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Revelation 7:9-10



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

All Saints' Day..... November 5th, 2023

The observance of All Saints' Day on the first Sunday in November has become a regular feature in most of our congregations. It marks a turning point in the liturgical year by signaling that the focus of the long green season is shifting with a view toward the final consummation of all things, in Jesus.

We welcome all worshipers this morning!

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.

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.

There is only one church. The church here on earth is called the church militant and the church in heaven is called the church triumphant. But these are not two churches. There is one church. In the gospels, Jesus calls her the kingdom of God or the kingdom of heaven. In the creed we refer to her as the Communion of Saints. The saints on earth and the saints in heaven belong to the same fellowship. They are all in fellowship with Christ who is the head of the church, which is His body.

We do not pray to the saints in heaven but we pray with them. Their praises and ours are joined together in perfect harmony. As the minister says in the words introducing the Sanctus, "Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying....(see LSB 195) ~ Pastor Rolf Preus ~

Opening Hymn 677 "For All the Saints"

✠ CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTION ✠

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.

Adult Choir "Onward, Ye Saints"

Onward, ye saints, in triumph and praise,
New hymns of joy to God let us raise!
Christ bears our banner, armored in might,
Leading us ever to God's throne of light.

Our journey o'er, in heaven we'll rest
Sinless and pure, in holiness blest.
Before God's face we'll worship and sing
Songs of thanksgiving to our Lord and King!

Praise to the Father, praise to the Son,
Praise to the Spirit, Three, yet One;
Thou art our King, we laud and adore!
Blessing and honor be Thine evermore!

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Introit

Psalm 31:1, 3, 5; antiphon: Revelation 7:14b

P These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

C **They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

P In You, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame;

C **in Your righteousness deliver me.**

P For You are my rock and my fortress;

C **and for Your name's sake You lead me and guide me.**

P Into Your hand I commit my spirit;

C **You have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.**

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 These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

C **They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

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

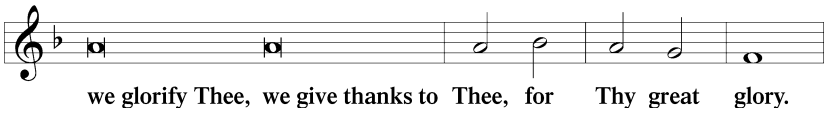
(Luke 2:14; John 1:29)



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.



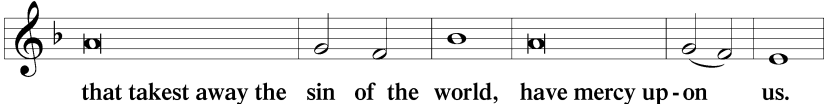
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.



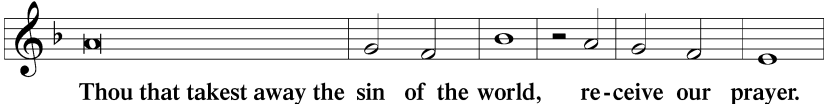
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;



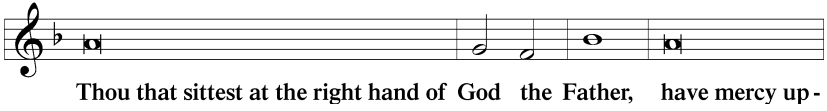
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,



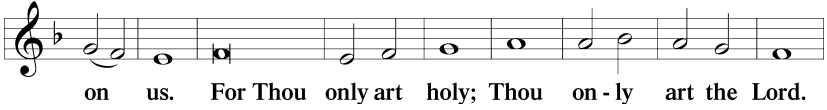
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.



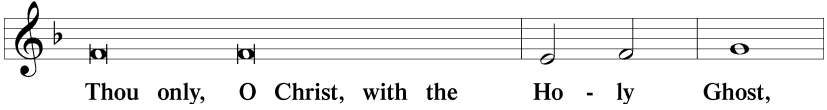
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.



