

## + Second Sunday in Advent +

*December 7, Year of our Lord 2025 / DS1*

**Hymn of Invocation: 344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry** (see hymnal)



## + 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: 928 Song of Hannah

1 Samuel 2:1-10 {0}



My heart ex - ults in the LORD; I re - joice in Your sal - va - tion.



## Proper

Psalm 105:4–8; antiphon: Isaiah 40:3b

**[L]** In the wilderness prepare the way | of the LORD,\*  
make straight in the desert a highway | for our God.  
Seek the LORD | and his strength;\*  
seek his presence con- | tinually!

## **[C]** Refrain

**[L]** Remember the wondrous works that | he has done,\*  
his miracles, and the judgments he | uttered,  
O offspring of Abraham, his | servant,\*  
children of Jacob, his | chosen ones!

## **[C]** Refrain

**[L]** He is the | LORD our God;\*  
his judgments are in | all the earth.  
He remembers his covenant for- | ever,\*  
the word that he commanded, for a thousand gener- | ations.

**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.**

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## Kyrie ~ Lord, Have Mercy, p. 152: 944 Kyrie — II



1 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.  
2 Chris - te e - lei - son. Chris - te e - lei - son.  
3 Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Ky - ri - e e - lei - son.



Ky - ri - e e - le - - - i - son.  
Chris - te e - le - - - i - son.  
Ky - ri - e e - le - - - i - son.

Text: Traditional Tune: Russian Orthodox Text and tune: Public domain

*The Gloria in Excelsis is omitted in Advent  
to help reflect Advent's penitential theme (returns at Christmas)*

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** (sung) The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

### Old Testament Reading

*Isaiah 11:1–10*

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.  
And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him,  
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
the Spirit of counsel and might,  
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.  
And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.  
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,  
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,  
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,  
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;  
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,  
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.  
Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,  
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.  
The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,  
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,  
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;  
and a little child shall lead them.  
The cow and the bear shall graze;  
their young shall lie down together;  
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.  
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,

and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.  
They shall not hurt or destroy  
in all my holy mountain;  
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD  
as the waters cover the sea.

In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

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

## Gradual

*Zechariah 9:9; Psalm 118:26, alt.*

**C** **Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.**  
**Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.**  
**Behold, your king is coming to you;**  
**righteous and having salvation.**  
**Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**  
**From the house of the Lord we bless you.**

## Epistle

*Romans 15:4–13*

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, that through endurance and through the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope. May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony with one another, in accord with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God.

For I tell you that Christ became a servant to the circumcised to show God's truthfulness, in order to confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

"Therefore I will praise you among the Gentiles,  
and sing to your name."

And again it is said,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people."

And again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples extol him."

And again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse will come,  
even he who arises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him will the Gentiles hope.”

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Verse of the Day

*Luke 3:4b, 6*

**P** Alleluia. Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight; all flesh shall see the salvation of God. Alleluia.

## Alleluia and Verse

*John 6:68*

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

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 3:1–12*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the third chapter.

**C** Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said,

“The voice of one crying in the wilderness:  
‘Prepare the way of the Lord;  
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore a garment of camel’s hair and a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region about



the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father,’ for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

### **Apostles' Creed**

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

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

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

## Hymn of the Day: 518 By All Your Saints in Warfare

1 By all Your saints in war - fare, For  
2 Our thanks for John the Bap - tist Who,  
△ 3 Then let us praise the Fa - ther And

all Your saints at rest, Your ho - ly name, O  
till his dy - ing day, Made straight paths for the  
wor - ship God the Son And sing to God the

Je - sus, For - ev - er - more be blest! For  
Sav - ior And her - ald - ed His way! In  
Spir - it, E - ter - nal Three in One, Till

You have won the bat - tle That they might wear the  
wit - ness - ing to Je - sus Through times of threat or  
all the ran - somed num - ber Fall down be - fore the

crown; And now they shine in glo - ry  
shame May we with faith and cour - age  
throne, As - crib - ing pow'r and glo - ry

Re - flect - ed of from Your throne.  
The Lamb of God pro - claim.  
And praise to God God a - lone.

