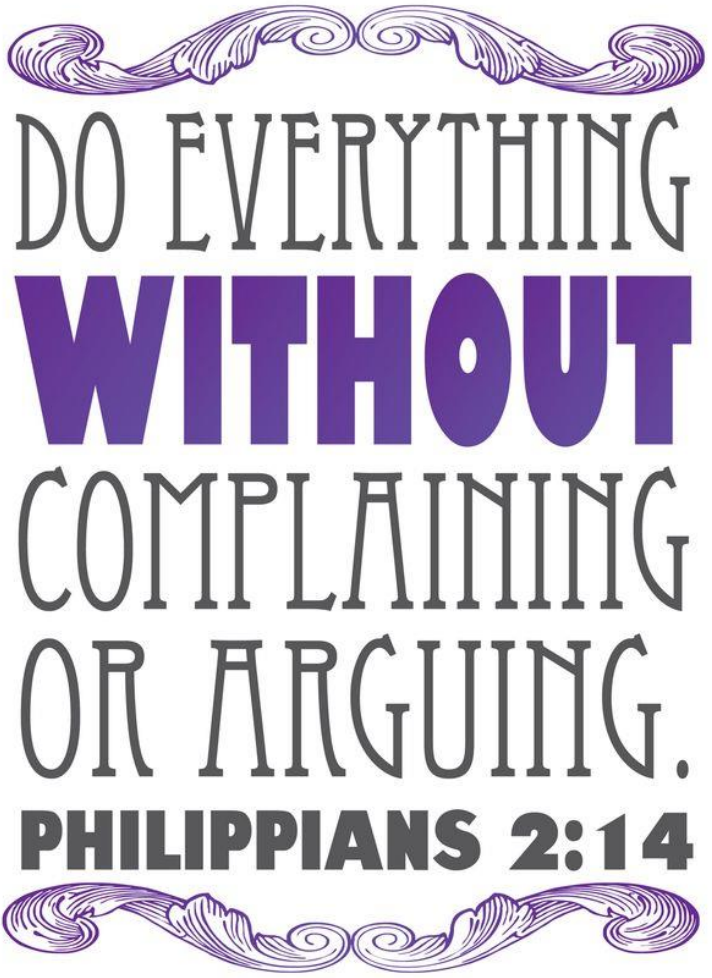


St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church LCMS
605 South Center Street
Bremen, Indiana 46506
574.546.2332
stpaulsbremen.church

We welcome pastor Fiechtner this morning. May the Lord bless his words and open our hearts to the Word of the Lord.

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.

Children are precious to the Lord and to us as well. Children are a vital part of our church family. They learn and grow in their faith by regularly worshipping with us. It gives us great joy when Christ's little ones gather with us to receive the gifts of salvation *(Matthew 18:10).* They may fidget and fuss as they learn to sit and hear God's word but they are a gift from the Lord (Psalm 127:3) and we welcome all children to be actively participating in the service. Barring a cry of ear-drum shattering proportions, we encourage you to keep your children in the sanctuary as long as possible, but if you feel you need to take your child out, there is a Nursery located just outside the sanctuary. **Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven."** *Matthew 19:14*

Paul did not say, "Try to do *most* things without grumbling or disputing." He said, ALL THINGS. In fact, the word translated "all things" is emphatic in the Greek text. Paul isn't going to let us off the hook! And, his reason for this commandment concerns our individual and corporate testimony before the world (2:15, 16). Paul's own example (2:17) shows that not only are we not to grumble and dispute, but positively, we are to be marked by joy, even in the midst of difficult trials. Our testimony of Christ should be uppermost in our thinking so as to affect all our attitudes and behavior. Our purpose is to glorify God. **What does it mean to glorify God?** To glorify God means that when people look at our lives as Christians, they should extol and exalt our God whom they see shining through us. As children of God, what our lives communicate about our Savior, should be uppermost in our thinking so that our attitudes, our behavior, and our words bring glory to God.

