord, 'twas Thy rich boun-ty gave My bod - y, soul, and  
 3 Lord, let at last Thine an - gels come, To A - br'ham's bos - om



me de - part, With ten - der mer - cy cheer - me. Earth  
 all I have In this poor life of la - bor. Lord,  
 bear me home, That I may die un - fear - ing; And



has no plea - sure I would share. Yea, heav'n it - self were  
 grant that I in ev - 'ry place May glo - ri - fy Thy  
 in its nar - row cham - ber keep My bod - y safe in



void and bare If Thou, Lord, wert not near me. And should my  
 lav - ish grace And help and serve my neigh - bor. Let no false  
 peace-ful sleep Un - til Thy re - ap - pear - ing. And then from



heart for sor - row break, My trust in Thee can noth - ing shake.  
 doc - trine me be - guile; Let Sa - tan not my soul de - file.  
 death a - wak - en me, That these mine eyes with joy may see,



Thou art the por - tion I have sought; Thy pre - cious  
 Give strength and pa - tience un - to me To bear my  
 O Son of God, Thy glo - rious face, My Sav - ior



blood my soul has bought. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and  
 cross and fol - low Thee. Lord Je - sus Christ, my God and  
 and my fount of grace. Lord Je - sus Christ, my prayer at -



Lord, my God and Lord, For - sake me not! I trust Thy Word.  
 Lord, my God and Lord, In death Thy com - fort still af - ford.  
 tend, my prayer at - tend, And I will praise Thee with - out end.

Text: Martin Schalling, 1532–1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

**+ Sermon +**

**Rev. Roger James, Assistant to the Secretary General  
 International Lutheran Council**

**Offertory**

*Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19*



What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e - fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal -



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres - ence of all His peo - ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

### **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).

### **Prayers to God on Behalf of...**

**World:** Praying for the end of the conflict between **Ukraine** and **Russia** (and preservation of life and land). Devasting twin earthquakes in **Turkey** and **Syria**.

**Church:** For our ongoing **church building/expansion planning** with architect Studio 4, contractor Creative Structures, and our 3-year Capital Campaign with LCEF. Mission work of **Rehema Open Door** (Rehema is Swahili for mercy) palliative care center/hospice in Kenya. Local mission of **Pregnancy Resource Center** of Maryville and Sevierville.



**Vocation:** **Tyler Smith** (Airforce) in Mississippi and **Megan** beginning law school at UT. **Jacob** (Tami DeHaven's grandson) stationed in S. Korea. **Carter Felt** (Navy: stationed in Charleston). **Casey Lawson** (Airforce). For **Emily and Julian Martinez** (expecting). **Alex & Shelby Hicks** (expecting). **Paul & Angela Gift** rejoicing in the birth of **Nyla**. For Bill & Diane Miller's new grandson **Isaiah**. **Tatum Smolter** (and Tanner, rejoicing in birth of **Tylen**). **Eugene & Vicky Gorman** (expecting).

**Mourning:** Family of **Larry** (Marleen's brother in law, Jeff's uncle) who passed away in Colorado. Family of **Clayton Narveson** who passed away 1/20. Family of **Janet Moore's mother, Mary Lou**, who passed away. Family of **Stan Stubelt** of Friendsville (Sharon Felker's brother) who passed away. Family of **Priscilla Sullenberger** (Debbie's Johnston's sister). Family of **Dick Mohr** who passed away 9/17/22.

**Health:** **Mary Schopmann** recovering from rhabdomyolysis. **Amy Mohr** recovering from surgery and treatment for sepsis. **Ed & Sandy Bagley** recovering from covid. **Pastor Ed Maanum** of First Lutheran Knoxville, kidney function and hip pain. **Gary Kubin** severe back pain. For **June McDonnell** (lung health). **Sharon Yoder** trouble with oxygen levels, heart, and leg pain. **Ed McGillick** vertigo and blood pressure/heart health. **Jennifer Morsch** (Joel & Barbara's daughter) with many health issues. **Delora Roth** good leg circulation health.



