

+ The Baptism of Our Lord +

Epiphany Season I with Rite of Confirmation
and Reception of New Members
January 11, Year of our Lord 2025 | DS1



+ Confession and Absolution +

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

Invocation

Matthew 28:19b; 18:20

P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Exhortation

1 John 1:8–9

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

Confession of Sins

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

Absolution

[John 20:19–23]

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **C** Amen.

+ Service of the Word +

Introit

Psalm 2:7–11, 12c; antiphon: Isaiah 42:1a



A Behold my servant, whom I uphold,*
my chosen, in whom my soul delights.

C I will tell of the decree:*

The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today I have be- I gotten you.
Ask of me, and I will make the nations your I heritage,*
and the ends of the earth your pos- I session.

You shall break them with a I rod of iron*
and dash them in pieces like a potter’s I vessel.”

Now therefore, O I kings, be wise;*
be warned, O rulers I of the earth.

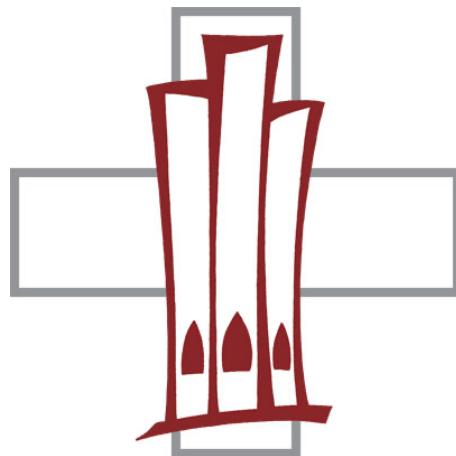
Serve the I LORD with fear,*
and rejoice with I trembling,
for his wrath is quickly I kindled.*

Blessèd are all who take ref- I uge in him.

Glory be to the Father and I to the Son*
and to the Holy I Spirit;
as it was in the be- I ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. I Amen.

Behold my servant, whom I uphold,*
my chosen, in whom my soul delights.





Kyrie Eleison

LORD, HAVE MERCY

Kyrie ~ Lord, Have Mercy, p. 152

Mark 10:47

A (sung) In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C A - men.

This Is the Feast

Revelation 5:12–13; 19:5–9

Refrain

C This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

1 — Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose
2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and
3 Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and
4 Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to
5 For the Lamb who was slain has be -

blood set us free to be peo - ple of God. Refrain
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are His. Refrain
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Stanza 4
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men. Refrain
gun His reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Final Refrain

Final Refrain

This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

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

Salutation and Collect of the Day



P The Lord be with you.



C And also with you.

P Let us pray. Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; 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 42:1–9

Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. He will not grow faint or be discouraged till he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his law. Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it: “I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to carved idols. Behold, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth I tell you of them.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual*Psalm 117:1–2a; 96:8*

C Praise the **LORD**, all nations!
Extol him, all peoples!
For great is his steadfast love toward us,
and the faithfulness of the **LORD** endures forever.
Ascribe to the **LORD** the glory due his name;
bring an offering, and come into his courts!

Epistle*Romans 6:1–11*

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been **baptized into Christ Jesus** were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin. Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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

Verse of the Day*Mark 1:11b*

P Alleluia. You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased. 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 3:13–17

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”



P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

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 ⁺ of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: 405 To Jordan's River Came Our Lord (see hymnal)

+ Sermon +

Baptized by John, Glorified by God

Offertory, p. 159-160

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.**

Rite of Confirmation and Reception of New Members

Announcement of Offering and Greetings of Peace

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

Prayer of the Church - see colored insert

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

Benediction for those worshipping via the livestream.

+ Service of the Sacrament +

A Word to Our Guests and Visitors about Communion at Praise

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as He says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but His very Body and Blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with Him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table those who trust His words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as He forgives and loves us, that they may show forth His death and resurrection until He comes. Scripture warns that those who come forward to eat and drink our Lord's Body and Blood in an unworthy manner do so to their great spiritual harm. The Lord's Supper is also a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar. Therefore, any who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet to desire to receive the Sacrament (Communion), are encouraged to seek guidance from the pastor.

Preface

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

P (sung) The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

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

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

Sanctus

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:



Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who



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

Prayer of Thanksgiving

p. 161 or 178

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, ...now and forever.
C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Matthew 6:9-13

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

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

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

The Words of Our Lord

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

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My \ddagger 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 \ddagger 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 (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.

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: 537 Beautiful Savior (see hymnal)**Distribution Hymn: 594 God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It****Distribution Hymn: 578 Thy Strong Word****Distribution Hymn: 605 Father Welcomes****Thank the Lord, p. 181***[Psalm 105:1-3, 42-43]; [1 Chronicles 16:8-10]*

C Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what
He has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re -
joice and proud - ly bear His name. He re-calls His prom-is -
es and leads His peo - ple forth in joy with shouts of thanks -
giv - ing. Al - le lu - ia, al - le lu - - ia.

Post-Communion Collect*p. 166*

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



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.



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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.

Office Administration: Elissa Upward, officeadmin@praiselutheran.com, (865) 977-5810

Pastor: Rev. Derek Roberts, pastor@praiselutheran.com, (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 Director: Caleb Hesse, **Choir Pianist:** Susan Johnson

Church Calendar: Visit praiselutheran.com/events for upcoming events.

Newsletter: Subscribe at the bottom right of our homepage.

Social Media: Connect with us at facebook.com/PraiseLutheranChurch and youtube.com/@PraiseLutheran.

