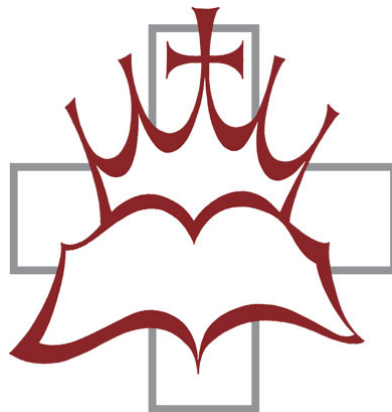


## + Eighth Sunday after Pentecost +

July 23, Year of Our Lord 2023 | DS4

### + Confession and Absolution +



#### Invocation

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

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

**C** Amen.

#### Exhortation

*Psalm 124:8; Psalm 130:3–4; Luke 18:13*

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

**C** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

**P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

#### Confession of Sins

**C** Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

#### Absolution

**P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

### + Service of the Word +

## Introit

*Psalm 86:11–15; antiphon: v. 6*



**P** Give ear, O LORD, | to my prayer;\*  
listen to my | plea for grace.

**C** Teach me your way, O LORD, that I may walk | in your truth;\*  
unite my heart to | fear your name.

I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with | my whole heart,\*  
and I will glorify your name for- | ever.

**For great is your steadfast | love toward me;\***  
**you have delivered my soul from the depths | of Sheol.**

O God, insolent men have risen up against me; a band of ruthless men | seek my life,\*  
and they do not set you be- | fore them.

**Glorify 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.**

Give ear, O LORD, | to my prayer;\*  
listen to my | plea for grace.

## Kyrie

*Mark 10:47*



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

## Gloria in Excelsis



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



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!  
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.  
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shipped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,  
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King.  
Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—  
In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with your spirit.

**P** Let us pray. O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your final judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You in perfect joy hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 44:6–8*

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: "I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. Who is like me? Let him proclaim it. Let him declare and set it before me, since I appointed an ancient people. Let them declare what is to come, and what will happen. Fear not, nor be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? And you are my witnesses! Is there a God besides me? There is no Rock; I know not any."

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Epistle

*Romans 8:18–27*

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to

decay and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Verse of the Day

*Matthew 13:35b*

**P** Alleluia. I will open my mouth in parables; I will utter what has been hidden since the foundation of the world. Alleluia.

### Alleluia and Verse



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



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



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



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

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the thirteenth chapter.

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

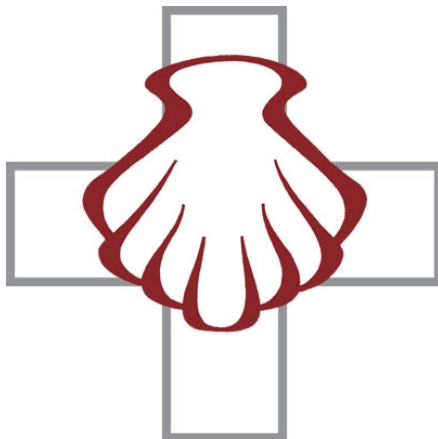
[Jesus] put another parable before them, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field, but while his men were sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared also. And the servants of the master of the house came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? How then does it have weeds?’ He said to them, ‘An enemy has done this.’ So the servants said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ But he said, ‘No, lest in gathering the weeds you root up the wheat along with them. Let both grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Gather the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’”



Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples came to him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world, and the good seed is the children of the kingdom. The weeds are the sons of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil. The harvest is the close of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are gathered and burned with fire, so will it be at the close of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will gather out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all law-breakers, and throw them into the fiery furnace. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. He who has ears, let him hear.”

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

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



## **Rites of Holy Baptism**

*Hymnal p. 268*

*9:00 a.m. service*

Tylen Blake Elwood, born Dec. 2, 2022. Sponsor: William Smolter. Parents: Tanner Elwood, Tatum Smolter

*11:00 a.m. service*

Julian Carlos Martinez (and Confirmation)

Soren Martinez, born Mar 10, 2023. Sponsors: Steven & Rebecca Keyes. Parents: Julian & Emily Martinez



## Hymn of the Day: 922 Go, My Children, with My Blessing



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing, Nev-er a-lone.  
2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.  
3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Clos-er to Me;  
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My  
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you  
Grow in love and love by serv-ing, Joy-ful and free. Here My  
I the Lord will smile up-on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you Mine for-ev-er.  
heard My dear Son's sto-ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo-ry.  
Spir-it's pow-er filled you; Here His ten-der com-fort stilled you.  
Lord will be your Fa-ther, Sav-ior, Com-fort-er, and Broth-er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless-ing— You are My own.  
Go, My chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, At peace and pure.  
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, Joy-ful and free.  
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008 Tune: Welsh, 18th cent. Text: © 1983 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110020024 Tune: Public domain

+ Sermon +

Why Weeds among the Wheat

## **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**

World: Praying for the end of the conflict between **Ukraine** and **Russia**.

