

I have
CALLED
you by NAME,

You
are
Mine

Isaiah 43:1

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

The Baptism of Our Lord January 12th, 2025

Today, Pastor Greg Fiechtner speaks of the gift of baptism. Let us meditate on our own baptism where we became His dear child.

We welcome you as we worship our Lord 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.

Baptism is at the HEART of Lutheran Faith

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. Baptized, we live as God intends, daily receiving His rich and undeserved gifts, living in service to others and sharing God's delight for His creation.

∞ *An Inexpressible Treasure: The Theology and Practice of Holy Baptism – LCMS* ∞

Opening Hymn 398

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

(Ps. 72:1-17; 2 Sam. 7:12; Acts 10:38; Psalm 2)

✠ 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** 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.**

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Introit

Psalm 2:7-11, 12c; antiphon: Isaiah 42:1a

- P** Behold My servant, whom I uphold,
- C** **My Chosen, in whom My soul delights.**
- P** I will tell of the decree:
- C** **The LORD said to Me, "You are My Son; today I have begotten you.**
- P** Ask of Me, and I will make the nations Your heritage,

C and the ends of the earth Your possession.

P You shall break them with a rod of iron

C and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel."

P Now therefore, O kings, be wise;

C be warned, O rulers of the earth.

P Serve the LORD with fear,

C and rejoice with trembling,

P for His wrath is quickly kindled.

C Blessèd are all who take refuge in Him.

All: **G**lory 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 Behold my servant, whom I uphold,

C my chosen, in whom my soul delights.

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.

Father in heaven, at the Baptism of Jesus in the Jordan River You proclaimed Him Your beloved Son and anointed Him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized in His name faithful in their calling as Your children and inheritors with Him of everlasting life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

The Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 43:1-7

¹But now thus says the LORD,
He who created you, O Jacob,
He who formed you, O Israel:
“Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are Mine.
²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
³For I am the LORD your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Cush and Seba in exchange for you.
⁴Because you are precious in My eyes,
and honored, and I love you,
I give men in return for you,
peoples in exchange for your life.
⁵Fear not, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you.
⁶I will say to the north, Give up,
and to the south, Do not withhold;
bring My sons from afar
and My daughters from the end of the earth,
⁷everyone who is called by My name,
whom I created for My glory,
whom I formed and made.”

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 6:1-11

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it?

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴We were buried therefore with Him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over Him. ¹⁰For the death He died He died to sin, once for all, but the life He lives He lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia

LSB 190



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel Lesson

Luke 3:15–22

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the third chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹⁵As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but He who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in His hand, to clear His threshing floor and to gather the wheat into His barn, but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for

Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on Him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are My beloved Son; with You I am well pleased."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



G Praise be to Thee, 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 405 "To Jordan's River Came Our Lord"

(Matt. 3:13-17; Heb. 2:17; Luke 4:18; 2 Cor. 5:21)

Sermon "See Your Reflection in the Water"

Offertory (Psalm 51:10-12)

LSB 192

C Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Prayers

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

(2 Timothy 4:22)

C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

(Colossians 3:1)

C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

(Psalm 136)

C It is meet and right so to do.

P 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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; for at His Baptism Your voice from heaven revealed Him as Your beloved Son, and the Holy Spirit descended on Him, confirming Him to be the Christ. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus ∞ *Holy, Holy, Holy* (Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9) *LSB 195*



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;



heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,



ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,



bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

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

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

The Words of Our Lord (*1 Corinthians 11:23-25*) *LSB 196*

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

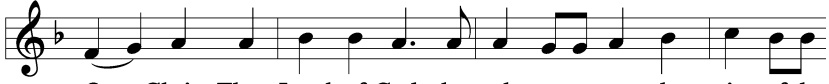
P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei ∞ *Lamb of God (John 1:29)*

LSB 198



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the



world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak - est a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a - way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

Hymn 394 "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise"

(Is. 61:1-3; 1 Peter 1:20; Matt. 11:4-5; Rev. 19:1-16)

Hymn 631 "Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face"

(John 6:35, 51, 58; 1 Cor. 11:23-26; 1 John 1:7; Rev. 19:7-9)

Hymn 602 "The Gifts Christ Freely Gives"

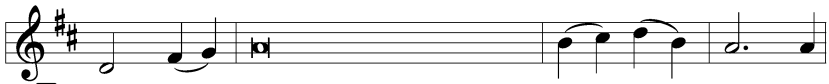
(Eph. 1:3-7; 1 John 5:6-8)

Hymn 627 "Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior"

(Rom. 5:9-10; 1 Cor. 11:23-29; John 6:50-57; 1 John 1:9)