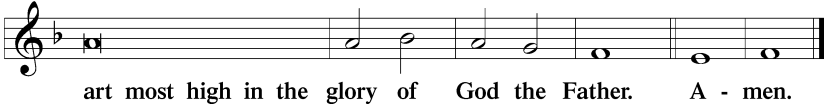
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -



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

P The Lord be with you.

(2 Timothy 4:22)



And with thy spir - it.

C And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, You knit together Your faithful people of all times and places into one holy communion, the mystical body of Your Son, Jesus Christ. Grant us so to follow Your blessed saints in all virtuous and godly living that, together with them, we may come to the unspeakable joys You have prepared for those who love You; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



First Reading

Revelation 7:2–17

²Then I saw another angel ascending from the rising of the sun, with the seal of the living God, and he called with a loud voice to the four angels who had been given power to harm earth and sea, ³saying, “Do not harm the earth or the sea or the trees, until we have sealed the servants of our God on their foreheads.” ⁴And I heard the number of the sealed, 144,000, sealed from every tribe of the sons of Israel:

⁵12,000 from the tribe of Judah were sealed,

12,000 from the tribe of Reuben,

12,000 from the tribe of Gad,

⁶12,000 from the tribe of Asher,

12,000 from the tribe of Naphtali,

12,000 from the tribe of Manasseh,

⁷12,000 from the tribe of Simeon,

12,000 from the tribe of Levi,

12,000 from the tribe of Issachar,

⁸12,000 from the tribe of Zebulun,

12,000 from the tribe of Joseph,

12,000 from the tribe of Benjamin were sealed.

⁹After this I looked, and behold, a great multitude that no one could number, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed in white robes, with palm branches in their hands, ¹⁰and crying out with a loud voice, “Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!” ¹¹And all the angels were standing around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and

they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,
¹²saying, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving
and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever!
Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these,
clothed in white robes, and from where have they come?" ¹⁴I said to
him, "Sir, you know." And he said to me, "These are the ones coming
out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made
them white in the blood of the Lamb.

¹⁵"Therefore they are before the throne of God,
and serve Him day and night in His temple;
and He who sits on the throne will shelter them with His
presence.

¹⁶They shall hunger no more, neither thirst anymore;
the sun shall not strike them,
nor any scorching heat.

¹⁷For the Lamb in the midst of the throne will be their shepherd,
and He will guide them to springs of living water,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Revelation 7:14b; Psalm 84:5

P These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

C **They have washed their robes and made them white in
the blood of the Lamb.**

P Blessèd are those whose strength is in You,

C **in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

Epistle

1 John 3:1–3

¹See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should
be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world
does not know us is that it did not know Him. ²Beloved, we are God's
children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we
know that when He appears we shall be like Him, because we shall
see Him as He is. ³And everyone who thus hopes in Him purifies
himself as He is pure.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia

LSB 190



☐ Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 23:1–12

☐ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-third chapter.



☐ Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹Seeing the crowds, Jesus went up on the mountain, and when He sat down, His disciples came to Him.

²And He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on My account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

☐ This is the Gospel of the Lord.



☐ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

Apostles' Creed

☐ **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 672 "Jerusalem the Golden"

Sermon Text

Matthew 5:1-12

Sermon "Blessed Are You"

1. The Kingdom is ours in the midst of _____.

The Kingdom of Heaven Is Yours!

2. The Kingdom is ours now, really - but still _____.

Hymn 679 "Oh, How Blest Are They"

Prayers

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

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

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

LSB 202

P Bless we the Lord.



C 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 670 "Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones"

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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Special Voters' Assembly Minutes – Copies of the minutes from the Sunday, October 22 special Voters' Assembly meeting are available on the table in the narthex. The minutes contain information about the motion to allow St. Paul's treasurer to borrow funds from St. Paul's endowment fund to cover any budgeted giving shortfalls. If the supply has run out and you desire a copy for yourself, please contact Ken Eichinger.

