

## + Ninth Sunday after Pentecost +

*August 10, Year of our Lord 2025 | DS2*

## + Confession and Absolution +

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



### Invocation

*Matthew 28:19b; 18:20*

- [P]** In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**[C]** Amen.

### Exhortation

*1 John 1:8–9*

- [P]** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**[C]** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

### Confession of Sins

- [P]** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**[C]** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

### Absolution

*[John 20:19–23]*

- [P]** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**[C]** Amen.

## + Service of the Word +

## Introit

*Psalm 147:8–11; antiphon: v. 7*



**P** Sing to the LORD with thanks- | giving,\*  
make melody to our God | on the lyre!

**C** He covers the heavens with clouds; he prepares rain | for the earth;\*,  
he makes grass grow | on the hills.

He gives to the | beasts their food,\*,  
and to the young ravens | that cry.

**His delight is not in the strength | of the horse,\*,  
nor his pleasure in the legs | of a man,  
but the LORD takes pleasure in those who | fear him,\*,  
in those who hope in his | steadfast love.**

**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.**

Sing to the LORD with thanks- | giving;\*,  
make melody to our God | on the lyre!

## Kyrie ~ Lord, have mercy

*Mark 10:47*

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



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

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



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

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



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

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



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

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



**C** A - men.

### Gloria in Excelsis, p. 170

*Luke 2:14; John 1:29*

**A** (sung) Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.

**C** Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:

We worship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

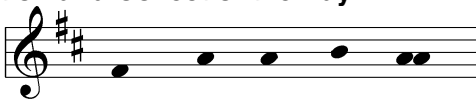
You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For You alone are the Holy One, You alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day



**P** The Lord be with you.



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

**P** Let us pray. Almighty and merciful God, it is by Your grace that we live as Your people who offer acceptable service. Grant that we may walk by faith, and not by sight, in the way that leads to eternal life; 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 15:1–6*

After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?"

And Abram said, “Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir.” And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: “This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir.” And he brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your offspring be.” And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Gradual

*Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.*

**C** Fear the LORD, you his saints,  
for those who fear him lack nothing!  
Many are the afflictions of the righteous,  
but the LORD delivers him out of them all.

## Epistle

*Hebrews 11:1–16*

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. For by it the people of old received their commendation. By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, through which he was commended as righteous, God commending him by accepting his gifts. And through his faith, though he died, he still speaks. By faith Enoch was taken up so that he should not see death, and he was not found, because God had taken him. Now before he was taken he was commended as having pleased God. And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him. By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in reverent fear constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was to receive as an inheritance. And he went out, not knowing where he was going. By faith he went to live in the land of promise, as in a foreign land, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, heirs with him of the same promise. For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God. By faith Sarah herself received power to conceive, even when she was past the age, since she considered him faithful who had promised. Therefore from one man, and him as good as dead, were born descendants as many as the stars of heaven and as many as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.

These all died in faith, not having received the things promised, but having seen them and greeted them from afar, and having acknowledged that they were strangers and exiles on the earth. For people who speak thus make it clear that they are seeking a

homeland. If they had been thinking of that land from which they had gone out, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared for them a city.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Verse of the Day

*Luke 12:32*

**P** Alleluia. Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Alleluia.

## Alleluia and Verse

*John 6:68*



## Holy Gospel

*Luke 12:22–34*

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



[Jesus] said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat, nor about your body, what you will put on. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life? If then you are not able to do as small a thing as that, why are you anxious about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass, which is alive in the field today, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you, O you of little faith! And do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to

drink, nor be worried. For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you.

“Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. Sell your possessions, and give to the needy. Provide yourselves with moneybags that do not grow old, with a treasure in the heavens that does not fail, where no thief approaches and no moth destroys. For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.”

