

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.	Scott Parkham
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Sue Robb
	9:00 a.m.	Janice Boboltz
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Bruce Anschuetz
	9:00 a.m.	Cathy Kieliszewski, Richard Miller Steve and Andrea Dutcher
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.	Odessa Morrison
	9:00 a.m.	
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Marty Cantleberry, Pat Cornelius, 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

Monthly Ministry Highlight:
Women's Dynamic Ministry



May 4, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.

May 5, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.

May 5, 2024 - 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 the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

Amen.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers.

The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

Here is our water of life! Alleluia!

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

“Come, We That Love the Lord”

(Red) #625

CONGRATULATIONS TO: Milton and Laycie (Bushey) Paquette on their wedding, May 4th, 2024. May the Lord bless this union.

Pastor John will have a “Blessing of Marriages,” next weekend on the 11th and 12th of May. Each couple who wishes to participate will honor their spouse with words of renewal (*the words will be given to you*). Please come and celebrate the gift of marriage and welcome God's blessings of your union.

Everyone is invited to our May Video Educational Experience on May 8th at 6:00 p.m. We will be watching “**Sound of Freedom**” and a meal will be provided with discussion throughout. This movie is for adults only.

The Forget-Me-Nots will attend the matinee performance of The Music Man on Sunday, May 19th. If you are interested in attending, please contact and pay Joanne Huggler (989-356-6532) for your ticket by Sunday, May 12th.

The Soul Sisters will be having a Tea Party and light luncheon on Saturday, May 18th, at 11:30 a.m. in the dining room. We also invited the Forget-Me-Nots to join us. The Forget-Me-Nots may RSVP to Ann, 989-590-2055, and the Soul Sisters RSVP to Shirley Jones, Patti Byce or Val Urban by May 13th. Feel free to wear Tea Party attire, if you wish. So come and unwind, connect, and indulge in some scrumptious treats and hot tea!

Ready for some spring fun? Team up with the Adventure Club at the Cathro Ball Fields for a friendly afternoon of kickball, hotdogs, chips, soda, and enjoyment on Sunday May 19th from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. For directions contact Karen, 989-464-0204. The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1-105 years old.

If you have an orange or green painted picnic ground key or a brass #15 or #16 key, please return it to the church office. Thank you.

The Church Rummage Sale dates are set for June 13-15! Start thinking about what items you would like to donate. We will again be accepting clean used clothing and shoes for our sale. If you have any questions, please call Andrea at 989-354-3651.

Beginning on Thursday, May 9th, the Soul Sisters will be kayaking at 5:30 p.m. at the duck park. We will continue kayaking every week, with the exception of the first Thursdays, May through September, weather permitting. Please contact Sue Robb (989- 354-8673) if you have any questions.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: MAY 5 – 12, 2024

<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children's Church - 10:30
<u>MON.</u>	Line Dancing – 2:00; E.T.A. – 5:30 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 6:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Cub Scouts – 5:30; Air Rifle–5:30 p.m.; Education Committee – 5:30 p.m.; Prayer Shawl – 6:15 p.m.; Boy Scouts– 6:30 p.m.; Narcotics Anonymous – 8:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles <i>Women's Breakfast</i> (at JJ's)–7:30 a.m.; “Sound of Freedom” Movie Night – 6:00 p.m.; Choir– 6:00 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men's Breakfast–7:00 a.m.; Gentle Yoga–1:30 p.m.; Chair Yoga–3:00 p.m.; Outreach Committee – 5:00 p.m.; Air Rifle Team- 5:30 p.m.; Soul Sisters Kayaking (Duck Park) – 5:30 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Alpena Line Dance Club–5:00 p.m.; Strong Man Competition Fundraising Meal – 5:00 p.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	Synod Assembly – via Zoom; Fellowship – 4:30 p.m.; Worship/HC – 5:30 p.m. – Blessing of Marriages
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC–9:00 a.m. – Blessing of Marriages; Fellowship–10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children's Church- 10:30 a.m.

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:	Margaret Lucian – health	James Thomas—healing
Tammy Stoutenburg-unspecified need	Annette Wade – medical issues	Art Hoffmeyer- heart issues
Bodo Hanson–health issues	Laura Kieliszewski – health	Joel Foster – health concerns
Scott Brooks – health issues	John Wegmeyer – health issues	Eugene Brooks–health issues
Laurie Stafford – health issues	Karen Tovey – health issues	Dale Rex – in accident
Chad Hamill – health issues	Marian Dove–unspecified need	Phyllis Robb-unspecified need
Karen Wallace – unspecified need	Taylor Smetak – in accident	Dixie Creiver – health issues
Ryan Duby – healing	David Reeves – health issues	Dena Stevens – health issues
Dale Zielaskowski - health issues	Steve – health issues	Adam Schmidt – health issues
Tom & Beth Mackinnon-health	Fred Woolman – health issues	Miranda – health issues

ARMED SERVICES: Katie Copping, Jake Przysiecki, Noah Hardesty, Dominick Christou, Sawyer Hein, Rachael Mayes, Brandon Sloan, Andrew Hein, Justin A. Smith, Maragely Hein, Amelia Berles, Josh Gapske, Nicole Stafford, Chuck Dziedzic, and Dale Kirkendoll. *(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: Faith Lutheran Church, Okemos, Rev. Bruce Thorsen; Synod Assembly 2024, Bishop Craig Satterlle, and Ms. Sandra Schlesinger, Vice President

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

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL (foot of the cross) are given to the glory of God.

