And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.

1 Corinthians 15:17



But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

1 Corinthians 15:20

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

6th Sunday After EpiphanyFebruary 16th, 2025

Looming large over 1 Corinthians is the matter of quarreling and divisions. Paul states this right up front in chapter 1, and it reappears throughout the book. The antidote to divisions is to return to basics. God works through "what is foolish in the world," "what is weak in the world," and "even things that are not" (1:27–28). Away with pride that competes for status and power! That's not how the Lord's kingdom works. Indeed, when Paul stepped into the Corinthian context, he "decided to know nothing among [them] except Jesus Christ and Him crucified" (2:2).

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.

<u>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."</u> 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 resurrection of Jesus Christ is the foundation of our faith. Without it, our faith is meaningless (1 Corinthians 15:14). But thanks be to God, Jesus has risen, and this truth gives us the assurance of forgiveness, eternal life, and victory over death. No matter where we are we are confident that Jesus is raised and we will be victorious as we are baptized into Him. As Paul reminds us, "Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep" (1 Corinthians 15:20). This truth is ours to share. This resurrection is not only for us, but for the world. Heavenly Father, thank You for the truth of the resurrection.

Bell Choir "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"

Opening Hymn 394 "Songs of Thankfulness and Praise" (*Is. 61:1-3; 1 Peter 1:20; Matt. 11:4-5; Rev. 19:1-16*)

+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

- In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 28:19b)
- **G** 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 ⅓ Son and of the Holy Spirit. (John 20:19-23)
- Amen.

Youth Choir "In Christ Alone"

1. In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song; This cornerstone, this solid ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease! My comforter, my all in all—Here in the love of Christ I stand.

- In Christ alone, Who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe! This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save. 'Til on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied; For ev'ry sin on Him was laid— Here in the death of Christ I live.
- 3. There in the ground His body lay,
 Light of the world by darkness slain;
 Then bursting forth in glorious day,
 Up from the grave He rose again!
 And as He stands in victory,
 Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
 For I am His and He is mine—
 Bought with the precious blood of Christ.
- 4. No guilt in life, no fear in death—
 This is the pow'r of Christ in me;
 From life's first cry to final breath,
 Jesus commands my destiny.
 No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man,
 Can ever pluck me from His hand;
 Till He returns or calls me home—
 Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand; Till He returns or calls me home— Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand. (Repeat last 2 lines)

Keith & Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend © 2002 Thank You Music. Used by permission.

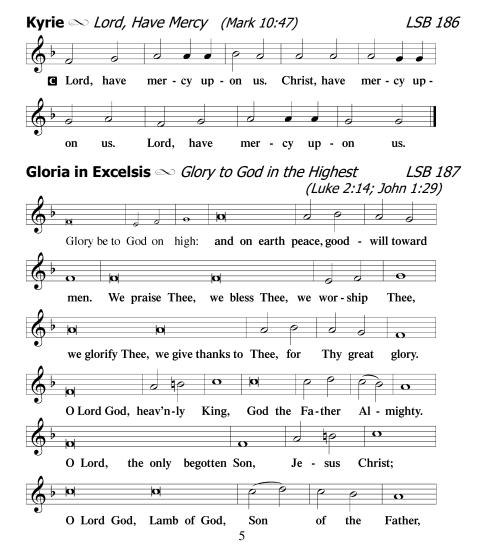
+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

Introit

Psalm 119:1-2, 4-5; antiphon: v. 7

- P I will praise You with an upright heart,
- when I learn Your just and righteous decrees.
- P Blessèd are those whose way is blameless,
- Who walk in the law of the LORD!

- P Blessèd are those who keep His testimonies,
- who seek Him with their whole heart.
- P You have commanded Your precepts
- to be kept diligently.
- **P** Oh that my ways may be steadfast
- in keeping Your statutes!
- 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 will praise You with an upright heart,
- When I learn Your just and righteous decrees.





Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

(2 Timothy 4:22)



P Let us pray.

O Lord, graciously hear the prayers of Your people that we who justly suffer the consequence of our sin may be mercifully delivered by Your goodness to the glory of Your name; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



The Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 17:5-8

⁵Thus says the LORD:

"Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the LORD. ⁶He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come.

He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land.

7"Blessed is the man who trusts in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.

8He is like a tree planted by water,
that sends out its roots by the stream,
and does not fear when heat comes,
for its leaves remain green,
and is not anxious in the year of drought,
for it does not cease to bear fruit."

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

Gradual

Psalm 117:1-2a, 96:8

- P Praise the LORD, all nations!
- Extol Him, all peoples!
- P For great is His steadfast love toward us,
- and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.
- Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name;
- bring an offering, and come into His courts!