Text (sts. 1, 3): Horatio Bolton Nelson, 1823–1913, alt.; (st. 24): Gregory J. Wismar, 1946

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+ Sermon +

## Offertory

*Psalm 116:12–13, 17–19*



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

## Announcement of Offering and Greetings of Peace

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

## Prayer of the Church - see colored insert

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

*Benediction for those worshipping via the livestream.*

## + Service of the Sacrament +

## A Word to Our Guests and Visitors about Communion at Praise

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very Body and Blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and



with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death and resurrection until He comes. Scripture warns that those who come forward to eat and drink our Lord's Body and Blood in an unworthy manner do so to their great spiritual harm. The Lord's Supper is also a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar. Therefore, any who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet to desire to receive the Sacrament (Communion), are encouraged to seek guidance from the pastor.

## Preface

*p. 160; 2 Timothy 4:22; [Colossians 3:1]; [Psalm 136]*

**P** The Lord be with you.



**C** And al - so with you.

**P** Lift up your hearts.



**C** We lift them to the Lord.

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



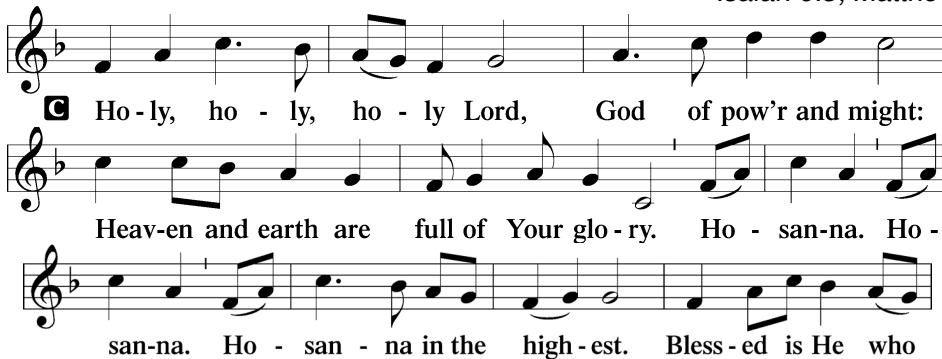
**C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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

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

## Sanctus

*Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*





comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

*p. 161 or 178*

**[P]** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, ...now and forever.

**[C]** Amen.

### Lord's Prayer

*Matthew 6:9–13*

**[P]** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**[C]** Our Father who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be Thy name,  
 Thy kingdom come,  
 Thy will be done on earth  
 as it is in heaven;  
 give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses  
 as we forgive those  
 who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom  
 and the power and the glory  
 forever and ever. Amen.

### The Words of Our Lord

*Mt 26:26-30; Mk 14:22-26; Lk 22:14-23; 1 Cor 11:23-25.*

**[P]** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

### Pax Domini

*John 20:19*

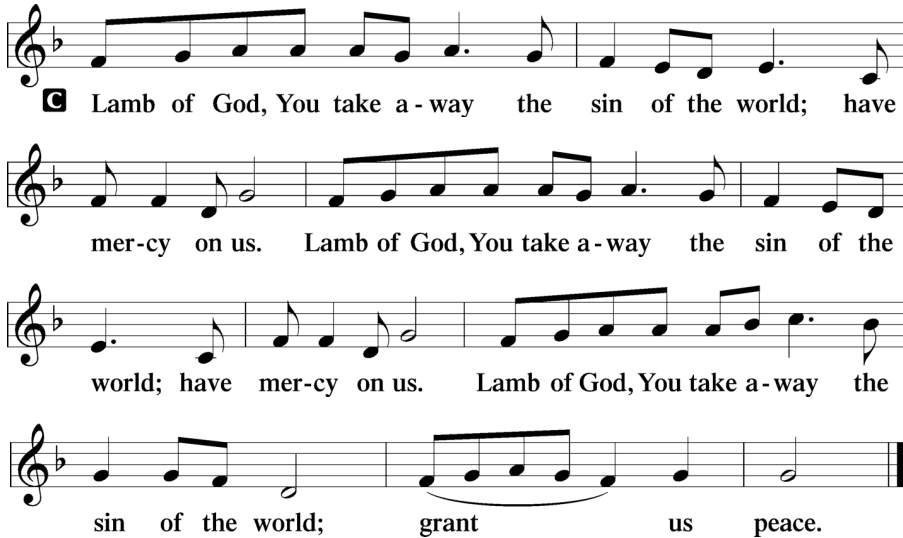
**[P]** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



