

+ Second Sunday of Easter +

April 12, Year of our Lord 2026 | DS1



Special Guest Pastor Rev. David Graves, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Wartburg, TN and 4th Vice President of the LCMS Mid-South District. *Pastor Roberts is away with family in Kentucky.*

+ 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 T 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

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



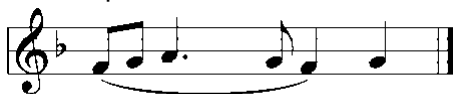
C Lord, have mer - cy.

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



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-tory 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 al - so with you.

P Let us pray. Almighty God, grant that we who have celebrated the Lord's resurrection may by Your grace confess in our life and conversation that Jesus is Lord and God; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C A - men.

First Reading

Acts 5:29–42

But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

When they heard this, they were enraged and wanted to kill them. But a Pharisee in the council named Gamaliel, a teacher of the law held in honor by all the people, stood up and gave orders to put the men outside for a little while. And he said to them, "Men of Israel, take care what you are about to do with these men. For before these days Theudas rose up, claiming to be somebody, and a number of men, about four hundred, joined him. He was killed, and all who followed him were dispersed and came to nothing. After him Judas the Galilean rose up in the days of the census and drew away some of the people after him. He too perished, and all who followed him were scattered. So in the present case I tell you, keep away from these men and let them alone, for if this plan or this undertaking is of man, it will fail; but if it is of God, you will not be able to overthrow

them. You might even be found opposing God!” So they took his advice, and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching Jesus as the Christ.

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

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

- C **Christ has risen from the dead.**
[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.
He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;
he has put all things under his feet.

Epistle

1 Peter 1:3–9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God’s power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

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

Verse of the Day

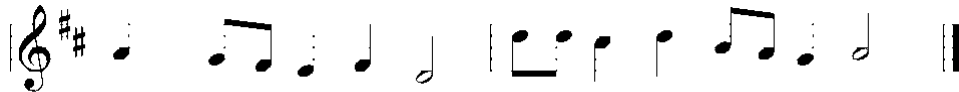
John 20:29b

- P Alleluia. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed. Alleluia.

Alleluia and Verse

John 6:68

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



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

John 20:19–31

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of anyone, they are forgiven; if you withhold forgiveness from anyone, it is withheld."



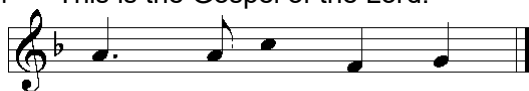
Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."



Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

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: 470 O Sons and Daughters of the King



1 O sons and daugh - ters of the King, Whom heav'n - ly
2 That Eas - ter morn, at break of day, The faith - ful
3 An an - gel clad in white they see, Who sits and
4 That night the a - pos - tles met in fear; A - mong them



hosts in glo - ry sing, To - day the grave has lost its sting!
wom - en went their way To seek the tomb where Je - sus lay.
speaks un - to the three, "Your Lord will go to Gal - i - lee."
came their mas - ter dear And said, "My peace be with you here."



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: Melchior Vulpius, c. 1570–1615 Text and tune: Public domain

+ Sermon +

Guest Pastor: Rev. David Graves
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Wartburg
4th Vice President of the LCMS Mid-South District

Hymn of the Day (cont.)



5 When Thom - as first the tid - ings heard That they had
6 "My pierc - ed side, O Thom - as, see, And look up -
7 No long - er Thom - as then de - nied; He saw the
8 How blest are they who have not seen And yet whose
9 On this most ho - ly day of days Be laud and



seen the ris - en Lord, He doubt-ed the dis - ci-ples' word.
on My hands, My feet; Not faith-less but be - liev-ing be."
feet, the hands, the side; "You are my Lord and God!" he cried.
faith has con-stant been, For they e - ter - nal life shall win.
ju - bi - lee and praise: To God your hearts and voic - es raise.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: attr. Jean Tisserand, d. 1494; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt. Tune: Melchior Vulpinus, c. 1570–1615 Text and tune: Public domain

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.**

Offering Gifts and tithes may also be submitted online at praiselutheran.com. (Pastor: present two plates from behind altar to ushers at front of chancel. Have congregation rise when ready to receive them back and place behind altar.)

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 (Mt. 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**.*

P *Benediction (The Lord bless you and keep you...) 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

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

P (sung) The Lord be with you.



☐ And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



☐ We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



☐ 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



☐ 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

- P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth (see altar book or hymnal)...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 T 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 T 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. 163

John 1:29

C (sung) **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of
God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

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: 490 Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won (see hymnal)

Distribution Hymn: 658 Preserve Your Word, O Savior

Distribution Hymn: 487 Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

Distribution Hymn: 617 O Lord, We Praise Thee

Thank the Lord, p. 164

[Psalm 105:1–3, 42–43]; [1 Chronicles 16:8–10]

C (sung) **Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done. Let
all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name. He recalls His
promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

Post-Communion Collect, p. 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 T give you peace.