Opening Hymn 578 "Thy Strong Word"
(Gen. 1:3; John 1:1-14; 2 Cor. 4;6; 1 peter 2:9)

✢ 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.**

Day School Choir "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" *LSB 425*
(Gal. 6:14; Phil 3:8)

✢ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✢

Introit *Psalm 147:1-5; antiphon v. 6*
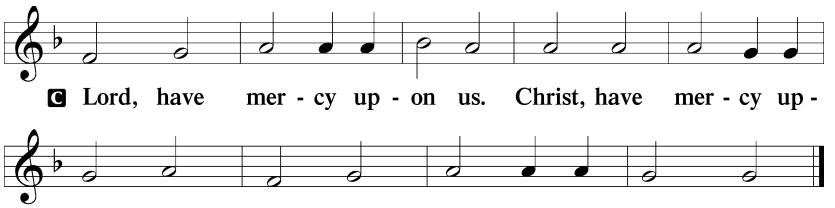
P The LORD lifts up the humble;

C **He casts the wicked to the ground.**

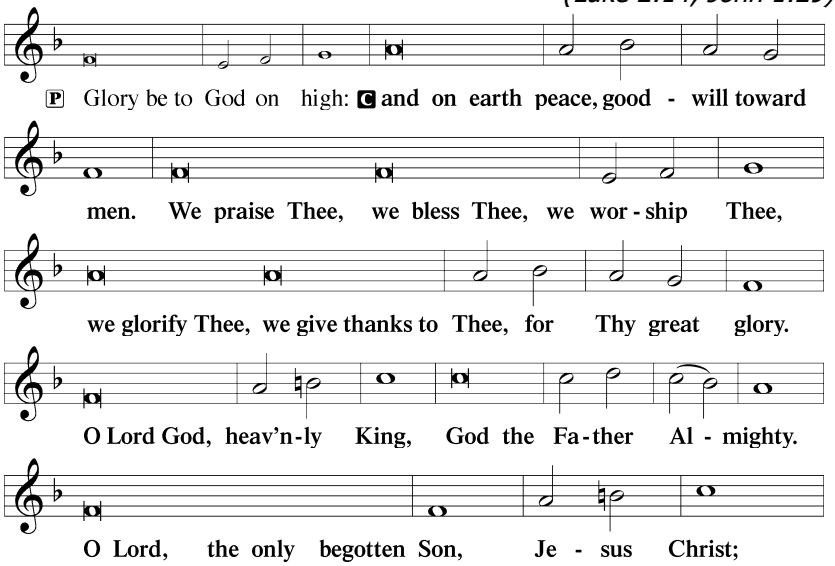
P Praise the LORD! For it is good to sing praises to our God;

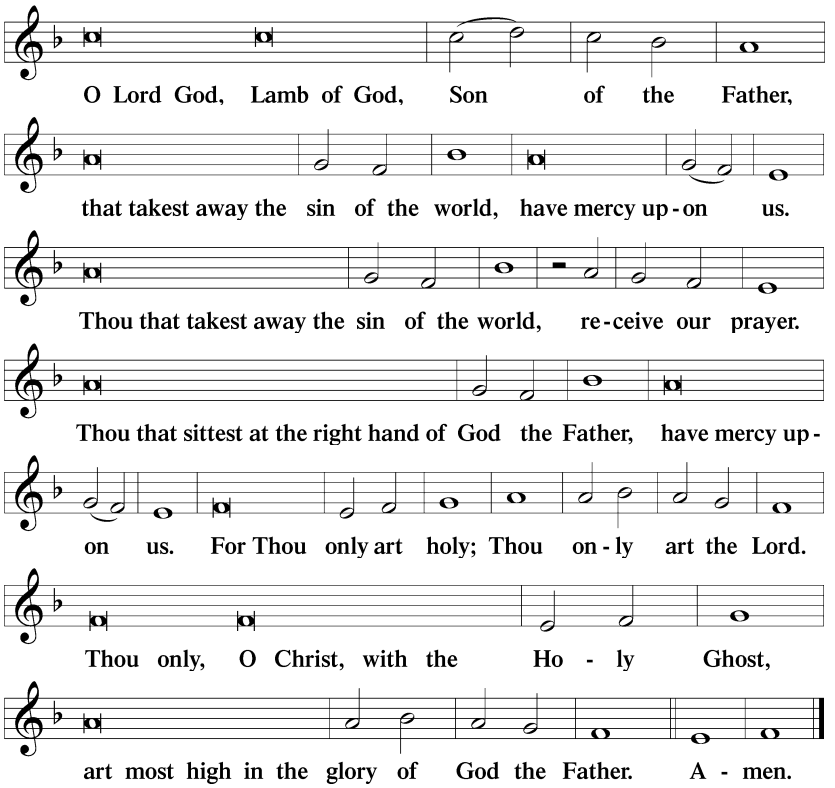
C for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.
P The LORD builds up Jerusalem;
C He gathers the outcasts of Israel.
P He heals the brokenhearted
C and binds up their wounds.
P He determines the number of the stars;
C He gives to all of them their names.
P Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
C His understanding is beyond measure.
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 The LORD lifts up the humble;
C He casts the wicked to the ground.

