

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

3rd Sunday of Easter......April 14, 2024

Easter is here again this Sunday. There are three things to observe. **First**, Jesus demonstrates that He really is alive, in the flesh, by pointing to His hands and feet and by eating some fish. **Then** He demonstrates the significance of Easter from the Scriptures as the basis for proclaiming repentance and the forgiveness of sins. **Finally**, He commissions His hearers as witnesses who must, however, wait for the promise that is coming from the Father.

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 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.

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men. Romans 1:18. This, then, is the thunderbolt of God by which He strikes both manifest sinners and false saints and declares no one righteous. This is not manufactured repentance, but torture of conscience, true sorrow of heart, suffering and sensation of death. This is what it means to begin true repentance; and here man must hear such a sentence as this: You are all of no account, whether you be manifest sinners or saints (in your own opinion); you all must become different and do otherwise than you now are and are doing no matter what sort of people you are, no one is righteous. But to this, the New Testament immediately adds the consolatory promise of grace through the Gospel, which must be believed, as Christ declares, Mark 1:15: Repent and believe the Gospel. Become different, do otherwise, and believe His promise. -Martin Luther-

Opening Hymn 480 "He's Risen, He's Risen"

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

- In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19b)
- 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,
- **©** who made heaven and earth.

(Psalm 124:8)

- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** (Psalm 32:5)
- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- 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)
- **G** Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

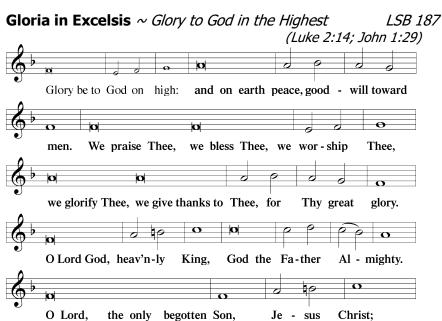
Introit

Psalm 30:1-5; antiphon: Psalm 16:11b

- In Your presence there is fullness of joy;
- **at** Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.
- P I will extol You, O LORD, for You have drawn me up
- **and have not let my foes rejoice over me.**
- P O LORD my God, I cried to You for help,
- and You have healed me.

- P O LORD, You have brought up my soul from Sheol;
- You restored me to life from among those who go down to the pit.
- Sing praises to the LORD, O you His saints,
- **and give thanks to His holy name.**
- P For His anger is but for a moment, and His favor is for a lifetime.
- **Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.**
- 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** In Your presence there is fullness of joy;
- at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.







Salutation and Collect of the Day



P Let us pray.

O God, through the humiliation of Your Son You raised up the fallen world. Grant to Your faithful people, rescued from the peril of everlasting death, perpetual gladness and eternal joys; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



First Reading Acts 3:11–21

¹¹While the lame man who was now healed clung to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the portico called Solomon's, astounded. ¹²And when Peter saw it he addressed the people: "Men of Israel, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we have made him walk? ¹³The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His servant Jesus, whom you delivered over and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he had decided to release Him. ¹⁴But you denied the Holy and Righteous One, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, ¹⁵and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. ¹⁶And His name—by faith in His name—has made this man strong whom you see and know, and the faith that is through Jesus has given the man this perfect health in the presence of you all.

¹⁷"And now, brothers, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. ¹⁸But what God foretold by the mouth of all the prophets, that His Christ would suffer, He thus fulfilled. ¹⁹Repent therefore, and turn again, that your sins may be blotted out, ²⁰that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send the Christ appointed for you, Jesus, ²¹whom heaven must receive until the time for restoring all the things about which God spoke by the mouth of His holy prophets long ago."

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

Gradual

Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

- P Christ has risen from the dead.
- **G** God the Father has crowned Him with glory and honor.
- P He has given Him dominion over the works of His hands;
- He has put all things under His feet.

Epistle

1 John 3:1–7

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.

⁴Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that He appeared to take away sins, and in Him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in Him keeps on sinning; no one who keeps on sinning has either seen Him or known Him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Whoever practices righteousness is righteous, as He is righteous.

- P This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel

Luke 24:36-49

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.



³⁶As they were talking about these things, Jesus Himself stood among them, and said to them, "Peace to you!" ³⁷But they were startled and frightened and thought they saw a spirit. ³⁸And He said to them, "Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹See My hands and My feet, that it is I Myself. Touch Me, and see. For a spirit does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when He had said this, He showed them His hands and His feet. ⁴¹And while they still disbelieved for joy and were marveling, He said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave Him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and He took it and ate before them.