Nunc Dimittis ∞ *Song of Simeon (Luke 2:29-32)*

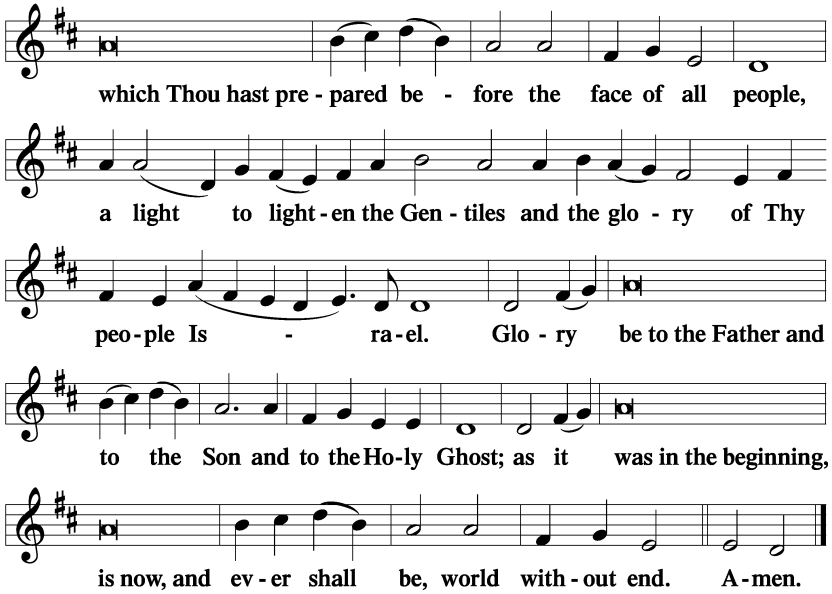
LSB 199



C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,




which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

Thanksgiving (*Psalm 107:1*)

LSB 200

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



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

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.



C A - men.

P The Lord be with you.

(*2 Timothy 4:22*)



C And with thy spir - it.

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

LSB 202

P Bless we the Lord.



C Thanks be to God.

Benediction *(Numbers 6:24-26)*

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

Closing Hymn 596 "All Christians Who Have Been Baptized"
(Rom. 6:1-10; Eph. 5:25b-26; Ezek. 36:25-27; Gal. 3:26-27)

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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Cover Art Background: https://www.freepik.com/free-photo/painted-artistic-surface-watercolor_10854120.htm

Winter LWML Quarterlies are in the tract rack and **new directories** are next to the offering box.

The flower chart for 2025 is now up next to the Altar Guild Room. Please take this opportunity to glorify our Savior and King by signing up to put flowers on the altar for Sunday services.

A Sweater was found in the church parking lot after Christmas Eve services. If you, or someone you know is missing this very nice sweater, it is hanging on the coat rack. (Please don't make it join the gray glove.)

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

There are still a few poinsettias available. Please see Kay Miller after church if you'd like to give one a new home.

Calendar of Events

TODAY January 12th, 2025

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

MON:

TUES:

WED:

Day School Chapel 11:00 am

THURS:

Preschool Chapel 9:30 am
Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study 9:30 am

FRI:

SAT:

NEXT SUNDAY January 19th, 2025

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

Thank you to all who brought in donations for the Bremen Food Pantry ingathering in December! We delivered 462 pounds of food! The food pantry is required to weigh all donations. They are open the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month. Our next ingathering for the Food Pantry will be in March.

For the rest of this week, Right to Life Michiana is trying to **STUFF-A-TRUCK** with products for moms and babies to support local pregnancy resource centers. See the “Check-It-Out” board for a list of items and more information.

LWML, February 3rd, 7:00 pm, in the Bethany Room. Guest speaker Sarah Rippy, 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.

If you have a child in college and would like them to receive a “Cheer Box” from the LWML ladies, please get their address to the church office no later than January 26th. Thank you.

Special Concerns:

That we remember our baptism, the day the Holy Spirit brought us to faith. The day He kindle in us the fire of His love, the knowledge of our Savior Jesus Christ.

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.

" Seminary Adopt A Student" - St. Paul's supports students attending the Ft. Wayne or St. Louis LCMS Seminaries. If you know of anyone attending either of these, please forward the name and contact information to Jim Tinkey of the Board of Stewardship.

Servants for Today's Worship January 12th, 2025

Pastor Gregory Fiechtner

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Steve Fox & Tyler Schmeltz

Acolyte: Abby & Josie Wildauer

Elder: Larry Britt

Communion Assistant: Dave Burcham

Video Streamer: Bruce Schmidt

Servants for Next Sunday's Worship January 19th, 2025

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

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Joe Hughes & Gio Mejia

Acolyte: Brantley Thornton

Elder: Mike Gumz

Video Streamer: Ethan Tjernagel

YOUTH NEWS

UPCOMING YOUTH "WEEKEND"

Youth Babysitting (January 17th 6-8 pm): For children in
Preschool-5th Grade - donations toward the 2025 National

Youth Gathering - contact a member of the Youth Board if Interested

“No Sale” Bake Sale (January 19th following the church service) - donations toward the 2025 National Youth Gathering - please join us

Pizza Lunch + Ice Skating (January 19th - following the Bake Sale / afternoon) - for Grades 4-HS - sign up on the Youth bulletin board by January 17th - cost is \$5/attendee

SUPER BOWL SUBS (*available February 9th following the church service*): We will begin taking orders on Sunday, January 19th as part of Youth Weekend. Orders must be placed by Sunday, February 2nd. **No cost for the subs** - free will donations appreciated.

Look for more information about our Youth Group via our "St. Paul's Youth" GroupMe chat or contact Youth Board Director Andy Wildauer with any questions.

SCHOOL CORNER

Welcome back to school! We thank God for keeping us all safe over break and now we are buckling down to work!

January is testing month- NWEA for K-2 and ILEARN for 3-8. These are the second-round tests for the year, marking the students' progress.

January also brings National Lutheran Schools Week, January 26th-31st. We are blessed to have a school at St. Paul's, and will remember all Lutheran Schools that week with prayer and fun! Activities and special dress-up days are being planned. We will also be choosing a special charity to raise money for during a bowlathon. Watch for further details!

If you are interested in becoming more involved with the students of St. Paul's, we have a variety of opportunities! We like to have volunteers to read with or assist students with classwork during the school day. We also would like more assistance with Extended Care. If you are interested, please contact the school office.

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. 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.