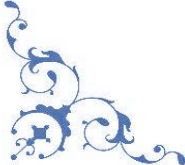


*For by grace
you have been saved
through faith, and
that not of yourselves;
it is the gift of God,
not of works, lest
anyone should boast.*

Ephesians 2:8-9



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

In today's text from Romans 9, Paul wrestles with the unbelief of Israel, whom he loves so dearly. This, for Paul, may be the ultimate test of his doxology—that we trust God when we do not fully understand His ways—but Paul notes that God's actions are always gracious, working toward salvation, whether received in faith or rejected in unbelief. We welcome everyone to God's House 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.

Children Leaving the Sanctuary: This is a matter of caring concern for your child, or the young child that you are responsible for, age 13 or younger. The Board of Lay Ministry asks that if your child needs to leave the sanctuary during the worship service, you as a parent or responsible adult will need to escort them to and from the sanctuary. Thank you.

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 902 "Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now"

✠ 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 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.** *(1 John 1:8-9)*

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.**

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. *(John 20:19-23)*

C Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Introit

Psalm 105:39-43; antiphon v. 1

P Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name;

C **make known His deeds among the peoples!**

P He spread a cloud for a covering,

C **and fire to give light by night.**

P They asked, and He brought quail,

C **and gave them bread from heaven in abundance.**

P He opened the rock, and water gushed out;
C **it flowed through the desert like a river.**

P For He remembered His holy promise,
C **and Abraham, His servant.**

P So He brought His people out with joy,
C **His chosen ones with singing.**

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 Oh give thanks to the LORD; call upon His name;
C **make known His deeds among the peoples!**

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

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C A - men.

Gloria in Excelsis ~ *Glory to God in the Highest*

LSB 154

(Luke 2:14; John 1:29)

P Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.



C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.



Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer.



For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,



You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 156

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



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Heavenly Father, though we do not deserve Your goodness, still You provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your gifts, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 55:1–5

¹Come, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and he who has no money,
come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

²Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen diligently to Me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

³Incline your ear, and come to Me;
hear, that your soul may live;
and I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
My steadfast, sure love for David.

⁴Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

⁵Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know,
and a nation that did not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, and of the Holy One of Israel,
for He has glorified you."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Romans 11:33, 36

P Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

C **How unsearchable are His judgments and how
inscrutable His ways!**

P For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.

C **To Him be glory forever. Amen.**

Epistle

Romans 9:1–13

¹I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit—²that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. ³For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my brothers, my kinsmen according to the flesh. ⁴They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises. ⁵To them belong the patriarchs, and from their race, according to the flesh, is the Christ who is God over all, blessed forever. Amen.

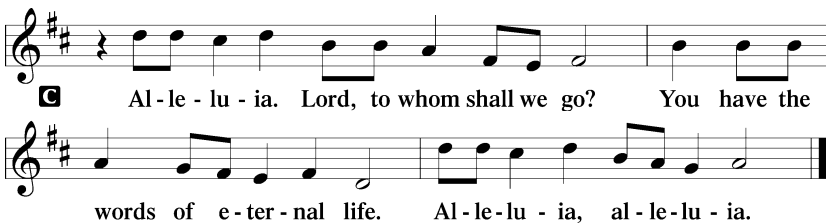
⁶But it is not as though the word of God has failed. For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, ⁷and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring, but “Through Isaac shall your offspring be named.” ⁸This means that it is not the children of the flesh who are the children of God, but the children of the promise are counted as offspring. ⁹For this is what the promise said: “About this time next year I will return and Sarah shall have a son.” ¹⁰And not only so, but also when Rebecca had conceived children by one man, our forefather Isaac, ¹¹though they were not yet born and had done nothing either good or bad—in order that God’s purpose of election might continue, not because of works but because of His call—¹²she was told, “The older will serve the younger.” ¹³As it is written, “Jacob I loved, but Esau I hated.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

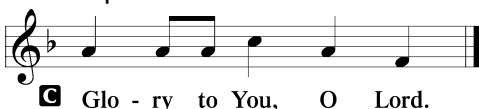


C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 14:13–21

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



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹³Now when Jesus heard about the death of John, He withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by Himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed Him on foot from the towns. ¹⁴When He went ashore He saw a great crowd, and He had compassion on them and healed their sick. ¹⁵Now when it was evening, the disciples came to Him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." ¹⁶But Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." ¹⁷They said to Him, "We have only five loaves here and two fish." ¹⁸And He said, "Bring them here to Me." ¹⁹Then He ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass, and taking the five loaves and the two fish, He looked up to heaven and said a blessing. Then He broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. ²⁰And they all ate and were satisfied. And they took up twelve baskets full of the broken pieces left over. ²¹And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

