

The Epistle

January 2022

From Pastor Wonnacott's keyboard:

Address:

605 S. Center St.
Bremen, IN 46506

Telephone: 1-574-546-2332

E-Mail:

church@stpaulsbremen.org

schools@stpaulsbremen.org

Website: stpaulsbremen.church

[facebook.com/stpaulsbremen](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsbremen)

[vimeo.com/stpaulsbremen](https://www.vimeo.com/stpaulsbremen)

Church Office Hours:

M,W,Th, F 8:30 – 11:30 am

Sunday Schedule:

Sunday School: 8:30 am

Worship: 9:30 am

Wow! January 2022! A new year, new hopes, new dreams, and new goals to set! As we turn the calendar page from December to January, what will change? For us as believers, what will change? We have the same good, gracious, and loving Savior as we had in 2021.

The meaning of the name Jesus has not changed:

“He will save His people from sin” (Matthew 1: 21). Jesus’ goal for us has not changed: “I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full” (John 10:10). Jesus’ plans for us have not changed: ¹¹“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the LORD, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. ¹²Then you will call on me and come and pray to me, and I will listen to you. ¹³You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart” (Jeremiah 29:11-13).

As we enter a new calendar year, I pray that we remember our God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. We remember that we are never alone; God is always with us. We were blessed to do many things in our community and

in the world because of our gracious God this past year. We have all our worship services available in person and on line so that we may proclaim His message to the world.

May we be united in our service to God and each other in love and honor for God and in compassion for our neighbors. God has not changed, but we always need to grow in Him and seek His will for us as His congregation of believers here in Bremen.

Let us go forth in the PEACE of God that transcends all human understanding and keeps our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

THE DEADLINE FOR THE FEBRUARY EPISTLE IS JANUARY 20TH!!! Epistle articles, comments, ideas may be deposited in the epistle box in the Narthex mail slots or e-mailed to Eric Thornton at firemanet@yahoo.com. I appreciate all of your articles, ideas and comments!

Board Briefs:

YOUTH BOARD NEWS and NOTES

ENGAGE AND SERVE

Throughout 2021, our Youth have been engaged in various ways in service to our ministry at St. Paul's and in the community at large. From our semi-annual Youth service to the Christmas Eve service to other opportunities in between in town and elsewhere, we thank God for these young people and the time they have given to help and serve others. May He continue to bless them as they grow in their daily walk with Him.

National Youth Gathering (July 2022)

Thank you for your continued support of our 6 Youth (Tyler Schmeltz, Ethan Tjernagel, Maddy Raskow, Noah Wildauer, Autumn Napper, and Jack Wildauer) and 3 Adult Leaders (Heidi Wildauer, Curt Nielsen, and Rick Napper) planning to attend the National Youth Gathering in 2022. We appreciate your continued prayers as we look forward to this exciting opportunity. Thank you also for your financial support. As of this writing, we have been blessed to receive just over a third of the \$15,000 goal we have to fund this trip to the Youth Gathering. God is good!

If there are any questions related to the Youth Group, please contact Andy Wildauer at (801) 707-3399.

Board of Parish Fellowship

Euchre Parties is on February 18th from 7 to 9ish pm. Join us in the Bethany Room and bring a friend and a snack to share! Be prepared to have FUN!!!!

Men's Group – Basketball is on February 6th & 13th from 3 to 5pm.

Board of Public Relations

Greeters are needed! There is a sign-up list on the check-it-out board. We ask the greeters to meet the people outside at the overhang, weather permitting.

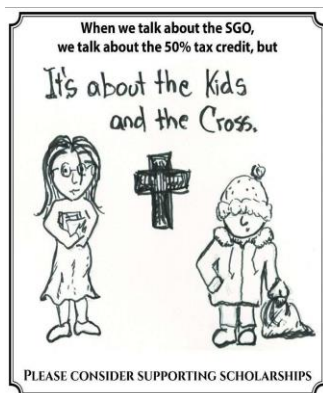
SGO Funds Needed!

Our school year is off to a good start and eight families have received a SGO scholarship to assist with tuition costs. Another three families are anticipated to participate. That means that we are in need of donations in our SGO fund!

Donating to the SGO does not just benefit our school families! It benefits you, the donor! You may claim a 50% tax credit for your donation, and your donation is also tax-deductible, as the Lutheran SGO is a 501C- 3 charity. Our school account in the Lutheran SGO depends entirely on donations; it is not government subsidized.