Kyrie *Lord, Have Mercy (Mark 10:47)* *LSB 186*



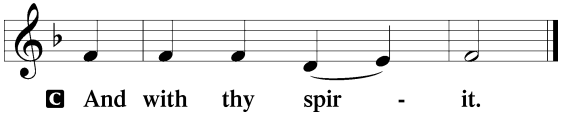
Gloria in Excelsis *Glory to God in the Highest (Luke 2:14; John 1:29)* *LSB 187*





Salutation and Collect of the Day

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



℗ Let us pray.
Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; 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 *Ezekiel 18:1–4, 25–32*

1The word of the LORD came to me: 2"What do you mean by
repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers
have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'?
3As I live, declares the Lord GOD, this proverb shall no more be used
by you in Israel. 4Behold, all souls are Mine; the soul of the father as
well as the soul of the son is Mine: the soul who sins shall die. . . .

25"Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear now, O
house of Israel: Is My way not just? Is it not your ways that are not
just? 26When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness
and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has
done he shall die. 27Again, when a wicked person turns away from
the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he
shall save his life. 28Because he considered and turned away from all
the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he
shall not die. 29Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is
not just.' O house of Israel, are My ways not just? Is it not your ways
that are not just?

30"Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one
according to his ways, declares the Lord GOD. Repent and turn from
all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. 31Cast away from
you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make
yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house
of Israel? 32For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares
the Lord GOD; so turn, and live."

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

Gradual *Psalm 91:11; 103:1*

P He will command His angels concerning you
C **to guard you in all your ways.**
P Bless the LORD, O my soul,
C **and all that is within me, bless His holy name!**

The Epistle Lesson *Philippians 2:1–4, 14–18*

1If there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love,
any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, 2complete
my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in
full accord and of one mind. 3Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but
in humility count others more significant than yourselves. 4Let each

of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. . . .

[14]Do all things without grumbling or questioning, [15]that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, [16]holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. [17]Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. [18]Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

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

Adult Choir "All Things Are Yours, My God"
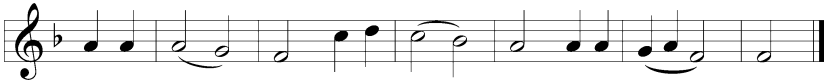
All things are Yours, my God, Creator of all that exists,
all wisdom, all beauty, and might. You made me, You own
me, Your glory surrounds me; I live by Your mercy and love.
All things are Yours, and so am I.

All things are Yours, my Lord, Redeemer of all who have sinned,
new Master of all who repent. You sought me, You found me,
You call me, You lead me; now have me live only for You.
All things are Yours, and so am I.

All things are Yours, my Guide, Renewer and Giver of life,
Transformer of hearts and of minds. Renew me, transform me,
inspire me, refine me, and give me the spirit of Christ.
All things are Yours, and so am I.
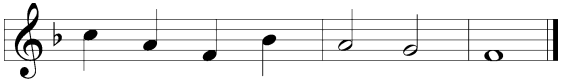
"All things are yours, My child: so live like the heir that you are,
entrusted with all that you have. Be faithful, be prudent,
be daring, be caring, as giving as I am toward you.
All things are Yours, and you are Mine."

Alleluia *LSB 190*
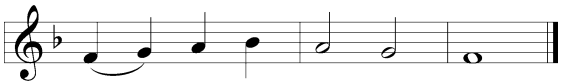


The Holy Gospel Lesson *Matthew 21:23–27*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-first chapter.



