

+ Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost +

November 16, Year of our Lord 2025 | DS3

Nearing the End (of the Church Year)

+ 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 121:1–2, 5, 7–8; antiphon: Luke 21:33



P Heaven and earth will | pass away,*
but my words will not | pass away.

C I lift up my eyes | to the hills.*

From where does my | help come?

My help comes | from the LORD,*
who made | heaven and earth.

The LORD is your | keeper;*

the LORD is your shade on your | right hand.

The LORD will keep you from all | evil;*
he will | keep your life.

The LORD will keep your going out and your | coming in*
from this time forth and for- | evermore.

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.

Heaven and earth will | pass away,*
but my words will not | pass away.

Kyrie

Mark 10:47

C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

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,

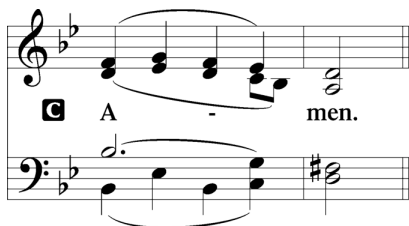
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
 O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.
 O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
 Thou that takest away the sin of the 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, almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may live and abide forever in Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading

Malachi 4:1-6

"For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts.

"Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and just decrees that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

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

Gradual

Revelation 7:14b; Psalm 84:5

C These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Blessed are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

Epistle

2 Thessalonians 3:1–13

Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith. But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one. And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things that we command. May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us, because we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good.

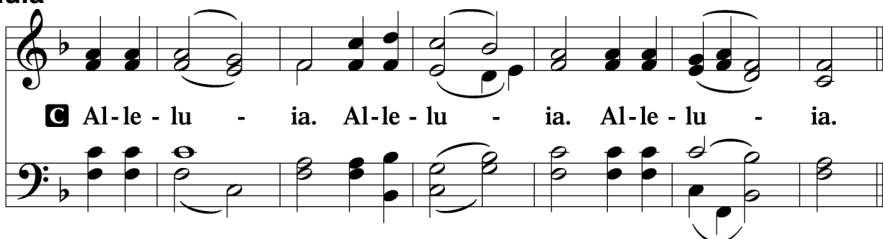
A This is the Word of the Lord. **C** Thanks be to God.

Verse of the Day

Luke 21:28b

P Alleluia. Straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near. Alleluia.

Triple Alleluia



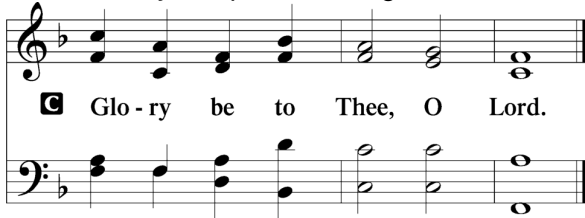
C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass clef, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff, aligned with the notes. The music is a simple, repetitive melody for the Alleluia.

Holy Gospel

Luke 21:5–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.



While some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, [Jesus] said, “As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.” And they asked him, “Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?” And he said, “See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is at hand!’ Do not go after them. And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once.”

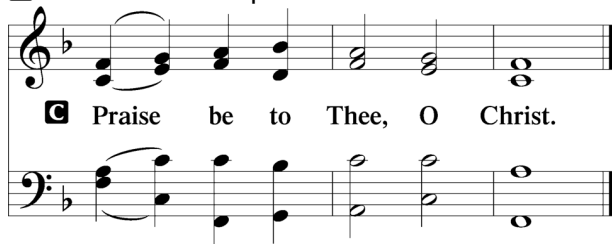
Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name’s sake. This will be your opportunity to bear witness. Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. You will be hated by all for my name’s sake. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your lives.

“But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those who are out in the country enter it, for these are days of vengeance, to fulfill all that is written. Alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress upon the earth and wrath against this people. They will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

“And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great

glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

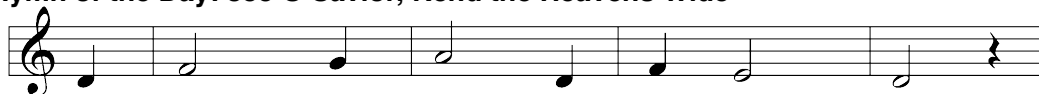
Apostles' Creed

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

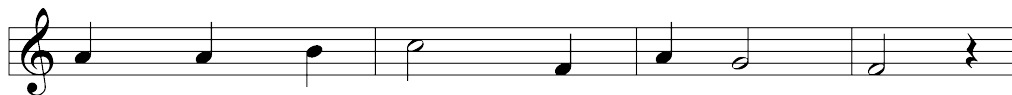
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the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

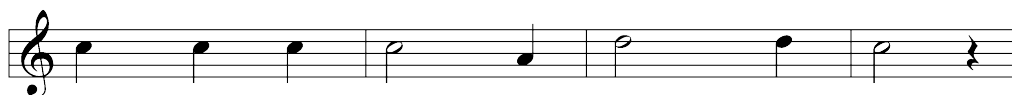
Hymn of the Day: 355 O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide



1 O Sav - ior, rend the heav - ens wide;
 2 O Fa - ther, light from heav - en send;
 3 O earth, in flow'r - ing bud be seen;
 4 O Fount of hope, how long, how long?



