

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>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	5:30 p.m.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	Alayna Krey
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Patti Byce, Myra Gapske
	9:00 a.m.	Laurie Stafford
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Dennis and Sherry McDonald
	9:00 am.	Steve and Andrea Dutcher
		Nancy Smithem, Ryan Panknin
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	9:00 a.m.	Evan Peterson
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Marty Cantleberry and Laurie Stafford

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



March 19, 2022 - 5:30 p.m.
March 20, 2022 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Third Sunday in Lent
March 19, 2022 - 5:30 p.m.
March 20, 2022 - 9:00 a.m.

Congregational responses are printed in bold; Additional items for the 9:00 a.m. service only are printed in blue.)

Welcome! Celebrations of birthdays, Anniversaries and a time to welcome our guests. The offering will be received at the back and front of the church building. We ask that you fill out the communion card and place it in the offering plate in the front or back of the church before you depart the church.

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Please Stand)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,
we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. 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 “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer” (Red) #618

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.

The Adventure Club is traveling to the Besser Museum on the 20th of March from 3:00-5:00 PM. We will tour both the Museum and the Planetarium. Bring your spirit of adventure and hope as you explore and share your faith through fun, adventure, and food within this intergenerational educational experience. A free will donation will be taken to cover the cost. The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1-105 years old.

The Forget-Me-Nots have been invited to join the Adventure Club on Sunday, March 20 from 3:00 – 5:00 at the Jesse Besser Museum and visit the planetarium. If you plan to attend, please let Karen Wekwert know (989) 356-0040. **The next regular meeting of the Forget-Me-Nots will be on Tuesday, April 5 at 12:00.** We will bring a snack lunch and beverage. Ms. Nena will speak to us about the Sonshine Ministry Program. Next, those wishing will go to visit the Jesse Besser Museum. We will carpool to the Museum, meet with Christine Witulski, the Museum Director, and tour the exhibits.

The Taste From Home Committee is collecting items to be mailed out to St. Paul college students to support them for final exam week. A springtime care packages will also be mailed out to our military members. Donations of small single-packaged food or non-food items, notes of encouragement or gas/food cards are appreciated. Our shipping boxes are approximately 11x8x6. We currently have 10 college students and 14 military members on our list. Please drop items off to Nena’s office at St. Paul by Monday, March 21. If you have any questions or have interest in joining our Committee, please contact Nancy Smith at 989-255-0976. Assembly day is Tuesday, March 22, at 6:30 pm.

The Soul Sisters (Women 50-70) will meet on Tuesday, March 29th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Multi Purpose Room for a Pizza Dinner and to hear a presentation by professional organizer, Doris Puls, on how to declutter and organize. Free will offering for the pizza. Please RSVP to Shirley at 989-464-6472. Join us for a fun evening!

The Alpena Cancer Center recently reached out to our church to see if we would be willing to donate snacks for patients who come there for treatment. The Outreach Committee has given its approval. Suggested snacks include prepackaged cookies, individually packed nuts, crackers with peanut butter or cheese, candy bars, hard candy (especially Jolly Ranchers), oatmeal packets, individually wrapped fruit packages and single serve pudding snacks. If you would like to participate, please drop off your items at Miss Nena’s office.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: MARCH 20—27, 2022	
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children’s Church– 10:30 a.m.; Jr./Sr. High Sunday School – 10:30 a.m.; The Adventure Club – 3:00 p.m.
<u>MON.</u>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 5:30 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Dinner on a Doorknob – 9:00 a.m.; Cub/Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.; Taste from Home Assembly - 6:30
<u>WED.</u>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Wednesday Lenten Lunch and Worship Service – 12:00 p.m.; Job Bible Study (Pastor John) – 1:00 p.m.; Stephen Ministry – 4:00 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	Men’s Fellowship (JJ’s) –7:00 a.m.; Stitched Together – 11:00 a.m.; Girl Scouts–6:00 p.m.; Book Study (Nena) – 6:30 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Tech Talks – 3:00 p.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 4:30 p.m.; Worship/HC – 5:30 p.m.
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children’s Church – 10:30; Jr./Sr. High Sunday School – 10:30 a.m.; Youth Group (Spring Break Kick-Off!) – 3:00 – 6:00

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: Cory Fisher, Lexi Liske, Madelyn Mills, Geraldine Rhoads, Gary Rich, Alvin Sharp, Josh Paulson, David Sigmon, Stanley Wikaryasz, Cindi Parfitt, Laurie Stafford, Phyllis Robb, Eugene Brooks, Don Kirschner, Bodo Hanson, Roy Sommerfeld, Melissa Smith, Sutton Badder, Marian Dove, Dolores Sumerix, Eleanor Schellie, Megan Schleben, Audrey Reck, Tim Grossman, Deb Lange, Bernice Menck, Annette Jones, and Karen Wallace.

