

+ St. Luke, Evangelist Sunday (Observed) +

October 12, 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 92:1–5; antiphon: Luke 24:46–47



P Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise | from the dead,*
and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all
nations, beginning from Je- | rusalem.

It is good to give thanks | to the LORD,*

to sing praises to your name, | O Most High;

C to declare your steadfast love in the | morning,*

and your faithful- | ness by night,

to the music of the lute | and the harp,*

to the melody | of the lyre.

For you, O LORD, have made me glad | by your work;*

at the works of your hands I | sing for joy.

How great are your works, | O LORD!*

Your thoughts are | very deep!

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.

Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise | from the dead,*
and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all
nations, beginning from Je- | rusalem.

It is good to give thanks | to the LORD,*

to sing praises to your name, | O Most High;

Kyrie

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, 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.

A 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.

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



C A - men.

To God Be the Glory

Galatians 1:4-5

C 1. To God be the glory, great things He hath done,
So loved He the world that he gave us His Son,
Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His Voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
Oh, come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.

2. Oh, perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

3. Great things He hath taught us, great things He hath done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Text: Frances J. Crosby Tune: William H. Doane
Public Domain - Published 1875

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our Father, Your blessed Son called Luke the physician to be an evangelist and physician of the soul. Grant that the healing medicine of the Gospel and the Sacraments may put to flight the diseases of our souls that with willing hearts we may ever love and serve You; 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

Isaiah 35:5–8

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.
For waters break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
And a highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Way of Holiness;
the unclean shall not pass over it.
It shall belong to those who walk on the way;
even if they are fools, they shall not go astray.

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

Gradual

Psalms 119:105, 103; 45:1a, c

C Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!
My heart overflows with a pleasing theme; my tongue is like the pen of a ready scribe.

Epistle

2 Timothy 4:5–18

As for you, always be sober-minded, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing.

Do your best to come to me soon. For Demas, in love with this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica. Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. Luke alone is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry. Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus. When you come, bring the cloak that I left with Carpus at Troas, also the books, and above all the parchments. Alexander the coppersmith did me great harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds. Beware of him yourself, for he strongly opposed our message. At my first defense no one came to stand by me, but all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! But the Lord stood by me and strengthened me, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil deed and bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

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

Verse of the Day

Luke 19:9b, 10

P Alleluia. Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost. Alleluia.

Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the melody for 'Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?'. The second staff continues the melody for 'You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.'.

Holy Gospel

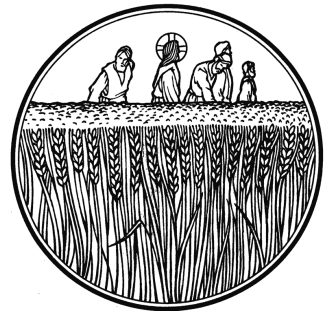
Luke 10:1–9

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

Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

The image shows a single staff of musical notation in G major (one sharp). It begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the melody for 'Glo - ry to You, O Lord.'.

After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him, two by two, into every town and place where he himself was about to go. And he said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few. Therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. Go your way; behold, I am sending you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. Carry no moneybag, no knapsack, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace be to this house!’



And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest upon him. But if not, it will return to you. And remain in the same house, eating and drinking what they provide, for the laborer deserves his wages. Do not go from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. Heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’”

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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: 728 How Firm a Foundation



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not! I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,
 3 "The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose
 4 "When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way will lie,
 5 "Through - out all their life - time My peo - ple will prove



Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!
 For I am your God and will still give you aid;
 I will not, I will not, de - sert to his foes;
 My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, will be your sup - ply.
 My sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can He say than to you He has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,
 The flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 And then, when gray hairs will their tem - ples a - dorn,



Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.
 I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er, for - sake!
 Your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.
 Like lambs they will still in My bos - om be borne."

Text: A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt. Tune: Genuine Church Music, 1832, Winchester Text and tune: Public domain

+ Sermon +

Offertory, p. 176 for music

Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19

C (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

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.



