

+ Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost +

September 21, Year of our Lord 2025 | DS3

+ Confession and Absolution +



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

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

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

Exhortation

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

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

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

Confession of Sins

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

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

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

+ Service of the Word +

Introit

Psalm 119:137–140, 142; antiphon: v. 144



P Your testimonies are righteous for- | ever,*
 give me understanding that | I may live.
 Righteous are you, | O LORD,*
 and right are your | just decrees.

C You have appointed your testimonies in | righteousness*
 and in all | faithfulness.

My zeal con- | sumes me,*
because my foes for- | get your words.

Your promise is | well tried,*
 and your servant | loves it.

Your righteousness is righteous for- | ever,*
 and your | law is true.

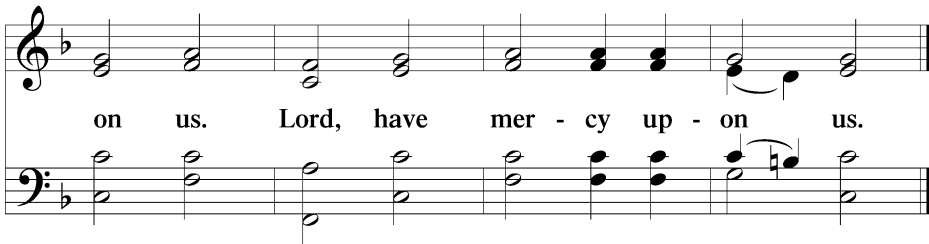
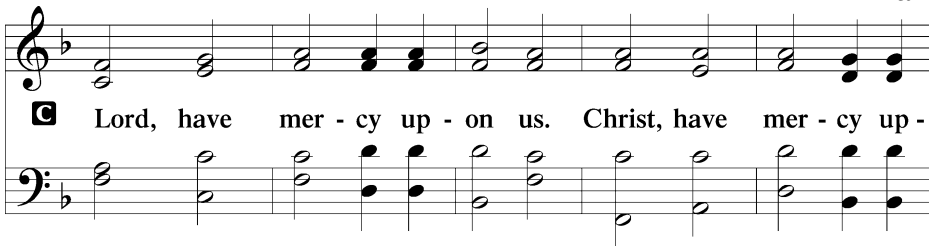
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

Your testimonies are righteous for- | ever,*
 give me understanding that | I may live.
 Righteous are you, | O LORD,*
 and right are your | just decrees.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47



Gloria in Excelsis, p. 187-189

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

P (sung) Glory be to God on high:

C and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

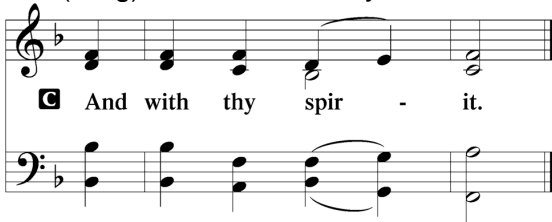
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,

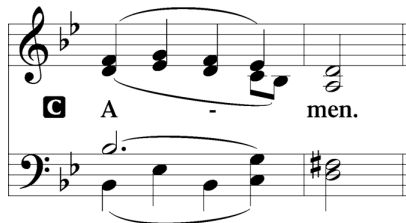
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P (sung) The Lord be with you.



P Let us pray. O Lord, keep Your Church in Your perpetual mercy; and because without You we cannot but fall, preserve us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading

Amos 8:4-7

Hear this, you who trample on the needy
and bring the poor of the land to an end,
saying, "When will the new moon be over,
that we may sell grain?"

And the Sabbath,
that we may offer wheat for sale,
that we may make the ephah small and the shekel great
and deal deceitfully with false balances,
that we may buy the poor for silver
and the needy for a pair of sandals
and sell the chaff of the wheat?"

The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob:
"Surely I will never forget any of their deeds."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Psalms 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

1 Timothy 2:1–15

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

I desire then that in every place the men should pray, lifting holy hands without anger or quarreling; likewise also that women should adorn themselves in respectable apparel, with modesty and self-control, not with braided hair and gold or pearls or costly attire, but with what is proper for women who profess godliness—with good works. Let a woman learn quietly with all submissiveness. I do not permit a woman to teach or to exercise authority over a man; rather, she is to remain quiet. For Adam was formed first, then Eve; and Adam was not deceived, but the woman was deceived and became a transgressor. Yet she will be saved through childbearing—if they continue in faith and love and holiness, with self-control.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day

1 Timothy 2:5–6a

P Alleluia. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all. Alleluia.

