and a voice from the cloud said,
"This is My beloved Son,
with whom I am well pleased;
listen to Him."

Matthew 17:5



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

Transfiguration Sunday bookends Epiphany, from the Baptism of Christ, when the Father said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased" (Mt 3:17), to "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him" (Mt 17:5), which we now hear. It is a time of joy and revelation of Christ before the more somber season begins.

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 or by using the QR code.

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." Children are a vital part of our church family. They learn and grow in their faith by regularly worshipping with us. We welcome all children to be actively participating in the service but if for any reason you want or need to take your little one out, there is a Nursery available for your use. It is located just outside the sanctuary.

To consider Christ's glorious Transfiguration on its own is eye-opening! For this was something very remarkable, that Christ was transfigured while yet in the mortal body, which was subject to suffering. What then shall it be, when mortality shall have been swallowed up, and nothing shall remain but immortality and glory? What a thought! As glorious as the Transfiguration was, yet since Christ was still subject to suffering, it is not even the full picture! Jesus gives but a sneak-peek of what will be. Now that He is crucified and risen, death no longer having dominion over Him, you have hope of the same immortal glory as your Lord. The hope of another life beyond the present life is quite comforting, especially as we suffer. The Transfiguration of our Lord is an apt portion of Scripture to consider before Lent begins. We get a sneak-peek at the resurrection before we head into the season of repentance that leads to Easter. Let this give you hope in the midst of Lent, reminding you of Christ's resurrection and your own.

Sermon excerpt by Pastor Stephen Preus – Trinity LCMS, Vinton, Iowa

Bell Choir "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

Opening Hymn 414 "'Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here"
(Luke 9:28-36; Matt. 1:22-23; Ps. 130:7; Rev. 7:13-14)

✢ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✢

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.**

Adult Choir "O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair" *LSB Hymn 413*

✢ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✢

Introit *Psalm 99:1-5; antiphon: v. 9*

P Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at His holy mountain;

C **for the LORD our God is holy!**

P The LORD reigns; let the peoples tremble!

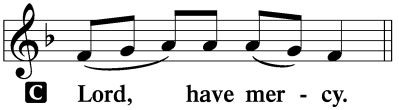
C **He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!**
P The LORD is great in Zion;
C **He is exalted over all the peoples.**
P Let them praise Your great and awesome name!
C **Holy is He!**
P The King in His might loves justice.
C **You have established equity; You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.**
P Exalt the LORD our God; worship at His footstool!
C **Holy is He!**
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 Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at His holy mountain;
C **for the LORD our God is holy!**

Kyrie *Lord, Have Mercy (Mark 10:47)* *LSB 152*

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



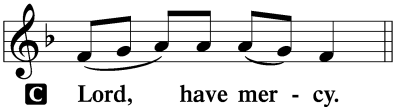
P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



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.



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



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



Gloria in Excelsis ~ *Glory to God in the Highest* *LSB 154*

(Luke 2:14; John 1:29)

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



Salutation and Collect of the Day

℗ The Lord be with you. *(2 Timothy 4:22)*



P Let us pray.
O God, in the glorious transfiguration of Your beloved Son You confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud You wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



The Old Testament Lesson *Exodus 24:8–18*

8And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

9Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, 10and they saw the God of Israel. There was under His feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. 11And He did not lay His hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

12The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to Me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." 13So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. 14And he said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them."

15Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. 16The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. 17Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. 18Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

℗ This is the Word of the Lord.
℄ **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual *Psalm 117:1-2a, 96:8*

℗ Praise the LORD, all nations!
℄ **Extol Him, all peoples!**
℗ 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 *2 Peter 1:16–21*

16For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of His majesty. 17For when He received honor and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to Him by the Majestic Glory, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased," 18we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with Him on the holy mountain. 19And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, 20knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone's own interpretation. 21For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

℗ This is the Word of the Lord.
℄ **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse *(John 6:68)* *LSB 156*



The Holy Gospel Lesson *Matthew 17:1–9*

℗ The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.