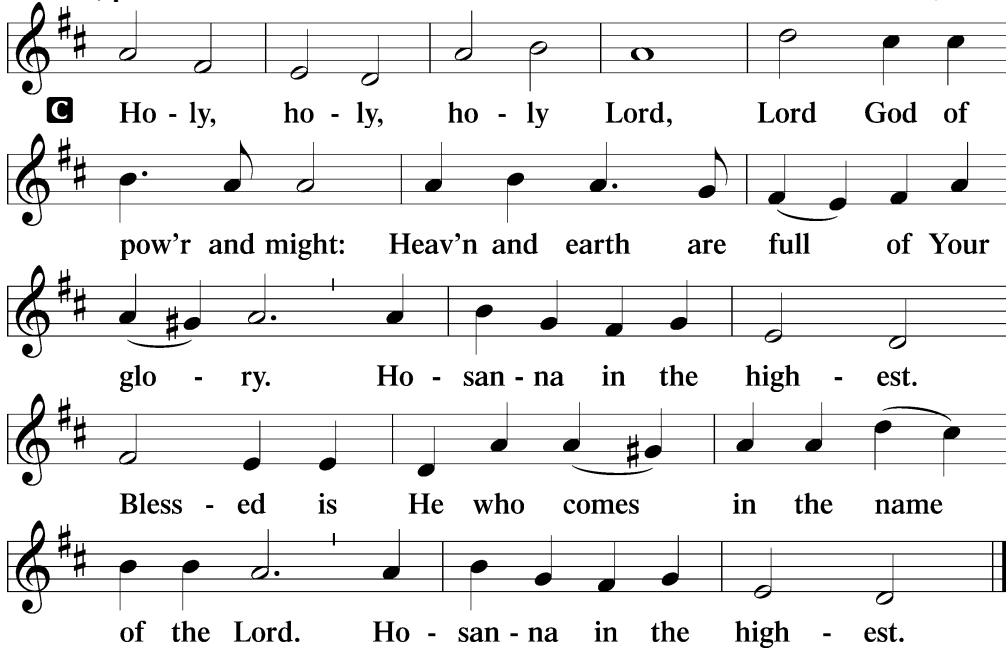
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'n and earth are full of Your
glo - ry. 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

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 A - men.

Agnus Dei, p. 180

John 1:29

C (sung) Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of
God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, 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: 660 Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus (see hymnal)

Distribution Hymn: 633 At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing

Distribution Hymn: 849 Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

Distribution Hymn: 528 Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

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.



C A - men.

Acknowledgments Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2024 Concordia Publishing House.

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.

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 birth of **Magnolia** to **Samuel & Sarah Kropp** (Jerry & Jennifer's latest grandchild). For the birth of **Jonathan** to **Elijah & Faith Miessler** (born Sept. 20). For those engaged: **Jack Nunnink** and **Rachel Holst**. Thanksgiving for the healthy birth of **Judah** 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) deployed to Poland. For military servants: **Carter Felt, Casey Lawson, Tyler Smith** and **William Smolter**. For our families expecting a baby: **Joshua & 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** 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 **Jean Heine** (extended family of the Roberts) who passed away. For the family and friends of **Stephanie** (Larry Wacker's daughter) who passed away. 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 **Renee Hickmon** home treating multiple blood clots [and for sister **Sherrie** who broke her foot in two places]. For **Karen** (Janet Moore's niece, brain surgery recovery). For **Robert Brummond** (Tina Peirce's brother, Sydney's uncle) appendix removal and upcoming prostate cancer [stg 4] treatment. For **Bob McDermott** in hospice care at Life Care. For **Carol Ehrens** health and good days (hospice care at home). For **Fran Wehmeier** (Deb Wale's mother; surgery recovery from broken leg). For **Brenda** (Laura Bisconte's aunt) upcoming oncology appointment. 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 **Joel Morsch** recovery from a brain bleed. For **Janeen Meier** healing for physical and mental health (Maureen Roberts' sister and Pastor Roberts's Aunt). For **Lois Schering** (eye-lid infection). 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: Justin F (10/12), Susan F M (10/15), Ben De (10/16), Betty N (10/18), Rick T (10/18), Keith D (10/20), Lily T (10/20), Joel M (10/21), Mark Y (10/21), Carol M (10/24), Jerry K (10/25)