23When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders
of the people came up to Him as He was teaching, and said, "By
what authority are You doing these things, and who gave You this
authority?" 24Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question,
and if you tell Me the answer, then I also will tell you by what
authority I do these things. 25The baptism of John, from where did it
come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among
themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' He will say to us,
'Why then did you not believe him?' 26But if we say, 'From man,' we
are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet."
27So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And He said to them,
"Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things."

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 851 "Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us"
(1 John 3:16-19; Heb. 13:16; Matt. 25:40; Rom. 8:32)

Sermon "Oh, Lord, It's Hard to Be Humble" *Phil. 2:1-8, 14-18*

Sermon Notes:
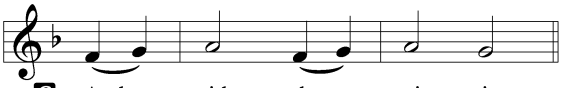
Hymn 538 "Praise Be to Christ" *(Col 1:15-20)*

Prayer of the Church *1 Timothy 2:1-4*

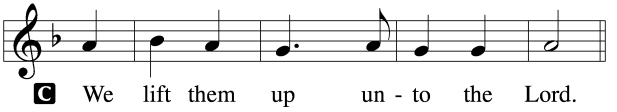
☩ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ☩

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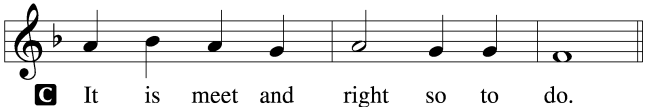
P The Lord be with you. *(2 Timothy 4:22)*



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

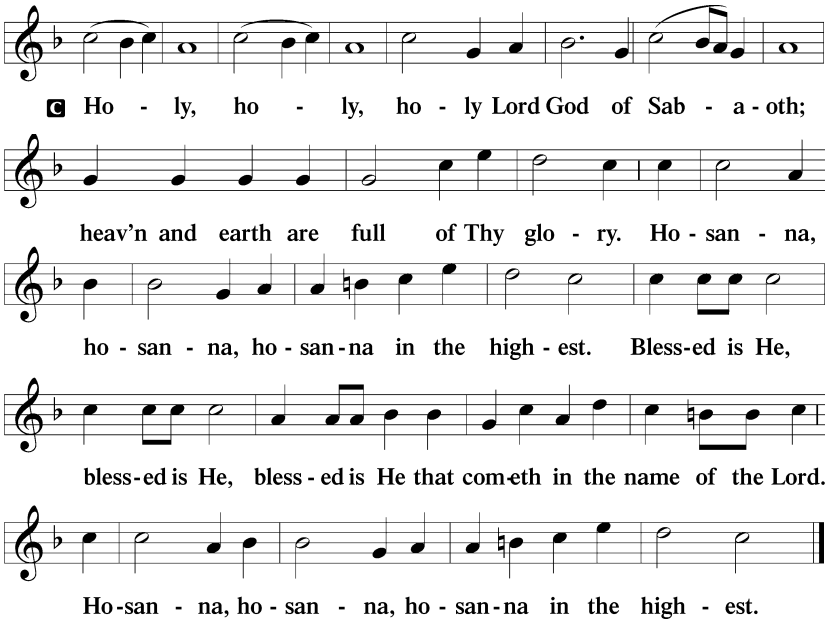


P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God. *(Psalm 136)*



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, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

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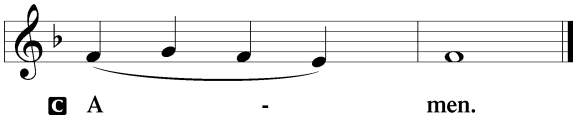


