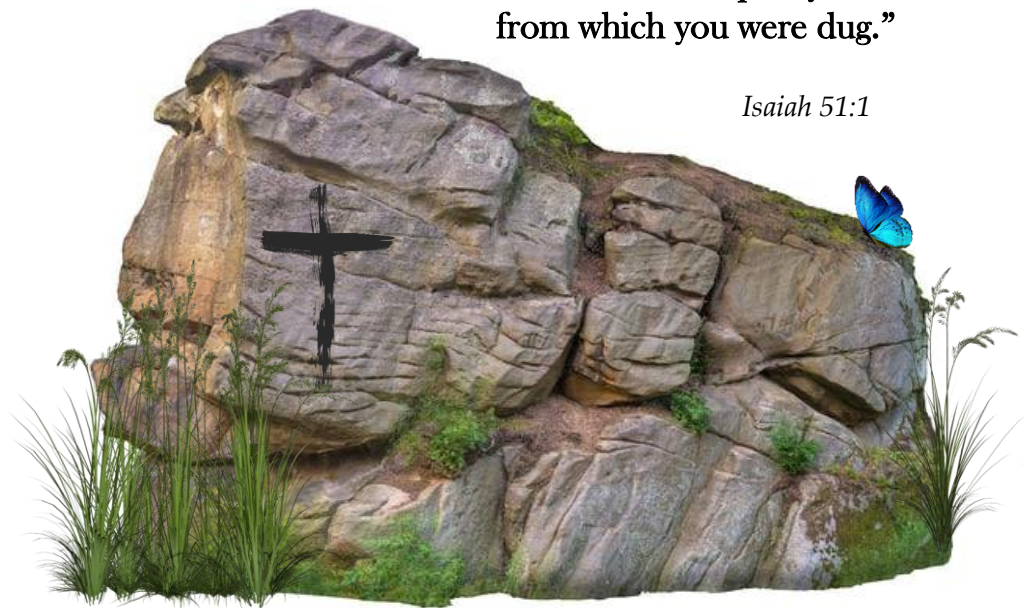


“Listen to Me, you who pursue
righteousness,
you who seek the LORD:
look to the rock
from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry
from which you were dug.”

Isaiah 51:1



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church LCMS
605 South Center Street
Bremen, Indiana 46506
574.546.2332
stpaulsbremen.church

Talk of rocks forms the obvious connection between the Gospel and the *Old Testament Reading* (Is 51:1–6), our text. Rocks, of course, serve as illustration and even sacred location (think mountains) throughout Scripture. The Old Testament lesson references the same Israelite covenant history that lies behind the Epistle. All three readings have a hopeful forward momentum, letting go of the old that brings death and looking ahead to new and everlasting life. We welcome everyone today!

The Lord's Supper is a very special privilege God gives to His people. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because the Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive this sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. If you are not partaking of the Lord's Supper but would like to receive a blessing, please come up to the communion rail when sent by an elder, kneel, and cross your arms over your chest. The Pastor will then know that you desire a blessing.

OUR OFFERINGS TO THE LORD FROM HIS BLESSINGS TO US. Offerings remind us of the blessings God has given us and are an opportunity to thank Him for what He has done in our lives. Please place your offerings in our Offering Box located in front of the water fountains in the narthex of the church. You may also choose “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.

In Matthew 19:14 Jesus said, “Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven.” We welcome children and all the joy and little chatter that comes with them. If for any reason you want to take your little one out, there is a Nursery (Cry Room) available for use during our worship service. It is located just outside the sanctuary.

Opening Hymn 912 "Christ Is Our Cornerstone"

✠ CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTIO ✠

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *(Matthew 28:19b)*
- C Amen.**
- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C who made heaven and earth.** *(Psalm 124:8)*
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.** *(Psalm 130:3-4)*
- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying:
God, be merciful to me, a sinner. *(Luke 18:13)*
- C Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.**

Children's Choir "Shine Jesus Shine"

1. Shine Jesus Shine
Lord the light of Your love is shining
In the midst of the darkness shining
Jesus Light of the word shine upon us
Set us free by the truth You now bring us
Shine on me shine on me

Chorus:

Shine Jesus shine
Fill this land with the Father's glory
Blaze Spirit blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow river flow
Flood the nations with grace and mercy.
Send forth Your word Lord and let there be light.

2. Lord I come to Your awesome presence
From the shadows into Your radiance
By the blood I may enter Your brightness
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
Shine on me shine on me

Chorus

3. As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness
Ever changing from glory to glory
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story
Shine on me shine on me

Chorus

CCLI Song #30426

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Introit *Psalm 2:6-7; Psalm 117; antiphon: Psalm 115:18*

P But we will bless the LORD

C **from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!**

P As for Me, I have set My King

C **on Zion, My holy hill.**

P I will tell of the decree:

C **The LORD said to Me, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You."**

P Praise the LORD, all nations!

C **Extol Him, all peoples!**

P For great is His steadfast love toward us,

C **and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!**

All: 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.

P But we will bless the LORD

C **from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!**

Kyrie ~ Lord, Have Mercy (Mark 10:47)

LSB 204



C Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.

