



“So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from My mouth, you shall give them warning from Me.”

Ezekiel 33:7

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

As we gather today for worship, we will see again that we can do nothing good. We can do nothing to deliver ourselves unless the Lord God causes/enables us to do it. Lutheran theology! While we are given laws, statutes, commands, callings from God, it is God who causes/enables us to carry them out by virtue of having caused us to be His child. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!

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.

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.

Baptism, God's Work, Not Ours

Whatever we say about baptism, it is a miracle, for in it we are given the forgiveness of sins, a rebirth, that is a birth from on high, so that we are made members of God's family, that we may pray "Our Father." So, let's be done with the idea that it's our work, our doing. A child cannot choose to be born, nor can a child choose to be adopted into the family of another. Life is a gift from God, as is the new life we have in Christ. ~Rev. Dr. Peter Scaer, CTSFW~

Baptismal Hymn 592 “Dearest Jesus, We Are Here”

Holy Baptism of Summer René Clark

Hymn 830 “Spread the Reign of God the Lord”

✠ 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 Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *(Hebrews 10:22)*

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C who made heaven and earth. *(Psalm 124:8)*

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. *(Psalm 32:5)*

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I 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 92:1-4; antiphon: v. 5

P How great are Your works, O LORD!

C Your thoughts are very deep!

P It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
C **to sing praises to Your name, O Most High;**

P to declare Your steadfast love in the morning,

C **and Your faithfulness by night,**

P to the music of the lute and the harp,

C **to the melody of the lyre.**

P For You, O LORD, have made me glad by Your work;

C **at the works of Your hands I sing for joy.**

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 How great are Your works, O LORD!

C **Your thoughts are very deep!**

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

LSB 186



C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -



on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

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

LSB 187

(Luke 2:14; John 1:29)



Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward



men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,



we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.



O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.



O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-
 on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on-ly art the Lord.
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho-ly Ghost,
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. A-men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 189

P The Lord be with you.

(2 Timothy 4:22)

G And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

O God, from whom all good proceeds, grant to us, Your humble servants, Your holy inspiration, that we may set our minds on the things that are right and, by Your merciful guiding, accomplish them; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G A - men.

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 33:7-9

⁷So you, son of man, I have made a watchman for the house of Israel. Whenever you hear a word from My mouth, you shall give them warning from Me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, O wicked one, you shall surely die, and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from his way, that wicked person shall die in his iniquity, but his blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from his way, and he does not turn from his way, that person shall die in his iniquity, but you will have delivered your soul."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Psalm 34:9, 19, alt.

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 13:1-10

¹Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God. ²Therefore whoever resists the authorities resists what God has appointed, and those who resist will incur judgment. ³For rulers are not a terror to good conduct, but to bad. Would you have no fear of the one who is in authority? Then do what is good, and you will receive his approval, ⁴for he is God's servant for your good. But if you do wrong, be afraid, for he does not bear the sword in vain. For he is the servant of God, an avenger who carries out God's wrath on the wrongdoer. ⁵Therefore one must be in subjection, not only to avoid God's wrath but also for the sake of conscience. ⁶For the same reason you also pay taxes, for the authorities are ministers of God, attending to this very thing. ⁷Pay to all what is owed to them: taxes to whom taxes are owed, revenue to whom revenue is owed, respect to whom respect is owed, honor to whom honor is owed.

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love each other, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery, You shall not murder, You shall not steal, You shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word: "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore love is the fulfilling of the law.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia

LSB 190




C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 18:1–20

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



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹At that time the disciples came to Jesus, saying, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" ²And calling to Him a child, He put him in the midst of them ³and said, "Truly, I say to you, unless you turn and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. ⁴Whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

⁵"Whoever receives one such child in My name receives Me, ⁶but whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him to have a great millstone fastened around his neck and to be drowned in the depth of the sea.

⁷"Woe to the world for temptations to sin! For it is necessary that temptations come, but woe to the one by whom the temptation comes! ⁸And if your hand or your foot causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life crippled or lame than with two hands or two feet to be thrown into the eternal fire. ⁹And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better for you to enter life with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into the hell of fire.