Church: For the **Holy Spirit's work** to bring about repentance and faith in Jesus. For **safety and protection** for all who will excavate our land and lay foundation for our new Sanctuary, narthex, and parking lots. For **safety for our friends in Kenya** (Pastor Jasper and family).

Vocation: For the **unemployed**. For **veterans and our military**. For **those serving in hospitals and homeless shelters**. For **parents with children and those expecting**. For **those travelling** this summer. **Rick Gift** and 30,000 cyclists riding across Iowa. **Luke Johnson** starting new job in security at Oak Ridge National Labs.

Mourning: Family of **Brooks** (friend of Paul Ruble) who passed away and for his wife Julie. For family of **Buster** brother in law of a friend of Paul Ruble. For family of **Mary Croes** (member of First Lutheran, Knoxville), 98 years old, who passed away on 6/21.

Health: **Carolyn Dickie** at Morningview for physical therapy. **Lee Schuck** at Morningview for physical therapy. **Janice Kaiser** MRI test results. **Larry Wacker** thanksgiving for heart cath. and replaced stent, for sustained heart health. **Fred Hansen** recovering from follow-up back procedure. **Myrna Frazier** cancer treatments and treating recurrent pain caused by cancer. **Jeannie Lindenfelser** for lung cancer treatments. **Billye Raye Smith** chemo treatment for multiple myeloma. **Carol Webb** (cousin of Linda Davis) recovering from fall from window. **Tim Smith** watchman heart procedure recovery. **Gary Moehling** (thanksgiving that he is doing better) recovery of balance and stability, further tests in October with a specialist. **Chuck Pettyjohn** recovering from open heart surgery. **Gary Kubin** recovering from back surgery. For **Fred Hansen** recovering from back procedure. **Ole Johnson** recovery and good outcome of recent surgery. For **Alan Tokar** (Judy's husband) recovery from back surgery. **Lori Smith** hole in her eardrum, slow to heal. **Mary** (Ed & Sandy Bagley's daughter) Legionnaires' disease treatment. **Bob McDermott** dealing with Parkinson's symptoms. For **Karen** (Larry & Janet Moore's niece) relief from pain from surgery. **Theresa Lindsay** recovering from knee replacement. **Jesse** (friend of Laura Bisconte) health and mourning loss of her mother. For **Judy Kalkitis** health. **Larry Moore** recovering from ankle replacement surgery. **Sharon Yoder** recovering from tricuspid valve procedure. **Pastor Neil Vanderbush** at Immanuel, Memphis, recurrent multiple myeloma treatment. **Kay & Dwight** (Myrna's sister and Brother-in-law) for health and Dwight's cancer treatments. **Janice Kaiser** sciatic pain treatment. Rick & Lisa Gift's family, **Terry & Ann Gift** (both with cancer). **A**



**Teacher at Justin Gift's school**, fighting cancer. **Mary Schopmann** for strength and health. **Pastor Ed Maanum** of First Lutheran Knoxville, kidney function. For **June McDonnell** (lung health). **Jennifer Morsch** (Joel & Barbara's daughter) health. **Delora Roth** good leg circulation health. **Rachel Ernst's mother**: cancer treatments. For **Alan Stremsterfer's mother** health issues. For **Lisa Stremsterfer's father** health and stability. **Sheila Schnepf** (friend of Tom & Lois Schering) back pain. **Nancy** (Jim Vesper's mother) health. **Aurora Stevens** back treatments. For **Barbara Moyers** health. **Debbie Johnston** kidney health. For **Kathy Bigger** (friend of Donna Wall) pancreatic cancer. For all suffering from mental health issues. **Al Reuer** health. **Gregory Strege** (Phyllis's son, health). **Ken Payne's** health (friends of a friend of Jim Vesper). Ruth Kistler's son **William** (tests and possible cancer treatments). Kenna Chorney's mother: **Gail Rieman** (wound care). **Tim Smith** (heart and back 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. **Janeen Meier** (Maureen's sister) health.

**Birthdays**: Casey L 7/28, Courtney B 7/30, Ted W 7/30, Sharon Y 7/31, Mark R 8/3, Jim T 8/3, Gregory S 8/4, Danny F 8/5, Diane M 8/7, Chuck P 8/7

**Anniversaries**: Alan & Judy T 7/29, Tyler & Megan 7/3, Phil & Carol B 8/5, Tom & Lois S 8/7

**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**

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

**P** (*Dominus vobiscum*) The Lord be with you.

**G** **And with your spirit.**

**P** (*Sursum corda*) Lift up your hearts.

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

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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

### Sanctus

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

*p. 161 or 178*

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

**C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

*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

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.



