



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

Good Shepherd Sunday April 21, 2024

In the Sundays of the Easter season, we celebrate the truths and promises of what the resurrected Christ offers. We are loved by God the Father, whose plan from eternity was to redeem and restore lost sheep. This is notably expressed on Good Shepherd Sunday. Our risen Christ authenticates the truth that He truly is the Good Shepherd who lovingly cares for His sheep.

We're so glad you're here with us 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.

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is known as "Good Shepherd Sunday".

Jesus speaks clearly in the Gospel today. "I Am" is a phrase He uses several times in John's Gospel. Those words take us back to the days of Moses. It was at the Burning Bush in Exodus 3, when Moses asked for God's Name that He revealed Himself simply as "I Am", Moses was to tell Israel and Pharaoh that "I Am" sent me. When Jesus says "I am..." the people listening immediately saw the connection. This man, Jesus, was declaring Himself to be none less than God, the One who revealed Himself to Moses, to Israel and to Pharaoh. Jesus is declaring Himself the great "I Am." And as the great I Am He says He is the "Good Shepherd." The Good Shepherd, in contrast to others, is the One who truly cares for His Sheep. As Baptized members of His Church we are in His Sheepfold, safe from predators and assured of His care both now and forever.

~ Excerpt from a sermon by LCMS Pastor Rodney Bitely, Mechanicsville, VA ~

Opening Hymn 686 "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

✠ 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.

Children's Choir "We See You, Jesus" *Words and Music by Rob Howard*

1. In these stories, on each page
We see Your image, hear Your name
Jesus, Jesus
At the heart of what we read
We see our Savior, hear our King
Jesus, Jesus

Chorus

We see You, Jesus, in all we've heard
You are love, You are truth, the Living Word

We hear Your heart for everyone of us
We see You, Jesus, We see You, Jesus

2. One with God before all time
You are life, You are light
Jesus, Jesus
Becoming flesh You came to save
Full of truth, full of grace
Jesus, Jesus

Chorus

Throughout the pages, the Way, the Truth, the Life
Throughout the ages, the one True Light
Alpha and Omega, we lift You high

Chorus

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Introit

Psalm 23; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b

P I am the good shepherd.

C I know My own and My own know Me, and I lay down My life for the sheep.

P The LORD is my shepherd;

C I shall not want.

P He makes me lie down in green pastures.

C He leads me beside still waters.

P He restores my soul.

C He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

P Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me;

C Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

P You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

C You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

P Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

C and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

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 I am the good shepherd.

C I know My own and My own know Me, and I lay down My life for the sheep

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

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C Lord, have mer - cy.

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



C A - men.

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

LSB 154

(*Luke 2:14; John 1:29*)

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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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



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

Salutation and Collect of the Day

LSB 156

P The Lord be with you.

(2 Timothy 4:22)



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

First Reading

Acts 4:1-12

¹As they were speaking to the people, the priests and the captain of the temple and the Sadducees came upon them, ²greatly annoyed

because they were teaching the people and proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection from the dead. ³And they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. ⁴But many of those who had heard the word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

⁵On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷And when they had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by Him this man is standing before you well. ¹¹This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. ¹²And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 John 3:16–24

¹⁶By this we know love, that He laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

¹⁹By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before Him; ²⁰for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and He knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²²and whatever we ask we receive from Him, because we keep His commandments and do what pleases Him. ²³And this is His commandment, that we believe in the name of His Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as He has commanded us. ²⁴Whoever keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in them. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

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

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

Alleluia and Verse *(John 6:68)*

LSB 156




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

Holy Gospel

John 10:11-18

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the tenth chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

¹¹Jesus said: "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep. ¹²He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know My own and My own know Me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. ¹⁶And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to My voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from Me, but I lay it down of My own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from My Father."

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, 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 537 "Beautiful Savior"

Sermon Text

John 10:11-18

Sermon "He Cares"

Jesus Is the Shepherd Who Cares for You.

1. Jesus cares for His sheep, _____ .
2. Jesus cares for His sheep so much that He _____
_____ .
3. Jesus cares for His sheep with _____ .
4. Jesus cares for His sheep, that is, _____ !

Hymn 809 "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

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

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.



C A - men.

Closing Hymn 711 "Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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Cover Art: Jesus And The Lamb By Chaseroflight

[Jesus And Lamb Drawing](https://getdrawings.com/jesus-and-lamb-drawing)

The flowers that adorn the altar are given by Nathan and Beth Miller for Andrew's 2nd birthday. We thank the Lord for His many blessings.

LWML: Monday, April 22, 7:00 pm, in the Bethany Room. Program: **speaker Joe Boway** of Liberian Children's Ministry, which oversees 1500+ schools and 6000+ students. There will be a freewill offering for school supplies and Catechisms for this ministry. Light refreshments served afterward. Open to the congregation!

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.

Altar Guild will meet at Elaine's: Tuesday, April 30th at 6:30 pm.

Parish Fellowship will be meeting Monday, April 29th at 10:30 am.

Calendar of Events

TODAY April 21st, 2024

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

Worship Service..... 9:30 am

Voters' Meeting After Worship Service

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

MON:

LWML Program with Joe Boway 7:00 pm

TUES:

Pastor Wonnacott at the Whitlock 10:30 am

WED:

Preschool/Day School Chapel..... 11:00 am

THURS:

Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study 9:30 am

8th Grade Public School Confirmation 5:00 pm

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

FRI:

SAT:

CPR Class – Bethany Room 9:00 am - Noon

NEXT SUNDAY April 28th, 2024

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

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

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.**

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!**

VOTERS MEETING AND CALL MEETING

After the worship service today, 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.

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.

Special Concerns:

That we find peace and assurance in the knowledge that Jesus truly is our Good Shepherd who intimately knows and cares for us.

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

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

For our country and her leaders.

We pray for all Christians suffering from trials and persecutions in this world. That their light would so shine before men to glorify Jesus.

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

LWML South Bend Zone Spring Gathering: Saturday, May 11, Our Redeemer, South Bend. Program: Friendship Tea, 2:00-4:00 pm. Bring your favorite teacup or one will be provided there. Info on Ingathering for Convention items to bring is on the Check-It-Out board. All ladies are invited!

The St. Paul's PTL board is happy to announce our new candidates for the board positions of Vice-President and Treasurer! Becca Mejia will be our Vice-President and Kelly Thornton will be our Treasurer for the next 2-year term beginning in July. We thank the board members and parents who continue to support and work with our PTL! Special thanks to Shirley Guse who has served our board as our Treasurer for 4 years! It is never too late to join PTL, so if you are interested in getting more involved and planning school events and activities, come to our PTL meetings. Our next meeting is May 6th at 6:00 pm, in the Jerusalem Room by the preschool classrooms.

YOUTH NEWS

Youth Service Events Continue Today: April is National Volunteer Month and the Youth Board has planned various service events throughout the month. Those continue today as we gather in service to our church and community

Sunday, April 21st: Youth in Grades 8-High School - Meet at the Bremen Community Center @ 2 pm (wear work clothes)

Sunday, April 28th: Youth in Grades 8-High School - Meet at church @ 2 pm - we will be going off-site (wear work clothes)

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. We are asking HS Youth to contribute \$5 while the Youth Board will offset remaining costs for the lunch. Please indicate interest by speaking with Andy Wildauer or any member of the Youth Board by April 28th if possible. More information to follow on specific time / place.

SCHOOL CORNER

The students are hard at work practicing 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 attend; students 3rd grade and under are optional.)

Doors will open at 6:15pm, May 3rd, for pre-show music and an art exhibition. Cookies and punch will follow the musical.

Several students earned free South Bend Cubs tickets to a game Sunday, the 28th, from continuing their avid reading through March.

Congratulations to those dedicated readers!

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!

Please continue giving to the Lutheran SGO! 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 21st, 2024

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

Organist: Ellen Augustine

Ushers: Tyler Schmeltz & Jim Mitchell

Acolyte: Brantley Thornton

Elder: Larry Britt

Video Streamer: Ethan Tjernagel

Servants for Next Sunday's Worship April 28th, 2024

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

Organist: Ellen Augustine

Ushers: Curt Nielsen & Mark Wildauer

Acolyte: Avery Cannon

Elder: Terry Miller

Communion Assistant: Dave Burcham

Video Streamer: Tyler & Dakota Schmeltz