Online Giving: Go to praiselutheran.com and click the blue “Give” button.

Additional Information: Please submit prayer requests by 9:00 a.m. each Thursday to ensure they are included in the upcoming service. If your contact information has changed, kindly notify the church office. Large-print hymnals are available upon request. Please speak with an usher for assistance.

+ Prayers +

World: For the end of persecution and genocide of **Nigerian Christians**. 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. For the civil **New Year's celebrations** and **safe travels**.

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 healthy birth of **Silas** to Alex & Shelby Hicks! For **those traveling** this Christmas. 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: **Luke & Blair Johnson, Joshua & Adelaide Arguien, Bryan & Kaite Baer**, and **Justin & Nicole Fritts**. 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 the family of **Jessica Woldt** (Rev. Adam Woldt's sister, who passed away suddenly on Christmas Eve). For family of **Carol Ehrens** who passed away 12/9. For family of **Mike** (June McDonnell's son who passed away in December. 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 **Chuck Pettyjohn** (hospitalized for pneumonia). For **Donald Thorson** (Susan Johnson's uncle) in hospice care. For **Lori Smith** infection recovery (now home). For **John Reese** (Mary Ellen Brown's niece's husband) recovery of health. For surgery recovery for **Emily** (Tom & Nadine Wittkopp's daughter). For **Kathi Hawn** (friend of Faye Schauerman) recovering from surgery for a double lung transplant. 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 **Gene Stern** (father of Cheryl Denton) fractured back treatment. For **Ed McGillick** (broken ankle 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. 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 **Brenda** (Laura Bisconte'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 **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: Rhonda H 1/14, Linda W 1/17, Hannah K 1/21, David Ch 1/24

Anniversaries: Joel & Barbara M (1/11), Paul & Cindy DiPasqua (1/12), Tim & Karen Forsyth (1/17), Gus & Lee S (1/19), Jim & Valerie V (1/20)

Church Operations & Christian Stewardship

| Building Fund | 2025 Receipts | 2026 Receipts | Total Receipts |
|------------------|-----------------|---------------|------------------|
| Actual | \$71,247 | processing | \$1,249,243 |
| Pledged | \$42,744 | n/a | \$1,065,270 |
| Remaining | \$28,503 [over] | n/a | \$183,973 [over] |

Thank you to all who gave or fulfilled commitments to the Capital Campaign, which ended Dec. 31, 2025. Gifts to the Building Fund are still encouraged to help reduce principal and/or for future repairs and projects. More reports and details will be presented at our February Voters Meeting.

As of 12/31/25 the new loan balance is \$1,861,079. The Build Project total cost was \$2,973,613 (approximately 41% funded). Special gifts are encouraged to help paydown the principal.

Visit praiselutheran.com/build to see our build completion video! Gifts to the Build Fund are still encouraged. Our total monthly mortgage payments to Lutheran Church Extension Fund: \$11,413 [breakdown: \$10,309 (new building) + \$1,100 (extra mortgage payment monthly)].

Watch for Contribution Statements in your church mailbox this month.

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 take place on Wed, January 14th 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.

Worship and Music Ministry

Many thanks to everyone who supported the purchase of **new music folders**. We successfully raised enough funds to place the order.

NEW: Make a Joyful Noise Vocal Workshop is a two-part series created to uplift and inspire singers of all skill levels, with a focus on the Music of the Church. Presented by Mr. Caleb Hesse, Director of Worship Arts. The first session will take place on Sat, Jan 24, at Faith Lutheran Church in Oak Ridge, followed by the second session on Wed, Feb 11, at Praise Lutheran.

Choir practice will take place on Wed, Jan 14 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 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.

Congregational Life & Fellowship

Welcome New Members Today's services (some at each) include the Rite of Confirmation and Reception of New Members.

Profession of Faith: Ron Arguen; Steve, Amanda, and Christian Nagel; Tara and Wyatt Smith

Transfer: Ray & Dianne Zumwalt; Kathy Wuethrick

Rite of Confirmation: Izaak Buchanan; Phillip Bunch; Tony & Jennifer Fritts; Juliette Wilkerson

Transportation Ministry is seeking volunteers to help give rides to church. This commitment is just one Sunday a month. Please contact Mark Ratliff if you'd like to help.

Greeters is seeking volunteers to greet on Sunday mornings. See Catherine Boute.

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

Today

Poinsettias: If you would like to take a poinsettia home, please feel free. Some are in the Narthex. Please leave the ones on the altar until after the 11:00 a.m. service.

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...*

This Week

January 14 (Wed) Choir rehearsal at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

January 14 (Wed) Youth Group at 7:00 p.m. beginning with Compline.

January 14 (Wed) Men's Bible Study (Gospel of Mark) at 7:00 p.m. beginning with Compline.

January 15 (Thu) Ladies Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall with Barbara Morsch.

Upcoming

January 18 (Sun) Rite of Holy Baptism of Silas Hicks, newborn son of Alex & Shelby Hicks

January 20 (Tues) Church Council Meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Social Hall

January 24 (Sat) Make a Joyful Noise Vocal Workshop, Part 1, Faith Lutheran Church, Oak Ridge.

February 11 (Wed) Make a Joyful Noise Vocal Workshop, Part 2, Praise Lutheran Church Social Hall.

February 15 (Sun) Transfiguration of Our Lord and final Sunday of the Epiphany Season.

February 18 (Wed) Ash Wednesday and the beginning of Lent.