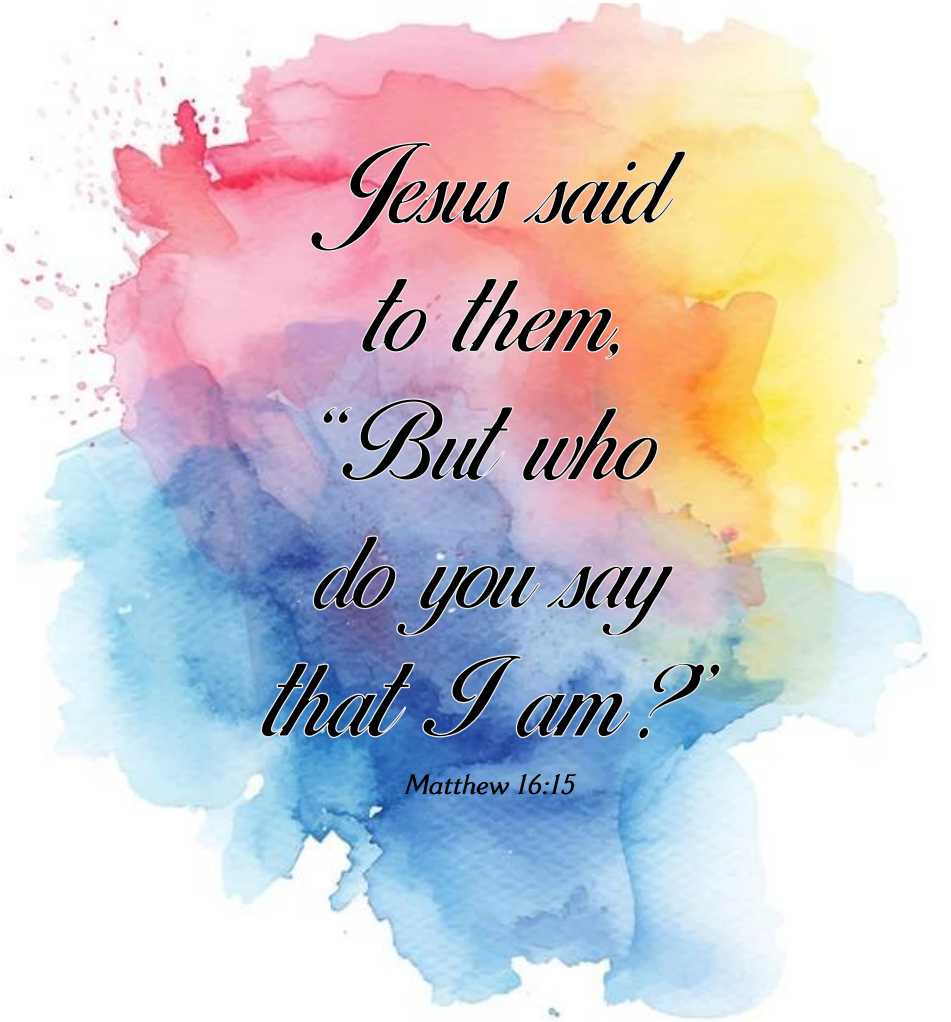


St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church LCMS
605 South Center Street
Bremen, Indiana 46506
574.546.2332
stpaulsbremen.church

Today we join in worship through song, sacrament, and in hearing about the power of prayer. To Christ be all the glory!

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 child out, there is a Nursery located just outside the sanctuary.

Prayer is simply the language of faith that the children of God speak to their Heavenly Father. Scripture clearly teaches that God commands us to pray and promises to hear us for the sake of Jesus not merely to change us, but to cause God to act. God changes His mind and heart in a way that does not undermine His eternal and immutable nature. Scriptural accounts demonstrate that God answers the prayers of His people. God planned to do one thing, and then, because of the prayers of His people, He did something else according to those prayers. However, we must not think of God as a magic lamp that can be manipulated or tricked into giving us what we want. Instead, "God tenderly invites us to believe that He is our true Father and that we are His true children, so that with all boldness and confidence we would ask as dear children ask their dear Father". We should believe it because He says so. We are His children, and He made it so in Holy Baptism. Jesus says, "ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. For everyone who asks receives, and the he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened" *(Luke 11:9-10)*. Prayer is an act of obedience to God's command, but it is also an act of faith, to believe that God will hear us for the sake of Christ.