The Board of Stewardship is once again sponsoring the Annual Clothing Drive for Hope Ministries - November is the month we collect clothing for our neighbors to the north. Any gently used clothing is needed (children, men's and women's). We will have a table in the narthex with signs (Hope Ministries Clothing Drive) so please place your items on the table and on November 30th we will deliver them to Hope! May we as God's people share with those in need. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Wonnacott.

We Need You! Our Euchre Party will be this Friday, November 10th 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!

LWML will be holding an ingathering for the Ft. Wayne Seminary from November 1st – Thanksgiving Eve (November 22nd). We will be collecting non-perishable food, diapers, and hygiene products. A collection box will be located in the Narthex. Thank you in advance.

Calendar of Events

TODAYNovember 5th, 2023

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

Worship Service..... 9:30 am

Scrip Day

Adult Basketball..... 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Bell Choir Practice.....5:00 pm

Adult Choir Practice6:00 pm

MON: No School – Staff Work Day

.....**Pastor Wonnacott on Vacation**

TUES:

.....**Pastor Wonnacott on Vacation**

PTL Meeting..... 6:30 pm

WED:

Assemble Hospitality Meals 9:00 am

Day School Chapel – **Joe Boway will be leading chapel**..... 11:00 am

LifeLight 6:45-8:15 pm

THURS:

Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study 9:30 am

Preschool Chapel 9:30 am

8th Grade Public School Confirmation Class 5:00 pm

2nd Thursday Bible Study 6:00 pm

New Member 2.0 Class..... 7:00 pm

FRI:

Euchre Party..... 7:00-9:00 pm

SAT:

NEXT SUNDAYNovember 12th, 2023

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

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

Bell Choir Practice.....5:00 pm

Adult Choir Practice6:00 pm

2nd Thursday Bible Study will meet this Thursday in the Bethany Room at 6:00 pm. The topic is: “The Parables of Jesus”.

We will continue collecting food items for the Grace Food Pantry again this week. Cards are available on the table outside the church office. (The items on the cards have specifically been requested by the food pantry to meet their anticipated needs throughout the upcoming months.) Take one card or several. Purchase the items on the card(s). Return the items to the same table by Sunday, Nov. 12. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

**Reminder: Thanksgiving Eve Service is November 22nd at 7:00 pm.
Join us to give thanks to the Lord, for He is good!**

Welcome bags will be going out on Monday, November 13. We will pack bags at the church at 5 pm with deliveries to follow. **We are asking for the following items to be donated: cheese and cracker packets, microwave popcorn, post it note pads, bottled water, individually wrapped life savers.** Your donations may be placed on the table by the TV in the Narthex. We also are looking for people to help pack and deliver bags. This is an interesting way to meet new neighbors and generally only takes about an hour! Lastly, we ask for your prayers for the group going out and also for our new neighbors. Thanks!

Our Annual Thanksgiving Community Dinner is Nov. 23rd at noon

The following is needed:

- Cooked Turkeys (7)**
- Pumpkin Pies (20)**
- Greeters (3)**
- Servers (6)**
- Drivers to deliver meals (5)**
- Clean-up crew (5)**

The Whitlock is supplying the mashed potatoes and gravy. We are also in need of additional funds for the meal, so if you are moved to help, please place your donation in the offering box marked THANKSGIVING DINNER. There will be a sign-up list on the “Check It Out” Board. Prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve the community and our own members.

You are invited to our Annual Thanksgiving Community Dinner on

November 23rd at noon. If you and your family or someone you know will be alone on Thanksgiving Day, please come to the Fellowship Hall at noon for a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. Also, we can deliver to your home for those who are homebound. Please sign up on the “Check It Out” Board or call the church office at 574-546-2332. The deadline to sign up is November 12th. We will need to know your name; if you are dining in or need delivery; the number of people; and your phone number. May we all give thanks to the Lord!