⁴⁴Then He said to them, "These are My words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about Me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." ⁴⁵Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, ⁴⁶and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in His name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹And

behold, I am sending the Promise of My Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Nicene Creed

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 483 "With High Delight Let Us Unite"

Sermon Text Acts 3:11-21

Sermon "More Amazing than a Miracle"

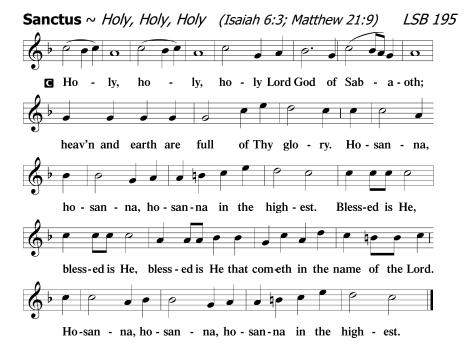
1. It's impossible to imagine any sin worse than killing the

2. But the resurrection is Christ's victory over every sin, _____ 3. And the resurrection is Christ's victory over every sin, _____ **Hvmn 486** "If Christ Had Not Been Raised from Death" **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. → SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT → Preface LSB 194 The Lord be with you. (2 Timothy 4:22) And with thy spir - it. Lift up your hearts. (Colossians 3:1)



P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God. (Psalm 136) Ιt right is meet and so to do. (meet means fitting, proper)

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. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



The Words of Our Lord (1Corinthians 11:23-25)

LSB 197

Pax Domini ~ The Peace of the Lord (John 20:19) LSB 197

■ The peace of the Lord be with you always.





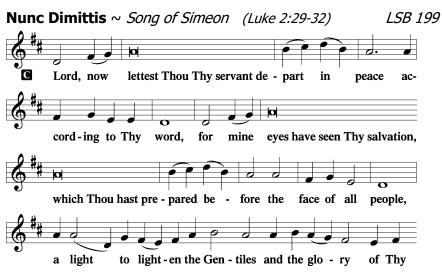
Hymn 620 "Jesus Comes Today with Healing"

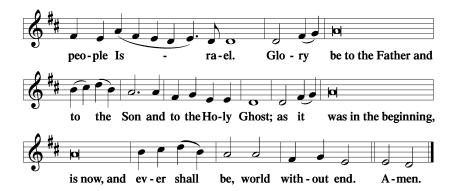
peace.

A

men.

- "Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior" **Hymn 627**
- **Hymn 637** "Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"
- "I Come, O Savior, to Thy Table" **Hymn 618**





Thanksgiving (Psalm 107:1)

LSB 200

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



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.



P The Lord be with you.



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

LSB 202

P Bless we the Lord.



Benediction (Numbers 6:24-26)

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.



Closing Hymn 468 "I Am Content! My Jesus Ever Lives"

Acknowledgments

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The flowers that adorn the altar are given by Bruce & Ellen Augustine in thanksgiving for their 50th wedding anniversary. We praise our risen Lord for His many blessings to us.

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: 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 Coxey.

The LWML Meeting for April featuring Joe Boway as our speaker has been moved to April 22^{nd} . All congregation members are invited! More info coming soon.

Please pray for the people of Haiti. Satan is working overtime in Haiti. Our brothers and sisters in Christ are suffering and we ask that you pray that they stay strong in the faith and that the Lord would surround them with His grace and protection. Check out the mission board next to the Nursery (Cry Room) for the latest update from Mission Haiti.

Calendar of Events

TODAY	April 14th, 2024
Sunday School & Bible Classes	8:30 am
Worship Service with communion	9:30 am
MON:	
Board Meetings	7:00 pm
TUES:	
Board of Lay Ministry Meeting	6:30 pm
WED:	
Men's Breakfast Bible Study	9:00 am
Day School Chapel	11:00 am
THURS:	
Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study	9:30 am
Preschool Chapel	9:30 am
8th Grade Public School Confirmation	
New Member Class 2.0	7:00 pm
FRI:	
SAT:	
NEXT SUNDAY	April 21st, 2024
Sunday School & Bible Classes	8:30 am
Worship Service	9:30 am
Voters' Meeting	After Worship Service
Adult Basketball2:0	00-4:00 pm Adult Basketball

Bourbon Right to Life Banquet - This year the spring Right to Life banquet for Marshall County will be held at the Cornerstone @ Cedar Banquet Hall located at 9519 Cedar, Bourbon on Tuesday, April 30th. Doors open at 6 pm and dinner is 6:30 pm. Speaker will be Monica Kelsey, Founder of Safe Haven Baby Box. Tickets are \$25 each. Jim and Linda Tinkey are hosting a table and if you are interested please let them know. This is a great opportunity to learn more about the battle we face to support human life and show your support for the pro-life initiatives in North Central Indiana.

Groovy, Man! ~ SAVE THE DATE!

On May 3rd at 7:00 pm, the **school musical this year** is a 70s game show-"Tell Me the Truth".

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

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

The "Every Word for Bremen" organization is looking for volunteers to read the Bible to the Bremen community in early June. To begin planning, the window to volunteer is now open. If interested in learning more, please speak with Avery Wildauer (Bremen HS student advocate) or Pastor Wonnacott, Additional details below:

"Join us at the pavilion in downtown Bremen as we publicly read the Bible together from Genesis to Revelation"

Dates: June 3-7, 2024 Times: 7:00 am - 10:00 pm

Website (Register Now): everywordforbremen.com

NOTICE REGARDING VOTERS MEETINGS IN 2024

In the November 27th, 2023 congregational voters meeting, a motion was made and approved to change the schedule for congregational voters' meetings in 2024. The change in schedule was made to give members a better opportunity to attend the voters meetings where there may have been schedule conflicts with other activities outside of St. Paul's or where the normal congregational voters meeting time of 7PM was a problem for members who cannot drive at night.