**[C]** A - men.

## Agnus Dei

John 1:29



**C** Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

## Distribution

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

**Distribution Hymn: 343 Prepare the Royal Highway** (see hymnal)

**Distribution Hymn: 347 Comfort, Comfort Ye My People**

**Distribution Hymn: 333 Once He Came in Blessing**

**Distribution Hymn: 345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding**

## Nunc Dimittis

Luke 2:29–32

**C** Lord, now You let Your servant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled.  
My own eyes have seen the salvation which You have prepared in the sight of  
ev'ry people: A light to reveal You to the nations and the glory of Your people  
Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

## Post-Communion Collect

p. 166

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



**C** A - men.

## 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.



## Praise Lutheran Church (LCMS)

315 Southdowne Dr, Maryville, TN 37801 | (865) 977-5810 | [praiselutheran.com](http://praiselutheran.com)

Office Hours | Monday–Thursday, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

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](http://praiselutheran.com/events)

Online giving: [praiselutheran.com](http://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/](https://facebook.com/PraiseLutheranChurch/) | [youtube.com/@PraiseLutheran](https://youtube.com/@PraiseLutheran)

Office Administration: Elissa Upward, [officeadmin@praiselutheran.com](mailto:officeadmin@praiselutheran.com)

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

Director of Worship Arts: Caleb Hesse, [caleb@praiselutheran.com](mailto:caleb@praiselutheran.com)

Congregational President: Dr. Tom Wittkopp, Vice President: Tim Nunnink

Organist/pianists: Janice Kaiser, Susan Johnson, Gary Schauerman

Choir Director: Caleb Hesse, 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).

## Acknowledgments

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## + Prayers +

World: For the end of persecution and genocide of **Nigerian Christians** (of various races). 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: 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: **Alex & Shelby Hicks, Luke & Blair Johnson**, and **Joshua & Adelaide Arguien**. 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). For **children and families** dealing with difficult situations due to drugs, alcohol, violence, abuse, stress, and strife.

Recent Loss and Mourning: For family of (former member) **Don Wuethrick** who passed away. 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.

Health: For health of **Shelby Hicks** and anticipated birth of baby **Silas** in upcoming weeks. For **Linda Davis** anemia and health. For **Carolyn Howard** (friend of Paul Ruble) pneumonia recovery and for her daughter **Jane** who suffered a stroke. For **Tom Williams** health and upcoming chemo treatments. For **Ann** (Rick Gift's stepmother) leukemia and health. For Maryville Police officer **Justin Brown**. For **Tonia Latham** (Phyllis Bembas's niece) health recovery. For **Chuck Pettyjohn** for lung and heart health (temporary dialysis treatments). For **Sandra Wendland** surgery recovery. For **Robert Brummond** (Tina Peirce's brother, Sydney's uncle) surgery recovery. For **Catherine Boute** recovering from knee replacement surgery. For **Lori Smith** shoulder surgery recovery. For **Gene Stern** (father of Cheryl Denton) fractured back treatment. For **Ed McGillick** (broken ankle recovery and rehab at MorningView). 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. 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 **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 **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) cancer. For **Sandy Bagley** health. 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 **Gary Kubin** back and leg pain. 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** (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. **Debbie Johnston** kidney health. For **Alan Stremsterfer's mother** health. **Aurora Stevens** pain and health. For **Kathy Bigger** (friend of Donna Wall) pancreatic cancer. Andrew Hebar's Aunt **Kara** (health).