Opening Hymn 515 "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"
(Matt. 25:1-6; Rev. 5:11-14; Mal. 4:2; Matt. 13:35-37)

✢ 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 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 2:6-7; 117; antiphon: Psalm 115:18*

P But we will bless the LORD

C **from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!**

P As for Me, I have set My King

C **on Zion, My holy hill.**

P I will tell of the decree:

C **The LORD said to Me, "You are My Son; today I have begotten You."**

P Praise the LORD, all nations!

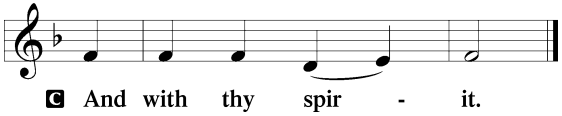
C Extol Him, all peoples!
P For great is His steadfast love toward us,
C and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever. Praise the LORD!
All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.
P But we will bless the LORD
C from this time forth and forevermore. Praise the LORD!

Kyrie ~ *Lord, Have Mercy (Mark 10:47)* *LSB 186*
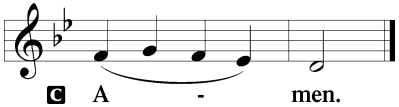
Gloria in Excelsis ~ *Glory to God in the Highest* *LSB 187*
(Luke 2:14; John 1:29)

Salutation and Collect of the Day

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



P Let us pray.
Almighty God, whom to know is everlasting life, grant us to know Your Son, Jesus, to be the way, the truth, and the life that we may boldly confess Him to be the Christ and steadfastly walk in the way that leads to life eternal; 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 *Isaiah 51:1–6*

1 "Listen to Me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD:
look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
2 Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
that I might bless him and multiply him.
3 For the LORD comforts Zion;

He comforts all her waste places
and makes her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.
4"Give attention to Me, My people,
and give ear to Me, My nation;
for a law will go out from Me,
and I will set My justice for a light to the peoples.
5My righteousness draws near,
My salvation has gone out,
and My arms will judge the peoples;
the coastlands hope for Me,
and for My arm they wait.
6Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;
but My salvation will be forever,
and My righteousness will never be dismayed."

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

Gradual *Psalm 34:9, 19*

P Fear the LORD, you His saints,
C **for those who fear Him lack nothing!**
P Many are the afflictions of the righteous,
C **but the LORD delivers Him out of them all.**

The Epistle Lesson *Romans 11:1–2a, 13–15, 28–32*

1I ask, then, has God rejected His people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. 2God has not rejected His people whom He foreknew. . . .
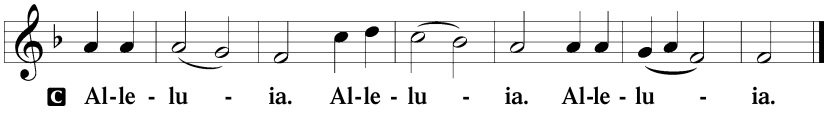
13Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry 14in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. 15For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? . . .

28As regards the gospel, they are enemies of God for your sake. But as regards election, they are beloved for the sake of their forefathers.

[29]For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. [30]Just as you were at one time disobedient to God but now have received mercy because of their disobedience, [31]so they too have now been disobedient in order that by the mercy shown to you they also may now receive mercy. [32]For God has consigned all to disobedience, that He may have mercy on all.