Additional information can be found at LutheranSGO.org and from the school office.

Thank you for your donation!



Postings from Preschool

December was full of winter fun even if we didn't have any snow! We did winter clothes relays, "snowball" fights, and decorated Christmas cookies and gingerbread houses.

More importantly, we learned about our Savior's birth which is the Good News for everyone!

Amazon Smile Reminder

Attention Amazon shoppers: Choose Amazon Smile and designate St. Paul's as the charitable recipient on your account. Amazon will donate a percentage of your purchases to our church and school. Please note this doesn't cost you anything, but is a charitable donation made by Amazon. Thanks for supporting St. Paul's through this program.

Mission of the Month

In 2022 our Sunday school continues to send \$75.00 each month to a mission.

January Mission of the Month: Women's Care Center

About: Women's Care Center provides free, confidential counseling, support and education for pregnant women. Free pregnancy testing and ultrasounds help determine viability and dates (prenatal medical care and abortions not provided). We serve 30,000 women annually from 33 centers in 11 states, including Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, Pennsylvania & Wisconsin.

Mission: Our mission is to help pregnant women from our communities choose life for their babies, have healthier pregnancies, become better parents and take first steps to self-sufficiency.

Our January Sunday School Mission of the Month donation of \$75 will go to the Women's Care Center in Marshall County, 224 N Michigan St., Plymouth IN.

OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD FROM HIS BLESSINGS TO US

One of the changes brought about due to the Covid-19 virus outbreak was using an "offering box" in the narthex of the church in front of the water fountains instead of passing an offering plate during the worship service. Please remember to give back to the Lord from the many blessings He gives us by placing your offering in the offering box or "e-tithing" by having a weekly deposit to St Paul's from your bank account. If you have questions on e-tithing, please contact the Church Office.

Estate and Gift Planning Luncheon coming in April 2022

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St. Paul's Board of Stewardship in conjunction with the LCMS Foundation will be hosting a luncheon after Sunday worship on April 3, 2022.

This event is for all families and the discussion will focus on how Christians can use their God given gifts to benefit their families and ministry after death. You will be provided ideas on goal setting, family protection, planning for taxes and general estate strategies. This will be a free event with no strings attached. If you have questions, feel free to talk with a Stewardship Board member. More details will follow in 2022.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry

'Tis More Blessed to Give Than to Receive "In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.' "

(Acts 20:35) And indeed, it is. Does this not strike a chord that resonates in us all?

Which of us can't recall the look of surprise and thanks for the Christmas gifts that we labored to give to those whom we love? And the joy written on their face when that gift is received with thanksgiving means more than all the gifts we have received. It is more blessed to give than to receive. Our Lord knew this because He practiced it. He gave of Himself – sparing not even His life in death – in order to give us back to our Father in heaven. He knew that in giving you get more because joy is multiplied in giving. The one who receives and the one who gives both rejoice in what is given and received. And, what is more, the one who receives only wants to give back to the one who gave so generously in thanksgiving. So it is with our tithes and offerings in church. We want to give because we have received from God all that we are and all that we have. Our giving does not originate in what we must do to earn God's favor. We have God's favor because of His gift of His Son, given through Word and Sacrament. Thus, we are made free from the compulsion of giving so that our tithes and offering are freely given in thanksgiving for what God has so generously given to us. Why then does the church struggle to make budgets? Why does the church always seem stretched so thin when it is the place where God continually gives us His forgiveness of sins? Why does the church struggle when God, out of love for us, generously pours out His grace and mercy? It is because we are sinners. Our fallen nature makes us selfish and miserly. It leads us to believe that we can have our cake and eat it, too. Because of sin, we want God's grace and mercy; we want His blessings of body and soul. But we don't want to share it with those around us. We want to remain comfortable in our own self-contained, neat, and tidy lives – without the headaches of loving those around us by helping them in their time of need. “Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how he himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’ ” Remember that God has placed you in a church, not only to receive His grace and mercy, but to press His eternal and temporal blessings into service to

your neighbor. Your tithes and offerings ensure that those around you have a pastor to preach the life-saving and life-giving Word of God. They ensure that the lights, heat, and air-conditioning are working. They ensure there is water for Holy Baptism as well as bread and wine for Holy Communion. They even ensure that your pastor has food and clothing and presents for his own family. The gifts of God are immeasurable. They multiply and redound to everyone's good as the fish and loaves in the feeding of the five thousand. So, remember the words of the Lord Jesus: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." And remember the joy that attended the gifts you gave at Christmas. This same joy attends your gifts to the church.