Come down, come down with might - y stride;
 As morn - ing dew, O Son, de - scend.
 Clothe hill and dale in garb of green.
 When will You come with com - fort strong?



Un - lock the gates, the doors break down;
 Drop down, you clouds, the life of spring;
 Bring forth, O earth, a blos - som rare,
 O come, O come, Your throne fore - go;



Un - bar the way to heav - en's crown.
 To Ja - cob's line rain down the King.
 Our Sav - ior, sprung from mead - ow fair.
 Con - sole us in our vale of woe.

- 5 O Morning Star, O radiant Sun,
 When will our hearts behold Your dawn?
 O Sun, arise; without Your light
 We grope in gloom and dark of night.
- 6 Sin's dreadful doom upon us lies;
 Grim death looms fierce before our eyes.
 O come, lead us with mighty hand
 From exile to our promised land.
- 7 There shall we all our praises bring
 And sing to You, our Savior King;
 There shall we laud You and adore
 Forever and forevermore.

+ Sermon +

Nearing the End

Offertory, p. 192-193

Psalm 51:10–12

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 +

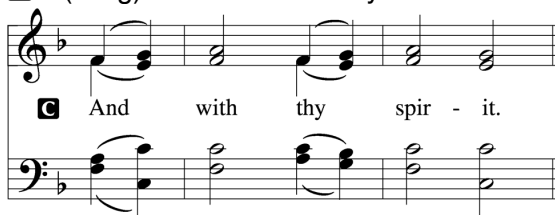
A Word to Our Guests and Visitors about Communion at Praise

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.



P Lift up your hearts.

Two staves of music in G major (one sharp). The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The accompaniment consists of quarter notes: G2, B1, D2, E2, F2, G2. The lyrics 'We lift them up un - to the Lord.' are written below the treble staff.

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

Two staves of music in G major (one sharp). The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody consists of quarter notes: G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4. The bass staff has a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a common time signature (C). The accompaniment consists of quarter notes: G2, B1, D2, E2, F2, G2. The lyrics 'It is meet and right so to do.' are written below the treble staff.

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: 664 Fight the Good Fight (see hymnal)

Distribution Hymn: 663 Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray

Distribution Hymn: 643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

Distribution Hymn: 809 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

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,

and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass, in the key of D major (two sharps). The treble staff begins with a G4 chord, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. The bass staff begins with a G3 chord, followed by a half note G3, a quarter note A3, and a half note B3. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

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.

A - men.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass, in the key of D major (two sharps). The treble staff begins with a G4 chord, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. The bass staff begins with a G3 chord, followed by a half note G3, a quarter note A3, and a half note B3. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

Salutation

2 Timothy 4:22

P (sung) The Lord be with you.

And with thy spir - it.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass, in the key of D major (two sharps). The treble staff begins with a G4 chord, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. The bass staff begins with a G3 chord, followed by a half note G3, a quarter note A3, and a half note B3. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

Benedicamus

Psalm 103:1

A (sung) Bless we the Lord.

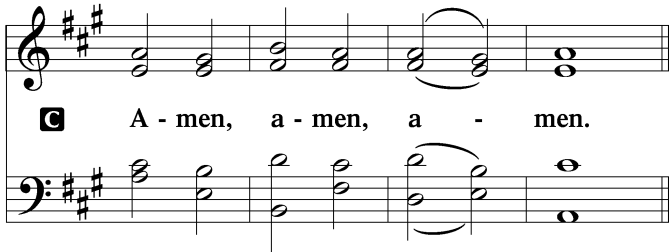
Thanks be to God.

The musical notation consists of two staves, treble and bass, in the key of D major (two sharps). The treble staff begins with a G4 chord, followed by a half note G4, a quarter note A4, and a half note B4. The bass staff begins with a G3 chord, followed by a half note G3, a quarter note A3, and a half note B3. The lyrics are placed below the notes.

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.
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)

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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 births of **Beck Alexander** (great grandchild of Mary Schopmann) on 11/3. **Mason Lane** (grandson to Thomas) and **Magnolia** to **Samuel & Sarah Kropp** (Jerry & Jennifer's grandchild), and **Jonathan** to **Elijah & Faith Miessler** (born Sept. 20, baptized on 11/2). 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 & 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 **Debra** (Billye Raye's sister) who passed away 10/25. 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 the family of **Emma Lu Kerekes** (founding member of Praise) who passed on 7/25 (Memorial Service was 9/6).