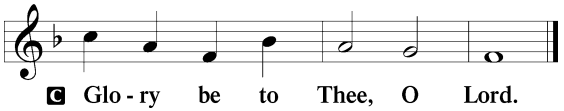
P This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia *LSB 190*
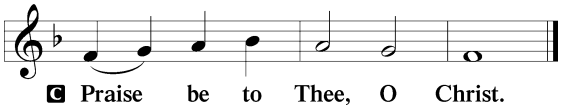


The Holy Gospel Lesson *Matthew 16:13–20*

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



[13]Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, He asked His disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" [14]And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." [15]He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" [16]Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." [17]And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven. [18]And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. [19]I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." [20]Then He strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that He was the Christ.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



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 ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Hymn 773 "Hear Us, Father, When We Pray"
(Matt. 6:9-13; Rom. 8:26-27; Heb. 4:14-16; Ps. 141:1-2)

Sermon "Is There Power in Prayer?" *Acts 12:11-19*
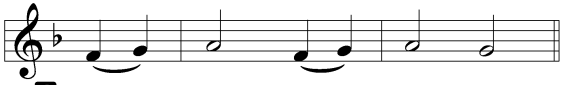
Hymn 779 "Come, My Soul, with Every Care"
(Matt. 6:5-13; 7:7-11; Luke 11:5-13; Mark 4:16)

Prayer of the Church *1 Timothy 2:1-4*
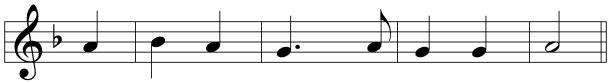
☩ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ☩

Preface *LSB 194*
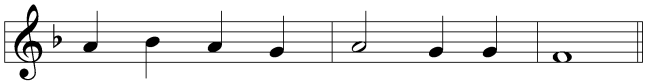
P The Lord be with you. *(2 Timothy 4:22)*



P Lift up your hearts. *(Colossians 3:1)*

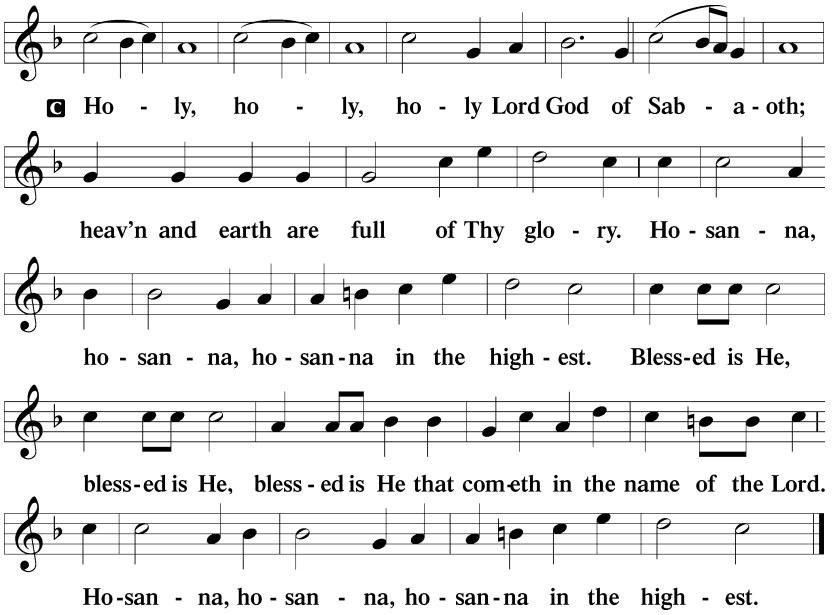


P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God. *(Psalm 136)*



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. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

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



Lord's Prayer *(Matthew 6:9-13)*
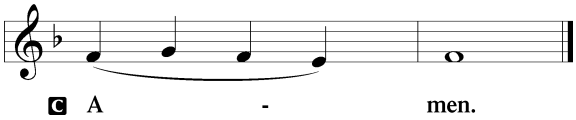
C **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against**