¹⁰"See that you do not despise one of these little ones. For I tell you that in heaven their angels always see the face of My Father who is in heaven. ¹¹For the Son of Man came to save the lost. ¹²What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep and one of them has gone astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine on the mountains and go in search of the one that went astray? ¹³And if he finds it, truly, I say to you, he rejoices over it more than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. ¹⁴So it is not the will of My Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish.

¹⁵"If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault, between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have gained your brother. ¹⁶But if he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, that every charge may be established by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If he refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church. And if he refuses to listen even to the church, let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in My name, there am I among them."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

G 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 820 "My Soul, Now Praise Your Maker"

Sermon Text

Ezekiel 33:7-9

Sermon "Ezekiel? Not Me!"

1. Not even Ezekiel would want to be Ezekiel . . . but I am Ezekiel,
and _____ .
2. It is _____ to be "Ezekiel."
3. But the Lord qualifies us through Christ Jesus and sends us out
_____ .

Hymn 610 "Lord Jesus, Think on Me"

Prayers

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

(2 Timothy 4:22)



C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

(Colossians 3:1)



C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

(Psalm 136)



C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. 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 195*



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



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

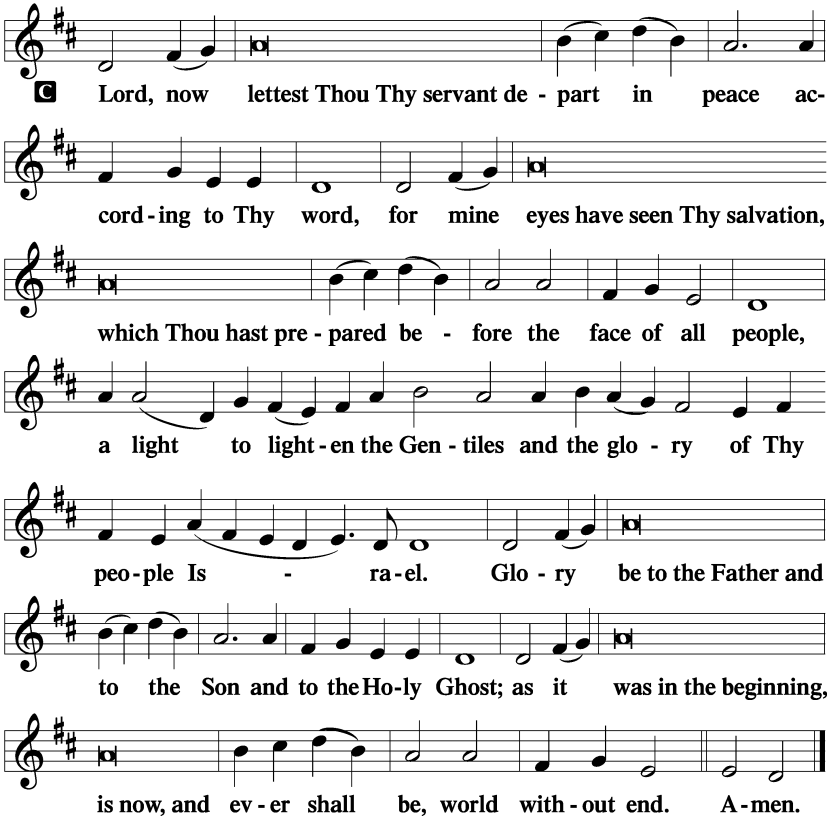
Lord's Prayer (Matthew 6:9-13) *LSB 196*

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.**

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

LSB 199

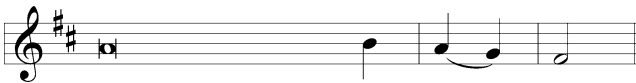


Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving (*Psalms 107:1*)

LSB 200

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

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.



G A - men.

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

LSB 201



G And with thy spir - it.

Benedicamus ~ Let Us Bless (Psalm 103:1)

LSB 202

P Bless we the Lord.



G Thanks be to God.

Benediction (Numbers 6:24-26)

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



G A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn 528 "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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Altar Flowers are given today by Terry & Janet Miller is thanksgiving for the many blessing of our Lord for His gifts of our children and grandchildren who have and will celebrate birthdays and baptism birthdays, and anniversaries throughout the summer. God is good all the time and all the time, God is good. To Him be all the glory.

