

### Worship Notes for Visitors & Members

**Welcome to worship** - Welcome to all, and especially to our visitors, we are glad you are here today, and hope that you will worship with us again soon and often. Please fill out an attendance card and place it in the offering plate. These will aid our record-keeping. Thank you. Large print bulletins are available from an usher in the narthex. *"It is good to worship the Lord together, and to come into his presence with thanksgiving." Psalm 95*

**Welcome children** - Jesus said "Let the children come to me." Children are welcome and encouraged to worship here at St. Paul. We rejoice that they are among us; however, if you need it, our nursery is available at all services and you can hear the service on audio. An usher will guide you.

**St. Paul welcomes all to the Communion Table.** Christ is the Host and the Meal. Come, taste, and see that the Lord is good. Grape juice is available for those who prefer it rather than wine. Children and those choosing not to receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

There are **restrooms** located in the basement of this building and on the ground floor of the hallway leading to our fellowship hall and on each floor of the educational building.

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#### PARTICIPANTS

<u>MINISTERS</u>		The People of God
<u>ORGANIST</u>		Marvis McNeil
<u>CHOIR DIRECTOR</u>		Marty Cantleberry
<u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	5:30 p.m.	Dawn Grzeskowiak
	9:00 a.m.	Scott Parkham
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Phil Wickstrom
	9:00 a.m.	Scott Parkham
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Anita Laub
	9:00 a.m.	Janice Boboltz
<u>HEAD USHER</u>		Roy Wekwert
<u>USHERS &amp; GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Jimmy Nensewitz, Patti Byce
	9:00 a.m.	Dennis Dziesinski, Roy Wekwert
		Tim Moggie, Kathy Burton
<u>CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS</u>		Jesse and Jessica O'Neil
		Bonnie Duby, Kathy Burton
<u>LITTLES' WORSHIP CENTER LEADERS</u>		Ophelia Steinke, Ashley Reed
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Sue Robb and Karen Hamann

*We thank all participants for enriching our worship service.*

## St. Paul Lutheran Church Worship Service

celebrates and shares God's love and compassion

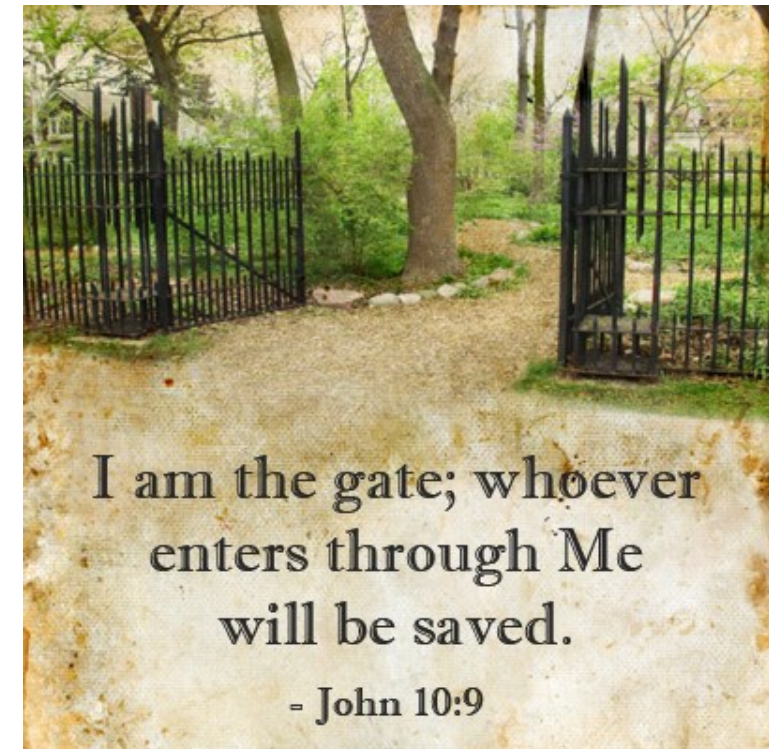
727 S. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Alpena, MI 49707