Anniversaries: Hugh & Joan Large (10/12), Jerald & Debbie Johnston (10/14), Cole & Tamia Smith (10/14), Larry & Cathy Wacker (10/19), Billye Raye & Kris Smith (10/20), Alan & Lisa Stremsterfer (10/20)

Church Operations & Christian Stewardship

Building Fund	2024 Receipts	2025 Receipts	Total Receipts
Actual	\$211,037	\$51,438	\$1,229,434
Pledged	\$179,106	\$42,744	\$1,065,270
Remaining	\$31,931 [over]	\$8,694 [over]	\$164,164 [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

Coins for Kenya [submit donations in the clear water jug in the Social Hall] collected approximately \$48.00. Thank you for your continued generosity and support in helping those in need – Tina Pierce, *Always Mercy* Treasurer.

Children and Youth Ministry

Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday 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 will meet Wed, Oct. 15 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 Fun & Games on Sun, Oct. 19. First, a meeting about Octoberfest after 11:00 a.m. service, then lunch at Culver's, and then we'll go hiking in the mountains (led by Pastor Roberts).

Youth Catechesis will meet Sun, Oct 26 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. *For updates and announcements, join PLC Choir on GroupMe (see Caleb for details).* 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

Tom Schering is offering free Math Tutoring up through calculus level; call (865) 681-7858

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 set for release in November. We plan to make this an annual update, available at the beginning of each church year. Updated photos can be emailed to Elissa Upward at officeadmin@praiselutheran.com or, if needed, taken between church services.

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

Call for Knitted Hats for Blount County Children The fire department is once again accepting knitted hats for distribution this winter. Donations can be dropped off by Sun, Nov. 9.

Today

Issues Class with Pr. Roberts meets at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday in the Social Hall. **Today's Topic:** *Traditional Worship*. **Next Sun, Oct 12:** *Unbelieving Family Members (What to do about)*

This Week

October 15 (Wed) Choir rehearsal at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

October 15 (Wed) Youth Group at 7:00 p.m., beginning with Compline in the Narthex.

October 15 (Wed) Men's Bible Study at 7 p.m., beginning with Compline in the Sanctuary.

October 16 (Thu) Ladies Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall with Barbara Morsch.

October 16 (Thu) Elders Meeting at 5:00 p.m.

Upcoming

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.

October 26 (Sun) Reformation Sunday wear RED to match the paraments and commemorate the ongoing spirit of the Reformation. A Mighty Fortress is our God.

November 1 (Sat) Oktoberfest at Praise from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Raise your steins and celebrate together our annual Oktoberfest! Enjoy a fun-filled evening of food (including member-made German sausages), music, and festivities for all ages. Activities for the kids include a TRUNK OR TREAT and special Oktoberfest fun for the adults. **Sign up in the Narthex if you plan to attend.** *Also seeking food contributions: see the sign-up sheets with recipes in the Narthex.* Invite your friends and get ready for a great time! Buy Oktoberfest shirts, event beer glasses, and Pottery by Mama Zuzu coffee mugs at the event (benefits our Youth's Campfirmation next summer).

November 9 (Sun) Voters Meeting between services at 9:45 a.m. to discuss and vote on the following: a) proposed budget for 2026, b) gift acceptance policy, and c) building fund designation. See emails for links to the documents and Building Fund Use Survey to fill out before the meeting.

December 6 (Sat) Advent by Candlelight, hosted by our Women's Bible Study, will take place 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.