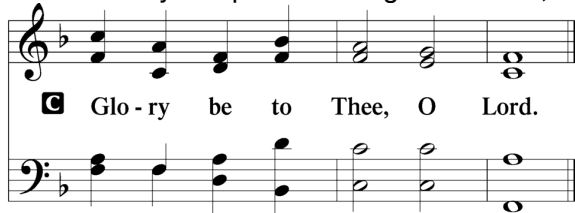
Triple Alleluia



Holy Gospel

Luke 16:1–15

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



[Jesus] also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

“One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that

which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money."

The Pharisees, who were lovers of money, heard all these things, and they ridiculed him. And he said to them, "You are those who justify yourselves before men, but God knows your hearts. For what is exalted among men is an abomination in the sight of God."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



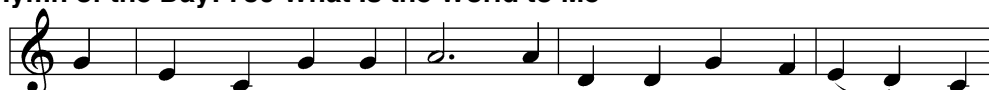
Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: 730 What Is the World to Me



1 What is the world to me With all its vaunt - ed plea - sure
2 The world seeks to be praised And hon - ored by the might - y
3 The world seeks af - ter wealth And all that mam - mon of - fers
4 What is the world to me! My Je - sus is my trea - sure,



When You, and You a - lone, Lord Je - sus, are my trea - sure!
Yet nev - er once re - flects That they are frail and flight - y.
Yet nev - er is con - tent Though gold should fill its cof - fers.
My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my plea - sure,



You on - ly, dear - est Lord, My soul's de - light shall be;
But what I tru - ly prize A - bove all things is He,
I have a high - er good, Con - tent with it I'll be:
My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss e - ter - nal - ly.



You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
My Je - sus, He a - lone. What is the world to me!
My Je - sus is my wealth. What is the world to me!
Once more, then, I de - clare: What is the world to me!

Text: Georg Michael Pfefferkorn, 1645–1732; tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt. Tune: Ahasverus Fritsch, 1629–1701 Text and tune: Public domain

+ Sermon +

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

Announcement of Offering and Greetings of Peace

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

Prayer of the Church - see colored insert

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

Benediction for those worshipping via the livestream.

+ Service of the Sacrament +

A Word to Our Guests and Visitors about Communion at Praise

The Lord’s Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very Body and Blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death and resurrection until He comes. Scripture warns that those who come forward to eat and drink our Lord’s Body and Blood in an unworthy manner do so to their great spiritual harm. The Lord’s Supper is also a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar. Therefore, any who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet to desire to receive the Sacrament (Communion), are encouraged to seek guidance from the pastor.

Preface

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

P (sung) The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

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



C It is meet and right so to do.

Proper Preface (Abbreviated)

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

Sanctus ~ Holy, Holy, Holy, p. 195 for music

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

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

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9–13

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

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 ✠ 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 ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

John 20:19

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



Agnus Dei, p. 198

John 1:29

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

Distribution

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

Distribution Hymn: 851 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us (see hymnal)

Distribution Hymn: 638 Eat This Bread (Caleb Hesse will sing the *Cantor* part solo)

Distribution Hymn: 626 Come, Let Us Eat (Caleb Hesse will sing the *Leader* part solo)

Distribution Hymn: 845 Where Charity and Love Prevail

Nunc Dimittis, p. 199-200

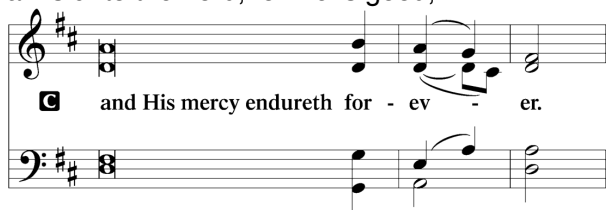
Luke 2:29-32

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

Thanksgiving

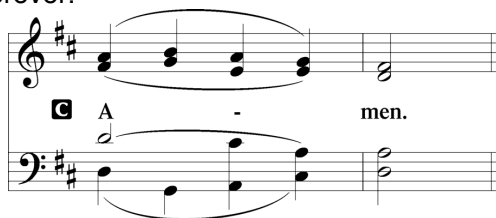
Psalm 107:1

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



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.



Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22

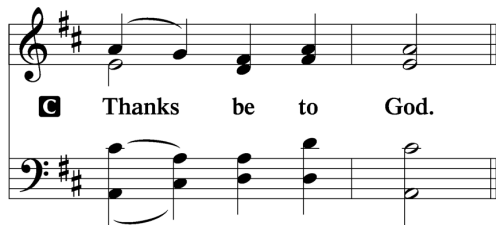
P (sung) The Lord be with you.



Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

A (sung) Bless we the Lord.

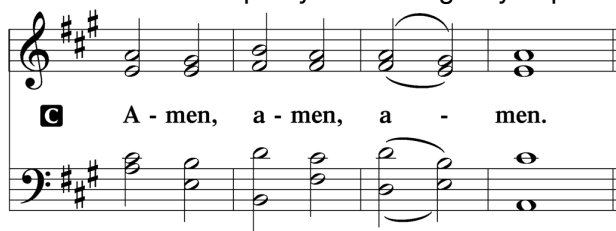


Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. *continues >*

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✝ give you peace.



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Praise Lutheran Church (LCMS)

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 Bible Study and Sunday School at 9:45 a.m.

Church Calendar: praiselutheran.com/events

Online giving: praiselutheran.com (click the blue “Give” button)

Subscribe to our newsletter at the bottom right of the homepage, and visit us at:
facebook.com/PraiseLutheranChurch/ | youtube.com/@PraiseLutheran

Office Administration: Elissa Upward, officeadmin@praiselutheran.com

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

Director of Worship Arts: Caleb Hesse, 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 those expecting soon: **Elijah & Faith Miessler** (boy in Sept.) and **Samual and Sarah Kropp** (girl in Sept.). For the recently engaged: **Jack Nunnink** and **Rachel Holst**. Thanksgiving for the healthy birth of **Judah Samuel Bohnet** on 9/2 to Sam & Kate Bohnet (Judah is Pastor and Gretchen's grandson, Jim & Maureen's great grandson). For the recent **Baptism of Jack Kilbarger** (parents: Jake and Lillie Kilbarger) on 8/25. For **veterans and our military** for **Mason Burkett** (Mary Schopmann's grandson-in-law) being deployed to Poland 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: **Joshua and Adelaide Arguien, Alex & Shelby Hicks**, and **Luke and Blair Johnson**. 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). **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 and friends of **Stephanie** (Larry Wacker's daughter). For the family of **Darlene Balz** (grandmother of Elissa Upward). For a friend of John Pettyjohn whose mother (**Deb Lovins**) recently passed. For **Lisa Stremsterfer's father** who passed away 8/11. For the family of **Emma Lu Kerekes** (founding member of Praise) who passed on 7/25 (Memorial Service was 9/6). For the family of **Shelby Williams** (granddaughter of Jeanne Lindenfelser) who died tragically in July.

Health: For **Carol Ehrens** health and good days (hospice care at home). For **Fran Wehmeier** (Deb Wale's mother; surgery recovery from broken leg). For **George Gorghis** (friend of Donna Wall) treatment for Lymphoma cancer, stage 4. For **Barbara Morsch** recovery after surgery for breast cancer. For **Chuck Pettyjohn** for lung and heart health (now home). For **Bob McDermott** recovering strength after hospitalized for an infection. For **Joel Morsch** treatment for a brain bleed. For **Becky Hamby's brother** with a brain bleed, and another brother **Jeffrey Happel** with ongoing health issues. For **Janeen Meier** healing for physical and mental health (Maureen Roberts' sister and Pastor Roberts's Aunt). 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 **Don Hammond** heart a-fib (Joan Large's son). For **Cole Hammond** (Joan Large's grandson) comfort in dealing with epilepsy. For **Marvin Arcari** (Paul Ruble's cousin, Will Wade's brother-in-law) hospitalized and awaiting biopsy results. For **Sandy Bagley** health. 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 **Ken Kropp** recovering from heart surgery. For **Kim Smolter** health. 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 **Rachel Ernst** upcoming rescheduled surgery. For **Margarete** (neighbor to Jim & Maureen Roberts) dealing with advancing cancer. For **Ron Williams** (back at Foothills) and for his wife Pamela. 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 **Tom Williams** maintenance chemo treatments. **Debbie Johnston** kidney health. For **Alan Stremsterfer’s mother** health. **Aurora Stevens** back and shoulder pain treatments. For **Kathy Bigger** (friend of Donna Wall) pancreatic cancer. Andrew Hebar’s Aunt **Kara** (health).

