

+ Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost +

September 7, Year of our Lord 2025 | DS1

+ 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 119:28–32; antiphon: v. 27



P Make me understand the way of your | precepts,*
and I will meditate on your | wondrous works.

My soul melts away for | sorrow;*,
strengthen me according | to your word!

C Put false ways | far from me*
and graciously teach | me your law!
I have chosen the way of | faithfulness;*,
I set your just decrees be- | fore me.

I cling to your testimonies, | O LORD;*,
let me not be | put to shame!

I will run in the way of your com- | mandments*
when you en- | large my heart!

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.

Make me understand the way of your | precepts,*
and I will meditate on your | wondrous works.

My soul melts away for | sorrow;*,
strengthen me according | to your word!

Kyrie ~ Lord, Have Mercy, p. 152

Mark 10:47

A (sung) 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.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, ...Church of God, and ...unity... let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis, p. 154

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. O merciful Lord, You did not spare Your only Son but delivered Him up for us all. Grant us courage and strength to take up the cross and follow Him, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

“See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I command you today, by loving the LORD your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, I declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the LORD swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

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

Philemon 1–21

Paul, a prisoner for Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,
To Philemon our beloved fellow worker and Apphia our sister and Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church in your house:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and all the saints, and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus—I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order

that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own free will. For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ.

Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day

Galatians 6:14

P Alleluia. Far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. Alleluia.

Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68

C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The musical notation is written on two staves in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for "Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the". The second staff contains the melody for "words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.".

Holy Gospel

Luke 14:25–35

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

C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

The musical notation is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp). It contains the melody for "Glo - ry to You, O Lord.".

Now great crowds accompanied [Jesus], and he turned and said to them, “If anyone comes to me and does not hate his own father and mother and wife and children and brothers and sisters, yes, and even his own life, he cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not bear his own cross and come after me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to

finish.' Or what king, going out to encounter another king in war, will not sit down first and deliberate whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? And if not, while the other is yet a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks for terms of peace. So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

"Salt is good, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is of no use either for the soil or for the manure pile. It is thrown away. He who has ears to hear, let him hear."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.



Apostles' Creed

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

Hymn of the Day: 783 Take My Life and Let It Be



- 1 Take my life and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing Al-ways, on - ly for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;



Take my mo - ments and my days, Let them flow in cease - less praise.
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.
Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from Thee.
Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

- 5 Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.
- 6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79 Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870 Text and tune: Public domain

+ Sermon +

Hating and being Jesus' Disciple

Offertory, p. 159-160

Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19

- ☐ (sung) What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people, in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.**

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

p. 160; 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.



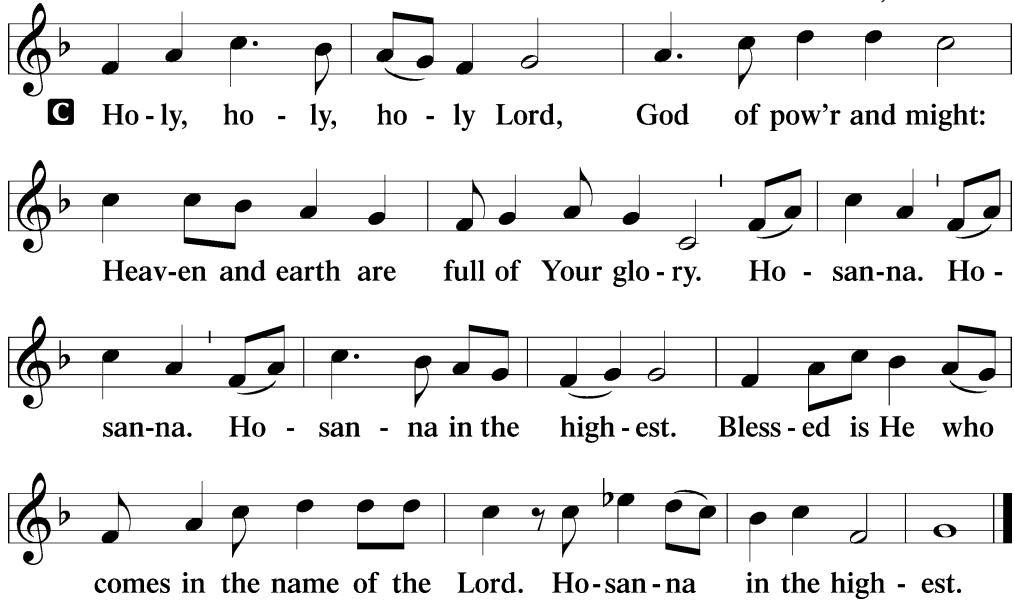
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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

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

Sanctus

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.