Thursday Morning Women's Bible Study

"The Heart of Jesus: Women in the Gospel of Luke" is the Bible Study the Thursday Morning Women will study starting on Thursday, January 6, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. Jesus' treatment of women with compassion and respect was proof that all are equal in God's eye. Through this study, we will be encouraged and uplifted through the stories of the women who knew their Savior and His love for them. Lessons will focus on selected women including Mary the mother of Jesus, Elizabeth, Mary Magdalene, Mary and Martha and others.

Please contact Barbara Middaugh, 574-248-0664 if you are interested in attending this study.

January's Devotion – "A Gift for God"

Psalm 51 (excerpts) - Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your steadfast love; according to Your abundant mercy ... Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You may be justified in Your sight ... Cast me not away from Your presence, and take not Your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit. ... O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare Your praise. For You will not delight in sacrifice, or I would give it; You will not be pleased with a burnt offering. The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart, O God, You will not despise.

There is a story which comes from the Middle Ages.

It speaks about an angel who wanted to give God the gift which the divine Lord valued the most. The angel traveled to earth and began his search. It took a few hundred years, but the angel eventually returned to heaven with a glass vial. In the vial was sand which had been stained red by drops of blood taken from a martyr who had died in his Savior's service.

It was a magnificent gift, a moving present, but the bloodied sand was not the gift the Lord most desired.

The angel returned to earth and, once again, began his wanderings. He stopped and was touched to see a poor widow offer up a few coins to people who had even less than she.

Yes, the angel was moved by the dear lady's actions, but he knew those coins would not be the gift the Lord loved the most.

The search continued. Occasionally, the angel found something which had possibilities. He came upon a cross which had been used by a great preacher; there were the shoes of a missionary who had shared the Gospel in a heathen land, and he was delighted by the laughter of a child who was loved by Christian parents.

"These are all wonderful gifts," the angel said to himself, "but they are not the gift which God values most." Once more the angel began his search on earth.

There the angel saw two men sitting by a fountain. One of the men bent down to drink and in the water saw his sin-ravaged face. Overcome by all he had done wrong -- and who he had become -- the man wept.

The angel, ever so quietly, moved up and collected a tear of repentance.

But the angel did not return immediately to heaven. The angel listened as the second man spoke of the Savior and the hope which comes from sins forgiven. Once again, the first man cried. But this time he cried with joy at the good news of the Gospel.

He had been given faith in Jesus as his Savior. His sins were gone. He was forgiven. He had eternal life.

The angel captured one of those tears as well. The angel brought the tear of repentance and the tear of faith to heaven. Those two tears, mixed together, were presented to God, and God smiled. Tears of repentance, tears of Gospel joy. According to the story, that was the gift which God loved the most.

Tears of repentance, tears of Gospel joy. I know they are what we need the most.

THE PRAYER: Dear Lord, may I always give thanks for Jesus who is Your gift to me.

May my praise be sincere and unceasing. In Jesus' Name we pray. Amen.

Taken from Lutheran Hour Ministries - this Daily Devotion was written by Pastor Ken Klaus

Please save the following date for PTL fundraiser.

January 11, 2022 all day at La Parilla Caliente Mexican Restaurant at 119 W. Plymouth St. Bremen will be donating 30% of sales to the school.

A Great Big Thank You from our shut-ins of the week and all who were on the Christmas Card list:

We would like to thank the congregation members throughout the past year for all their cards, prayers, Christmas tins (LWML and members), and visits. All of these acts of love made us feel part of the congregation and more importantly part of the family at St. Paul's. Thank you and God bless you all!

Thanks to all who contributed clothing for Hope Ministries and peanut butter for Bremen Bags. We collected four full truckloads of clothing and over three hundred jars of peanut butter. Pastor Wonnacott thanks God for these two opportunities and also thanks the members and friends of St. Paul's to help our neighbors in need and show fruits of repentance! Also, the Board of Public Relations was able to share the Advent meals with the Cardinal House (South) and the Bremen Police Department. Praise the Lord!

Parish Fellowship and Pastor Wonnacott would like to thank all the Thrivent members who used their action team resources to help with projects this past year. These included dinners for Advent and Lent, dinners at Hope Ministries, Christmas lunch for the Bremen Police, Christmas parties for the Cardinal Houses, peanut butter for Bremen bags, Thanksgiving dinner for the community, Preschool Advent bags...thank you all!

