

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.

		<u>PARTICIPANTS</u>	
<u>MINISTERS</u>			The People of God
<u>PASTOR</u>			Rev. John Shipman
<u>ORGANIST</u>			Marvis McNeil
<u>CHOIR DIRECTOR</u>			Marty Cantleberry
<u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	5:30 p.m.		Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.		Esther Kindt
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.		Myra Gapske
	9:00 a.m.		Scott Parkham
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.		Anita Laub
	9:00 a.m.		Nancy Clark, Angie Parrish
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.		Bruce Anschuetz
	9:00 a.m.		Owen Werth, Roy Wekwert
			Ryan Panknin, Jeff Ciupka
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.		Evan Peterson
	9:00 a.m.		Alayna Krey
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>			Patti Byce and Carol Kindt

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. 2nd, Alpena, MI 49707
Phone 989-356-1658
www.stpaul.org
A Stephen Ministry Congregation



September 23, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.
September 24, 2023 - 9:00 a.m.



GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 23, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.
September 24, 2023 - 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

Blessed be God, the one who forms us, + Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Steadfast and faithful God,
you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world’s violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies” (Red) #688

GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

The next **ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY** program of our MDOT pick up will be on Sunday, September 24th, at 12:00. Meet at our church to view the video prior to venturing out for the clean up at our location on M-32. Hope you can be there to help with this project! All are welcome!!!

Pastor John and Nena are inviting you to come to their house for a Fireside Chat on September 24th from 5:00-7:00. We will sit by the firepit by the river (or in the house or gazebo) and talk about life, hope, grace, and the love of God (no agenda). Come for 15 minutes or for 2 hours.

There will be a Float planning meeting on September 28th at 1:30 p.m. in the Lounge. Please come join us.

Reminder: The **Kitchen Krew** will meet on Thursday, September 28th at 10:00 a.m.

Worship on the Beach on Saturday, September 30 at 7:00 p.m. You are invited to bring a friend, a beverage of choice, a lawn chair, snacks and a joyful spirit. We will carpool from the church after the 5:30 service and travel to the beach property at 6:30. The service starts at 7:00 p.m.

God has blessed some of us with companions that cannot speak, and yet they love and offer us comfort. **Pastor John will offer a blessing on your pet from 10-12 on Saturday, September 30th**, at the church. You do not need to be a member of this church in order to take part in this blessing event.

The Forget-Me-Nots will meet at the 19th Hole Restaurant at noon on Tuesday, October 3. Please call Ann at 989-590-2055 before Friday, September 29 to make a reservation, which helps the staff at the restaurant. We will talk about the possibility of visiting Knaebe’s Apple Farm and the Civic Theatre later in the month.

Please note: **Yoga Classes** will begin on October 5th. Chair Yoga at 3:00 p.m. and Recovery Yoga at 5:30 p.m.

The Singles Retreat is set for October 13th! Come explore the vision of “Living Your Best Single Life in Christ.” This event will take place at 1921 Long Rapids Road at 6:00 and there is no cost associated with this.

The Dynamic Duo Ministry is sponsoring a **Progressive Dinner** on Friday, October 20th. We will be traveling from house to house for different parts of a meal. This event is open to all couples. Come be part of this new ministry.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: SEPTEMBER 24—OCTOBER 1, 2023	
<u>SUN.</u>	Sunday Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children’s Church and C.I.A. (Youth) – 10:30 a.m.; Highway Pick-Up – 12:00 p.m.; Fireside Chats – 5:00 p.m.
<u>MON.</u>	Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; E.T.A. – 5:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 6:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Dinner on a Doorknob – 9:00 a.m.; Air Rifle Team –5:30 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Soul Sisters Kayaking – 5:30 p.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles (at JJ’s) – 7:30 a.m.; St. John Bible Study (Pastor John) – 1:00 & 5:30 p.m.; “Joshua - Winning the Worry Battle” Study (Nena) – 5:30 p.m.; Choir – 6:00 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast (at JJ’s) – 7:00 a.m.; Kitchen Krew – 10:00 a.m.; Stitched Together – 11:00 a.m.; Float Meeting – 1:30 p.m.; Air Rifle Team – 5:30 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	Blessing of the Animals – 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; Fellowship – 4:30 p.m.; Worship/HC – 5:30 p.m.; Worship at the Beach – 7:00 p.m.
<u>SUN.</u>	Sunday Worship/HC – 9:00; Fellowship – 10:00; Contemporary Service & Children’s Church – 10:30 a.m.

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: Marty & Liz Smith, Loccia Fifield, Sue Kaiser, Andy Beagle, Jillian Kerby, Frank, Pat Brodziak, Sarah Moe Melching, Brendia Mantea, Allison Dutcher, Brendon & Heather Maroney, David Hunt, Dolores Libka, David Reeves, Josh Paulsen, Julie Troy, Geri Hanson, Keeley Knapp, Billiejo Foster, Gus Schultz, Elaine Kingsbury, Sally Barney, Joel Foster, Eugene Brooks, Bodo Hanson, Sutton Badder, Marian Dove, Dolores Sumerix, Audrey Reck, Bernice Menck, and Karen Wallace. We also remember our homebound members. They are: Geraldine Wyman, Harriet Burke, Virginia Kraft, Phyllis Robb, and Norm Dutcher. *(Prayer is the best medicine and we are prepared to pray indefinitely for folks. Would you please help the church office keep our list current? Unless we know otherwise, our normal practice is to remove names after a month. Thank you for your partnership in prayer.)*

We remember our prayer partners in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Greenville, Rev. Betsy Kamphuis.

