

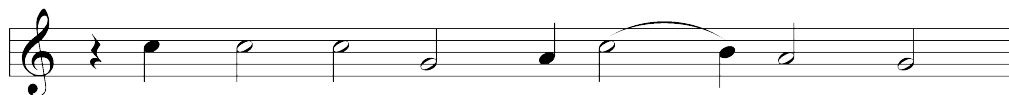
+ Reformation (Observed) +

October 26, Year of Our Lord 2025 | Festival DS4

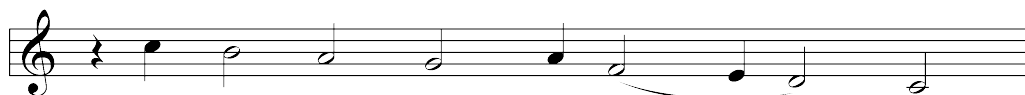
Organ Prelude: *Ein feste Burg* – David Schelat

Processional Hymn: 656 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

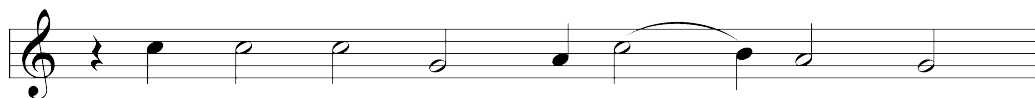
(by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther)



1 A might - y for - tress is our God,
2 With might of ours can naught be done,
3 Though dev - ils all the world should fill,
4 The Word they still shall let re - main



A trust - y shield and weap - on;
Soon were our loss ef - fect - ed;
All ea - ger to de - your us,
Nor an - y thanks have for it;



He helps us free from ev - 'ry need
But for us fights the val - iant One,
We trem - ble not, we fear no ill;
He's by our side up - on the plain



That hath us now o'er - tak - en.
Whom God Him - self e - lect - ed.
They shall not o - ver - pow'r us.
With His good gifts and Spir - it.

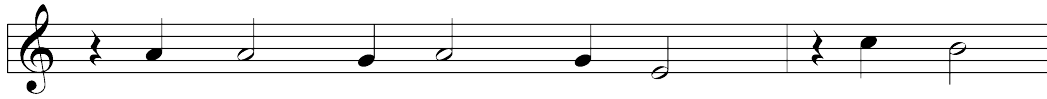


The old e - vil foe Now means
Ask ye, Who is this? Je - sus
This world's prince may still Scowl fierce
And take they our life, Goods, fame,

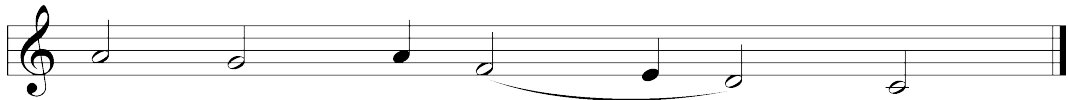
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dead - ly woe; Deep guile and great might
 Christ it is, Of Sab - a - oth Lord,
 as he will, He can harm us none.
 child, and wife, Though these all be gone,



Are his dread arms in fight; On earth
 And there's none oth - er God; He holds
 He's judged; the deed is done; One lit -
 Our vic - t'ry has been won; The King -



is not his e - qual.
 the field for - ev - er.
 tle word can fell him.
 dom ours re - main - eth.

Text: tr. Composite Text and tune: Martin Luther, 1483–1546 Text and tune: Public domain

+ 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

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

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

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

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

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

God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

Confession of Sins

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

Absolution

[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 34:1–2, 11, 22; antiphon: Psalm 119:46



P I will speak of your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]*
and shall not be | put to shame.

C I will bless the LORD at | all times;*
his praise shall continually be | in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast | in the LORD,*
let the humble hear | and be glad.

Come, O children, lis- | ten to me;*
I will teach you the fear | of the LORD.

The LORD redeems the life of his | servants;*
none of those who take refuge in him will | be condemned.

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.

I will speak of your testimonies before kings, | [O Lord,]*
and shall not be | put to shame.



Kyrie

Mark 10:47



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

Gloria in Excelsis

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



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



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



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



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

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

P Let us pray. Almighty and gracious Lord, pour out Your Holy Spirit on Your faithful people. Keep us steadfast in Your grace and truth, protect and deliver us in times of temptation, defend us against all enemies, and grant to Your Church Your saving peace; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

First Reading

Revelation 14:6–7



Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. And he said with a loud voice, “Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water.”