Pastor Wonnacott would like to thank and praise God for all the members of St. Paul's for another year to serve the Lord in His kingdom and to grow in the Word as a family of believers!



Sunday School Classes for the Winter Quarter

December 5- February 20, 2022

Pre-K -Grade 1 Nazareth Room

This class will be using material from the Faith Weavers Curriculum. Wendy Coxe will be teaching

Grade 2-5 Grade 2-3 Classroom This class will be using material from Christ Light Curriculum. Jeannette Rettinger will be teaching

Grades 6-8 6-8 Grades Classroom

Our curriculum for this class will be the Study of 1st and 2nd Peter and taught by Barb Middaugh

High School Principals Office

Topic to be determined.

Adult Class I Bethany Room

“What Does God Expect of His People” will be a Bible study led by Pastor Rohde. It is a most treasured gift that we are forgiven of all our sins and given the gift of eternal life in heaven through the death and resurrection of Christ. But now what? As we are saved through faith in Christ, what is it that God expects of us? Through this Bible study we will search out God’s will for our lives.

Adult Class II Jerusalem Room

Dave Burcham will continue with the Study of Hebrews.

The Board of Christian Education Thanks all of the teachers that have given of themselves to teach this last quarter.

Starting on December 5 Children's Bulletins will be available to youth ages 2-8. These special bulletins will follow the lectionary and keep children engaged during the worship service. Ask the ushers for the children's bulletin.

The Board of Christian Education would like every member to read the Bible in one year. Every month in the Epistle we will publish a daily reading. This reading schedule is in accordance with Martin Luther’s suggestion: “But let the entire Psalter, divided in parts, remain in use and the entire Scriptures, divided into lections, let this be preserved in the ears of the church.” We hope that you find this daily lectionary reading be inspirational to you.

Read the Bible in a Year – Readings for January January

1	Luke 1:68-79 Mark 2	2	Psalm 30 Mark 3
3	Psalm 31 Mark 4	4	Psalm 32 Mark 5
5	Psalm 33 Mark 6	6	Psalm 34 Mark 7
7	Psalm 35 8	8	Psalm 36 Mark Mark 9
9	Psalm 37 Mark 10	10	Psalm 38 Mark 11
11	Psalm 39 Mark 12	12	Psalm 40 Mark 13
13	Psalm 41 Mark 14	14	Psalm 42 Mark 15-16
15	Psalm 43 Genesis 1-3	16	Psalm 44 Genesis 4-6

17	Psalm 45 Genesis 7-9	18	Psalm 46 Genesis 10-12
19	Psalm 47 Genesis 13-15	20	Psalm 48 Genesis 16-18
21	Psalm 49 Genesis 19-21	22	Psalm 50 Genesis 22-24
23	Psalm 51 Genesis 25-27	24	Psalm 52 Genesis 28-30
25	Psalm 53 Genesis 31-33	26	Psalm 54 Genesis 34-36
27	Psalm 55 Genesis 37-39	28	Psalm 56 Genesis 40-42
29	Psalm 57 Genesis 43-45	30	Psalm 58 Genesis 46-48
31	Luke 1:68-79 Genesis 49-50		

Birthdays & Anniversaries

January 2022

ANNIVERSARIES

1	Hank & Gloria Kiefer	18	Terry & Ardith Ahlemeyer
8	Doug & Rhonda Owens	31	Joshua & Deana Miller

BIRTHDAYS

6	Eric Foster	22	Thomas Harman
	Rebecca Mejia Erin Sarber		Giovanni Mejia
7	Jaylyn Dobbins	23	Keith Miller
9	Brody Beasley Goldie Buckner Sandy Kiefer	24	Aiden Eby Cody Miller Elliott VanSoest
10	Terri Bickel Keith Russell Candy Perkins Beth Schmitt	25	Carter Miller

26 Jared Nielsen
11 Jerry Smith
27 Carole Sahlhoff
12 Janet Miller

14 James Mitchell
15 Sharon Latzke

16 Marian Yoder
Melody Farnsworth
17 Kayli Ann Miller
Phyllis Sahlhoff

18 Brittney Pittman
Tony Venable
19 Keegan Robins
Lilly Rogers

21 Carly Dietl
Kyle Hinds

30 Conner Perkins
Dorothy Walter
31 Angela Hughes



St. Paul's Lutheran Women's Missionary League

As Lutheran Women in Mission, we joyfully proclaim Christ, support missions,
and equip women to honor God by serving others. Adopted 2021

!!! ON THE CALENDER !!!