We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. This week we specifically pray for the Lectors.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL (foot of the cross) are given in honor of Pastor John and Nena Shipman on their wedding anniversary, September 28th.

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>			<u>END OF JULY</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday (09/16)	5:30 p.m.	56	Income	21,878.49	187,581.75
Sunday (09/17)	9:00 a.m.	78	Expenses	<u>28,599.90</u>	<u>203,716.95</u>
	10:30 a.m.	<u>34</u>	Difference	(6,721.41)	(16,135.20)
Total		168			

The Soul Sisters will meet for their last Kayaking Adventures on September 26th at 5:30 p.m. For location, borrowing kayaks, or questions please call Sue Robb at 989-354-8673.

The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, October 15th, right after the 9:00 a.m. service. There will be only one service (Sunday 9:00 a.m.) that weekend.

Join us for our Autumn Educational Opportunities, which run September 20 through October 25. Pastor John holds a Bible Study on the Gospel of John and Miss Nena leads a Book Study on "Joshua- Winning the Worry Battle," by Barb Roose. Each class length will be 1 hour. Pastor John's Class meets on Wednesdays at 1:00 and 5:30 PM and Miss Nena's class also meets on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. You may sign up online or call the church office.

The September Service Activity is Lincoln Elementary School. Items needed: school supplies, especially composition notebooks and dry erase markers, and children's clothing, knit pants sizes 5-8 and new underwear size small and medium. Please leave your donations on the altar. Thank you.

We will be taking part in the community Trunk R Treat again this year. So, if you would like to donate candy, please drop it off at the church. *Thank you.*

Everyone is welcome to come to the Alpena Peace Community Concert on Sunday, October 1st at the First United Methodist Church, 167 S. Ripley Blvd., Alpena. Come, enjoy a free concert featuring a variety of local musicians.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10-4:11

¹⁰When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

^{4:1} But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the Lord and said, "O Lord! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ³ And now, O Lord, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴ And the Lord said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶ The Lord God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰ Then the Lord said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 145:1-8 (Read Responsively)

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever.

Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever.

Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; his greatness is unsearchable.

One generation shall extol your works to another and shall declare your mighty acts.

They will recount the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works I will meditate.

They will proclaim the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness.

They shall celebrate the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness.

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30 (Sunday 9:00 a.m.)

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

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. Hal - le - lu - jah.

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.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

“The Lord Now Sends Us Forth”

(Red) #538

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to 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
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.

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16

¹“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. ⁵When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. ⁶And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ ⁸When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ ⁹When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?’ ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The Gospel of Our Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Children’s Message/Noisy Offering

“Jesus Loves Me”

Jesus loves me this I know
For the Bible tells me so
Little ones to Him belong
They are weak but He is strong
Yes Jesus loves me. Yes Jesus loves me
Yes Jesus loves me the Bible tells me so

CCLI Song No. 5152333; © 2001 Stormey Music | P.E. Velvet Music (Admin. by Integrated Copyright Group, Inc.); Billy Aerts | Kenneth Harding; All rights Reserved. www.ccli.com; CCLI License No. 2311887

(Please be seated)

SERMON

“Grumbling”

Rev John Shipman

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Lord of All Hopefulness”

(Red) #765

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

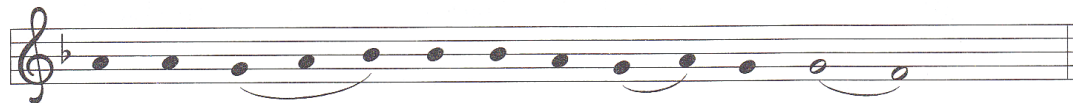
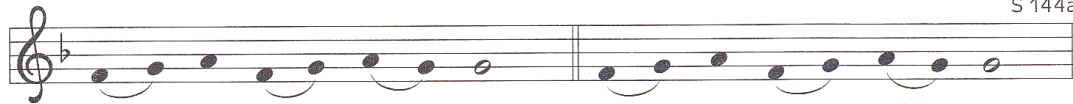
OFFERING PRAYER

(Please stand)

(Sung at the 9:00 a.m. service.)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

S 144a

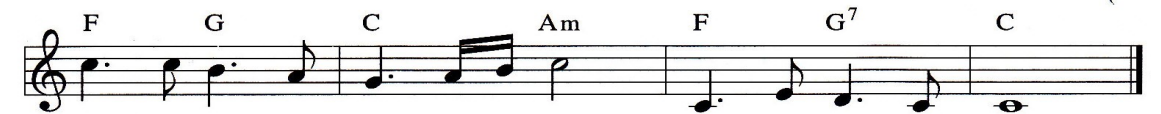


Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise . . . *(concluding)* we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dore 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"