Lord's Prayer *(Matthew 6:9-13)*

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.**

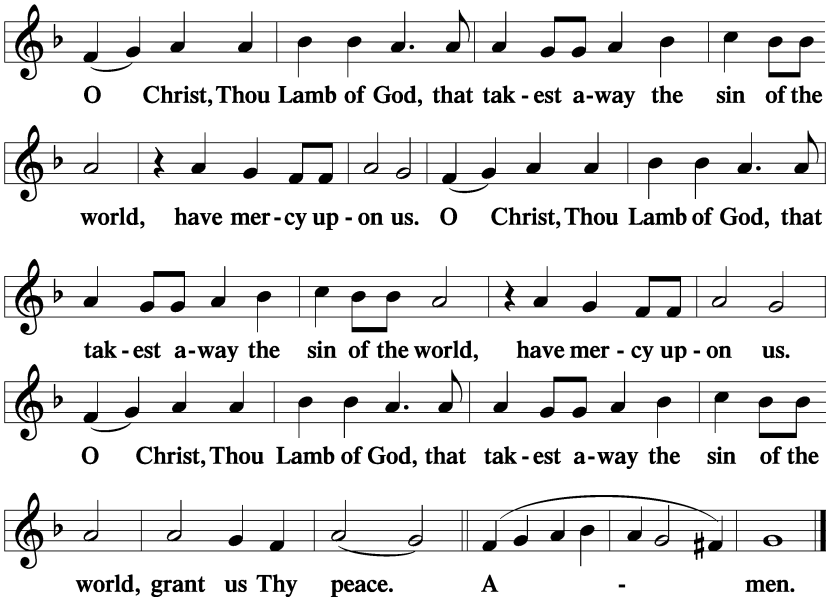
The Words of Our Lord *(1 Corinthians 11:23-25)* *LSB 197*

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

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



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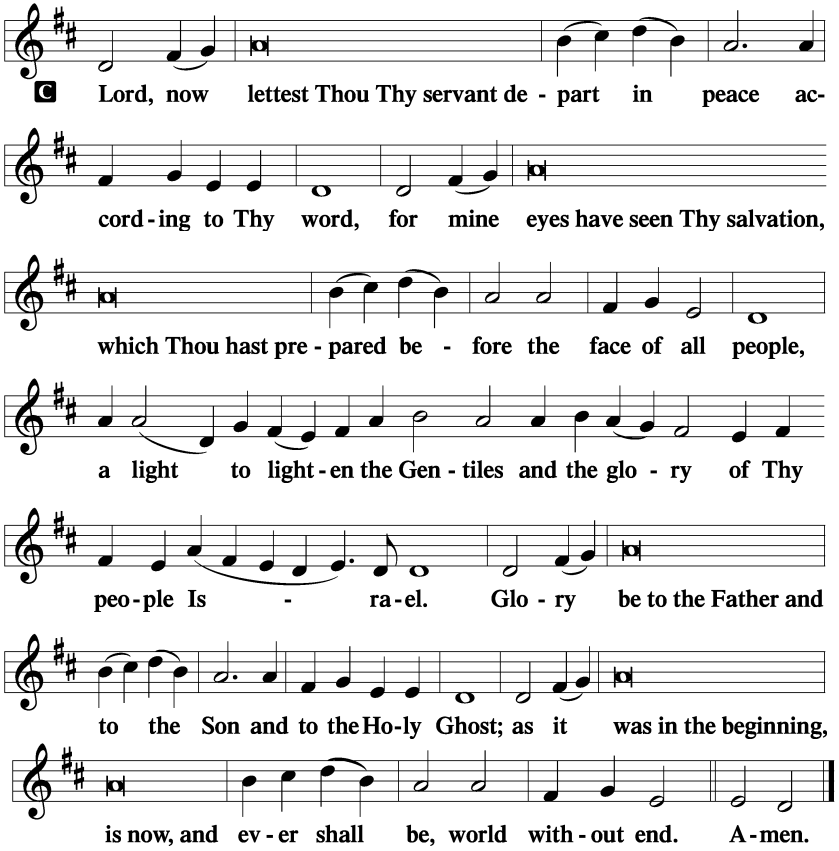


Hymn 620 "Jesus Comes Today with Healing"
(Matt. 26:26-29; Heb. 7:23-27; 1 Pet. 1:18-19; Rev. 7:13-17)

Hymn 532 "The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns"
(Heb 2:10; 1 Peter 4:16; Phil. 2:9-11; 3:10-11)