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>END OF MARCH</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday (04/27) 5:30 p.m. 57	Income 36,775.41	81,074.29
Sunday (4/28) 9:00 a.m. 57	Expenses 39,678.80	98,834.08
10:30 a.m. <u>45</u>	Difference (2,903.39)	(17,759.79)
Total 159		

Attention all men! The 3M Men’s Group will be having a church yard clean-up time on Thursday, May 16th right after the men’s breakfast. Bring your gloves, rakes and enthusiasm and help us get the grounds ready for the season. So, mark your calendars and join us for breakfast, fellowship and service.

The 3M Men’s Group will we doing some clean up at the church picnic grounds on Thursday, May 23rd, right after the men’s breakfast. We are looking for input so we can improve the driveway for camping.

The family of Dolores Libka would like to thank Pastor John Shipman, the office staff, the kitchen crew and all those who donated desserts and/or worked to make mom’s funeral and luncheon so nice. Her St. Paul family and friends were important to her, and we thank you for all you've done. God bless you. *Warren, Jr., Patti, Susan and Mark and families.*

St. Paul’s Eucharistic Ministry: We have trained Eucharistic Ministers who will take communion kits to shut-ins on a regular basis. Questions? Contact Esther Kindt at 471-2274.

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, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Acts 10:44-48

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷‘Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?’ ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 98 (Read Responsively)

O sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gained him victory.

The Lord has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it.

Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

SECOND READING: 1 John 5:1-6 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)

¹Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. ²By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. ³For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, ⁴for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. ⁵Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

⁶This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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 -
Hal - le - lu - jah.
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: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

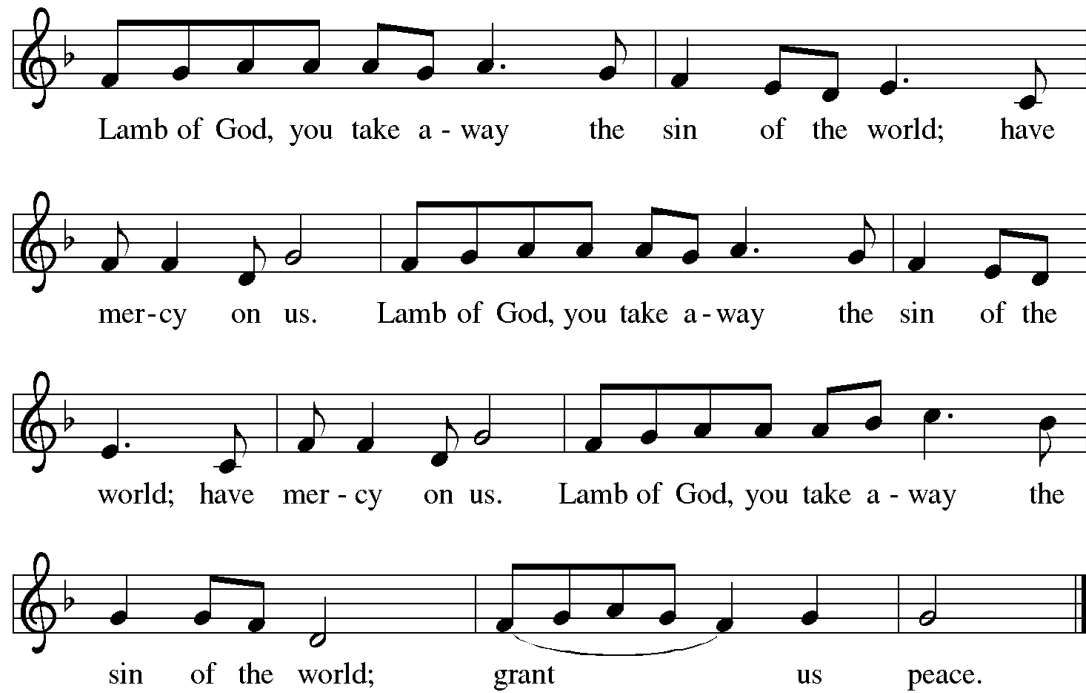
(Red) #836

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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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. John. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

GOSPEL READING: John 15:9-17

⁹ As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰ If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹ I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹² 'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³ No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. ¹⁴ You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵ I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶ You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷ I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

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

Children's Message "I Love to Tell the Story"

I love to tell the story
'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old old story
Of Jesus and His love

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(Please be seated)

SERMON

“The Greatest Love”

Pastor John Shipman

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY “Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds”

(Red) #367

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 God of grace,
hear our prayer.

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

OFFERING PRAYER
Let us pray. Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

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

The Lord be with you. And also 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 - 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"