



***And immediately, coming up from
the water, He saw the heavens
parting and the Spirit descending
upon Him like a dove.
Then a voice came from heaven,
“You are My beloved Son,
In whom I am well pleased.”***

Mark 1:10-11

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

The First Sunday in Lent begins this penitential season of preparation for Holy Week and Easter with the account of a test by God and temptations by the devil. The traditional *Hymn of the Day*, “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God,” proclaims Jesus Christ as the victor over Satan, the old evil foe. We welcome all 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.

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, located just outside the sanctuary.

Jesus came to the Jordan River to be baptized. Why would Jesus, who had no sin, want - much less need - to be baptized? But Jesus said that He and John needed to “fulfill all righteousness” (Matt. 3:15). In His baptism, Jesus aligned Himself with His sinful people (Is. 53:12; John 1:29). As He came up out of the water, the Holy Spirit came down in the form of a dove and the Father’s voice from heaven declared, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased” (Matt. 3:16–17). Jesus’ baptism marked the beginning of His public ministry. As John did before Him, Jesus also proclaimed, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel” (Mark 1:15). With Jesus’ ministry, the restored reign of God had arrived.

~ LCMS Bible Study and Discussion Guide: *The Theology and Practice of Holy Baptism* ~

Opening Hymn 656 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

✠ 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.

Day School Choir "How Deep the Father's Love for Us"

Children:

How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure
How great the pain of searing loss,
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the Chosen One,

Bring many sons to glory

(Music Break)

Behold the Man upon the cross,
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice,
Call out among the scoffers
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished

(Music Break)

Congregation & Children:

I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

Children:

Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

This I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

By Stuart Townsend; music by Sarah Elaine

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Introit

Psalm 91:9-13; antiphon: v. 15-16

P When he calls to Me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;

C **I will rescue him and honor him.**

P With long life I will satisfy him

C **and show him My salvation.**

P Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—

C **the Most High, who is my refuge—**

P no evil shall be allowed to befall you,

C no plague come near your tent.

P For He will command His angels concerning you

C to guard you in all your ways.

P On their hands they will bear you up,

C lest you strike your foot against a stone.

P You will tread on the lion and the adder;

C the young lion and the serpent you will trample underfoot.

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 When he calls to Me, I will answer him; I will be with him in trouble;

C I will rescue him and honor him.

P With long life I will satisfy him

C and show him My salvation.

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.

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.

O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; 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

Genesis 22:1–18

¹After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." ²He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." ³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. ⁴On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." ⁶And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So they went both of them together. ⁷And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸Abraham said, "God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So they went both of them together.

⁹When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. ¹¹But the Angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." ¹²He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from Me." ¹³And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD Will Provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the Mount of the LORD it shall be provided."

¹⁵And the Angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven ¹⁶and said, "By Myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of his enemies, ¹⁸and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed My voice."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Hebrews 12:2

P O come, let us fix our eyes on Jesus,

C **the founder and perfecter of our faith,**

P who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame,

C **and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

Epistle

James 1:12-18

¹²Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love Him. ¹³Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and He Himself tempts no one. ¹⁴But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. ¹⁵Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death.

¹⁶Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. ¹⁷Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸Of His own will He brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of His creatures.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:9–15

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when He came up out of the water, immediately He saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on Him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased."

¹²The Spirit immediately drove Him out into the wilderness. ¹³And He was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And He was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to Him.

¹⁴Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of God, ¹⁵and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

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 594 "God's Own Child, I Gladly Say It"

Sermon Text

Mark 1:9-15

Sermon "Get Behind Me, Satan! I'm Baptized!"

1. Immediately after His Baptism, the Spirit drove Jesus into the wilderness to be _____ .
2. Jesus' Baptism and temptation reached fulfillment on the cross in triumph _____ .
3. As Satan tempts you, let the Spirit drive you to your Baptism into Christ, who defeated him, so that you confidently say, "Get behind me, Satan! _____ ."

Hymn 563 "Jesus, Thy Blood and Righteousness"

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.

Benediction *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

LSB 166

☐ 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 716 "I Walk in Danger All the Way"

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Altar Flowers are given today by the family of Shirley Lakins to praise and glorify our gracious Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and in celebration and thanksgiving for Shirley's birthday. God is good all the time, and all the time God is good!

Parish Fellowship will meet on Monday, February 26 at 10:30 am

The Time of Easter began last week with Ash Wednesday. Anyone wishing to donate for lilies to adorn the chancel on Easter may give their gift to Mel Schutz or any attendant. Thank you.

Altar flowers: if any donor needs help in ordering or arranging flowers, the altar attendants are willing to assist in any way they can. Please contact the attendant for the month (listed on left side of Flower Chart & the Epistle calendar), and let them know by the SUNDAY BEFORE your flowers are to be displayed.