FEBRUARY 7, 2022 MONDAY 7:00 P.M.
Program: Bible Study - "When I am Weak, He is Strong"
Fill "Goodie Boxes for College Students" Hostesses: Shirley Lakins, Elaine Young

APRIL 11, 2022 – MONDAY 7:00 P.M.

Program: Foods of the Passover Seder

There will be samples of traditional foods used to recall the Passover in Egypt, of the Angel of the Lord, and His deliverance of Israel from the bondage of sin. Their meaning will be contrasted with the fulfillment of those events in the atoning works of Jesus, and the institution of The Lord's Supper. SEDER PROGRAM WILL BE OPEN TO ALL CONGREGATION MEMBERS 8TH GRADE AND UP, and lasts approximately one

hour. Other guests also welcome. Be watching for a sign-up sheet in the March Epistle / March bulletins, so adequate food and seating can be prepared. PS: this is NOT a full meal, but a “taste” of Passover foods.

Eyeglass Ministry - MOST Ministries (Mission Opportunities Short Term).

Adult & Children's Glasses; Non-prescription Sunglasses; Reading Glasses; Bifocals (ANY STYLE FRAME, BUT IN GOOD CONDITION).

Wherever MOST teams distribute used eyeglasses, the Gospel is also shared. The collection box – for glasses you no longer need – is located beneath the 'Bulletin Table.'

Psalm 100:2a “Serve the Lord with Gladness” LWML motto

St. Paul's 176th LITURGICAL YEAR

January 1, 2022 – January 31, 2022

Worship Opportunities To Bless Our Lives

9:30 a.m. - *COMMUNION

January 2 2nd Sunday of Christmas
January 8* 1st Sunday after the Epiphany / Baptism of Our Lord
January 16 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany January 23*
3rd Sunday after the Epiphany
January 30 4th Sunday after the Epiphany

The Flower Chart for the 2022 Calender Year is Outside the Altar Guild Room

January Festivals: 6 The Feast of the Epiphany of Our Lord ● 18 The Confession of St. Peter ● 24 St. Timothy, Pastor / Confessor ● 25 The Conversion of St. Paul ● 26 St. Titus, Pastor / Confessor ● Commemorations: 2 Johann K. Konrad Wilhelm Loehe ● 10 Basil the Great of Caesarea, Gregory of Nazianzus, & Gregory of Nyssa ● 20 Sarah ● 27 John Chrysostom, Pastor 347-407

THE CHURCH YEAR CYCLE OF DAYS, SEASONS, TIMES. God himself instituted a weekly day of rest and worship – the Sabbath Day. Gen. 2:3; Lev. 23:3. A yearly festival cycle was given to Moses, in God’s covenant instructions to the Israelites as they camped near Mt. Sinai. “Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘The feasts of the Lord, which you shall proclaim to be holy convocations, these are My feasts.’” Lev. 23:2ff ● While Jesus did not

command any special days or festivals be observed, the church is following these Old Testament precedents, providing the people of God an opportunity to recall the life of our Lord, through each calendar year. ● Though formulated over the course of several centuries, the basic form of the calendar year we observe today, has been handed down since about 600 AD, by the church.

- The 1st century New Testament Church from the beginning saw Sunday as her ady of worship, since it was the day on which Christ rose from the dead. Matt. 28:1; Mark 16:2; Luke 24:1; John 20:1
- Annual celebrations of Jesus’ resurrection became weeklong festivals by the early 4th century, followed by a seven-week season, culminating in the feast of Pentecost, the anniversary of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Church.
- In 313 AD, Christianity became a “tolerated religion,” in 321 AD, Sunday became a “Roman holiday.” The Church now The Church fathers did so by reaffirming the Old Testament, and starting to define what was, or was not, a part of the New Testament. This canon of scripture (rule, approved list) allowed the Church to address heresy.
- Once the Council of Nicea, 325 AD, set down a Creed (confession) of Christian belief in the incarnation of Christ. An observance of His birth found a place on the calendar. The earliest recorded Nativity festival is 336 AD. The Eastern Greek Orthodox Church chose January 6; while the Western Roman Catholic Church settled on December 25. By the start of the 5th century, both celebrated Jesus’ birth on December 25, and January 6, became Epiphany.
- The Feast of The Epiphany of Our Lord, January 6: The word epiphany is from the Greek, and means manifestation. This day is a festival of rejoicing and gladness as “the light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people of Israel.” Is revealed to the nations in the person of Jesus Christ. Luke 2:32
- Originally overshadowing Christmas, Epiphany’s main focus was the Lord’s baptism. After Christmas came to be considered the major of the two festivals in Western Christianity (Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Reformed); Epiphany’s emphasis changed to the visit of the Gentile wise men to the Child Jesus. The events surrounding Jesus’ baptism are now observed the week after The Epiphany.
- The emphasis of the Epiphany in the Orthodox Catholic Church remains Jesus’ baptism.
- The Season of Epiphany has eight Sundays this year (its length is determined by the date of Easter); and is the last season in The Time of Christmas on the church calendar.
- The altar is vested in white – for the Feast Day, a festival of God the Son, and for the two Christological festivals: The Baptism of Our Lord, and The Transfiguration of Our Lord. Green is used for all other Sundays, the “ordinary days,” of Epiphany season. Ordinary, in church usage, only means the day has no specific designation.