[1]After six days Jesus took with Him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. [2]And He was transfigured before them, and His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became white as light. [3]And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with Him. [4]And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If You wish, I will make three tents here, one for You and one for Moses and one for Elijah." [5]He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him." [6]When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. [7]But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." [8]And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no one but Jesus only.

[9]And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead."

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 582 "God's Word Is Our Great Heritage"
(Ps. 119:105, 111; John 14:23; Luke 11:28)

Sermon "Listen to Him!" *Matthew 17:1-9*

1. Our Father and Brother do give us clear reasons to _____ _____ .
2. But what about when sinful voices challenge our Father's Word? "Why do I have to listen to Jesus?" Let's look at voices that try to lead us astray _____ .
3. So we listen to Jesus, even when _____ .

Hymn 655 "Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word"
(Ps. 119:5-10; 2 John 9; John 8:31; Eph. 4:3-6)

Prayers

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.**

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.



Closing Hymn 873 "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies"
(John 8:12; Mal. 4:2; 2 Peter 1:19; Luke 1:78-79)

Acknowledgments
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Thank you from Betty Sahlhoff: Thank you for the many cards you have sent to me. They have been a blessing to me.

Today, following the worship service, The Board of Christian Education will be holding a Round Table Discussion in the Bethany Room about how we can better meet the needs of younger families.

This coming Wednesday is Ash Wednesday. Please join us at 6:00 pm in the Bethany room for a meal of salads and appetizers and then stay to worship as we begin the Lenten season.

Calendar of Events

TODAY……. February 15th, 2026
Sunday School & Bible Classes ..... 8:30 am
Worship Service ..... 9:30 am
Parent Round Table Discussion ..... After Service
Adult basketball ..... 3:00-5:00 pm
Bell Choir ..... 5:00 pm
Adult Choir ..... 6:00 pm
MON:
Board Meetings ..... 7:00 pm
TUES:
WED: Ash Wednesday
Men's Bible Study Breakfast ..... 6:30 am
Day School Chapel ..... 11:00 am
Lenten Meal – salads and appetizers ..... 6:00 pm
Ash Wednesday Worship Service ..... 7:00 pm
THURS:
Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study ..... 9:30 am
Pastor at Elder-Haus ..... 11:00 am
FRI: SCHOOL IN SESSION
Preschool Chapel ..... 9:30 am
LEGO Club ..... 3:00-4:00 pm
SAT:
NEXT SUNDAY. ..... February 22nd, 2026
Sunday School & Bible Classes ..... 8:30 am
Worship Service with Communion ..... 9:30 am
Lending Library Cart ..... After Service
Bell Choir ..... 5:00 pm
Adult Choir ..... 6:00 pm

Things to Remember in Prayer This Week

Thanksgiving: **For the faith to listen to Jesus as our very Savior.**

Special Concerns:

That we would indeed listen to Jesus' word that by His death and resurrection He is our only Savior.
For the Pastor Rafael & Deaconess Jamielynn Flores family.
For the Micah Wildauer family as their ministry is temporarily refocused.
That the Lord would bless our offerings that we give today.
For our country and her leaders.
For those who serve in their vocations of soldiers and first responders.
For the Lord's grace, healing, and protection for our Christian brothers and sisters who are displaced, suffering, or being persecuted in America and throughout the world. **We must shine the Gospel light!**

Worship Anew can be viewed on Sunday mornings at 11:30 am on: the local CW station-channel WCWW-TV 25 out of South Bend, Dish Channel 266 or Direct TV channel 377. For you travelers, you can view anytime at <worshipanew.org>

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 2026 are as follows: 2/18, 3/4, 3/18, 4/1, 4/15, 4/29, 5/13, 5/27, 6/10, 6/24, 7/8, 7/22, 8/5, 8/19, 9/2, 9/16, 10/14, 10/28, 11/11, 11/25, 12/9.
If you have questions, please contact Dave Burcham or Tom Coxey.

