

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

What a special weekend we have to thank God for our freedoms as Americans and our ultimate freedom we have because of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection! As we come together as brothers and sisters in Jesus, may we thank the one and only true God for all He has given to us. We thank the Holy Spirit who called us together to God's House 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, near the water fountain.

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.

Freedom in the United States is a cherished right. We are free to worship our Lord, Jesus Christ without fear of retribution. However, we have a far greater freedom. Freedom from the bondage of sin bought for us by the blood of Jesus. Justification by the gift of faith given to us through the waters of baptism and the word of the Gospel that promises forgiveness through Christ that is received by faith - a confident trust that what Christ says in His Word He will do for me. ***"Therefore if the Son makes you free, you shall be free indeed."*** John 8:36

The Pledge of Allegiance

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

The Christian Flag Pledge

I pledge allegiance to the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ, and to the faith for which it stands; one Savior, God's Son eternal, with mercy and grace for all.

Opening Hymn 717 "Eternal Father, Strong to Save"
(Gen. 1:1-10; Psalm 3; Matt. 8:23-27; 14:22-33)

✢ 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.**

✢ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✢

Introit *Psalm 91:2, 9-10; antiphon: v.1*

P He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
C will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.
P I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress,
C my God, in whom I trust."
P Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—
C the Most High, who is my refuge—
P no evil shall be allowed to befall you,
C no plague come near your tent.
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 He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High
C will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

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.
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, Your mercy attends us all our days. Be our strength and support amid the wearisome changes of this world, and at life's end grant us Your promised rest and the full joys of Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Reading from the Psalms *Psalm 107:1–3*

[1]Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good,
for His steadfast love endures forever!
[2]Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
whom He has redeemed from trouble
[3]and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

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

Proper Romans 11:33, 36

P Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!
C **How unsearchable are His judgments and how inscrutable His ways!**
P For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.
C **To Him be glory forever. Amen.**

The Epistle Lesson *Romans 7:14–25a*

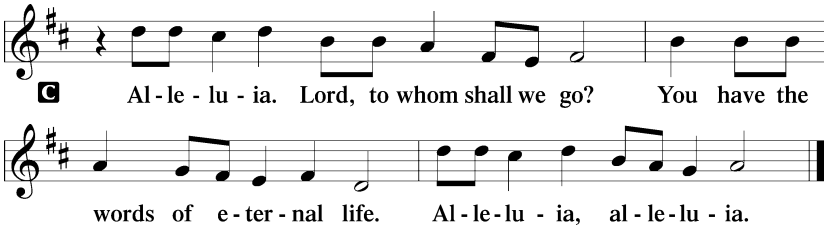
[14]We know that the law is spiritual, but I am of the flesh, sold under sin. [15]I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. [16]Now if I do what I do not want, I agree with the law, that it is good. [17]So now it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. [18]For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. [19]For I do not

do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. [20]Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me.

[21]So I find it to be a law that when I want to do right, evil lies close at hand. [22]For I delight in the law of God, in my inner being, [23]but I see in my members another law waging war against the law of my mind and making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. [24]Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? [25]Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

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

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



The Holy Gospel Lesson *Matthew 11:25–30*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.



[25]At that time Jesus declared, "I thank You, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that You have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; [26]yes, Father, for such was Your gracious will. [27]All things have been handed over to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal Him. [28]Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. [29]Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. [30]For My yoke is easy, and My burden is light."

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 966 "Before You, Lord, We Bow"
(Ps. 145:1; Ps. 29:11; 46:9; 72:3, 7)

Sermon "Thank God for America" *Psalm 107:1-3*

A Christian can give thanks to God for his country.

1. A Christian can thank God for a _____ .

2. A Christian can thank God for a _____ .

3. A Christian can thank God for _____ .

4. A Christian can thank God for a _____ .

Hymn 611 "Chief of Sinners Though I Be"
(Rom. 5:8-11; 1 John 4:10; Heb. 4:15-16; Eph. 3:17b-18)

Prayers

Lord's Prayer *(Matthew 6:9-13)* *LSB 251*

P Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:

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.**

Hymn 751 "O God of Love, O King of Peace"
(Ps. 46:9; 2 Thess. 3:16; Is. 43:25; 1 Thess. 5:23-24)

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 965 "God Bless Our Native Land" (Rom. 13:1-7)

Acknowledgments
Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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Did you miss getting a Picture for the Directory? That's OK!
You can still send an electronic photo to the church at church@stpaulsbremen.org to include that in the directory. If you only have a hard copy, then bring it to the church secretary and we'll get it scanned in and get your original back to you. **The deadline is July 31st**.

Work is underway! The Playground and Gathering Space project has begun. The ground is tilled and the foundation for the pavilion is being excavated. Current donations are $7,750. If you would like to make a monetary donation for this project, please place it in the offering box marked "Playground Fund". **Thank you for your prayers and support. We are truly blessed by our gracious Lord.**

From the Board of Church Properties – Parking Lot Financing
We currently have $93,530 of the approximately $152,000 needed to redo the parking lot. Additional monies needed will have to come by depleting other church special funds. Any and all donations are welcome to cover this cost. You may place your donation in the offering box in an envelope marked "Parking Lot Fund". Work is scheduled to begin between the middle to end of July. Thank you for your generosity.