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 Congregational 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. Tim Nunnink, **Vice President:** Tom Wittkopp
Organist/pianists: Janice Kaiser, Susan Johnson, Gary Schauerma
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.

Acknowledgments

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+ Prayers +

World: For the news and victory of **Christ's bodily Resurrection** to bring joy and comfort to many suffering tribulations. For the end of persecution and genocide of **Nigerian Christians**. For the end of the fighting between the **U.S., Israel, and Iran** 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 the birth of **Wesley** to **Joshua & Adelaide Arguien** on 3/31. For our parents expecting children this year: **Bryan & Kaite Baer**, and **Justin & Nicole Fritts**. For the engagement of member **Rachel Vesper** to **Aiden Morrison**. For upcoming weddings in 2026 for **Patrick Jermain & Alesha Williams** (April), **Isaak Buchanan & Julliette Wilkerson** (May) and for **Jack Nunnink & Rachel Holst** (June). For **veterans and our military** for **Mason Burkett** (Mary Schopmann's grandson-in-law) deployed to Poland. For military servants: **Michael Strange** and **Carter Felt**. 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 **Fran Wehmeier** (Deb Wales's mother) who passed away Easter Sun, 4/5. For the family of **Melvin Wehmeier** (Deb Wales's father) who passed away 4/1. For the family **Tom Williams** (wife Corlis) who passed away 3/26. For the family of **Ron Williams** (wife Pamela) who passed away 3/24. For family of **Mildred Balash** who passed away 3/21 (104 yrs old). For the Family of **Mavis Johnson** who passed away 2/28. For the family of Elder **Chuck Pettyjohn** who died on 2/25. For the family of **Marvin Arcari** (Will Wade's and Paul Ruble's family) who passed away in Michigan. For family of **Polly Gallamore** who passed away 2/16. For **Mary Ann Furr** (mother of Pam Sokoll). For family of **Ed Hannah** who passed away 1/22. *Christ is risen!*

Health: For **Jess Groh** (friend of the Upwards) in W, spinal meningitis and thyroid cancer. For **Stevie** (Auroa Stepen's son) in ICU with a rare infection. For **Joan Large** recovering after a fall. For **Larry Bembas** surgery recovery and upcoming radiation treatments in neck. **Lou Trebus** knee replacement recovery. **Lori Smith** upcoming surgery on 4/28. For **Cindy DiPasqua** recovering from heart attack, surgery, and valve replacement. For **Fred Hansen's** health (no carotid procedure due to extent of narrowing). For **Ron Dozier** (Renee Hickmon's brother) heart incident. For **Charlene Smith** (Rev. George Smith's wife) health and hospitalization (and prayers for George). For **Linda Davis** health (recovery from recent hospitalization). For **Maureen Roberts** recovering from pneumonia. For **George Walker** procedure recovery. For **Steve Clemmer** hip replacement recovery. For **Jennifer Hebar** recovering from recent hip surgery. For **Piper** (9 yr old, niece of Mary Brown) cancer diagnosis and treatment. For **Todd Stubelt** (nephew of Sharon Felker) stage 4 brain cancer. For **Anna Roberts** (Jim & Maureen's daughter-in-law) upcoming cancer treatments. For **Alan Bell** (Barbara Morsch's brother) stroke recovery. For **Al Reuer** stroke recovery. For **Catherine Boute** surgery recovery from broken shoulder. For **Sarah** (friend of Suzanne Nunnink) intensive chemotherapy. For **Kathi Hawn** (friend of

Faye Schauerman) recovering from surgery for a double lung transplant. For **John Reese** (Mary Ellen Brown's niece's husband) recovery of health. For **Carolyn Howard** (friend of Paul Ruble) pneumonia recovery and for her daughter **Jane** who suffered a stroke. For **Ann** (Rick Gift's stepmother) leukemia and health. For **Tonia Latham** (Phyllis Bembas's niece) health recovery. For **Ed McGillick** dizziness spells. For **Sherrie** (Renee Hickmon's sister) health recovery. 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. **Sandy Bagley** health. For **Pat Sweet** (friend of Ole & Mavis Johnson) fragile health condition. For **June McDonnell** stability and lung health. For **Tim Smith** heart and blood pressure health. For **Lee Schuck** and **Gus** taking care of her. For **Derek Bryant** (friend of Mary Schopmann) kidney reception. 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 **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. Andrew Hebar's Aunt **Kara** (health).