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

Gradual

Psalms 48:1a, 12–14a

C **Great is the LORD and greatly to be praised
in the city of our God!**

**Walk about Zion, go around her, number her towers,
consider well her ramparts, go through her citadels,
that you may tell the next generation
that this is God, our God forever and ever.**

Choir Anthem (11:00 Service)

God is Our Refuge and Strength by Allen Pote

Epistle

Romans 3:19–28

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

But now the righteousness of God has been manifested apart from the law, although the Law and the Prophets bear witness to it— the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction: for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith. This was to show God’s righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over former sins. It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.

Then what becomes of our boasting? It is excluded. By what kind of law? By a law of works? No, but by the law of faith. For we hold that one is justified by faith apart from works of the law.

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.

Please face the Processional Cross for Reading of the Gospel

Gospel Procession: Alleluia and Verse

Musical notation for the Gospel Procession. It consists of four staves of music in treble clef, 7/8 time. The first staff is for the Alleluia: 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The second staff is for the Verse: 'These things are writ-ten that you may be - lieve that'. The third staff continues the Verse: 'Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.' The fourth staff is for the final Alleluia: 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.'

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

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

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

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

Holy Gospel

John 8:31–36

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighth chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you abide in my word, you are truly my disciples, and you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free.” They answered him, “We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that you say, ‘You will become free’?”

Jesus answered them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not remain in the house forever; the son remains forever. So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.



Gospel Recession (Instrumental only)

Apostles' Creed

**☩ 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: 645 Built on the Rock



1 Built on the Rock the Church shall stand E - ven when
 2 Sure - ly in tem - ples made with hands God, the Most
 3 We are God's house of liv - ing stones, Built for His
 4 Here stands the font be - fore our eyes, Tell - ing how
 5 Grant, then, O God, Your will be done, That, when the



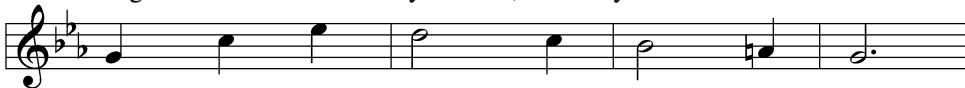
stee - ples are fall - ing. Crum - bled have spires in
 High, is not dwell - ing; High a - bove earth His
 own hab - i - ta - tion. He through bap - tis - mal
 God has re - ceived us. The al - tar re - calls Christ's
 church bells are ring - ing, Man - y in sav - ing



ev - 'ry land; Bells still are chim - ing and call -
 tem - ple stands, All earth - ly tem - ples ex - cel -
 grace us owns Heirs of His won - drous sal - va -
 sac - ri - fice And what His Sup - per here gives
 faith may come Where Christ His mes - sage is bring -



ing, Call - ing the young and old to rest,
 ling. Yet He who dwells in heav'n a - bove
 tion. Were we but two His name to tell,
 us. Here sound the Scrip - tures that pro - claim
 ing: "I know My own; My own know Me.



But a - bove all the souls dis - tressed,
 Choos - es to live with us in love,
 Yet He would deign with us to dwell
 Christ yes - ter - day, to - day, the same,
 You, not the world, My face shall see.



Long - ing for rest ev - er - last - ing.
 Mak - ing our bod - ies His tem - ple.
 With all His grace and His fa - vor.
 And ev - er - more, our Re - deem - er.
 My peace I leave with you. A - men."

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 The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

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.

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

Sanctus, p. 208

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9

C (sung) **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav’n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

p. 161 or 178

C Amen.

**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.**

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."

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

John 1:29

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



You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Distribution

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

Distribution Hymn: 662 Onward, Christian Soldiers (see hymnal)

Distribution Hymn: 617 O Lord, We Praise Thee

Distribution Hymn: 669 Come, We That Love the Lord

Distribution Hymn: 578 Thy Strong Word

Choir Anthem (8:30 Service)

God is Our Refuge and Strength by Allen Pote

Nunc Dimittis, p. 211 (11:00 a.m. service only)

Luke 2:29–32

C (sung) **1 O Lord, now let Your servant Depart in heav'nly peace,
 For I have seen the glory Of Your redeeming grace:
 A light to lead the Gentiles Unto Your holy hill,
 The glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

**2 All glory to the Father, All glory to the Son,
 All glory to the Spirit, Forever Three in One;
 For as in the beginning, Is now, shall ever be,
 God's triune name resounding Through all eternity.**

Post-Communion Collect

A Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us

through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C Amen.**

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

A Let us bless the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

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

C Amen.