The schedule for 2024 Congregational Voters' Meetings is as follows: Sunday, January 21st after worship service, in the Bethany (big) room Sunday, April 21st after worship service, in the Bethany (big) room Monday, June 24th – 7PM in the Bethany room/Fellowship Hall Sunday, August 18th after worship service, in the Bethany (big) room Monday, November 25th – 7PM in the Bethany room/Fellowship Hall

There will be a babysitting service available for families with young children who want to attend the Sunday voters' meetings that will be held after worship service. Heidi Wildauer has agreed to organize this. If you have interest in using this service or in assisting in providing this service, please contact Heidi.

If you have questions regarding the congregational voters' meetings or schedules for them, please contact Dave Burcham.

VOTERS MEETING AND CALL MEETING

After the worship service on Sunday, April 21st, there will be a voters' meeting in the Bethany room, beginning at approximately 10:45 AM. It is anticipated that immediately following the voters meeting, a call meeting will be held. Actions taken by the call committee leading up to

the anticipated call meeting will be presented at the voters meeting. In order to hold a valid call meeting, a minimum of 50% of the registered voting members must be present. This means no fewer than 20 voters must be present to hold the call meeting. A list of registered voting members is found on the back page of each copy of the published voters meeting minutes. Thank you.

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Service Events Begin Today: April is National Volunteer Month and the Youth Board has planned various service events throughout the month. We have set aside the following dates to gather in service to our church and community:

Sunday, April 14th: Youth in Grades 4-8 - Meet at church at 2 pm **Sunday, April 21st:** Youth in Grades 8-High School - Bremen Community Ctr - 2 pm

Sunday, April 28th: Youth in Grades 8-High School - TBD

REMINDER - National Youth Gathering (2025): For those Youth (currently in Grades 7 through HS) planning to attend the National Youth Gathering in July 2025, **early financial commitments of \$250/attendee are due by May 1, 2024**. This will allow for effective planning and involvement across the group as we prepare for this event over the next year. Please contact Andy Wildauer with any questions.

HS Youth Outing: The Youth Board would like to take any of our HS Youth to lunch on Sunday, May 5th following the church service. Please indicate interest by speaking with Andy Wildauer or any member of the Youth Board. More information to follow on specific time / place.

Virtual Book Fair

A virtual book fair is coming to our church and school from April 26, 2024 to May 13, 2024 hosted by Northwestern Publishing House. If you wish to see the books, you need to go to the website, nph.net/virtualbookfair. You will then be able to browse the books with some of these categories: Confirmation, Defending Your Faith, Books for Children and Women, Devotional, and Family Life. After you click on the book image and tap/click the cart button. Tap/click view cart and check out when finished. Use the church's Promo Code, V159C1019118 to receive 20% off of each book purchased. Tap/click and proceed to checkout. Complete the checkout by entering your shipping address and payment information. Tap/click place order. **Enjoy shopping!**

SCHOOL CORNER

We had an exciting first day back to school Monday, watching the Solar Eclipse in front of the school. (As if the first day back isn't exciting enough!)

Students in 4th Grade will visit the public school Tuesday to try-out instruments for the Band program. We currently have 14 students, grades 5-8, active in band. Joining band in middle school not only gives those students all the comprehensive benefits of learning an instrument, but allows them to join band in high school. There is a parent meeting for interested 4th grade students and parents on April 18th, 7:00pm, at BHS.

Several students earned free South Bend Cubs tickets to a game <u>Sunday</u>, <u>the 28th</u>, from continuing their avid reading through March. Congratulations to those dedicated readers!

Also, practices are ramping up for the musical, "**Tell Me the Truth**", **May 3rd, 7:00pm!** Go back to the 70s with this exciting game show, prizes, and more- a guaranteed free and fun time! **Practices for all students are Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday until 4:00pm**. (Cast is required to come; students 3rd grade and under are optional.)

We are happy to report that we have been steadily enrolling students for 2024-25, but it is not too late to enroll! If you know of any families looking for a Christian educational experience, please recommend us. Word-of-mouth is the best advertisement. Our mission is to provide a solid education, with a Christian foundation and atmosphere for Preschool through 8th Grade. We also offer a comprehensive scholarship program. Online enrollment and inquiries are open on our website, stpaulsbremen.church/school. Interested families can also call the school, 574-546-2790, or email schools@stpaulsbremen.org. We are happy to answer questions and schedule tours.

Our Sixth and Seventh Grade Classes are highlighted on the narthex bulletin board!

A new year of donating to the Lutheran SGO is underway! 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.

Servants for Today's Worship April 14th, 2024

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

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Paul Wonnacott & Todd Haug Acolyte: Reuben & Colton Napper

Elder: Jon Rettinger

Communion Assistant: Mike Gumz Video Streamer: Bruce Schmidt

Servants for Next Sunday's Worship April 21st, 2024

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

Organist: Ellen Augustine

Ushers: Tyler Schmeltz & Jim Mitchell

Acolyte: Brantley Thornton

Elder:

Video Streamer: Bruce Schmidt