Evangelism Board would like to thank all who assisted with Welcome bags this month! From Youth and congregation members who packed and delivered bags to our crocheters and knitters for dish rags and scrubbies to those who donated treats we were blessed. Please pray for our newest neighbors especially that they would know Jesus. Bags will be going out again in May. Thanks again, you are a blessing!

There are many, many, many open dates if you'd like to place flowers on the altar to glorify our Lord and remember or celebrate your loved ones. Please check out the flower chart in the Narthex next to the Altar Guild Room.

The Lutheran Hour – Did you know there are many ways to hear the Lutheran Hour besides the radio? Along with over 1800 radio stations and the American Forces Network, you can access the Lutheran Hour through online podcasts like iHeart, Apple, Spotify, YouTube Music, and Sirius-XM Family Talk 131; the mobile app: Connected by LHM that's available on the Apple App Store, Amazon Appstore, or Google Play and also by simply dialing LHM's main phone number 1-800-876-9880 and press option 3 to listen to it right on your phone. If you have Alexa you can ask that to play Lutheran Hour sermons. The Lutheran Hour is more accessible than ever and a valuable spiritual resource.

SCHOOL CORNER

Thank you to those who helped bake with the students and who purchased from the Bake Sale last week! We raised $542.25 to purchase Bibles from Compassion International. Bibles purchased will be distributed to impoverished areas in Asia, Africa, South and Central America, and the Caribbean. ***You can help us with this ongoing fundraiser by donating to purchase more Bibles! Each Bible is $10. Thank you!***

Thank you also to those who have purchased items from the Teacher Wish List Tree! We appreciate your generosity! TODAY is the last day to take a heart from the tree. Purchased items can be placed under the tree or given it to the school office.

Students are selling Krispy Kreme doughnuts for PTL! A dozen doughnuts is $15, and orders can be placed with students until February 20th. Doughnuts will be available to pick up February 25th- 27th. Contact Ericca Thornton, 574-209-2318, if you would like to purchase a gift card.

We are anticipating Preschool and Kindergarten Round-Up on March 12th. *Please encourage family and friends to learn more about St. Paul's!* We offer a Christian alternative to education for Preschool through 8th Grade, 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.** *Scholarships are even available for Pre-K!* Word of mouth is the best form of advertisement, so please encourage your family/friends to check us out!

If you are interested in joining the playground committee, please contact Beth Miller.

Please note January's Star Students on the bulletin board! These students, nominated by the staff, have exemplified one or all of the three "Rs"- Respect, Responsibility, and Righteousness. New Star Students will be highlighted each month.

Please see updates to the SGO announcement!

SGO Announcement

The donations do not have to end at the end of the year! Donations for 2026 have started! See all the benefits below and please encourage businesses to donate.

Update to the new federal tax credit:

- This is a 100% Federal Tax Credit, up to $1,700 per taxpayer.
- Taxpayers can begin making donations on January 1, 2027.

Taxpayers would receive the Federal Tax Credit when completing taxes in the **spring of 2028 (individuals, not businesses). Further details are available on the bulletin board.**

Other benefits to donors-

- **LSGO is MATCHING donations from new donors up to $1000 per donor ($5000 per school)!**
- **Universal Charitable Deduction has been restored! Taxpayers can receive a $1000 Federal Charitable Donation, even if they can't itemize, beginning January 1, 2026.**
- **Taxpayers still receive a 50% state tax credit!**

We use the SGO both for elementary school scholarships and Pre-K scholarships, and it has been a great benefit to our families. **(The Choice Scholarships for Kindergarten through 8th Grade only provide for 75% of tuition. SGO supports the rest.)** 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, and a 100% federal tax credit for individuals up to $1700 (starting in 2027). 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.

YOUTH NEWS

Feb. 18th - Youth will be assisting with the Lenten Meals on Wednesday nights at 6:00 pm before the Worship Service.