I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; A Star shall come out of Jacob; A Scepter shall rise out of Israel..." Numbers 24:17

Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the King, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His Star in the East and have come to worship him." Matthew 2:1-2

1846-2021 175th Anniversary Committee News: the Committee has disbanded.
We are asking for a volunteer to compile a 175th Commemorative Booklet.
A file containing minutes, services, programs, memorabilia has been saved, so you will not be starting from "scratch."
If interested, please contact Pastor Wonnacott. Thank you.

Liturgical Corner

Worship Component: Preface and Proper Preface Scriptural

Basis: 2 Tim. 4:22, Col. 3:1, Psalm 136 Meaning: First

recorded in AD 220, this dialog and prayer begins the liturgy

of the Lord's Supper. Each season has its own unique text.

Application for Daily Living: The gift of the Lord's Supper is worthy of our thanks every day.

Worship Component: Sanctus

Scriptural Basis: Isaiah 6:3, Matt. 21:9

Meaning: Sanctus means holy. The body and blood of our Lord are present in this Sacrament, and so we use the words of the angels from Isaiah 6 to acknowledge the holy presence of God in this meal.

Application for Daily Living: The intense reverence for God's holiness in this song should carry over into our daily lives.

Worship Component: Prayer of Thanksgiving/Lord's Prayer

Scriptural Basis: Luke 24:30, Matt. 6:9-13

Meaning: As the testaments are linked to Christ in the Service of the Word, so do we remember and give thanks for a salvation history in the Church's table prayer.

The Lord's Prayer, given by Christ Himself, is wonderfully appropriate as we approach His Supper.

Application for Daily Living: Daily the baptized people of God pray. The Lord's Prayer is both a prayer to pray and a model for all our prayers.

Worship Component: Consecration

Scriptural Basis: Matt. 26:26-28, Mark 14:22-24, Luke 22:19-20, 1 Cor. 11:23-25

Meaning: the words of our Lord bestow exactly what they say. In the words of consecration the Lord's Word delivers His body and blood for our forgiveness.

Application for Daily Living: Though we are blessed with many good foods, no other meal gives the body and blood of Christ to sinners.

Worship Component: The Peace/Agnus Dei

Scriptural Basis: John 20:19-21, 26, 14:27; John 1:29

Meaning: The resurrected Lord calmed the fears of the disciples with His peace.

The resurrected Lord is present in the Supper, and so the pastor speaks peace to us on His behalf. Agnus Dei [äg-nüs-dā(-ē)] means Lamb of God, and reminds us that Jesus is the Lamb of God, sacrificed for our forgiveness.

Application for Daily Living: During stressful times, remember the peace of Christ that you received on Sunday in His supper.

Worship Component: Post-Communion Collect/Nunc Dimittis

Scriptural Basis: Psalm 136, Psalm 118

Meaning: Having received forgiveness of sins, life, and salvation, we thank the Lord for His gifts and pray that He will grant us faith to use them in love toward our neighbor. The Nunc Dimittis is named after its first words in Latin, meaning Now you dismiss.

Application for Daily Living: Daily we remember His blessings. In our words and deeds we will tell what He has done.

Worship Component: Benediction

Scriptural Basis: Numbers 6:22-27

Meaning: In Numbers 6 God tells Aaron to put His name on the people of God with these words. As we began the service with the Lord's name, so we are sent out in His name.

Application for Daily Living: Live each day with confidence, knowing that you have the Lord's blessing and presence with you.