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.
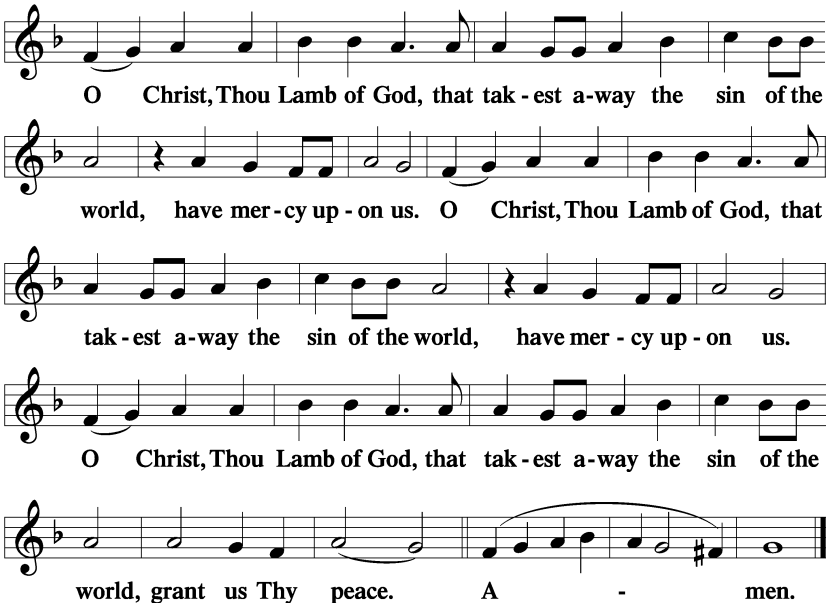
The Words of Our Lord *(1 Corinthians 11:23-25)* *LSB 197*

Pax Domini *(John 20:19)* *LSB 197*

℗ The peace of the Lord be with you always.



Agnus Dei ∾ *Lamb of God* *(John 1:29)* *LSB 198*
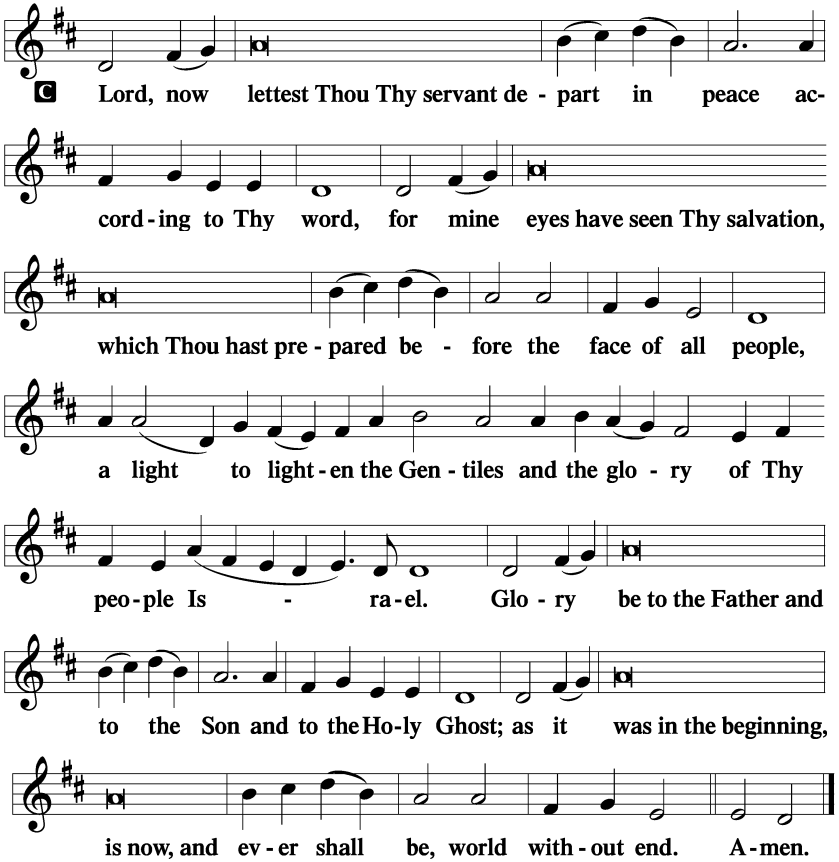


Hymn 625 "Lord Jesus Christ, Life-Giving Bread"
(John 6:33-35, 48-51; 1 Tim. 1:15-16; 1 Cor. 11:23-26; Psalm 23)

Hymn 628 "Your Table I Approach"
(1 Cor 11:23-29; Luke 5:31-32; Mark 2:17; 1 Cor. 10:16; Rom. 11:33-36)
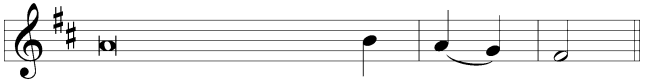
Hymn 665 "Be Strong in the Lord" ***Sung to tune LSB 804***
(Eph. 6:10-18; 1 Cor. 16:13; 1 Peter 5:5-10; 1 John 5:4-5)