March 1st – Weather and snow permitting! – Snow tubing at Wilson's Park in Mishawaka. We will leave after church and return at 2:00 pm. This activity is for grades 4 through High School. Park admission, tube rental, and lunch are provided. Watch for the sign-up sheet on the Youth Board.

Look for more Youth Group information via our "St. Paul's Youth" GroupMe chat (*If you'd like to be added, let us know) or contact Youth Board Director **Scott Hundt** with any questions.

To those who donate blood regularly and those who are considering giving it a try, we will be hosting a blood drive through The South Bend Medical Foundation following the service on Sunday, March 15th, 2026. More info and sign-up sheets will be coming as we get closer to this date.

Servants for Today's Worship February 15th, 2026

Pastor Neil Wonnacott (574-546-2332 or 574-301-9291)
Organist: Anita Eichinger
Ushers: Tyler Schmeltz & Larry Winterboer
Acolyte: Rachel Rogers
Elder: Larry Britt
Video Streamer: Paul Wonnacott

Servants for Next Week's Worship February 22nd, 2026

Pastor Neil Wonnacott (574-546-2332 or 574-301-9291)
Organist: Anita Eichinger
Ushers: Mark Wildauer & Gio Mejia
Acolyte: Emiliano Mejia
Elder: Larry Britt
Communion Assistant: Jon Rettinger
Video Streamer: Ethan Tjernagel

GodLoves MARRIAGE

GodLovesMarriage.org



Alert your congregation to this transformational Marriage Encounter experience!

Use the following announcements:

- **In your church communications – *both online & print***
- **As Public Service Announcements on your local Christian radio channel**

LOVE + GREAT COMMUNICATION SKILLS = A HAPPY MARRIAGE! Communication is the bedrock of a strong marriage. Enhance your couple communication skills with Lutheran Marriage Encounter! The next experience is scheduled April 16 - 18, 2026 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Bremen, Indiana. Apply now at GodLovesMarriage.org, or contact Win and Margaret Larsen by phone at 269-838-4267 or email them at win.larsen@charter.net for more information. Pre-registration is required – don't miss out!

STRONG COMMUNICATION SKILLS MAKE A STRONG MARRIAGE. Enhance your couple communication with Lutheran Marriage Encounter! The next experience is scheduled April 16 - 18, 2026 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Bremen, Indiana. Apply now at GodLovesMarriage.org, or contact Win and Margaret Larsen by phone at 269-838-4267 or email them at win.larsen@charter.net for more information. Pre-registration is required – don't miss out!

HAPPY MARRIAGES MAKE HAPPY FAMILIES! Communication is the bedrock of a strong marriage. Enhance your couple communication skills with Lutheran Marriage Encounter! The next experience is scheduled April 16 - 18, 2026 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Bremen, Indiana. Apply now at GodLovesMarriage.org, or contact Win and Margaret Larsen by phone at 269-838-4267 or email them at win.larsen@charter.net for more information. Pre-registration is required – don't miss out!

OPTIMIZE YOUR MARRIAGE IN 2026! Enrich your couple communication skills with Lutheran Marriage Encounter! The next experience is scheduled April 16 - 18, 2026 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Bremen, Indiana. Apply now at GodLovesMarriage.org, or contact Win and Margaret Larsen by phone at 269-838-4267 or email them at win.larsen@charter.net for more information. Pre-registration is required – don't miss out!

MAKE EVERY DAY SPECIAL WITH YOUR SPOUSE IN 2026! Strong communication skills make strong marriages. Enhance your couple communication with Lutheran Marriage Encounter! The next experience is scheduled April 16 - 18, 2026 at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Bremen, Indiana. Apply now at GodLovesMarriage.org, or contact Win and Margaret Larsen by phone at 269-838-4267 or email them at win.larsen@charter.net for more information. Pre-registration is required – don't miss out!

Thank you for helping make marriages happy and strong!

Lutheran Marriage Encounter is licensed by

worldwide marriage encounter

Questions? Contact:
Brian & Annika Piazza,
574-780-9240
abpiazza@yahoo.com