# Agnus Dei

John 1:29



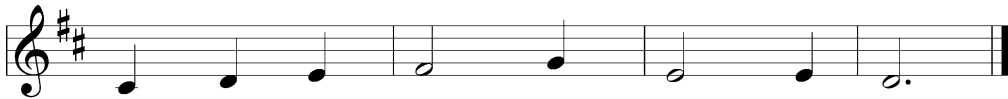
1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;  
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.  
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: 918 Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer**

**Distribution Hymn: 700 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

**Distribution Hymn: 644 The Church's One Foundation**

**Distribution Hymn: 809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

## Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -  
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All  
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the  
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the  
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:  
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;  
A light to lead the the Gen - tiles Un -  
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is  
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your  
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -  
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.  
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

## Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

## Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

- A** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

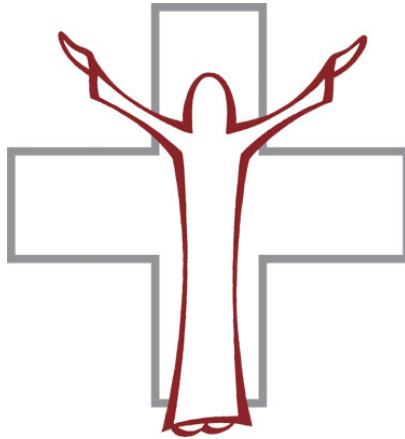
### **Benediction**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

### **Acknowledgments**

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## Youth and Families Announcements

**Middle and High School students**, buckle up for an end of summer slate of youth activities!

The next four Wednesdays are planned for both groups to savor the end of summer.

Begins at 7:00 p.m. and will end at 9:00 p.m.

- **July 26: Progressive Dinner: Fast Food Edition.** Meet at church and travel to FOUR fast food locations to provide a menu of fun and food and fellowship!
- **August 2: Pool Party at Springbrook Pool** in Alcoa: Please join us at the pool [address: 636 Vose Rd, Alcoa, TN 37701] with \$4.00 admission, towel, water bottle, pool goggles if desire, and sunscreen. Parents will provide BBQ hotdogs for dinner. Drop off at 5:00 p.m. and pick up at 8:00 p.m. from the pool.
- **August 9: City Scavenger Hunt:** Meet at church at 7:00 p.m. for a fun night of clues and competition to see who can complete the Scavenger Hunt first! We will be back to church by 9:00 p.m. for pick up.
- **August 16: Welcome & Goodbye Night:** This is our move-up event of the year! If you are a rising 6<sup>th</sup> grade student, this is your formal invitation to join us at church at 7:00 p.m. We will have special activities planned and will say “so long” to our rising 9th graders. Ninth graders you will be able to enjoy BOTH hours, the first as a farewell to middle school and the second as a welcome to high school! This event will be at church at normal times (Middle school 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. and High school 8:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.)

**High School Camp Out** on Sept 1-3 at the woods of +Dick+ and Amy Mohr’s home. Please see Shelli Haynes for details. Shelby and

## Announcements

**Rally Day for the Whole Congregation** will be **Sun, Aug. 6** Come to Bible Study hour at 10:00 a.m. for a lesson and to hear how to sign-up for fall events: Bible Studies, Ladies Bible Study, Women's Retreat, Men's Bible Study, Guess Who's Coming to Dinner, Youth Group, Sunday School, Choir, Altar Guild, Hospitality help, Boards, Mowing, and more!



**Progress on our build:** our land is being prepared for parking and footers for the new building are being poured. Soon contractors will pour the base layers of our parking lots, then we will simply transition from parking to the new lots (minus the top layer until after the building is completed). Visit [praiselutheran.com/build](https://praiselutheran.com/build) to see a video on the progress!

**Mowing Party** at the church this early or mid-week, TBD. See Jim Roberts.

**Planning Council** meets next Sun, July 30 after church.

**The Henkel Conference** save the date of **Aug 7-8, 2023** for great speakers and more at Ascension Lutheran Church in Madison, TN. Visit [www.ascensionmadison.com/henkel](https://www.ascensionmadison.com/henkel) for more info. Last year we had a great time and look forward to this year's event!

**Women's Retreat** sponsored by Ladies Bible Study at Praise will be held Fri-Sun, Nov 3-5 at the Bear Lodge at Tuckaleechee Retreat Center <https://tuckaleecheeretreatcenter.com> Stay overnight or come just for the day (Friday evening and/or Saturday). Topic: The Road to Emmaus. See Kris Smith and Barbara Morsch for details.

**\*\*\* sign-up TODAY \*\*\* Guess Who's Coming to Dinner** event: **Sun, Aug 20** from 6:00 (to 8:00 p.m.) Childcare provided at church begins at 5:30 p.m. (provided by our Youth Group). Hosts have volunteered and we are now ready for you to sign up TODAY. You will be matched with other Praise adults for dinner at one of the host locations! You do not need to bring anything, except love, joy, humor, peace, patience, kindness, and thanksgiving! Youth and babysitting will be offered at the church; this is an adult event. See Shelli Haynes for questions.

### *This Week*

**Board of Christian Ed Meeting** on Wed at 4:00 p.m. at Blackhorse Brewery

**Youth** meet Wednesday (Middle School from 7 to 8 p.m.; High School from 8 to 9 p.m.)

**Choir** on break for the summer

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

**Capital Campaign reminder:** please review your personal commitments made to the capital campaign for the build to help keep our borrowing costs low as the build soon begins. Consider a "ground-breaking" gift to our building fund.