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.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei, p. 163

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: 696 O God, My Faithful God (see hymnal)

Distribution Hymn: 688 "Come, Follow Me," the Savior Spake

Distribution Hymn: 623 Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray

Distribution Hymn: 918 Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer

Thank the Lord, p. 164

[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 all who seek 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

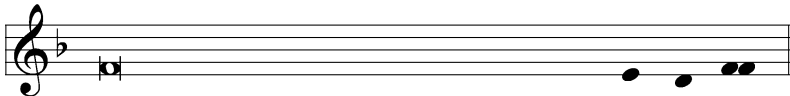
p. 166

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



Benediction

Numbers 6:24–26



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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: 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: **Alex & Shelby Hicks, Luke and Blair Johnson, Elijah & Faith Miessler** (boy in Sept.), 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 **Lisa Stremsterfer's father** who passed away. 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. **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. For the family of **Darlene Balz** (grandmother of Elissa Upward).

Health: For **Carol Ehrens** health and good days (hospice care at home). For **Barbara Morsch** upcoming surgery for breast cancer. For **Chuck Pettyjohn** for lung and heart health (now at Knoxville Rehabilitation to regain strength). For **Bob McDermott** recovering strength after hospitalized for an infection. For **Ed Hannah** good treatment of bladder cancer. 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 **Stephanie** (Larry & Cathy Wacker's daughter) for cancer treatment and stem cell treatment for **Kevin** her husband. 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. **Bob McDermott** dealing with Parkinson's symptoms. 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: Delaney S (9/7), Sharon F (9/8), Monica H (9/9), Mariah K (9/9), Bob H (9/10), Barbara McG (9/10), Candace P (9/10), Tom Wit. (9/11), Aiden G (9/15), Carol B (9/16), Al R (9/19), Carter F (9/20), Sam N (9/20)

Anniversaries: Bill & Diane Miller (9/7), Robbie & Leah Mohr (9/8), Gary & Carol Moehling (9/9), Ole & Mavis Johnson (9/14), Tom & Nadine Wittkopp (9/17), Lou Lewis & Betty Gouley (9/19), Joshua & Adelaide Arguien (9/20)

Church Operations & Christian Stewardship

Building Fund	2024 Receipts	2025 Receipts	Total Receipts
Actual	\$211,037	\$44,573	\$1,222,569
Pledged	\$179,106	\$42,744	\$1,065,270
Remaining	\$31,931 [over]	\$1,829 [over]	\$157,299 [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



There are **opportunities to connect and serve**. If you haven't filled out the Rally Day form yet, it's available at <https://forms.gle/nMMnDjniQgF4NS3z7> or via the QR code.

Children and Youth Ministry

Youth Group Service Project will take place on Sat, September 20, at 10:00 a.m. at Amy Mohr's house, located at 222 Woodcrest Dr, Maryville, TN. We'll be helping with yard cleanup and setup in preparation for the upcoming event. All helping hands are appreciated!

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, Sep 10, at 7:00 p.m. in the Narthex before transitioning to the Social Hall. Open to all middle and high school students.

Youth Catechesis begins Sun, Sep 7 at 12:30 p.m. (with the next session on Sept. 14 unless Pastor is away for the Baptism of Judah). We encourage you to bring or grab lunch, as well as your catechism and Bible. The full calendar will be shared at the first meeting.

Worship and Music Ministry

Choir rehearsals take place on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. **Instrumentalists** are encouraged to connect with Caleb for opportunities in solo, chamber, and ensemble performances based on 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 communications and choir announcements, text: @plcchoi to 81010*

For any questions or additional information, please reach out to our Director of Worship Arts, Caleb Hesse, at caleb@praiselutheran.com.

Congregational Life & Fellowship

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.

The Fall Church Picnic takes place Sun, Sep 21, from 2:00-6:00 p.m. at the Mohr residence. If you haven't already, please submit your **family's headcount** using the QR code to the right or by completing the paper form in the Narthex, so we can plan accordingly. We also invite you to **sign up on the potluck sheet** in the Narthex to bring a dish to share - **main dishes will be provided**. Don't forget to bring your own chair for seating during the event!



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 meets at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday in the Social Hall. **Today:** *Life on other Planets, Regarding Life here on Earth.* **Next Sun, Sep 14:** *TBD (Pastor may be away for Baptism of Judah).*
On deck for next class: The Pope, Ecumenism, Syncretism

This Week

September 10 (Wed) Choir rehearsal at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

September 10 (Wed) Men's Bible Study at 7:00 p.m. beginning in the Sanctuary with Compline.

September 10 (Wed) Middle and High School Youth Group at 7:00 p.m. beginning in the narthex with Compline, then move into the Social Hall for study.

September 11 (Thu) Ladies Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall with Barbara Morsch.

Upcoming

September 20 (Sat) Youth Group service project at Amy Mohr's for picnic prep.

September 21 (Sun) Fall Picnic, 2:00 – 6:00 p.m.

September 26–28: (Fri-Sun) Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) Fall Retreat in Tallassee, TN. For more details, please see the information displayed in the Narthex.

September 28 (Sun) Youth Group Fun & Games Night at Nunnink's – *Pizza & Games!*

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.