St. Paul’s will be collecting peanut butter (16 to 16.3 oz jars) for Bremen Bags (a Project HELP program) during the month of November. Please place your donations on the table at the back of the Narthex. Monetary donations may be placed in the offering box in an envelope marked Peanut Butter

From the Board of Christian Ed - WANTED: SMALL CATECHISMS

Christ in the hearts of Liberian children. Joe Boway founded the Liberian Children's Ministry in 2004. This ministry is now supporting 6,000 students in 15 Lutheran schools in Liberia, Africa. Over 75% of the new students are from a non-church background. To help the children learn about Jesus and the Christian faith, Joe's goal in 2023 is to collect used and new Small Catechisms to send to Liberia for each student to read in English. They can be used or new in any edition as long as it is in English. You can also purchase catechisms at ebay.com and from used book dealers, such as thriftbooks.com. For more information, you may contact Joe and Glendora Boway at 260-447-7639 or boway@aol.com. **We would like to support this mission.** It is amazing the schools have grown so much in less than 20 years. The Lord has certainly blessed these schools and the leadership of Joe Boway. Next Sunday there will be a container in the back of the Narthex marked "Catechisms for Liberian Schools." If you have extra catechisms at home or wish to purchase new or used copies, we will get them to Joe Boway for these children hungry for the Gospel! Thank you for blessing these children and this congregation with your support.

LUTHERAN WITNESS SUBSCRIPTIONS: It is that time of the year once again! Those of you who get the *Lutheran Witness* need to contact the church secretary about your subscription. To continue getting your magazines, we will need cash or a check dropped off in the office, mailed to the church or placed in the secretary's mailbox for \$23.00. Checks may be made out to "St. Paul's Lutheran Church". If you would like to receive the *Lutheran Witness* as a monthly subscription, please let Janet know and she will sign you up to start receiving the magazine in January 2022. ***Please complete your payment by November 19th.***

Things to Remember in Prayer This Week

Special Concerns: That we understand that by virtue of faith in Christ we are already one with Him.

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.

Pray for all Christians who are suffering from war and the trials of this world as they shine the light of their risen Savior, Jesus Christ.

SCHOOL CORNER

We are excited to announce that we have received our first installment of Choice Scholarships from the state. This benefits the families by bringing their tuition down, and benefits the school and church by allowing us to bring tuition closer to the cost per student.

We are also waiting on the approval of our first SGO Scholarships this year. Thank you to all who continue to donate to the SGO!

There is no school on Monday, in keeping with the public school calendar, as teachers will have a staff work day that day.

We are preparing for the **Pilgrim Meal on November 14th, 6:00pm.** This year PTL will be collecting items for Thanksgiving meal boxes for the Bremen Food Pantry. Items to be collected include:

French fried onions, turkey, instant potatoes, canned green beans, cream of mushroom soup, stuffing mix, sweet potatoes, canned cranberry sauce, pumpkins, turkey gravy, pickles, olives, relish, canned fruits (apple pie filling, cherry filling, blueberry filling, pumpkin), box pie crust mix or graham cracker crust, monetary donations for turkey/ham

Please bring your donations to the table under the school bulletin board in the narthex, or bring them during the Pilgrim Meal. **All school and church families are invited to the Pilgrim Meal! Please bring a dessert or salad to share.**

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.

YOUTH NEWS

Thank you to all of the Youth who participated during the Reformation church service on Sunday morning, October 29th. This was a great opportunity to share the Good News with our congregation through song and in service to our Lord - to God be the glory!

Community Service Opportunity: Youth in Grades 6 through High School are encouraged to join us at the Bremen VFW on Sunday, November 12th at 1 pm as we help this organization paint the interior of their building. **Dress accordingly.** Please contact Andy Wildauer or Tara Andrews with any questions.

Servants for Today's Worship November 5, 2023

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

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Paul Wonnacott & Tyler Schmeltz

Acolyte: Jessica Rogers

Elder: Larry Britt

Video Streamer: Bruce Schmidt

Servants for Next Sunday's Worship Nov. 12, 2023

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

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Mark Wildauer & Larry Britt

Acolyte: Gabriel Mejia

Elder: Bill Rogers

Communion Assistant: Terry Miller

Video Streamer: Paul Wonnacott