Nunc Dimittis *Song of Simeon (Luke 2:29-32)* *LSB 199*
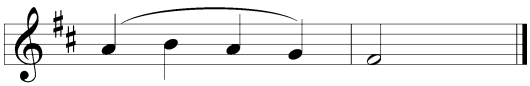


Thanksgiving *(Psalm 107:1)* *LSB 200*
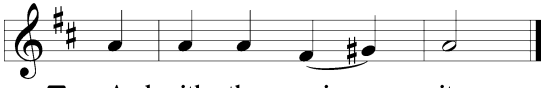
P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



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.
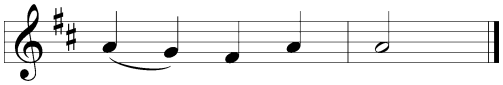


P The Lord be with you. *(2 Timothy 4:22)*
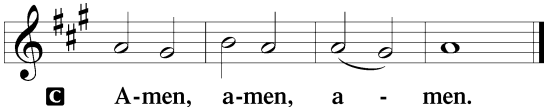


Benedicamus *Let Us Bless* *(Psalm 103:1)* *LSB 202*

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 770 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"
(Matt. 7:7-8; Heb. 4:15; John 15:14-16; 1 Peter 2:24)

Acknowledgments
Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book
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Page 2: Excerpt: Jason D. Lane, May 9, 2024-The Lutheran Witness

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God in celebration of many Wildauer occasions this month: Mark and Heidi's 23rd Wedding Anniversary (August 2), Charles and Cheryl's 57th Wedding Anniversary (August 9), Josephine's Birthday (August 21), Robin's Birthday (August 22), and Samuel's Birthday (August 31).

Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study group will resume on September 3rd at 9:30 am in the Emmaus Room. All ladies are welcome to join us. If you have questions, please contact Barb Middaugh.

Installation of Bible Class and Sunday School teachers will be on Sunday, September 6, 2026.

Calendar of Events

TODAY ..... August 23rd, 2026
Sunday School & Bible Classes ..... 8:30 am
Worship Service with Communion ..... 9:30 am
Voters' Meeting – Bethany Room ..... After Service
MON:
Parish Fellowship Meeting ..... 4:00 pm
TUES:
WED: .....
Preschool/Day School Chapel ..... 11:00 am
THURS:
FRI:
SAT:
NEXT SUNDAY ..... August 30th, 2026
Sunday School & Bible Classes ..... 8:30 am
Worship Service with Communion ..... 9:30 am
Pastor Wildauer 20th Anniversary Celebration ..... After Service

School bells are ringing and that means it's time to begin choir rehearsals again. Bell choir and adult choir will begin rehearsals on Sunday, September 13. If you are interested in becoming a ding-a-ling (bell choir member) please contact Ellen Augustine in church or at 574-536-4648. Music will need to be marked for the number of ringers we have so please let her know in advance. If you're interested in the adult choir, just show up. Bells will practice from 5:00-6:00 on Sundays in the balcony. Adult choir will follow from 6:00-7:00 also in the balcony. You don't need any experience. We'll teach you! **Hope to see you.**

Please plan on being at the worship service on Sunday, August 30th, and to fellowship afterwards in the Bethany Room as we recognize and celebrate the 20th anniversary of the ordination of Pastor Micah Wildauer. Pastor Wildauer was ordained July 23rd, 2006 at St. Paul's. His biography will be forthcoming in the August 30th worship service bulletin. There will be light refreshments in the Bethany room, after the worship service, to celebrate. And, an opportunity during the worship service to share the joy and thanksgiving for Pastor Wildauer as he leads us in worship and the sacrament of Holy Communion. Please join us next Sunday, August 30th, in celebration of Pastor Wildauer's faithful service as a missionary and in leading our congregation in worship!