**Myrna Frazier** scheduled for a biopsy. **Rachel Ernst's mother**: cancer treatments. For **Alan Stremsterfer's mother** recovering from kidney stones and health issues. For **Lisa Stremsterfer's father** who fell and is recovering. **Brad** (Phil and Carol Barnett's son) cancer surgery recovery. **Sheila Schnepf** (friend of Tom & Lois Schering) experiencing 24/7 back pain. **Judy Kalkitis** recovering after a fall on Christmas Eve. **Nancy** (Jim Vesper's mother) heart attack recovery; **Arnold Solis** (Nunnink's and Lee's father and [great] grandfather) health. **Aurora Stevens** broken back treatment. For **Carolyn Dickie** (health). **Jeannie Lindenfelser** for lung cancer treatments. For **Barbara Moyers** health. **Debbie Johnston** kidney health. For **Kathy Bigger** (friend of Donna Wall) pancreatic cancer. **Bob McDermott** dealing with Parkinson's symptoms. **Mark** (Judy Kalkitis's son-in-law) knee treatment. For **all suffering from mental health issues**. For **Lindsey** (cancer). **Barry** (Wendy Slifka's brother in St. Louis, eye cancer) **Al Reuer** health. **Gregory Strege** (Phyllis's son, health). **Tom Williams**, health and care for heart. **Ken Payne's** health (friends of a friend of Jim Vesper). **Paula** (Corlis William's mother) recovering from a stroke. Ruth Kistler's son **William** (tests and possible cancer treatments). Kenna Chorney's mother: **Gail Rieman** (wound care). **Tim Smith** (heart health). Steve Kaiser's mother **Louise** (age 92) in Indiana. Andrew Hebar's Aunt **Kara** (struggling from cancer treatments). **Connie** (Andrew Hebar's friend) brain and lung cancer. **Bill** (Cathy Wacker's father) dementia, health. **Lee Schuck** (health, unable to walk). **Janeen Meier** (Maureen Robert's sister) health. **Mike Gould's friend** recovering from heart procedure. **Melissa Gilmore** (friend if Jim Vesper) COPD.

**Prayers of Thanksgiving**: For **Cathy Wacker** had successful hip surgery (praying for her recovery). For **Larry Wacker** had three successful procedures at Vanderbilt (praying for good results of the procedures). For **Judy Kalkitis's friend** (old classmate) had successful surgery to remove cancer. For **Janet** (Matthew Flaska's mother) who is recovering from a kidney infection (stent is helping).

**Birthdays**: Teddy L 3/5, Katherine R 3/6, Owen S 3/6, Katie F 3/9, Meagan 3/11, Charlie N 3/12, Bob G 3/14, Lillian H 3/15

**Anniversaries**: Mark & Sonja R 3/09, Randy & Carrie G 3/14, Rick & Lisa G 3/20, Fred & Faye H 3/26

\* **Benediction** for those worshipping on 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**

*p. 160; 2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]*

**P** The Lord be with you.



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

**P** Lift up your hearts.

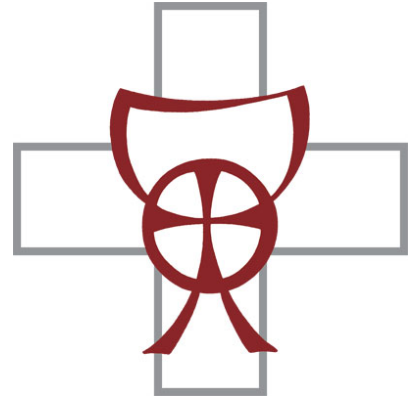


**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**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**

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

*p. 161 or 178*

- P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, ...now and forever.
- C** 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."

### Proclamation of Christ

*1 Cor. 11:26*

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

### Lord's Prayer

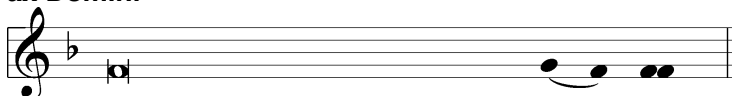
*Matthew 6:9-13*

- 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.

**Pax Domini**

*John 20:19*



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



**C** A - men.

**Agnus Dei**

*John 1:29*



**C** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the



world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the



sin of the world; 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: 596 All Christians Who Have Been Baptized**

**Distribution Hymn: 819 Sing Praise to God, the Highest Good**

**Distribution Hymn: 918 Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer**

**Distribution Hymn: 593 See This Wonder in the Making**

## Post-Communion Collect

*p. 166*

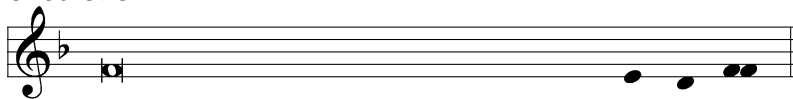
- A** Let us pray.  
... one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

## 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.

  
*Deo Gratias*  
THANKS BE TO GOD

## **Acknowledgments**

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## **Praise Lutheran Church (LCMS)**

Sunday Divine Services weekly at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.; Bible Study and Sunday School at 10:00 a.m.