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

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

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

Hymn 798 "The God of Abraham Praise"

vs. 1–4

Sermon Text

Romans 9:1-13

Sermon "Grace Not Law"

1. Israel rejected its Messiah because _____ .
2. True Israel is of faith _____ not works _____ .
3. God has chosen us in Christ by _____ , too, through _____ .

Salvation Is through Faith in the Promise of Christ, Not in Works of the Law.

Hymn 798 "The God of Abraham Praise"

vs. 5–9

Prayers

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

☩ 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.

~ *Distribution of Bibles to St. Paul's Second Graders* ~

Benediction (*Numbers 6:24-26*)

LSB 166

- 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.



☩ A - men.

Closing Hymn 573 "Lord, 'Tis Not That I Did Choose Thee"

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Please Remember that Donations for “Stock the Pantry” are needed by next Sunday, August 13th. Thank you for your tremendous generosity to those in need.

The flowers that adorn the altar are given today by Jim & Janet Kaiser in thanksgiving and celebration of their 60th wedding anniversary. May our Lord, Jesus, be glorified for His many blessings.

Calendar of Events

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| TODAY | August 6, 2023 |
| Sunday School & Bible Classes..... | 8:30 am |
| Worship Service..... | 9:30 am |
| Scrip Day | |
| MON: | |
| LWML: Servant Event: “Cards of Hope” for Phil’s Friends..... | 7:00 pm |
| TUES: | |
| PTL Meeting in the Jerusalem Room | 6:00 pm |
| WED: | |
| Men’s Bible Study Breakfast | 6:30 am |
| Assemble Hospitality Meals | 9:00 am |
| THURS: ~Pastor Wonnacott & Family on Vacation thru Sunday~ | |
| 2nd Thursday Bible Study..... | 6:00 pm |
| FRI: | |
| SAT: | |
| LWML Treatshop in Tipton..... | 10:00 am -3:30 pm |
| NEXT SUNDAY | August 13, 2023 |
| Sunday School & Bible Classes..... | 8:30 am |
| Worship Service with Communion..... | 9:30 am |
| Ice Cream Social on Back Schoolyard & Playground | After Services |
| Final Day for Food Pantry donations | |

Please join the LWML ladies tomorrow evening at 7:00 pm for our August Servant Event: “Cards of Hope”. We will be creating hand-made cards for Phil’s Friends Cancer Care Packages, and coloring ready made cards as follow up encouragement cards to recovering patients. Materials will be provided. All are welcome and encouraged to come join in the fun of creating these cards for those in need of knowing Jesus’ love and the love of others. As always, there will be delicious refreshments served afterwards!

A note from Jeff Kaiser: My parents, Jim & Janet Kaiser celebrated their 60th anniversary on August 3rd. Please feel free to send them a note or a card. It would be a great blessing to them. Thank you.

CHRISTIAN MEN - AWAKE!

If you're at least 18 years of age, wake up on Wednesday morning every other week and join in a Bible Study at the Bremen Hospital cafeteria conference room at 6:30 AM. Enter the cafeteria area entrance on the south side patio to the left of the main entrance portico (presently the covid testing drive-thru). The cafeteria has an excellent breakfast menu and we enjoy our study with discussion and fellowship until 7:30 A.M. Bible study is a means of strengthening our understanding of God's plan for us and strengthening our faith, which we all can use in the daily challenges we face. Bring your Bible and join us as we study, eat and fellowship! The dates we will meet in 2023 are as follows: 8/9, 8/23, 9/6, 9/20, 10/4, 10/18, 11/1, 11/15, 11/29, 12/13, 12/27

If you have questions, please contact Dave Burcham or Tom Coxey.

From our Hospitality Committee -In July we made 50+ chicken & broccoli casserole dinners. Thank you to all who donated food for this task. This Wednesday we plan to make meatloaf and roasted vegetables. We are still taking donations of hamburger and fresh vegetables to roast. All are invited and welcome to come help! If you have any questions, please contact Beth Enders or Sandie Schooler.