Birthdays: Lucy Nunnink (4/13), Izaak Buchanan (4/14), Amy Mohr (4/14), Matthew Hebar (4/15), Megan Morehead (4/15), Charelston Snyder (4/16), Carole Vitzthum (4/16), Leah Mohr (4/17), Fred Hansen 4/18, Gregory McCarty 4/18, Catherine Boute 4/21, Hannah Hicks 4/22, Cole Smith 4/22, Ann Brown 4/23, Liliana Hendricks 4/24, Rachel Vesper 4/24, Addler Sutherland 4/25

Anniversaries: Steve & Tammy Clemmer (4/16), Paul & Angela Gift (4/24)

Church Operations & Christian Stewardship

General Fund	2026 Budget	2026 Actual	Remaining for Budget
	\$400,000	\$105,238 (3/22/26)	\$294,762
Building Fund	2025 Receipts	2026 Receipts	Total Receipts
Actual	\$71,247	\$6,162	\$1,257,035
Pledged	\$42,744	<i>Budget: \$25,000</i>	\$1,065,270
Remaining	\$28,503 [over]	18,838 [under]	\$191,765 [over]

Thank you to all who gave or fulfilled commitments to the Capital Campaign, which ended Dec. 31, 2025. As of 12/31/25 the new loan balance is \$1,861,079. Gifts to the Building Fund or Loan Principal Fund are encouraged to help reduce principal and for future projects.

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)].

Children and Youth Ministry

Sunday School begins at 9:45 a.m. each Sunday for all children and students age 2 and up. Confirmed youth are encouraged to join the Congregational Bible Study with Pastor Roberts.

Youth Catechesis with Pastor Roberts: next class will meet on Sun, April 19 to discuss Unit 8.

Midweek Youth Group meets Wed at 7:00 p.m. starting with Compline in the Sanctuary.

Campfirmation. is July 5–11 for youth ages 12 and up. Soft commitments are due NOW and can be emailed to officeadmin@praiselutheran.com. The total cost is \$115 per camper, with a \$50 deposit due April 19 and the remaining \$65 due June 1. Payments can be placed in the collection plate with note or memo “Campfirmation” or dropped off at the front office.

Worship and Music Ministry

Choir Practice meets this Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

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

Oktoberfest Shirts & Glasses from 2024 and 2025 are available on the shelves in the Narthex, with suggested donation amounts posted. Donations go to the Youth Group for our annual *Campfirmation* (July 5-11).

Meals of Comfort Ministry provides meals for grieving families, easing the burden of hosting visiting loved ones and allowing them to focus on mourning and sharing Christ’s comfort. We are currently seeking a Coordinator. If you’re interested, please connect with Elissa or Pastor.

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.

Lutheran Women in Mission (LWML) empowers women of Praise to grow in Christ through local and global mission projects. Members gather for fellowship, devotions and service on a quarterly basis. Scheduled meetings for 2026 are on Saturdays, March 28, May 16, August 15, November 21 in the social hall from 10 am to 11:30 am. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. We welcome adult women of all age groups to be a part of LWML. Founded in 1942, the Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) is the official women’s auxiliary of the LCMS.

Today

Second Sunday of Easter Divine Services at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. with guest Pastor David Graves. (Pastor Roberts will be away visiting family in Kentucky.)

Congregational Bible Study with special guest Pastor David Graves (today) at 9:45 a.m. in the Social Hall, topic: Five “Appalachian Heresies.”

Interested in Membership or Review of the Chief Parts of the Faith? Come to Congregational Catechesis (during Congregational Bible Study) with Pastor Roberts at 9:45 a.m. starting Sun, 4/19.

This Week

Choir Rehearsal on Wed at 6:00 p.m.

Youth Group meets Wed at 7:00 p.m. starting with Compline in the Sanctuary.

Men’s Bible Study meets Wed at 7:00 p.m. starting with Compline in the Sanctuary.

Ladies Bible Study meets Thurs at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Hall.

Upcoming

Where Praises Never End A Hymn Festival with featured guest Rev. Dr. Stephen Starke on May 17, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. (see graphic below). Pastor Starke wrote many of the hymns in our hymnal (and Divine Service Setting Four). He will preach at both services on Sunday morning, present at Congregational Bible Study, and narrate the Hymn Festival in the afternoon. Refreshments will be available during a meet and greet following the hymn festival.



**WHERE PRAISES
NEVER END**

A Hymn Festival featuring
Rev. Dr. Stephen Starke

**MAY 17, 2026
3:00 p.m.**

Praise Lutheran Church
315 Southdowne Dr.
Maryville, TN 37801