Birthdays: Sydney P (9/21), Gus S (9/22), Cindy Di (9/24), Matthew F (9/24), Jennifer K (9/26), Jack N (9/26), Blakelyn U (9/27), Lou L (9/28), John P (9/28), Katie W (9/29), Paul R (10/1), Larry W (10/1), Lou T (10/3)

Anniversaries: Ed & Susan Hannah (9/26), Rick & Pam Truby (10/2)

Church Operations & Christian Stewardship

Building Fund	2024 Receipts	2025 Receipts	Total Receipts
Actual	\$211,037	\$50,739	\$1,228,735
Pledged	\$179,106	\$42,744	\$1,065,270
Remaining	\$31,931 [over]	\$7,995 [over]	\$163,465 [over]

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

Visit 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 (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

Children and Youth Ministry

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

Midweek Youth Group meet this Wed, September 24, at 7:00 p.m. starting in the Narthex with Compline, then move to the Social Hall. Open to all middle and high school students.

Youth Catechesis will meet Sun, Oct 5 at 12:30 p.m. Please bring your *Guided by Truth* journal, Bible, Catechism and lunch.

Worship and Music Ministry

Choir rehearsals are held on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m., and we're especially looking for sopranos. *For updates and announcements, text @plcchoi to 81010.* Instrumentalists are also invited to reach out to Caleb about opportunities, which will be tailored to your availability.

Piano lessons are also available at Praise. Anyone age 6 and up (with a parent/guardian for children) is welcome to join instructor Caleb Hesse. For any questions or additional information, please reach out to our Director of Worship Arts, Caleb Hesse, at **caleb@praiselutheran.com**.

Congregational Life & Fellowship

Christian Cycling Group will meet on Sun, Sept. 28 at 3:00 p.m. For more information, please contact Rick Gift.

Free greeting cards for special occasions are available in the library of the Social Hall. **Thrivent shirts** of various sizes are also available free of charge.

The **Church Directory** is currently being updated and is set for release in November. We plan to make this an annual update, available at the beginning of each church year. Updated photos will be taken during the fall picnic, between services or emailed to Elissa Upward at officeadmin@praiselutheran.com

Advent by Candlelight, hosted by our Women's Bible Study, will take place on Saturday, December 6, in the Social Hall. This event is a special opportunity for women to kick off the Advent season with hearts centered on Christ, all while enjoying fellowship. If you'd like to host a table (decorating it and providing light refreshments), please sign up in the narthex.

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

Today

Issues Class with Pastor Roberts meets at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday in the Social Hall. **Topic Today:** *The Pope, Ecumenism, Syncretism.* **Next Sun, Sep 28:** *guest presentation (Pastor will be away celebrating 25th anniversary with Gretchen).*

The Fall Church Picnic takes place TODAY, from 2:00-6:00 p.m. at the Mohr residence: 222 Woodcrest Dr. Maryville, TN. Don't forget to bring a dish to share and an outdoor chair(s) and games. Hamburgers and hotdogs, buns, condiments, and water provided. Music too!

This Week

September 23 (Tue) Church Council Meeting, 9:30-11:00 a.m.

September 24 (Wed) Choir rehearsal at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

September 24 (Wed) Men's Bible Study at 7:00 p.m. beginning in the Sanctuary with Compline.

September 24 (Wed) Middle and High School Youth Group at 7:00 p.m. meet in the narthex, enter Sanctuary for Compline at 7:00 p.m., then will move into the Social Hall for the study.

September 25 (Thu) Ladies Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall with Lisa Gift.

Upcoming

September 28 (Sun) Christian Cycling Group meeting at 3:00 p.m.

September 28 (Sun) Youth Group Fun & Games Night – *Pizza and Games at the Nunninks*

October 19 (Sun) Youth Group Fun & Games Day – *Lunch and Hike*

October 24–26 (Fri-Sun) 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.

November 1 (Sat) Oktoberfest at Praise; save the date for a fun-filled event featuring lots of activities for kids and Oktoberfest-themed fun for adults. Friends and guests are welcome, so be sure to spread the word!