Join us this Thursday, August 10th, for 2nd Thursday Bible Study.

We continue to study the Parables of Jesus with Jesus' parable of **The Talents** found in Matthew 25.

Indiana District LWML Treatshop, Saturday, August 12, at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Tipton. Begins at 9:30 am – ends 3:30 pm. Cost: \$15, which covers continental breakfast, light lunch, and materials. There are 3 different 55 minutes sessions to sign up for: info on each is on the Registration Form online (if you prefer a paper copy, notify Elaine). Any woman of the congregation is invited to attend.

YOUTH NEWS

Jr. High Youth Rally: Camp Lutherhaven is hosting the annual Jr. High Youth Rally on September 16-17th for Youth in Grades 6-8. This is a day and a half of Christian fellowship with other Youth from the Indiana District, Bible study, a guest speaker, and the typical camp activities. Cost per attendee is only \$30, which includes meals and housing. The Youth Board will offset the remaining registration fees. If interested, please sign up on the Youth bulletin board no later than August 20th. You must indicate your t-shirt size and a medical waiver is required to attend. Please contact Andy Wildauer with any questions.

Executive Board of LWML will meet Wednesday, August 16, 6:30 pm, at Shirley Lakins' house.

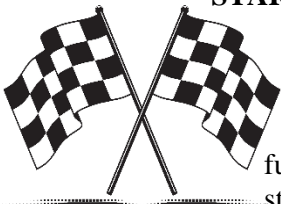
The Evangelism Board will be delivering Welcome bags in Bremen on Monday, August 21st. Anyone interested in helping please meet at church at 5:00 pm to assemble bags and receive addresses. We should be done with bag delivery before 7 pm. This is a fun way to meet new neighbors and get a little exercise!

There are Welcome bags in the Narthex on the coat rack for anyone to give away to someone new; new neighbor, visitor to church, etc. We will pack more as those are given away!

Thank you to all our crafters for the wonderful dishcloths we have been putting in the Welcome bags! Thanks also for all your donations and prayers. We look forward to seeing you August 21st. Questions? Contact Deb Burcham or Angie Hughes.

Our Annual Naomi Meal is scheduled for Saturday, August 26th from 11:30 am – 1:15 pm. Just as Ruth took care of Naomi, our Elders (Board of Lay Ministry) would also like to take care of those who do not have a “voice” in the Voters’ Assembly. Please look for your invitations in the mail and more info to come. (You could even take time to check out the Rummage Sale while you are here.)

START CLEANING YOUR CLOSETS!!!



The Rummage Sale is coming August 26th, 8:00-2:00, in the school gym. Donations of gently used clothing, books, household goods, furniture, etc will be accepted through August 25th. No big furniture please. You may place your donations on the stage area of the gym. All monetary donations raised will benefit the PTL and help provide the school with busing, field trips, special activities, and more.

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/ring praises to our gracious Lord. Contact Ellen Augustine if you have questions.

SCHOOL CORNER

School starts on August 14th! School office hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00-2:00, with later afternoon appointments available upon request. Teachers officially start work in the classrooms August 7-11th.

We are still enrolling students in Beginner Preschool and Kindergarten through 8th grade!

Please continue to support St. Paul's Lutheran Preschool and Elementary School by advertising to your family and friends! 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! **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).*

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 6, 2023

Rev. Neil Wonnacott

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Curt Nielsen & Wayne Spicher

Acolyte: Brantley Thornton

Elder: Mike Gumz

Video Streamer: Dakota & Tyler Schmeltz

Servants for Next Sunday's Worship August 13, 2023

Rev. Dr. Geoffrey Robinson

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Eric Thornton & Joe Hughes

Acolyte: Kamden & Kellan Guse

Elder: Bill Rogers

Communion Assistant: Larry Britt

Video Streamer: Bruce Schmidt



St. Paul's church and school families are invited to attend:

**St. Paul Lutheran School PTL's
Back-to-School Ice Cream Social!**

When: August 13th, 2023

Time: 11:00 a.m. (after the church service)

Where: Back schoolyard and playground

The new school year is ready to begin, so it's time to celebrate and kick off our 2023-2024 school year together!

For more information, please call Heidi Wildauer