Health: For **Catherine Boute** recovering from knee replacement surgery. For **Gene Stern** (father of Cheryl Denton) who has a fracture in his back and is waiting to see a specialist. For **Ed McGillick** (fell and broke ankle). For **Lori Smith** recovering from shoulder surgery. For **Chuck Pettyjohn** for lung and heart health (temporary dialysis treatments, now in Sweetwater, TN for rehab). For **Tonia Latham** (Phyllis Bembas's niece) health recovery. 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 **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 home). 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 Biscote's aunt) cancer surgery recover and treatments. For **George Gorghis** (friend of Donna Wall) treatment for Lymphoma cancer, stage 4. For **Janeen Meier** healing for physical and mental health (Maureen Roberts' sister and Pastor Roberts's Aunt). For **Lois Schering** (eye-lid infection). 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: Isabelle McC (11/17), Fran W (11/17), Sophia R (11/20), Nicholas S (11/21), Xavier R (11/23), Brian St (11/23), Angela G (11/24), Joe H (11/24), John H (11/24), Laura Bur (11/25), Rachel E (11/28), Steve K (11/29), Valerie V (11/29), Mel Weh (11/29)

Anniversaries: Steve & Janice Kaiser (11/18), Ed & Sandy Bagley (11/18), Jim & Maureen Roberts (11/23), Bob & Beverly Miller (11/24), Brian & Rachel Ernst (11/27), Larry & Theresa Lindsey (11/27)

Church Operations & Christian Stewardship

| Building Fund | 2024 Receipts | 2025 Receipts | Total Receipts |
|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|------------------|
| Actual | \$211,037 | \$55,633 | \$1,233,629 |
| Pledged | \$179,106 | \$42,744 | \$1,065,270 |
| Remaining | \$31,931 [over] | \$12,889 [over] | \$168,359 [over] |

As of 10/28/25 the new loan balance is \$1,887,180.95. The Build Project total cost was \$2,973,613 (approximately 41% funded). We encourage special gifts to help paydown the principal.

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

The **Children's Christmas Service** will take place on Fri, Dec 19 at 7:00 p.m. The program focuses on the Story of Christmas and will feature the handbell choir. A sign-up form for children participating was sent in our congregational email newsletter or can be completed by going to <https://forms.gle/w42GUPorTWrVQ6qD6> or the QR code. Parents, please submit forms promptly so parts can be assigned, and the practice schedule (aligned with Sunday School) can be shared. Any questions can be directed to Shelby Hicks and Caleb Hesse.



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, November 19 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 Nov 23 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

Donations for the Veterans Pantry may be placed in the Narthex near the kitchenette. They are delivered on a regular basis to the Blount County Office of Veterans Affairs.

The **Church Directory** will be printed and bound this week, with copies available in the narthex. Please note that quantities are limited to one per household. If additional copies need to be made, please contact Elissa Upward with a request at officeadmin@praiselutheran.com.

Thank you to everyone who picked up a **Holiday Gift Sponsorship** envelope. We're excited to partner with **Foster Families of Blount County** to provide Christmas gifts for 20 children in need. **Please return all gifts by Sunday, November 30.** Thank you for sharing the love of Christ through your generosity this Christmas season!

Today

Issues Class with Pr. Roberts will meet today in the Social Hall following the 8:30 a.m. service. Today's topic: *More Differences between Lutherans and...*

This Week

November 19 (Wed) Choir rehearsal at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

November 19 (Wed) Youth Group at 7:00 p.m., beginning with Compline.

November 19 (Wed) Men's Bible Study (Gospel of Mark) at 7:00 p.m. beginning with Compline.

November 20 (Thu) Ladies Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall with Barbara Morsch.

Upcoming

November 26 (Wed) Thanksgiving Eve Service at 12 noon and 7:00 p.m.

November 30 (Sun) First Sunday in Advent and the lectionary resets to Year A. The majority of Holy Gospel readings for Sundays will be from St. Matthew the Evangelist.

December 6 (Sat) Advent by Candlelight, hosted by our Women's Bible Study, will take place in the Social Hall. It's a wonderful opportunity for women to begin the Advent season with hearts focused on Christ while enjoying meaningful fellowship. If you'd like to attend and sit at a specific hostess's table, please sign up in the narthex under her name.

December 3, 10, and 17 Midweek Advent Services at 12 noon and 7:00 p.m. with Soup and Sandwich Suppers at 6:00 p.m.

December 19 (Fri) Children's Christmas Service *A Children's Christmas Hymn Sing* at 7:00 p.m.