Worship Anew can be viewed: Sunday Mornings at 11:30 am on: Dish channel 26 or Direct TV channel 377. You can view anytime at worshipanew.org **Please note that local CW channel WCWW-TV 25 out of South Bend will no longer be airing Worship Anew.**

Calendar of Events

TODAY ..... July 5th, 2026
Sunday School & Bible Classes..... 8:30 am
Worship Service..... 9:30 am
Scrip Day .....
MON:
TUES:
Elders' Meeting..... 6:30 pm
WED:
Men's Bible Study Breakfast ..... 6:30 am
Prepare Hospitality Meals..... 9:00 am
THURS:
Pastor @ Oakhaven..... 2:00 pm
2nd Thursday Bible Study..... 6:00 pm
FRI:
SAT:
Pancake Breakfast & Rummage Sale in the Gym.....7:30 am-1:00 pm
NEXT SUNDAY ..... July 12th, 2026
Sunday School & Bible Classes..... 8:30 am
Worship Service with Communion..... 9:30 am

From the Hospitality Crew: We are in need of canned vegetables for our July 8th meal. You may leave your donations on the table in the Narthex or in the kitchen. Thank you for supporting this mission.

YOUTH NEWS

July 8th, 15th, 22nd, and 29th – Youth Nights are back! Each Wednesday in July at 7:00 pm, 4th Grade - High School will meet for a time of fellowship, fun, & food. Please join us and invite your friends!

July 18th – Tara's Bible Study & Bonfire from 7:00-9:00 pm for 4th grade through High School.

*** **See the Youth Board for Sign-Up sheets for these events!** ***

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.

For you, brethren, have been called to liberty; only do not use liberty as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.
Galatians 5:13

Things to Remember in Prayer This Week

Thanksgiving: **For the** United States of America & for our religious freedoms.

Special Concerns:
That we continue to stand up for Jesus and His Word.
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!**

Voters' Assembly Minutes – Copies of the minutes from the Monday, June 22 Voters' Assembly meeting are available on the table in the narthex. The minutes contain reports and activities of the various boards of our St. Paul's congregation. If the supply has run out and you desire a copy for yourself, please contact Ken Eichinger. If you prefer an electronic copy, email Ken at keneichinger@gmail.com. **Also included** with the minutes is the current Voters' Assembly Attendance Sheet. **Voters:** Check your attendance on the sheet to see if it has been recorded correctly. There are a few voters who will be dropped because of inattendance.

SCHOOL CORNER

Please consider helping us replenish the SGO account!

This year, we gave over $53,000 in scholarships from the SGO Fund! As Choice only provides for 77%-83% of tuition costs, we use the SGO to **"close the gap"** between our tuition fee and the Choice Scholarship. This has enabled our families, most of whom have financial concerns, to receive education at St. Paul's for nominal cost. **We need to replenish our SGO account so please consider donating to the SGO!** Contact the school office if you have questions. More information is available in the tract rack.

We are currently collecting donations for the Rummage Sale this Saturday, July 11th, 8:00am-1:00pm! Please donate gently used items, except for large furniture and appliances. **We will need volunteers to set up, manage, and take down the sale. We will also need volunteers to**

help with a pancake breakfast that morning. Please contact Ericca Thornton if you can help, 574-209-2318. (see flyer)

The School Office will be open during the summer, starting June 1st, 9:00am-1:00pm. Alternative hours for enrollment/scholarship appointments are available upon request.

Enrollment for 2026-27 is OPEN! *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!

We are starting to save natural wood and mulch for the new playground. If you are interested in joining the committee, volunteering, or have items to donate, please contact Beth Miller.

Servants for Today's Worship July 5th, 2026

Pastor Neil Wonnacott (574-546-2332 or 574-301-9291)
Organist: Anita Eichinger
Ushers: Joe Hughes & Rick Napper
Acolytes: Wyatt Wildauer
Elder: Jon Rettinger
Video Streamer: Paul Wonnacott

Servants for Next Sunday's Worship July 12th, 2026

Pastor Neil Wonnacott (574-546-2332 or 574-301-9291)
Organist: Anita Eichinger
Ushers: Larry Britt & Bruce Augustine
Acolytes: Rachel Rogers
Elder: Bill Rogers
Communion Assistant: Dave Burcham
Video Streamer: Tyler/Dakota Schmeltz

St. Paul's RUMMAGE SALE

Saturday, July 11th 8-1

Pancake Breakfast 7:30-10

Free Will Donations



Donations accepted until July 8th and can be dropped off at the school/church from 9-1 Mondays-Fridays or call Ericca Thornton (574)209-2318 to schedule drop off or pick up of donations