We remember our prayer partners in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod: Christ Lutheran Church, Michigan Center, Rev. Ryan Prondzinski

We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. This week we specifically pray for our Forget-Me-Nots women's ministry.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE		END OF FEBRUARY	YEAR TO DATE
Wednesday Lent Service (03/09)	38	Income 33,177.49	53,621.70
Saturday (03/12) 5:30 p.m.	68	Expenses <u>34,891.50</u>	<u>54,366.75</u>
Sunday (03/13) 9:00 a.m.	41	Difference (-1,714.01)	(-745.05)
10:30 a.m.	<u>12</u>		
Total	159		

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL are given to the glory of God from Kenneth and June Sylvester.

The March Service Activity is Pied Piper School. Items needed: bubbles, bubble machine, sidewalk chalk, sand toys, watercolor paints, Bingo daubers, sensory fidget toys, outside playground balls (basketballs, soccer balls, volleyballs, large rubber balls). Please place your items on the altar.

The Wednesday Lenten Services will continue each week, preceded by a Soup lunch at 12:00 p.m. Please grab the beige Trifold in the Narthex, which has the entire schedule for Lent and Easter. If you would like to volunteer to bring soup and bread for the March 23rd luncheon call the church office.

Join us for our Lenten Educational Opportunities, which run through April 14. Pastor John will hold a Book Study on Job and Miss Nena will lead a Book Study on "Me, Myself, and Lies... a Thought Closet Makeover," by Jennifer Rothschild. Each class length will be 1 hour. Pastor John's Class will meet on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM and Miss Nena's class will meet on Thursdays at 6:30 PM.

Adam, our Media Coordinator, will be hosting another "Tech Talk" on March 25th at 3:00 p.m. If you have any questions email Adam at media@stpaul.org.

If you would like a special invitation for your children or grandchildren for the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday April 16th please notify the office and we will contact them.

The Youth continue to meet on the 4th Sunday each month. **On March 27th we will have a Spring Break Kick Off!** We will meet at the church from 3:00—6:00 p.m. and will enjoy food, drinks, music and dancing, watching the "Men in Black" movie and playing yard and table games. Please join us!

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, 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: Isaiah 55:1-9

¹ Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴ See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

⁶ Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near; ⁷ let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts; let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

⁸ For my thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.

⁹ For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 63:1-8 (Read Responsively)

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.

So I will bless you as long as I live; I will lift up my hands and call on your name.

My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast, and my mouth praises you with joyful lips

when I think of you on my bed, and meditate on you in the watches of the night;

for you have been my help, and in the shadow of your wings I sing for joy.

My soul clings to you; your right hand upholds me.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

¹I do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, that our ancestors were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all

drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual rock that followed them, and the rock was Christ. ⁵ Nevertheless, God was not pleased with most of them, and they were struck down in the wilderness.

⁶ Now these things occurred as examples for us, so that we might not desire evil as they did. ⁷ Do not become idolaters as some of them did; as it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and they rose up to play.” ⁸ We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. ⁹ We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did, and were destroyed by serpents. ¹⁰ And do not complain as some of them did, and were destroyed by the destroyer. ¹¹ These things happened to them to serve as an example, and they were written down to instruct us, on whom the ends of the ages have come. ¹² So if you think you are standing, watch out that you do not fall. ¹³ No testing has overtaken you that is not common to everyone. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tested beyond your strength, but with the testing he will also provide the way out so that you may be able to endure it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

Gospel Acclamation

“Return to the Lord”

S 142b

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke.

Glory to You, O Lord.

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 Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. Amen.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

(Red) #733

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. **Thanks be to God.**

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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.

GOSPEL: Luke 13:1-9

¹At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ²He asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? ³No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

⁶Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ ⁸He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

The Gospel of Our Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON

“Sinful Comparisons”

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”

(Red) #335

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 IS BEING RECEIVED IN THE BACK & THE FRONT OF THE CHURCH BUILDING

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray. **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

C C/G Asus Am F G F/C C

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

F G C Am F G⁷ C

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"