Postlude: *Ein Feste Burg für Stimme und Symphonie* – Caleb Hesse © 2025; For Praise Lutheran Church, in celebration of the 508th anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation. *Solo Deo Gloria.*

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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/ | [@PraiseLutheran](https://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 the end of the fighting between modern-day **Israel** and the **Hamas** and soon we pray 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 family of **Bob McDermott** who passed away on 10/17 (memorial service on 11/14 at Praise). Family of **Amy** (Ed & Sandy Bagley's daughter-in-law) who passed away. 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 **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).

Health: For **Chuck Pettyjohn** for lung and heart health (hospitalized at Blount, temporary dialysis treatments). For **Tonia Latham** (Phyllis Bembas's niece) in critical care. For **Todd Stubelt** (nephew of Sharon Felker) stage 4 brain cancer and **Cheryl Dunnington** (cousin of Sharon Felker) Alzheimer's. For **Fred Hansen** carotid artery procedures (one recent, another in several weeks). For **Fran Wehmeier** (Deb Wale's mother; surgery recovery from broken leg). For **Renee Hickmon** home treating multiple blood clots [and for sister **Sherrie** who broke her foot in two places]. For **Joan Large** recent gall bladder removal (now at Shannondale for rehab). For **Matt** (Becky Hamby's son) recovery from fall and leg surgery (long road ahead). 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 **Carol Ehrens** health and good days (hospice care at home). For **Brenda** (Laura Bisconte's aunt) cancer treatments. For **George Gorghis** (friend of Donna Wall) treatment for Lymphoma cancer, stage 4. For **Barbara Morsch** recovery after surgery for breast cancer. 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 **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: Pam S (10/26), Phyllis B (10/27), Billye Raye S (11/1), Thomas L (11/2), Tom W (11/3), Drew H (11/4), Sandy B (11/6), Ted F (11/8)

Anniversaries: Nicholas & Jamie Sutherland (11/3)

Church Operations & Christian Stewardship

Building Fund	2024 Receipts	2025 Receipts	Total Receipts
Actual	\$211,037	\$53,868	\$1,231,864
Pledged	\$179,106	\$42,744	\$1,065,270
Remaining	\$31,931 [over]	\$11,124 [over]	\$166,594 [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 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. 29 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 **TODAY 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

Visit the **library in the Social Hall**, where you'll find a wide selection of great books to enjoy. Free greeting cards for special occasions are also available, along with complimentary Thrivent shirts in various sizes.

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.

The **Church Directory** is set for release next month. A **draft version** was shared this week in the Pastor's newsletter. If you have any updates or corrections you'd like to make before it goes to print, please contact Elissa Upward at officeadmin@praiselutheran.com by Wednesday, November 12.

Today

October 26 (Sun) *A Mighty Fortress is our God.* Today is **Reformation Sunday** and the liturgical color is red, symbolizing the Holy Spirit, zeal and martyrdom, and is being used for the paraments to commemorate the ongoing spirit of the Reformation. Over 500 years ago, the Protestant Reformation redirected the church's focus to God's free gift of salvation through Jesus Christ. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses — officially titled The Disputation on the Power and Efficacy of Indulgences — on the door of the church in Wittenberg, Germany. At its heart, the Reformation was, and still is, about the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The work of reformation is ongoing. Every generation, and every individual, needs to hear the Good News of their Savior — who rescues from sin and eternal death.

Issues Class with Pr. Roberts meets at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday in the Social Hall. **Today's Topic:** *Traditions within Worship.* **Next Sun, Nov 2:** *Differences between Lutherans and...*

This Week

October 29 (Wed) Choir rehearsal at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

October 29 (Wed) Youth Group at 7:00 p.m., beginning with Compline.

October 29 (Wed) Men's Bible Study (Gospel of Mark) at 7:00 p.m. beginning with Compline

October 30 (Thu) Ladies Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall with Barbara Morsch.

Upcoming

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.** Invite your friends and get ready for a great time! Pre-order now (or buy at the event) Oktoberfest shirts and event beer glasses (benefits our Youth's Campfirmation next summer).

November 2 (Sun) All Saints' Day (observed) please wear WHITE to match the paraments.

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.

November 13 (Thurs) Pastors Knoxville Circuit Meeting at Praise from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

November 14 (Fri) Memorial Service for Robert (Bob) D. McDermott at 12:00 noon and with refreshments afterwards.

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.