The Epistle Lesson

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

¹²Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³But if there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. ¹⁵We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified about God that He raised Christ, whom He did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶For if the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁷And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished. ¹⁹If in this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

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

Alleluia LSB 190



The Holy Gospel Lesson

Luke 6:17-26

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



¹⁷Jesus came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of His disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem and the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, ¹⁸who came to hear Him and to be healed of their diseases. And those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all the crowd sought to touch Him, for power came out from Him and healed them all.

²⁰And He lifted up His eyes on His disciples, and said:

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹"Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are you who weep now, for you shall laugh.

²²"Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you and revile you and spurn your name as evil, on account of the Son of Man! ²³Rejoice in that day, and leap for joy, for behold, your reward is great in heaven; for so their fathers did to the prophets.

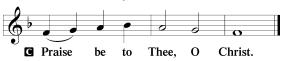
²⁴"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵"Woe to you who are full now, for you shall be hungry.

"Woe to you who laugh now, for you shall mourn and weep.

²⁶"Woe to you, when all people speak well of you, for so their fathers did to the false prophets.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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 486 "If Christ Had Not Been Raised from Death" (1 Cor. 15:12-26; Job 19:25)

Sermon "Wake Up and Stand!"

1. People fall when they fall asleep – either literally ________.

_____ or just fall asleep ______.

2. Therefore, Christians are awakened by attending to the _______.

3. There's a high cost when children of God are found _______.

_____ over these basics.

4. "In fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of

Hymn 482 "This Joyful Eastertide"

(1 Corinthians 15:17-20, 51-52; Rev. 14:13)

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

Prayers

Sermon Text

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

P Bless we the Lord.



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.



Closing Hymn 553 "O Christ, Our Hope, Our Hearts' Desire" (Col. 1:5, 20, 23, 27; Heb. 1:2; 1 Peter 2:24)

Acknowledgments

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Next Sunday, Immanuel Lutheran, Tracy/Hamlet, will be celebrating their 150th Anniversary during their 9:00 am worship service. A catered luncheon will follow. If you would like to celebrate with them, please see the "Check-It-Out!" board for more info and how to RSVP for the luncheon. Please note that they are on Central Time.

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

Calendar of Events

TODAY	. February 16th, 2025
Sunday School & Bible Classes	
Worship Service	
Bell Choir Practice	After Service
Prepare Welcome Bags in Bethany Room	After Service
Adult Basketball	2:30-4:30 pm
MON:	_
Board Meetings	7:00 pm
TUES:	_
Board of Lay Ministry Meeting	6:30 pm
WED:	
Men's Bible Study Breakfast	6:30 am
Day School Chapel	11:00 am
THURS:	
Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study	9:30 am
FRI:	
Preschool Chapel	9:30 am
SAT:	
NEXT SUNDAY	
Sunday School & Bible Classes	
Worship Service with Communion	9:30 am
Library Lending Cart	After Service
Voters' Meeting	
Bell Choir Practice	
Adult Choir Practice	6:00 pm

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: 2/19, 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 Coxey*.

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 today, February 16th following the Church service. We'll meet in the Bethany Room 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 info about St. Paul's and our community! These bags will also include info 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

<u>Thanksgiving:</u> When you fall asleep in Christ, you wake up in Christ and you stand in Christ forever, never to fall.

Special Concerns:

That we will find new zeal to relish the basic saving facts we recite in the Creeds.

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.

St. Paul's Women: Save the date: Saturday, March 15, 10:00 am. Join us for a "Service of Psalms and Lententide". Women from the South Bend Zone of LWML will gather with us. **A light luncheon** will follow the prayer service. (**Menu is looking delicious!**)

Everyone is invited to attend and please bring a friend. If you have any questions, contact LWML officers: Elaine Young, Linda Tinkey (until she goes traipsing off to Chile), Barb Middaugh or Jeannette Rettinger.

There will be a regular Voters Meeting at 11:00 A.M. after worship service on February 23rd in the Bethany Room. One of the items on the agenda is a resolution to approve revisions to our Constitution and By-Laws regarding the administrative structure of boards at St. Paul's. A hard copy document that explains the proposed changes will be available on the table by the monitor screen in the narthex starting February 16th.

This document will also be posted on the St. Paul's website (https://stpaulsbremen.church) by February 16th.

YOUTH NEWS

SUPER BOWL SUBS: Thank you to any and all who supported our Youth last week through our annual Super Bowl Subs event. We are so appreciative and thank God for your generosity as we continue to prepare to attend the National Youth Gathering in July.

WELCOME BAGS – TODAY: 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 in the Bethany Room to help out.

MIDDLE SCHOOL (GRADES 6 -8) LOCK IN: For planning purposes, we are asking that families with Youth in Grades 6-8 indicate interest regarding a potential MS "Lock In" on March 7th-8th from 7 pm-7am. If interested, please contact Andy Wildauer or any member of our Youth Board so that we can determine if we have enough Youth to hold this event.