Things to Remember in Prayer This Week

Thanksgiving: **For the power of prayer.**

Special Concerns:

That we, as God's chosen people, use the power of prayer. That we know He hears us and we draw nearer to Jesus when we pray.
For the family and friends of Al Schroeder who was called home to his Savior this past week. (A Memorial Service will be held at St. Paul's this afternoon at 2:00 pm)
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!**

Pastor Wonnacott requests your prayers as he recovers from back surgery. He will be off for 3 to 6 months; we leave it in God's hands. The Lord's blessings to you all!

Our next South Bend Foundation Blood Drive is coming Sunday, September 20th. Flyers and more info will be coming.

YOUTH NEWS

SAVE THE DATES:

Beginning September 2nd, we will have Youth Night each Wednesday in September from 7:00-8:00 pm for 4th grade-High School.

Sept. 12-13: Jr. Youth Rally – Grades 6-8 at Camp Lutherhaven.
We will need to know who wants to go by August 28th.
We also need chaperones.

Sept. 26: Bonfire at the Spicher Farm for 4th Grade through High School.

Sept. 30: Swim and Movie Night at Tonya Hundt's mom's house-
5211 1B Rd, Bremen for - 4th Grade-HS from 6:00-8:00 pm

*** Watch for more information about times and locations ***

Look for 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 at 574-209-2084** with any questions.

LifeLight will be starting on Wednesday, September 16th. We will meet each Wednesday from 6:45-8:18 pm through November 11th. This year we are studying the Gospel of Mark. Registration forms are on the table in the Narthex.

Worship Anew can be viewed: Sunday Mornings at 11:30 am on: Dish channel 266 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.**

Extended Care is in need for workers in the morning from 7:00 - 8:00 am and from 3:00 - 4:00 pm. If you are interested, please contact Heather Middaugh.

The Playground and Gathering Space Project is slowly moving forward again now that the sewer lines and parking lot are completed. The sewer issue and all of the rain have set us back several weeks.

Some projected figures for the project are:

30'x 44' Mortise & Tennon Cedar Pavilion - $43,300
Concrete Pad – someone has already donated the money for this
White Oak Climbing Structure - $4,500
Pea Gravel for under the swing set which is being moved from the current playground– approx. $500.00
2-8'-10'Corrugated 4' dia. culverts for tunnels–approx. $500-$700 ea.
A few "more mature" trees for shade – approx. $200-$300 each depending on the type and size of tree

Much of the mulch and climbing logs have been or will be donated in the near future. **In Phase 2** we will be planting native plants and grasses. We plan to grow these from seed. We also have plans to start saplings for planting in the spring or next fall. There may be other small expenses as we continue into the various phases of the project but we will continue to update as we can. **If you have any questions, please contact Beth Miller 260-519-2884.** If you would like to donate to this project, please mark it as **Playground Fund** and place it in the offering box. **Most importantly, please continue to pray that the Lord will bless this project according to His will.**

Elder On Call for August:
August 16th - 22nd : Larry Britt – 574-229-0407
August 23rd – 29th : Bill Rogers – 574-248-5135
August 30th – September 5th : Jon Rettinger – 574-535-372

SCHOOL CORNER

We started school on Wednesday, the 12th, with 49 day school students! We appreciate your prayers for our staff and families as we settle into the new year.

Preschool has also started, with 17 students! What a fun week we had!

We are getting ready for our first field trip to Camp Lutherhaven this week! Students in 6th-8th Grades will get to spend the night and the rest of the grades will join them the next day. Activities include hiking, crafts, camp games, team building exercises, and possibly kayaking.

We need to replenish the SGO account!
Last school 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.
Enrollment is ongoing for 2026-27! *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!

Servants for Today's Worship August 23rd, 2026

Pastor Gregory Fiechtner
Organist: Ellen Augustine
Ushers: Joe Hughs
Acolytes: Emiliano Mejia
Elder: Dave Burcham
Communion Assistant: Larry Britt
Video Streamer: Ethan Tjernagel

Servants for Next Sunday's Worship August 30th, 2026

Pastor Micah Wildauer
Organist: Anita Eichinger
Ushers: Eric Thornton & Brantley Thornton
Acolytes: Wiley Napper
Elder: Larry Britt
Communion Assistant: Terry Miller
Video Streamer: Tyler/Dakota Schmeltz