Calendar of Events

TODAY February 18th, 2024

Sunday School & Bible Classes.....	8:30 am
Worship Service.....	9:30 am
Adult Basketball.....	2:00-4:00 pm
Bell Choir Practice.....	5:00 pm
Adult Choir Practice.....	6:00 pm

MON: ~ NO SCHOOL ~

School Board Meeting.....	4:30 pm
Board Meetings.....	7:00 pm

TUES:

Book Club in the Jerusalem Room.....	11:30-12:00 noon
Board of Lay Ministry Meeting.....	6:30 pm

WED:

Men's Bible Study Breakfast.....	6:30 am
Day School Chapel.....	11:00 am
Potluck Dinner.....	6:00 pm
Lenten Worship Service.....	7:00 pm

THURS:

Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study.....	9:30 am
8 th Grade Public School Confirmation.....	5:00 pm
New Member Class 2.0.....	7:00 pm

FRI:

Preschool Chapel.....	9:30 am
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SAT:

NEXT SUNDAY February 25th, 2024

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

Biblical Neighboring! A reminder from the board of Lay Ministry:

The Elders would like to begin contacting those members who haven't attended worship services for more than 24 months. There are currently over 100 names on this list. If you feel that you could help by contacting someone you may know, ask any of the Elders or Pastor Wonnacott to see the list and let us know that you plan to make contact. Please let us know what the results were after you have met with them. **Most important of all, please pray for your brothers and sisters in Christ who are on the list as well as those sitting in the pews next to 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 2024 are as follows: 2/21, 3/6, 3/20, 4/3, 4/17, 5/1, 5/15, 5/29, 6/12, 6/26, 7/10, 7/24, 8/7, 8/21, 9/4, 9/18, 10/2, 10/16, 10/30, 11/13, 11/27, 12/11

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

As we approach an early Easter Season this year, the Bd. Of Christian Ed is once again planning an Easter Party for the little ones. We are asking for **donations of prewrapped "mini" candies and 2" plastic eggs to help fill over 1000 eggs** for the Easter Egg Hunt. There will be a designated box in the Narthex for the candy. Thank you for your help. All donations are greatly appreciated. Look for more information on the party in future bulletins!

Potluck Dinner: Wednesday, Feb. 21st at 6:00 pm. Our next Lenten meal will be potluck, so please bring a main dish or a side dish to share. Parish Fellowship will provide drinks and tableware. Please join us!

We are also in need of cookies or desserts for any of the Lenten meals. Please feel free to bring your favorites to share.

Free-will Offerings from all Lenten dinners will go toward the Liberian Children's Ministry to purchase Luther's Small Catechisms in English for students in their schools.

Groovy, Man!

The **school musical this year** will be a 70s game show- "Tell Me the Truth". If you have any 60-70s era small appliances, like a hair dryer, rotary phone, veg-o-matic, etc., please contact Jennifer Harman, 574-210-2103. We specifically are also looking for a transistor radio, lava lamp, and any vintage clothing you may have!

If you would like to volunteer to help with the set, props, or costumes, please contact Jennifer Harman as well.

SCHOOL CORNER

February is Reading Month! Students are reading for points, to accomplish personal goals and whole school goals. Students will get weekly awards and, if the school reaches 1200 points, they will get to go on a special field trip (TBD). **If you have a child or grandchild in the school, please make sure they are reading or read with them!**

Reading helps your child with comprehension, critical thinking, vocabulary, language skills, benefits mental health, and helps with every single core subject.

Thank you for all of the donations you gave for the day school, preschool, and their connected programs, from the teachers and staff! We appreciate your support and generosity!

Check out our Third Grade Class on the narthex bulletin board!

Thank you for all the end-of-the-year donations to the Lutheran SGO and Tuition Assistance!

Our goal is to make a Christian education affordable, so please continue to give, and receive the tax credit and deduction for your donations!

Now, there is a link to donate to the LSGO on the church's website under the School drop-down menu.

You can also 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. Please contact Jennifer Harman, in the school office, if you have questions.

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

Special Concerns:

That we are equipped by Jesus' saving work, begun at His Baptism and temptation, to resist the devil, confidently saying, "Get behind me, Satan. I'm baptized!"

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.

(Special Concerns continued:)

For our country and her leaders.

Pray for all Christians suffering from trials and persecutions in this world. That their light would so shine before men that our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, might be glorified.

YOUTH NEWS

THANK YOU to everyone who supported our Youth last week with our annual Super Bowl Subs event. A portion of the funds received will be donated to a designated charity while the remaining funds will go toward those Youth and Adult Leaders attending the 2025 LCMS Youth Gathering and in support of future mission opportunities. We ask for your continued prayers for our Youth and that the Lord will continue to guide and watch over them.

Middle School (6th-8th Grades) Youth: The annual Middle School Lock In is coming up ... look for more information in the weeks ahead.

STARTING MARCH 3RD

One of the goals outlined in the Revitalization Program was to resolve areas of tension/conflict that exist in St Paul's congregation. One of those areas is changing St Paul's Constitution and By-Laws to allow women to become voting members of the congregation. Prior to this being placed on an agenda for a future voters meeting, an Adult Bible study "Roles of Men and Women in the Church" will be provided beginning March 3rd during Bible Class each Sunday at 8:30 AM in the Bethany Room (Fellowship Hall). This Bible study will look at how this topic has been discussed in Synodical Conventions and what the Bible scriptures tell us. It is hoped that this Bible study will enable everyone to place their personal desires aside and be prayerfully led by the Holy Spirit in understanding God's plan provided for us as explained in the Holy Bible.



**Fundraising opportunity Monday February 26, 2024
all day at La Parilla Caliente Mexican Restaurant,
119 W. Plymouth St. Bremen. This is dine in or carry out.
This year will also include proceeds from any \$25 gift
cards that are purchased.**

Servants for Today's Worship February 18, 2024

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

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Bruce Augustine & Joe Hughes

Acolyte: Karli & Kayli Miller

Elder: Dennis Sienicki

Video Streamer: Paul Wonnacott

Servants for Next Sunday's Worship February 25, 2024

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

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Todd Haug & Richard Sickman

Acolyte: Alexis Andrews

Elder: Dave Burcham

Communion Assistant: Bill Rogers

Video Streamer: Bruce Schmidt