Hymn 627 "Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior"
(Rom. 5:9-10; 1 Cor. 11:23-29; John 6:50-57; 1 John 1:9)
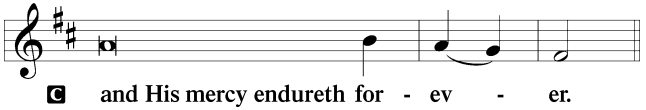
Hymn 560 "Drawn to the Cross, Which Thou Hast Blessed"
(John 12:32; Ps. 51:2, 17; Gal. 6:10)

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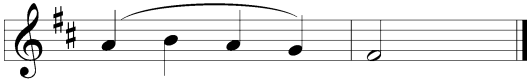


Thanksgiving *(Psalm 107:1)* *LSB 200*
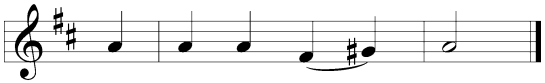
P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



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.
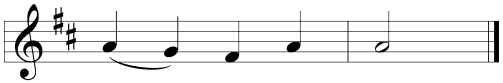


P The Lord be with you. *(2 Timothy 4:22)*
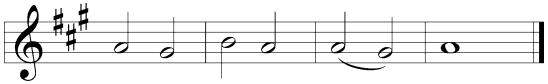


Benedicamus *Let Us Bless* *(Psalm 103:1)* *LSB 202*

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.



Departing Hymn 857 "Lord, Help Us Walk Your Servant Way" *(Mark 10:35-45)*

Acknowledgments
Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book
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Extended Care is in need of 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.

Altar Guild will meet Thursday, October 1st at 6:30 in the Emmaus room. We invite anyone interested in Altar Guild to join us

October Portals of Prayer & Hope-Full Living Devotionals and **LWML Quarterlies** are in the tract rack in the Narthex. Please help yourself.

The Lending Library Cart is back. We will be sharing some Biographies this month. We have two books written by Tim Tebow, an NFL Quarterback. In "Shaken" Tebow talks about what he learned, building confidence in his identity in God, not the world. In "Through My Eyes" he reveals how his Christian faith, family and values and his drive to succeed has molded him into the person he is today. Tony Dungy, in his book, "Quiet Strength" reveals the secret to his success in the face of personal and professional obstacles. "Let's Roll", written by Lisa Beamer, wife of 9-11 Hero Todd Beamer, tells what happened on that ill-fated flight, You will find hope, inspiration, and strength.

Our congregation is hosting the LWML Fall Rally next **Sunday**, **October 4th** from 1:30-4:30 pm. All ladies of the congregation are invited. **This year our Servant Event is to make "Blessing Bags" for the incoming 1st year class at CTSFW.** The Lord has blessed us with the largest class since 2009! 57 men for the ministry and 6 ladies for the Deaconess Program. Laborers are answering the Lord's call and we want to uplift them. Donations for this are: individually wrapped snacks, pens, sticky notes, note pads, bookmarks, anything that could brighten their day or encourage them. There is a box in the Narthex for these items. Flyers are in the Narthex and on the bulletin board for more information. Thank you

"Make a Change" September! Please join St. Paul's Lutheran Women in Mission in collecting change to support mission projects around the world. Based on Luke 21:1-4, the Mite Box "coins" fund district and national mission grants to spread the Gospel. Your change can be placed in the LARGE mite box, which will be located on the back table in the Narthex throughout the month of September. **Final collection date is October 4th – LWML Sunday!** Individual mite boxes are also available for you to collect change at home. Thank you for your donations to share the Good News of Jesus! Questions: please see Janet Miller, Linda Tinkey, Barb Middaugh or Jeanette Rettinger.

PTL is sponsoring a Trunk or Treat booth this year at the downtown pavilion on October 25th. We find this a great opportunity to share God's word with our community! We plan to pass out candy with cards stating St. Paul's information as well as a Bible verse. There is a donation box in the Narthex. Donations are accepted through October 23rd.