Phone 989-356-1658

[www.stpaul.org](http://www.stpaul.org)

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

Monthly Ministry Highlight:  
*Outreach*



**April 25, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.**

**April 26, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.**

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**  
**The Fourth Sunday of Easter**  
**April 25, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**April 26, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.**

*Congregational responses are printed in bold.*

**Welcome! Celebrations of birthdays, anniversaries and a time to welcome our guests. We ask that you fill out the communion card and place it in the offering plate.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*(Please Stand)*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!  
**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Merciful God,  
 you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us (local waters may be named). Blessed are you.  
**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.  
**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.  
**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**We will have a “Spring Spruce Up” on Saturday, April 25th from 9:00 a.m. thru noon.** Come and help us spruce up the building for the spring. RSVP to the office. Lunch will be provided.

**The Scholarship Committee would like to remind** all senior high school students and college students, that we are accepting scholarship applications starting April 1st. Applications can be picked up in the office April 1st. Please complete all portions of the application and return it by April 30th.

**The Singles Group** meets the first Thursday of every month. In May they will meet on May 7th at 5:30 p.m. at Thunder Bowl Lanes. If you have any questions contact Sue Robb at 989-590-7611.

**Dust off your tea party hat!** The Women’s Tea will be held from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on May 2nd. Please RSVP to Patti at 989-335-0336. More information and online registration are available. Mark your calendars now and invite a friend.

**The Forget-Me-Nots next gathering** will be May 5th at 12:00 p.m. at JJ’s. If you will be attending please call Ann at 989-590-2055. Invite a friend to come with you.

**Everyone is invited to our May Video Educational Experience** on Wednesday, May 6th at 6:00 p.m. We will be watching “**Sound of Hope, the Story of Possum Trot**” and a meal will be provided with discussion throughout.

**The Church Rummage Sale dates are set for June 11th – 13th!** You may start bringing in your items in stackable sealed boxes, and leave them on the right side of the storage area off the dining room. Mark your boxes with a general description of what is in them. Please leave bigger stuff until the week of the rummage sale. We will again be accepting clean used clothing and shoes for our sale. If you have any questions, please call Andrea Dutcher at 989-354-3651.

**We are looking** for a team to help with the 4th of July Parade float this year. Please contact the church office if you would like to be part of this ministry vision/outreach.

<b>WEEK AT A GLANCE: APRIL 26 – MAY 3, 2026</b>	
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service/Children’s Church/ C.I.A. (Youth) - 10:30 a.m.
<u>MON.</u>	Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts -4:00 p.m.; E.T.A. Group – 5:30 p.m.; Taste from Home – 6:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Dinner on a Doorknob – 9:00 a.m.; Recovery Yoga – 5:00 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Scouting America – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles–7:30 a.m.; Choir Practice – 4:30 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast (JJs) - 7:00 a.m.; Open Line Dance – 1:00 p.m.; Chair Yoga– 3:00 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	Fellowship – 4:30 p.m.; Worship Service/HC – 5:30 p.m.
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service/Children’s Church/ C.I.A. (Youth) - 10:30 a.m.

**St. Paul Lutheran Church celebrates and shares God’s love and compassion.**

**WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:**

Patricia Nelson - grief	Lee Szczesniak–medical issues
David McNeil–upcoming surgery	Chad Hamill – health issues
Yvonne McQuarrie - health issues	Sally Wong - medical issues
Chuck Piontkowski – medical issues	June Sylvester – fractured back
Kevin Atkinson – health issues	Storm Yakes – medical issues
Dixie Crevier – health issues	Greg Dzieszinski- health issues
Kevin Reiser – health issues	Joel Foster – health issues
Mike H. – illness	Phyllis Robb-unspecified need
Margaret Lucian – health issues	Lee Werth—health issues
Carol Kuhl – health issues	Ann Martin – medical issues
John Wegmeyer– health issues	Patricia B. - health issues

*We also remember our homebound member, Phyllis Robb. (Prayer is the best medicine and we are prepared to pray indefinitely for folks. Would you help the church office keep our list current? Unless we know otherwise, our normal practice is to remove names after a month. Thanks.)*

**We remember our prayer partners** in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod: Prince of Peace Lutheran Church, Rose City, Rev. David Sprang.

**We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church.** This week we specifically pray for the Dinner on a Doorknob ministry.

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>END OF JANUARY</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday 04/18 5:30 a.m. 46	Income 21,227.40	21,227.40
Sunday 04/19 9:00 a.m. 56	<u>Expenses 34,674.00</u>	<u>34,674.00</u>
10:30 a.m. <u>26</u>	Difference (13,446.60)	(13,446.60)
Total 128		

**THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL** (foot of the cross) are given in memory of my son, Michael Brown, from Barb Crittenden.

**We will resume the ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY program** with a kick off of our MDOT clean up on **Sunday, April 26th**. We will meet at the church at 12:00 p.m. to view a video before venturing out for the clean up. Come, join us!

**The April Service Activity is Wilson Elementary School.** Items needed: Pocket folders, clip boards, poster boards (any color), Clorox wipes, Kleenex, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, lined filler paper, and individually wrapped snacks. Please leave your items on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

**Reminder:** Next Sunday is Popcorn/Movie Day for Children’s Church! Adults can sneak some too.

**GATHERING HYMN** “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!” (Red) #385

**GREETING**

Pastor: The free gift of grace in Jesus Christ, the reconciling love of God, and the life and peace of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray. O God, our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47**

<sup>42</sup> They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup> Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 23 (Read Responsively)**

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

**He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.**

He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.

**Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.**

**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:19-25 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)**

<sup>19</sup> For it is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup> If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. <sup>21</sup> For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

<sup>22</sup> “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

<sup>23</sup> When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. <sup>24</sup> He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. <sup>25</sup> For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please Stand)*

**Gospel Acclamation**

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal -  
- le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le -  
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray: Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

**MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BENEDICTION**

SENDING HYMN

“What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine”

(Red) #774

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the  
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

**POST COMMUNION CANTICLE**

“Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise”

**Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry - one what God has done. Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name. Send us with your prom - is - es, O God, and lead us forth in joy with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia.**

The Holy Gospel according to St. John. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL READING: John 10:1-10**

<sup>1</sup> “Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. <sup>2</sup> The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. <sup>3</sup> The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. <sup>4</sup> When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. <sup>5</sup> They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” <sup>6</sup> Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

<sup>7</sup> So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. <sup>8</sup> All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. <sup>9</sup> I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. <sup>10</sup> The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

The Gospel of Our Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

**Children’s Message**

“This Little Light of Mine”  
This little light of mine  
I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine  
I'm gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine  
I'm gonna let it shine  
Let it shine let it shine let it shine

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*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON**

“He Learned to Be a Shepherd”

Rev. Thomas Mammoser

*(Please stand)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“The Lord’s My Shepherd”

(Red) #778

**Confession of Faith: The Apostles’ Creed**

**People: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.  
 He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
 He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy \*catholic Church,  
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.  
 \*Universal

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** Merciful God,  
 receive our prayer.

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**  
 The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

**OFFERING PRAYER**  
 Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

*(Please stand)*  
*(Sung at the 9:00 a.m. service.)*  
**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise . . . *(concluding)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My  
 San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi

heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.  
 cor - a - zon te sa - be de - cir: san - to\_e - res Se - ñor.

**EUCCHARISTIC BLESSING**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us:

**People: 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.**

*(Please be seated)*

**HOLY COMMUNION**

All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Christ is both the host and the meal. Come, taste and see that the Lord is good. Those not receiving Communion are invited forward for a blessing. There is grape juice for those who prefer it.

"Lamb of God"

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
 mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the