Gloria in Excelsis ~ Glory to God in the Highest

LSB 204

(Luke 2:14; John 1:29)



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



Good - will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth!
O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.
For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

(2 Timothy 4:22)

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 51:1-6

¹Listen to Me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD:
look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
²Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
that I might bless him and multiply him.
³For the LORD comforts Zion;
He comforts all her waste places
and makes her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.
⁴Give attention to Me, My people,
and give ear to Me, My nation;
for a law will go out from Me,
and I will set My justice for a light to the peoples.
⁵My righteousness draws near,
My salvation has gone out,
and My arms will judge the peoples;
the coastlands hope for Me,
and for My arm they wait.
⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;
but My salvation will be forever,
and My righteousness will never be dismayed."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Psalms 34:9, 19

P Fear the LORD, you His saints,

C **for those who fear Him lack nothing!**

P Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

C **but the LORD delivers him out of them all.**

Epistle

Romans 11:33—12:8

³³Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!

³⁴"For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been His counselor?"

³⁵"Or who has given a gift to Him that he might be repaid?"

³⁶For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be glory forever. Amen.

¹I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, ⁵so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. ⁶Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; ⁷if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; ⁸the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Alleluia and Verse

(John 10:31)



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



C These things are writ - ten that you may be - lieve that



Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.



Holy Gospel

Matthew 16:13–20

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹³Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?"

¹⁴And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. ¹⁸And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. ¹⁹I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." ²⁰Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn 475 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing"

Sermon Text

Isaiah 51:1-6

Sermon "The Rock from Which You Were Hewn"

Wrongs and Redemption Come with the Densities and Dimensions of Rocks.

1. Rocks have theological value _____ .
2. Rocks involve disrupting, declaring with honesty the Law that _____ .
3. Rocks mean sculpting, announcing with hope the forgiveness that brings _____ .
4. Rocks imply constructing, inviting with joy _____ .
5. Rocks indicate protecting, proclaiming with peace a bravery, and _____ .
6. Rocks cry out persisting, heralding with faith that we'll end up all right in _____ .

Hymn 645 "Built on the Rock"

Prayers

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

Preface

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you. *(2 Timothy 4:22)*

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.** *(Colossians 3:1)*

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.** *(Psalm 136)*

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy* *(Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9)* *LSB 208*



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;



Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.



Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san-na to the Lord;



Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 209

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

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

(1 Corinthians 11:23-25)

Pax Domini ~ *The Peace of the Lord* *(John 20:19)*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei ~ Lamb of God (John 1:29)

LSB 210



1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,



You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;



O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,



Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

Hymn 618 "I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table"

Hymn 622 "Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared"

Hymn 637 "Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"

Hymn 643 "Sent Forth by God's Blessing"

Nunc Dimittis ~ Song of Simeon (Luke 2:29-32)

LSB 211



1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All



part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three in One;

A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
 For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
 to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
 now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
 peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
 sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Installation of Bible Class, Sunday School & LifeLight teachers

Benedicamus ~ *Let Us Bless* (Psalm 103:1)

LSB 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

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.

C Amen.

Closing Hymn 644 "The Church's One Foundation"

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from Lutheran Service Book

Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2023 Concordia Publishing House.

The flowers that adorn the altar are given by Larry and Beth Enders in remembrance of those who have gone before us. We praise our Savior, Jesus, for loving us so much that He died and rose to pay for our sins so that through Him we have the assurance of living with Him in heaven.

Don't miss the church and school library cart in the narthex today!

This month we have biographies available for the check-out Library cart. They include: "Let's Roll", about Todd Beamer a passenger on the fateful plane, Flight 93 on September 11th; "Quiet Strength" by Tony Dungy; "Billy Graham"; "Max Lucado"; "Paul"; "Martin Luther." Books made for movies include: "War Room"; "Courageous"; "Fireproof".

Calendar of Events

TODAY **August 27, 2023**

Sunday School & Bible Classes..... 8:30 am

Worship Service with Communion..... 9:30 am

MON:

Voters' Meeting 7:00 pm

TUES:

WED:

Day School Chapel 11:00 am

THURS:

FRI:

SAT:

NEXT SUNDAY **September 3, 2023**

Sunday School & Bible Classes..... 8:30 am

Worship Service..... 9:30 am

Scrip Day

Joann Wonnacott thanks all her church family members for all the prayers, cards, and gifts.

The Evangelism Board and helpers were able to pack and deliver 49

Welcome Bags to new households in Bremen on Monday, August 21.

Thank you to all who donated items, made items, packed bags, helped

deliver said bags and prayed! We will be delivering again on Monday,

November 13 at 5 pm. Please watch for ways you can help in the

October Epistle and bulletins. To God be the glory!

If you'd like to praise and glorify our Triune God through the gift of flowers for the altar, there are still 11 opportunities available between September 3rd and December 31st. Sign-up is by the Altar Guild room.