**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  $\text{✝}$  of the world to come. Amen.

## Hymn of the Day: 735 Have No Fear, Little Flock



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; Have no fear, lit - tle  
 2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; Have good cheer, lit - tle  
 3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; Praise the Lord high a -  
 4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; Thank - ful hearts raise to



flock, For the Fa - ther has cho - sen To  
 flock, For the Fa - ther will keep you In  
 bove, For He stoops down to heal you, Up -  
 God, For He stays close be - side you, In



give you the King - dom; Have no fear, lit - tle flock!  
 His love for - ev - er; Have good cheer, lit - tle flock!  
 lift and re - store you; Praise the Lord high a - bove!  
 all things works with you; Thank - ful hearts raise to God!

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## + Sermon +

“Which of you by being Anxious?”

## Offertory

*Psalm 116:12-13, 17-19*



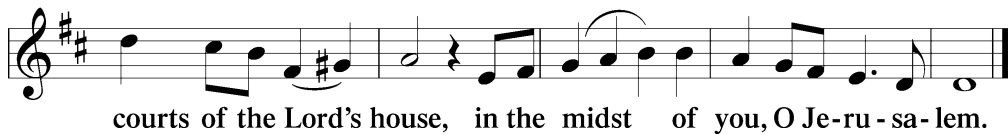
**C** What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e-fits to



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-



### **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.



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

**P** Lift up your hearts.



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

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



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

## Proper Preface ~ Altar Book (appropriate to the day or season)

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary...evermore praising you and saying:

### Sanctus, p. 178

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

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

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

*p. 161 or 178*

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

**C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9–13*

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C** **Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be Thy name,  
Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth  
as it is in heaven;  
give us this day our daily bread;  
and forgive us our trespasses**

as we forgive those  
 who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For Thine is the kingdom  
 and the power and the glory  
 forever and ever. Amen.

### The Words of Our Lord

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

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

### Pax Domini

*John 20:19*

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



**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



### 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: 711 Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us** (see hymnal)

**Distribution Hymn: 575 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less**

**Distribution Hymn: 625 Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread**

**Distribution Hymn: 733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past**

**Thank the Lord, p. 181**

*[Psalm 105:1–3, 42–43]; [1 Chronicles 16:8–10]*

**C** (sung) **Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.**

### Post Communion Collect

*p. 183*

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

**C** Amen.

### Benediction

*Numbers 6:24–26*

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



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

315 Southdowne Dr, Maryville, TN 37801 | (865) 977-5810 | [praiselutheran.com](http://praiselutheran.com)  
Office Hours | Monday–Thursday, 9:00 – Noon

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.

Church Calendar: [praiselutheran.com/events](http://praiselutheran.com/events)

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

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

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

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

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

Choir Directors: Caleb Hesse, Laura Bisconte, Choir Pianist: Susan Johnson

For prayer requests to be added in the service, please submit by 9:00 a.m. on Thursdays. If your contact info has recently changed, please let the church office know. Large print hymnals are available (please check with an usher for availability).



## + 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 **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: For the family of **Emma Lu Kerekes** (founding member of Praise) who passed on 7/25 (Memorial Service will be 9/6). For family of **Shelby Williams** (granddaughter of Jeanne Lindenfelser) who died tragically in July. **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.

Health: For **Carol Ehrens** health and good days (hospice care at home). For **Joel Morsch** treatment for a brain bleed. For **Fred Hansen** recovery of strength and health. For **Bob Goodrich** diabetes management and heart health. For **Linda Davis** a fib treatment. For **Rhonda Heckman** recovering from back surgery and for **Bob Heckman's** health. For **Ed Hannah** health after hospitalization recently. 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 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 **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:** Janet M (8/10), Kayla D C (8/16), Carol E (8/17), Debbie S (8/17), Sabrina B (8/22), Jane N (8/22), Emily M (8/23), Tim S (8/23)

**Anniversaries:** Travis & Shelli Haynes (8/10), John & Courtney Brekke (8/12), Matthew & Meghan Flaska (8/14), Alex & Shelby Hicks (8/18)

**Church Operations & Christian Stewardship**

Building Fund	2024 Receipts	2025 Receipts	Total Receipts
Actual	\$211,037	\$38,376	\$1,216,372
Pledged	\$179,106	\$42,744	\$1,065,270
Remaining	\$31,931 [over]	\$4,368 [under]	\$151,102 [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)].