SCHOOL CORNER

Thank you to all who have generously given gifts from the <u>Teacher</u> <u>Wish List Tree!</u> We are so blessed by you! *TODAY IS THE LAST* **DAY TO PICK AN ORNAMENT**, if you would still like to show appreciation to our teachers and donate a gift. Ornaments highlight items for various classrooms, the library, Extended Care, etc. Please bring the ornament and gift back and place it under the tree. We appreciate your generosity!

St. Paul's School is registered for the WSBT I Love to Read Challenge. To vote for our school, please log on to https://wsbt.com/community/i-love-to-read on February 18th! The winning school gets a story-time visit from one of the news anchors!

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.

<u>Preschool and Kindergarten Round-Up is March 13th, 5-7pm!</u> Please start advertising to your family and friends 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!

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

SGO Announcement

Please give early to the SGO to receive your tax credit! The state is anticipating heavy use of the tax credits this year and are encouraging donations be made within the next month. The available tax credits start over July 1st. We use the SGO both for elementary school scholarships and Pre-K scholarships, and it has been a great benefit to our families. There is also legislation pending now to increase the ability to use the SGO for our beginner age preschool students. 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 February 16th, 2025

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

Organist: Ellen Augustine

Ushers: Tyler Schmeltz & Joe Hughes

Acolyte: Rachel Rogers Elder: Bill Rogers

Video Streamer: Ethan Tjernagel

Servants for Next Sunday's Worship February 23rd, 2025

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

Organist: Anita Eichinger

Ushers: Mark Wildauer & Gio Mejia

Acolyte: Emiliano Mejia

Elder: Mike Gumz

Communion Assistant: Bill Rogers Video Streamer: Tyler/Dakota Schmeltz

2025 LCMS National Youth Gathering

"Endure" (Hebrews 12:1-3)

Did you know that 11 of our Youth (and 5 Adult Leaders) from St. Paul's will be attending the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans, Louisiana in July 2025? We will continue to share some information with the congregation about each of these young people. This Sunday, meet

Lexi Andrews (Freshman at Bremen HS)

What do you most enjoy about school?

English class

What extracurricular activities do you participate in?

Marching Band

What other hobbies or interests do you have?

Reading and listening to music

What have been some of your favorite Youth activities here at St. Paul's?

MS Lock-In and Ice Skating

What are you looking forward to about the National Youth Gathering?

Listening to so many different people speak about God

How can the congregation support Lexi and the other Youth?

- Through prayer as they continue their walk with our Lord
- Financially either through various opportunities we have planned (free will offerings) or special donations through weekly offerings (*please specify as National Youth Gathering)

Financial Goal: \$25,000 Gathered: \$14,000 (approximately)

Other attendees (and current grade):

Noah Wildauer (12th), Autumn Napper (11th), Jack Wildauer (11th), Izzy Wildauer (10th), Gavin Hundt (9th), Gabi Mejia (9th), Reuben Napper (9th), Colton Napper (8th), Brantley Thornton (8th), and Abby Wildauer (8th)

If you have any questions, please speak with Andy Wildauer





Fundraiser for PTL

February 27, ALL DAY, Hacienda in Plymouth

Enjoy dinner and help support PTL!

Bring the attached coupon to Hacienda on 2/27, and St. Paul's PTL will receive 20% of the sales!

You may also order gift cards in advance (cannot be used that day)

from Eric Thornton, <u>574-248-5007</u>, or purchased online at www.haciendafiesta.com

You may make additional copies, or ask for more copies from the school office.



Groups

St. Paul's Lutheran School PTL

February 27, 2025

Location: 2862 Miller Dr. Plymouth, IN

You must receive this token from your organization prior to your event. Distribution of this token on Recienda property vill disqualify the organization from receiving any proceeds

n'i have time to est out? Pick up a Heclenda gift card or fasta-fo-Go order. They count lowerds the fundraiser.

Restaurant Phone Number 574-941-2022



Group: Dute-

St. Paul's Lutheran School PTL February 27, 2025

Location: 2862 Miller Dr. Plymouth, IN.

You must receive this token from your organization prior to your event. Distribution of this token on Hacienda property will disqualify the organization from receiving any proceeds.

Don't have time to eat out? Pack up a Hecianica gift card or Freeta-To-Go order. They count bewards the fundraliser.

Restaurant Phone Number 574-941-2022

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St. Paul's Lutheran School PTL

February 27, 2025 Location: 2862 Miller Dr. Plymouth, IN.

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Group: DateSt. Paul's Lutheran School PTL

February 27, 2025 Location: 2862 Miller Dr. Plymouth, IN.

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Restaurant Phone Number 574-941-2022

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