Calendar of Events

TODAYSeptember 10, 2023

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

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

Bell Choir Practice 5:00 pm

Adult Choir Practice 6:00 pm

TUES:

WED:

Day School Chapel 11:00 am

LifeLight 6:45-8:15 pm

Youth Night 7:00-8:00 pm

THURS:

Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study 9:30 am

Preschool Chapel 9:30 am

2nd Thursday Bible Study..... Cancelled

Mother/Daughter Fun Night..... 7:00 pm

FRI:

Hope Rescue Mission Dinner 4:00 pm

SAT:

NEXT SUNDAYSeptember 17, 2023

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

Worship Service..... 9:30 am

Bell Choir Practice 5:00 pm

Adult Choir Practice 6:00 pm

Voters' Assembly Minutes – Copies of the minutes from the Monday, August 28, Voters' Assembly meeting are available on the table in the narthex. The minutes contain information about the activities and future plans of the various boards of our congregation. If the supply has run out and you desire a copy for yourself or an electronic copy, please contact Ken Eichinger.

CALLING ALL SINGERS AND RINGERS - Both the adult choir and bell choir will begin our season this evening, 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. 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.

2nd Thursday Bible Study has been cancelled this month due to the Mother/Daughter Fun Night.

Kevin Furman asks for prayers of thanksgiving for the marriage of Katie & Andrew Yoder who were wed yesterday, September 9th. We also pray that the Lord will bless them with a strong, Christ-centered marriage.

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!!!

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!

Octoberfest is coming up - September 29th and 30th and we need your help. First, we need people to make individually wrapped Cookies (see Pastor Wonnacott for the bags). Second, we need people to serve at the booth at the fest. Parish Fellowship is teaming with the Evangelism Board for this event. We will be selling the cookies (by free will offering) and giving the proceeds to Riley Children's Hospital. We need the cookies on Pastor Wonnacott's porch by September 28th. Prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve. **For those people who plan to serve at the booth, a sign-up sheet is on the back table in the Narthex.**

For those who would like to give their offerings to the Lord electronically, there is a QR Code link posted next to the offering box in the Narthex.

Altar flowers: Meijer, Martin's, & Farmer Bill (331 north of Wyatt) all have mums of suitable size (we have gold foil for pots). You may bring cut flowers in vases (from store or garden). Florists in Plymouth & Nappanee have delivery fees. If you know of anyone in the Bremen area, please give their name & phone number to altar guild. Thank you.

South Bend Zone Rally, LWML SUNDAY, October 1, at Redeemer, Warsaw (1720 E. Center Street). Registration 1:30 pm. Program 2:00 pm: speaker Renea Snyder of Beaman Home (domestic abuse shelter). Ingathering: see Check-It-Out-Board. Light supper afterward (donation requested). All ladies are invited.

LWML, October 2, at St Paul's, 7:00 pm, Bethany Room. Speaker: Joseph Collins, AD, Alzheimer's & Dementia Services of Northern Indiana. **OPEN TO THE CONGREGATION** (yes, men, too!). Refreshments afterward.

Servants for Today's Worship September 10, 2023

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

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Austin Nielsen & Jim Mitchell

Acolyte: Gabriel Mejia

Elder: Jon Rettinger

Communion Assistant: Terry Miller

Video Streamer: Paul Wonnacott

Servants for Next Sunday's Worship September 17, 2023

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

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Larry Winterboer & Tyler Schmeltz

Acolyte: Brantley Thornton

Elder: Dennis Sienicki

Video Streamer: Tyler & Dakota Schmeltz

Things to Remember in Prayer This Week

Thanksgiving:

For God who qualifies us to be His “Ezekiels” to our world.

For the Lord’s grace given to Summer Clark through the waters of Holy Baptism.

Special Concerns: That we, even in the midst of our fears and misgivings, will be assured that the Lord God has prepared us and sends us out with His Word into the world.

For Pastor Rafael & Jamielynn Flores and **Pastor Micah Wildauer** and their work in foreign missions.

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

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

For our country and her leaders.

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.

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

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!

Check out the school bulletin board in the narthex, highlighting our new students in Grades 1-8! We welcome them to our school family from various school backgrounds. What we strive to provide for all of our students cannot be underestimated- a solid Biblical foundation and knowledge and faith in Jesus, along with a Christian worldview and education. Thank you, congregation, for helping to make that possible!

We thank you for your continued prayers this school year.

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.