CALLING ALL SINGERS AND RINGERS - It's time to start preparing for the choir season again. Both the adult choir and bell choir will begin on Sunday, September 10th. Bell choir meets at 5:00 and the adult choir meets at 6:00 - both in the balcony of the church. No experience needed - we'll teach you. Those interested in bell choir need to let Ellen Augustine know so music can be marked for the appropriate number of ringers. This is really important when preparing for rehearsal. Anyone interested in adult choir can just show up. We welcome all singing parts. Please come join us in one or both choirs as we sing/bring praises to our gracious Lord. Contact Ellen Augustine if you have questions.

Hope Ministries Meal is September 15th! We will meet at church at 4:00 pm. If you want to help with the meal, please sign up on the "Check It Out" board. We also need your help with the supplies for the meal. We need medium pasta shells (50 pounds of them) and pasta sauce (50 + jars). Please place these items on the table in the narthex marked Hope and add us to your prayers for a blessed dinner for our neighbors to the north. **Cookies or Cakes are needed for the Hope Ministries Meal on September 15th**. Please bring them to the church kitchen by 4:00 pm on September 15th; thanks!

Mother / Daughter Fun Night – September 14th at 7:00 pm. You are invited to our 2nd Annual Mother / Daughter Fun Night on September 14th at 7:00 pm. Those attending will get to play bingo and enjoy delicious snacks! If you don't have a mother or daughter, please come and we will pair you with someone. The men of the congregation will be serving you! **Please sign up on the "Check It Out" board by September 10th**. We have an admission charge of two wrapped white elephants to enter this event. Ladies, please come out for a night of FUN!!!

There are several clothing protectors on the table in the Narthex that were lovingly made by members of our congregation. Please feel free to take one (or more) if you know of anyone who could use them.

Your generous outpouring of food for the Grace Food Pantry during the month of August was overwhelming!! You donated 1023 pounds of food!! We were able to deliver that, along with 156 reusable grocery bags, on Aug. 21st. Before we left, the processing had already begun so the food could be available for distribution on August 23rd. **THANK YOU!!**

Special Concerns: That we take part in the disrupting, sculpting, constructing, protecting, and persisting that the Word of the Lord works. **For Pastor Rafael & Jamielynn Flores and Pastor Micah Wildauer** and their work in foreign missions.

For our country and her leaders.

For the Lord's guidance in calling a new Administrative Pastor.

That the Lord would bless our offerings that we give today.

For grace and healing to all Christians who suffer the trials of this world as they shine the light of their risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

We Need You! Our Euchre Parties start again on Friday, September 8th from 7:00-9:00 pm in the Bethany Room. Anyone 16 and older can join us for fun and fellowship, and please bring a snack to share. Beverages will be provided. Come and bring a friend! Future dates for 2023 are October 13th and November 10th. This is a Parish Fellowship sponsored event.

Thanks to all who gave. A few weeks ago \$400 was collected in our door offering for Meals on Wheels. Those in need of assistance will be blessed by your love and generosity.

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Nights: Once again we will be hosting Fall Youth Nights on Wednesday evenings in September from 7-8 pm, beginning on September 6th. This is for all Youth in Grades 4 through High School - we encourage St. Paul's Youth in particular to bring a friend to join in a fun activity and Christian fellowship each evening before ending with a snack and brief devotion. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

SCHOOL CORNER

St. Paul's School is off to a good start! Our theme for this school year is "Connected", from John 15:1-5, reminding us that we are connected to God and each other. The students and staff are decorating puzzle piece people to assemble into a surprise puzzle for all of us to enjoy! Stay tuned!

Upcoming activities include NWEA testing tomorrow, DARE for grades 5th and 6th the following week, and LEGO Club for all grades on September 8th.

We will still accept students for Preschool and Kindergarten through 8th grade. If you know anyone looking for a Christian-based education for Preschool through 8th Grade, please encourage them to

contact us. *YOU are our best advertisements! Online enrollment is available through the church website (school side).* Our mission is to provide a Biblically based education, and now, with Choice Scholarships and many other scholarship options, we can make our school more affordable!

Please remember to give to the SGO!

We will continue to use SGO scholarships to assist with tuition, so **please continue to give, and remember you will receive a tax credit and deduction for your donations!**

You can find several (easy) ways to donate at www.lutheranSGO.org/Donate. Donations can be given through a check, IRA, stocks, Donor Advised Funds, PayPal, credit card, and **NOW electronic giving!** Benefits to you are a 50% state tax credit for your donation and eligibility for a tax deduction. These scholarships make a big difference for our families.

We also continue to take donations to St. Paul's tuition assistance fund. Checks for tuition assistance can be made out to the church.

Servants for Today's Worship August 27, 2023

Rev. Neil Wonnacott (574-546-2332 or 574-301-9291)

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Jim Mitchell & Tyler Schmeltz

Acolyte: Sophia Sahlhoff

Elder: Dave Burcham

Communion Assistant: Jon Rettinger

Video Streamer: Paul Wonnacott

Servants for Next Sunday's Worship September 3, 2023

Rev. Neil Wonnacott (574-546-2332 or 574-301-9291)

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Larry Britt & Paul Wonnacott

Acolyte: Jessica Rogers

Elder: Bill Rogers

Video Streamer: Bruce Schmidt