Calendar of Events

TODAY ..... September 27th, 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
MON:
Parish Fellowship Meeting..... 3:30 pm
TUES:
Elders' Meeting..... 6:30 pm
WED: .....
Preschool/Day School Chapel..... 11:00 am
LifeLight ..... 6:45-8:15 pm
THURS:
Thursday Morning Ladies Bible Study..... 9:30 am
Altar Guild Meeting – Emmaus Room ..... 6:30 pm
FRI:
NEXT SUNDAY ~ LWML Sunday ~ .....October 4th, 2026
Sunday School & Bible Classes..... 8:30 am
Worship Service..... 9:30 am
Scrip Day .....After Service
LWML Zone Rally - Here ..... 1:30-4:30 pm
Adult Basketball..... 3:00-5:00 pm
Bell Choir..... 5:00 pm
Adult Choir ..... 6:00 pm

LWML Meeting – Please join us on Monday, October 5th, at 6:30 in the Bethany Room. After a short meeting, a representative from **RETA** will speak to us about their work as a non-profit organization working with pregnant women and families to offer medical services, mental health support, mentorship and education, and family resources. They walk alongside people through every stage of life because transformation happens through connection, not just service. If you would like to support this ministry they are asking for disposable diapers size: 5, 6, and 7. Please bring your donations with you to the meeting. If you cannot make the meeting, but would still like to donate, place them next to the LWML box in the Narthex under the green RETA sign.

Thrivent is hosting a Zoom Virtual Webinar on October 6th, 7th, and 8th to focus on ways to plan long term charitable giving to the church and school. Please see the bulletin board for more information.

Things to Remember in Prayer This Week

Thanksgiving: **That we are heirs** with Jesus through His saving grace.

Special Concerns:

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: Sunday Mornings at 11:30 am on: Dish channel 266 or Direct TV channel 377. You can view anytime at worshipanew.org **As of last week, local CW channel WCWW-TV 25 out of South Bend was still airing Worship Anew.**

The Playground and Gathering Space Project : Listed below are some carefully estimated costs for the project:

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 to be 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

If you have any questions, please contact Beth Miller 260-519-2884. Please mark donations to this project 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.**

Dr. McClaid's wife, Angie, has started "Kingdom Academy" – This is open to high school students and they meet at the Bremen Bible Church each Friday for a free home-cooked lunch. This is a place for students to enjoy a nourishing meal and to build a "community of friends" who can feel comfortable discuss their faith. It has grown from a few students to well over 100. If you'd like to help in any way, please see the bulletin board for more information.

YOUTH NEWS

This Wednesday from 7:00-8:00 pm will be our last September **Youth Night** for 4th grade-High School. Please join us and bring your friends!

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** or **Rebecca Mejia 574-360-3354** with any questions.

Elder On Call:
September 27th – October 3rd: Bill Rogers – 574-248-5135
October 4th – October 10th: Dave Burcham – 574-520-9118
October 11th – October 17th: Larry Britt – 574-229-0407
October 18th – October 24th: Terry Miller – 574-248-1770

SCHOOL CORNER

School Yearbooks for 2025-26, are in! If you would like one, please order them from the school office. They are $24 each.

There are lots of activities coming up in October:
October 5th- PTL Meeting, 6:00pm; **October 8th-** 6th-8th Grade Band Concert,7:00pm, BPS; **October 13th-** K-3rd Grade Langfeldt Pumpkin Farm Field Trip; **October 15th-** Grandparents'/Special Guests' Day; **October 16th-19th-** Fall Break; **October 21st-22nd-** Parent/Teacher Conference; **October 23rd-** Lego Club; and **October 25th-** Trunk or Treat, 5:00-7:00pm, town pavilion.

The PTL is decorating a car for the Bremen Trunk or Treat event on October 25th, 5:00-7:00pm, at the town pavilion. They are collecting candy donations in the box in the narthex, please!

With more need every year, 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!** ***Benefits to donors include*: $1000 Federal Charitable Donation Deduction and a 50% state tax credit; plus, LSGO is matching donations from new donors up to $1000!** 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 September 27th, 2026

Pastor Gregory Fiechtner
Organist: Anita Eichinger
Ushers: Bruce Augustine & Tyler Schmeltz
Acolytes: Emiliano Mejia
Elder: Jon Rettinger
Communion Assistant: Terry Miller
Video Streamer: Tyler/Dkota Schmeltz

Servants for Next Sunday's Worship October 4th, 2026

Seminarian Jarrod Thomas
Organist: Anita Eichinger
Ushers: Jim Mitchell & Larry Winterboer
Acolytes: Cory Miller
Elder: Terry Miller
Video Streamer: