



And be not conformed  
to this  
**World** but be  
TRANSFORMED  
by the  
**Renewing**  
OF YOUR **MIND**

ROMANS 12:2

*St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church LCMS*  
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We welcome everyone to God's house this morning for our third part of our stewardship sermon series. Today we will look at the biblical principle that we who are **God's stewards are in the world but not of the world**. May God's presence continue to bless us 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 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.

**A transformed mind** (*Rom. 12:2*) means the world's thinking is turned upside down by God. Only God can renew our minds and begin any transformation in us. A renewed mind submits to Jesus the King. Our mind renewed, we recognize that God's way is the best and we want to go that way. We then lead lives of conformity with that way. In Jesus, we have obtained mercy with God. God brings you from your life of sin and misery to a life as His forgiven child. Gratitude for God's mercy is what motivates us to serve Him. Our response, our entire Christian life, is rooted in God's mercy. Worship, obedience, and self-sacrifice are the only reasonable response to God's incredible mercy. The only sacrifice acceptable to God is the sacrifice of ourselves. The Christian life is not a dreary obligation or begrudgingly following a set of rules. Our lives as Christians are a joyful response to God's compassion in saving us, a way of saying thank you for all that God has so mercifully given us in Christ. It is a way of life based not on law but on God's mercy. **You have no greater incentive to offer yourself as a living sacrifice, than God's mercy offered to you freely in Jesus Christ.**

∞ Sermon excerpt from St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran Church, Stratford, Ontario ∞

**Bell Choir** "Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus"

**Opening Hymn 905** "Come, Thou Almighty King"

*(1 Tim. 6:14-16; John 1:14; 14:25-26; Rev, 4:8)*

✠ CONFESSIO AND ABSOLUTIO ✠

**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit. *(Matthew 28:19)*

**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** "O Jesus, I Have Promised"

1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end;  
Be Thou forever near me, my Master and my Friend.  
I shall not fear the battle if Thou art by my side,  
Nor wander from the pathway if Thou wilt be my Guide.
2. Oh, let me hear Thee speaking in accents clear and still,

Above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;  
Oh, speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;  
Oh, speak, and make me listen, Thou Guardian of my soul.

3. O Jesus, Thou has promised to all who follow Thee,  
That where Thou art in glory, there shall Thy servant be;  
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end;  
Oh, give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.  
Amen

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

**Introit**

*Psalm 10:16-18; antiphon: v. 12*

- P** Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up Your hand;  
**C** **forget not the afflicted.**  
**P** The LORD is King forever and ever;  
**C** **the nations perish from His land.**  
**P** O LORD, You hear the desire of the afflicted;  
**C** **You will strengthen their heart;**  
**P** You will incline Your ear to do justice to the fatherless and the oppressed,  
**C** **so that man who is of the earth may strike terror no more.**

**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** Arise, O LORD; O God, lift up Your hand;  
**C** **forget not the afflicted.**

**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)*



**C** And with thy spir - it.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty God, You know we live in the midst of so many dangers that in our frailty we cannot stand upright. Grant strength and protection to support us in all dangers and carry us through all temptations; 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.

## The Old Testament Lesson

*Genesis 12:1-3*

<sup>1</sup>Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual

*Psalms 117:1-2a, 96:8*

**P** Praise the LORD, all nations!

**C** **Extol Him, all peoples!**

**P** For great is His steadfast love toward us,

**C** **and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.**

**P** Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;

**C** **bring an offering, and come into His courts!**

## The Epistle Lesson

*Romans 12:2*

<sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Alleluia

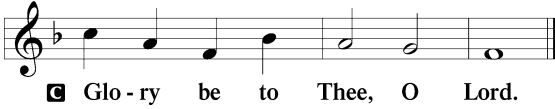
LSB 190



## The Holy Gospel Lesson

*John 17:15–18*

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



<sup>15</sup>I do not ask that You take them out of the world, but that You keep them from the evil one. <sup>16</sup>They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. <sup>17</sup>Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. <sup>18</sup>As You sent Me into the world, so I have sent them into the world.

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



## Apostles' Creed

**C** 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 785** "We Praise You, O God"

*(Ps. 107:31-32; Ps. 44:1-8; 95:1-7)*

**Sermon Text**

*Genesis 12:1–3; Romans 12:2; John 17:15–18*

**Sermon** "God's Stewards Are *in* the World but Not *of* the World"

1. God has called you out \_\_\_\_\_ .
2. Yet God has left you in this world to be a steward, \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ others.
3. For His right reasons, therefore, you live \_\_\_\_\_  
from the world.

**Hymn 805** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"  
*Also known as "The Doxology" (Psalm 150, Is. 6:1-4; Rev. 4:8)*

**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.

**Benedicamus** ∞ *Let Us Bless* (*Psalm 103:1*) *LSB 202*

**☐** Bless we the Lord.



**☐** Thanks be to God.

**Benediction** (*Numbers 6:24-26*) *LSB 202*

**☐** 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.



**☐** A-men, a-men, a - men.



## **Closing Hymn 789** "Praise and Thanksgiving" *(Eph. 5:19-20; Ps. 105:1-2; 107:31-38)*

### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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**LWML, tomorrow, 7:00 pm, in the Bethany Room.** Guest speaker Sarah Rippey, LWML District President. Program: cards/notes of encouragement & Pack college student "Goodie Boxes." If you wish to donate please bring 1 dozen individually wrapped items to the church kitchen on February 2nd, or to the meeting. Guests are always welcome.

**Worship Anew** can be viewed on local WSBT-TV FOX channel 22.2 on Saturday mornings at 8:30 am and on Dish Channel 266 or Direct TV channel 377 on Sundays at 11:30 am

### **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. 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: 2/5, 2/19, 3/5, 3/19, 4/2, 4/16, 4/30, 5/14, 5/28, 6/11, 6/25, 7/9, 7/23, 8/6, 8/20, 9/3, 9/17, 10/1, 10/15, 10/29, 11/12, 11/26, 12/10, 12/24  
*If you have questions, please contact Dave Burcham or Tom Coxe.*

**From the Hospitality Crew:** Our next meal preparation is February 12<sup>th</sup>. We are asking for donations of potatoes and any type of Valentine related treats. Thank you for generously blessing us and those in need.

**A letter from President Harrison is on the "Check It Out" board** concerning the LCMS response to the California wildfires and its impact on our sister churches in the area as well as ways to help if you feel the Lord has laid this need upon your heart. Never forget that the Lord hears the prayers of His people. (*1 John 5:14*) Please keep our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ, who are suffering this loss, in your prayers.

**Altar guild** will meet Tuesday, February 11, at 6:30 pm, in the Emmaus Room.

## Calendar of Events

<b>TODAY</b> .....	<b>February 2nd, 2025</b>
Sunday School & Bible Classes.....	8:30 am
Worship Service.....	9:30 am
Scrip Day	
Adult Basketball.....	2:30-4:30 pm
Bell Choir Practice .....	5:00 pm
Adult Choir Practice .....	6:00 pm
<b>MON:</b>	
LWML Program/Cheer Boxes .....	7:00 pm
<b>TUES:</b>	
PTL Meeting .....	6:00 pm
<b>WED:</b>	
Men's Breakfast Bible Study .....	6:30 am
Day School Chapel .....	11:00 am
<b>THURS:</b>	
Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study .....	9:30 am
<b>FRI:</b>	
Preschool Chapel .....	9:30 am
<b>NEXT SUNDAY</b> .....	<b>February 2nd, 2025</b>
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

**We have some non-dated 90 day devotionals and magazines** from Worship Anew on the table in the Narthex. Please help yourself.

**The Board of Evangelism along with Youth and all others** interested in helping will be packing and delivering Welcome Bags to new households in the Bremen Community on Sunday, February 16 following Church service. We will meet in the Bethany Room following church and will pack approximately 50 bags then send bags and addresses with volunteers for delivery. This is an easy and interesting way to meet our neighbors inviting them to visit us and giving out information about St. Paul's and our community!

These bags will include information on our Easter services as well as School Roundup. Please pray for those delivering bags and also for our new neighbors! Thank you for all your prayers and donations!

## Things to Remember in Prayer This Week

**Thanksgiving:** For God making us stewards in the world.

### **Special Concerns:**

**That we as stewards of our God** do not live for this world, but for Jesus, looking forward to heaven and eternal life.

**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.

**For the Lord's continued grace and protection** of our Haitian brothers and sisters and for all persecuted Christians throughout the world.

**For those who** serve us in their vocation of policemen and firemen.

**For strength, comfort, and healing** to those displaced from hurricanes Helene and Milton and the current wildfires in California.

## YOUTH NEWS

**ICE SKATING – TODAY:** Meet at church at 1 pm (\*no lunch provided between the church service and departure) and we will return by approximately 4 pm. Cost is \$5/attendee .

**SUPER BOWL SUBS** (*available February 9th following the church service*): Orders must be placed by today. **No cost for the subs** - free will donations appreciated and will support those attending the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July.

**WELCOME BAGS – FEBRUARY 16th :** Youth have the wonderful opportunity to work with our Evangelism Board in the assembly and delivery of Welcome Bags to new residents of the Bremen community. Meet after the church service to help out.

### **Servants for Today's Worship February 2nd, 2025**

Pastor Neil Wonnacott (574-546-2332 or 574-301-9291)

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Curt Nielsen & Wayne Spicher

Acolyte: Kayli & Cory Miller

Elder: Larry Britt

Video Streamer: Paul Wonnacott

## **Servants for Next Sunday's Worship February 9th, 2025**

Pastor Neil Wonnacott (574-546-2332 or 574-301-9291)

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Bruce Augustine & Dakota Schmeltz

Acolyte: Avery Cannon

Elder: Terry Miller

Communion Assistant: Jon Rettinger

Video Streamer: Bruce Schmidt

## **SCHOOL CORNER**

**February is Reading Month and our theme is Mario Cart!** The students can earn "power-ups" by reading extra books. They are also reading to earn weekly prizes and a larger, whole school reward. **Please encourage your student to read and/or read with them!** Reading improves comprehension and vocabulary skills, attention spans, critical and analytical thinking skills, listening skills, and social skills.

**Please check out the Teacher Wish List Tree in the narthex!** If you would like to show appreciation to our teachers, please pick an ornament to purchase items for various classrooms, the library, Extended Care, etc. Then bring the ornament and "gift" back and place it under the tree. We appreciate your generosity!

**Our First Grade Class is now highlighted on the school bulletin board!**

**Please start advertising now for St. Paul's Preschool and Day School, school year 2025-26!** We offer a Christian alternative to education, not only focusing on core curriculum, but also providing a Biblical, Christ-centered focus. With our comprehensive scholarship program, a Christian education can cost little or nothing.

**Word of mouth is the best form of advertisement, so please encourage your family to check us out!**

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**Thank you to all who donated to the SGO in 2024! The opportunities for giving (and receiving tax benefits) haven't ended! Please continue to give in 2025!** We use the SGO both for elementary school scholarships and Pre-K scholarships, and it has been a great benefit to our families. 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](http://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.**