**Online Giving** is available on our website, [praiselutheran.com](https://praiselutheran.com) (see the Give button). You can set up recurring gifts to select funds. “Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Cor. 9:7

To select **Kroger Community Rewards**, log in to your account at [www.kroger.com](https://www.kroger.com), go to “My Account,” then “Community Rewards,” and search for and enroll in Praise Lutheran Church. From the Kroger app, tap the menu (≡), go to “Rewards,” then “Community Rewards,” and follow the prompts to select and enroll your chosen organization.

**Thrivent members** eligible for Action Team gift cards (two per year) can donate \$250 toward church project needs. To contribute, please contact Jim Roberts.

## **Children and Youth Ministry**

**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.

**Midweek Youth Group** meets this Wed, Aug 13 with Pastor Roberts at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Hall for a teaching and to talk about the upcoming Rally Day Sunday School hour.

## **Worship and Music Ministry**

**Choir rehearsals** resume Wednesday, September 3 at 6:00 p.m., where we'll explore a variety of choral music—hymns, spirituals, and arrangements—while strengthening vocal technique and growing as musicians. **Instrumentalists** are encouraged to connect with Caleb for opportunities in solo, chamber, and ensemble performances based on your availability.

**Piano lessons** are coming to Praise! Anyone age 6 and up (with a parent/guardian for children) is welcome to join instructor Caleb Hesse and explore the joy of piano playing.

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).

## **Congregational Life & Fellowship**

**Rally Day on August 17** is a time for us to come together around God's Word, giving thanks for all He has done through our ministries. We'll highlight the Youth's recent experiences at both Campfirmation and the National Youth Gathering. We will also **welcome new members** into the congregation, followed by a **potluck luncheon** in their honor. Please bring a dish to share as we come together for fellowship, and to celebrate the continued growth of our church family.

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

**Interested in cycling and Christian fellowship?** Join us for an interest meeting on Sunday, August 24, 2025, at 3:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall to explore starting a Christian cycling group open to all riders, styles, and skill levels. Whether you're a seasoned cyclist or just getting started, all are welcome. For more info, contact Rick Gift at 865-274-2063 or [gifthaus@gmail.com](mailto:gifthaus@gmail.com).

### **Today**

**Issues Class** with Pastor Roberts meets at 9:45 a.m. in the Social Hall. Today's topic: *Living Together Before Marriage*. Next class will be Aug 24: *Guest pastor: Church's role in Government*.

### **This Week**

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

**Middle and High School Youth** both meet at 7:00 p.m. with Pastor Roberts

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

### **Upcoming**

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

**August 21** (Thu) Men's Monthly Luncheon at El Jimador, 1705 E Lamar Alexander Pkwy.

**August 23** (Sat) Bunco is cancelled

**September 3** (Wed) Choir rehearsals begin

**September 21** (Sun) Fall Picnic, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. More details to come.

**September 26–28:** Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) Fall Retreat in Tallassee, TN. For more details, please see the information displayed in the Narthex, to the right of the mailboxes. Please note: This event is different from our own Praise Lutheran Ladies Retreat (details below).

**October 24–26:** Ladies Fall Retreat, A Heart After the Lord's Own Heart, will take place at the Tuckaleechee Retreat Center in Townsend, Tennessee. Guest speaker, Stella Beabout of Crossville, brings deep biblical insight and teaching experience, having studied Old Testament Exegesis in the Ph.D. program at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis. She has led many Bible studies and retreats across the region. Scholarships are available for those in need. To learn more, pick up a brochure in the Narthex or reach out to Kris Smith or Barbara Morsch.