Address: 1850 Big Springs Rd. 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 Thursday 9:00 to Noon, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. (EST)

Office Administration: Vicky Gorman, [vicky@praiselutheran.com](mailto:vicky@praiselutheran.com)

Pastor: Rev. Derek Roberts, [pastor@praiselutheran.com](mailto:pastor@praiselutheran.com), cell: (865) 229-6024 (Pastor’s day off: Fridays)

DCE: Shelli Haynes, [shelli@praiselutheran.com](mailto:shelli@praiselutheran.com)

Congregational President: Dr. Tom Wittkopp, Capital Campaign Info: Ed Hannah; Joel Morsch

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

Organist/pianists: Janice Kaiser, Susan Johnson, Choir Director: Laura Bisconte, Choir Pianist: Susan Johnson



## Announcements (see next page as well)

**Upcoming Build:** permitting underway, loan discussion and approval to be presented at Voters Meeting on Mar 19, and soon, we pray, breaking ground for excavation work. Keep the process in your prayers.

**DCE Shelli (and husband Travis) Haynes wants to Visit You** Please see the bulletin board in the Narthex where you can see her calendar and email shelli@praiselutheran.com or text her at (909) 226-3179 to arrange a time.

**Message from Betty Narveson:** I just want to thank everyone from the bottom of my heart for all the prayers, cards, flowers, food, phone calls and gifts I received during Clayton's last illness and passage. Thank you also for all the hospital visits that made his last days bearable. I still can't believe he is gone after nearly 71 years together so please bear with me as I continue to heal. Buckets of love to you all and don't stop the hugs. –Betty Narveson.

**Message from Janet Moore:** thank you for the outpouring of love and care shown after the passing of my mother in California. Much love to all –Janet Moore

**Palm Sunday Breakfast on Sun, Apr 2** between services will be provided by Praise's Youth. Bring friends to eat with us, learn of Jesus, and get ready for Holy Week! Funds raised will help our Youth attend Campfirmation in July. See Shelli Haynes for details.

### Holy Week Schedule 2023

**Apr 2 Palm Sunday with Palm Procession** at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

*Breakfast between services served by our Youth*

**Apr 6 Holy Thursday** at 12 noon and 7:00 p.m. Divine Service

**Apr 7 Good Friday** at 12 noon and 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae

**Apr 8 Easter Vigil** at 7:00 p.m. (to be determined)

**Apr 9 Resurrection of Our Lord** Divine Services at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

*Following church: lunch and afternoon together at the Pastor and Gretchen Roberts home*

## Announcements

**Sign-up** in Social Hall TODAY to help provide food for our upcoming midweek meals.

**Midweek Lent Services** on WED at 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m. Soup & Sandwiches at 6:00 p.m. Theme: *I am a Christian: What does this mean?*

**Good news to share:** our *God Grants Life* event in January raised \$34,117.08 (above our \$25,000 goal!) such that the synod will be matching our gift via the Million Dollar Life Grant and making the total: \$59,117.08 for the Pregnancy Resource Center in Maryville and Sevierville. Thanks be to God! Kate Roberts is submitting the documentation for the match.

**Planning Council** meets TODAY after the 11:00 a.m. service

**Congratulations** to Eugene and Vicky Gorman (Vicky is our admin/office administration worker) who closed on their first house this past week.

### *This Week*

**Choir Practice** this Wednesday at **5:30 p.m.** (and will wrap up by 6:15 p.m.)

**Ladies Bible Study** at 10:00 a.m. on Thursdays with Barbara Morsch

**Men's Lunch** (weekly): on break until Easter

### *Next Sunday and beyond*

**Scripture Readings** Ex 17:1-7, Rom 5:1-8, John 4:5-26

**Shelli Haynes, Rite of Installation for a DCE** on next Sun, Mar 12 in the 11:00 a.m. Divine Service. Cake and punch reception after church. We are already blessed by the work Shelli is doing for our youth and congregation. Shelli is hard at work in planning for events ahead. Let's ask God's good favor on her labors and that she continue with such joy in serving Christ and congregation together with us!

**LCEF President to visit Praise** on Thurs, Mar 16 (time to be determined) to discuss our building project.

**Voters Meeting** will be held Sun, Mar 19 (between services) to (re-)elect officers and boards and discuss/approve building loan amounts. Installation of officers and boards on Sun, 3/26.

**Youth Catechesis** next meets on Sun, Mar 19 (10 Commandments)

**Baby Shower for Emily & Julian Martinez** on Mar 26 following the 11:00 a.m. Divine Service, register at Target (gift registry).