**Birthdays:** Barbara Moy (12/8), Jennifer Heb (12/9), Gary Moeh (12/11), Auggie M (12/11), Faye S (12/15), Ed H (12/16), Glen McC (12/17), Jamie Su (12/17), Phil B (12/20), Mary Sch (12/20)

**Anniversaries:** Tim & Michele Nunnink (12/15), Mike & Deb Wales (12/17), Larry & Janet Moore (12/20)

**Church Operations & Christian Stewardship**

<b>Building Fund</b>	<b>2024 Receipts</b>	<b>2025 Receipts</b>	<b>Total Receipts</b>
<b>Actual</b>	\$211,037	\$57,524	\$1,235,520
<b>Pledged</b>	\$179,106	\$42,744	\$1,065,270
<b>Remaining</b>	\$31,931 [over]	\$14,780 [over]	\$170,250 [over]

*As of 12/04/2025*

*As of 12/4/25 the new loan balance is \$1,863,535. 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](https://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)].

**Children and Youth Ministry**

The **Children's Christmas Service** will take place on Fri, Dec 19 at 7:00 p.m. Parents, please complete the sign-up form by scanning the QR code or going to **<https://forms.gle/w42GUPorTWRVQ6qD6>**. Please direct questions to 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** is on break until Mid-January. In lieu of meetings, youth are encouraged to come to Mid-week Advent meals and services and bring a friend!

**December 14 (Sun) Youth Group Fun and Games Night** from 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m. at the Nunnink's. Please bring a \$15 gift card or gift certificate from your favorite store or restaurant! Dinner and dessert will be provided. Please contact Levi or Suzanne Nunnink to RSVP.

### **Worship and Music Ministry**

A **music folder fundraiser** is being held this Advent season. New folders will improve both the organization, performance, and care of our music. A goodwill offering will be received at the door. *Each folder is approximately \$30 each. Any donation for this would be a blessing to the choir.*

**Choir rehearsal** will begin at 5:30 p.m., Wed, Dec 10. 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 and Organ lessons** are available at Praise with our Director of Music, Caleb Hesse. Anyone age 6 and up (with a parent/guardian for children) is welcome to sign up. For additional information, please reach out to Caleb at [caleb@praiselutheran.com](mailto:caleb@praiselutheran.com).

### **Congregational Life & Fellowship**

**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 **Lutheran Witness subscription** runs from April 1 through March 31. If you would like to receive or renew your subscription, please complete the form at <https://tinyurl.com/yca5nxn4> by December 31. If you do not wish to subscribe, no action is needed. *Suggested donation of \$15 covers the church's costs for your subscription. The Mid-South District sponsors the remainder of the cost.*

**Poinsettia Sponsorship** Please use this form <https://tinyurl.com/5rhm2yju> to dedicate a Poinsettia "in honor of" or "in memory of" a loved one this Christmas. Suggested donation of \$17-20 covers the church's cost for the plant and delivery. We'll list the dedications in the bulletins during Christmas. *Thank you to Amy Mohr for arranging the order and delivery!*

## Today

**Issues Class** with Pr. Roberts will meet today in the Social Hall at 9:45 a.m. Today's topic: *More Differences between Lutherans and...*

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

Children's book author **Tammy Reed** (who began attending Praise Lutheran Church this year!) will be present at church to sign and sell her first book *A Polar Bear in Tennessee* TODAY **Sun, Dec. 7** (between and after services). The book will be on sale these two dates for \$20 and makes a great gift for Christmas. It is a story of loss of a loved one and the assuring gift of Christmas that brings joy and remembrance. Pastor has read it and encourages you to check it out. For each book sold at Praise, \$5 will be donated to *Rehema* (clean water for kids and people in Kenya, part of the Always Mercy of which we have shared about and support with our prayers and gifts). *Make it even more special by asking Tammy to sign the book!*



## This Week

**December 10 (Wed) Advent Midweek Services** at 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m.

Services theme: *The Need of a Savior.*

**Soup and Sandwich Supper at 6:00 p.m.** Bring food to share (if able).

*(Choir rehearsal during Midweek Advent begins at 5:30 p.m.)*

**December 11 (Thu) Ladies Bible Study** at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall.

## Upcoming

**December 14 (Sun afternoon) Christmas Caroling**  
(more details to come!)

**December 14 (Sun) Youth Group Fun and Games Night** from 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. at the Nunnink's.

**December 17 (Wed) Advent Midweek Services** at 12:00 noon and 7:00 p.m. with Soup and Sandwich Supper at 6:00 p.m.

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

