

**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.

**PARTICIPANTS**

<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.	Phil Wickstrom
	9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Anita Laub
	9:00 a.m.	Cathy Kieliszewski, Kathy Burton
<u>USHERS &amp; GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Dennis & Sherry McDonald
	9:00 am.	Cathy Kieliszewski, Roy Wekwert Jr. Owen Werth, Ryan Panknin
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.	Alex Wickstrom
	9:00 a.m.	Odessa Morrison
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Laurie Stafford and Marty Cantleberry

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

**St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Worship Service**

celebrates and shares God’s love and compassion

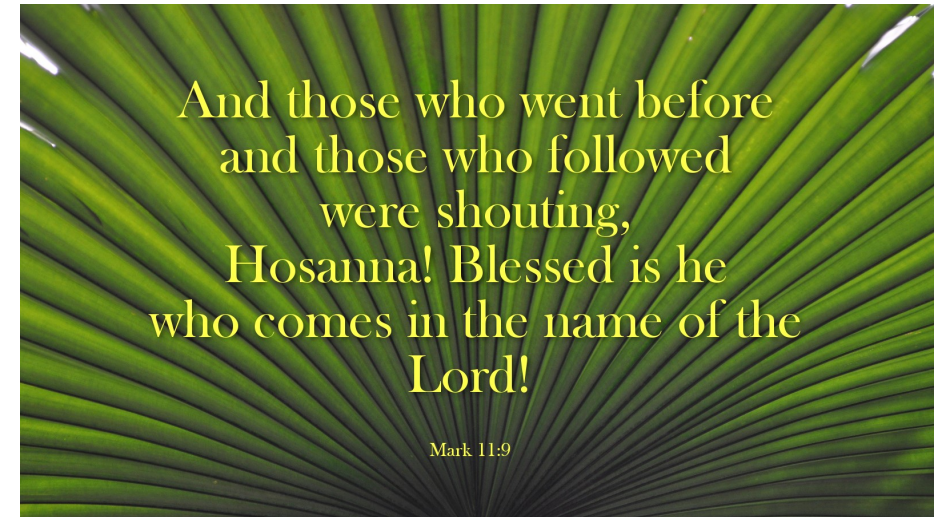
727 S. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Alpena, MI 49707

Phone 989-356-1658

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

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

Monthly Ministry Highlight:  
*Stewardship*



**March 23, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.**

**March 24, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.**

## GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Palm Sunday

March 23, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.

March 24, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.

*Congregational responses are printed in bold.*

**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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God,  
**we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. 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** "All Glory, Laud, and Honor" (Red) #344

### 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.**

**Join us for the Holy Week Services.** They are as follows: Palm Sunday we will have our three regular week-end services; Maundy Thursday Service & Luncheon (St. Paul) - 12:00 p.m.; Ecumenical Maundy Thursday at Trinity Episcopal Church, March 28<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00, preceded by a Soup Supper at 6:00; Good Friday Services, March 29<sup>th</sup>, Tre-Ore Service (at First United Methodist Church) from 12:00-1:00. There will be an evening service at 6:00 (at St. Paul), followed by the movie "The Passion" at 7:00. Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, we will have three services: A Sunrise Service at 6:30, Liturgical Service at 9:00 a.m. and Contemporary Service at 10:30. There will be an Easter Breakfast after the 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service.

**The Forget-Me-Nots** will meet on Tuesday, April 2 at noon at the Jesse Besser Museum. Please bring a lunch to have before we tour the Museum. In order for the staff to set up enough tables, please call Ann at 989-590-2055 to let her know if you are planning to attend. You are welcome to bring a friend to the gathering.

Mark your calendars! **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.

**If you are interested in purchasing a St Paul sweatshirt** contact Joanne 989-356-6532 or Sherry, 989-356-9600. The deadline to place your order is April 1<sup>st</sup> and payment is due by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

**We are excited to announce that our church's Stephen Ministry is gearing up for training sessions tentatively** starting in late April. These 2-1/2 hour classes offer a unique program that equips you with the skills and empathy needed to make a positive impact on the lives of others. There is still time to apply! If you feel drawn to this ministry or have questions, please contact Nena Shipman, Shirley Jones or Iris Arthur.

**We are setting dates for this year's Soul Sisters Kayaking.** Please contact Sue Robb (989-354-8673) with dates and times that will work for you. Thanks.

The **Scholarship Committee** will be awarding a scholarship to a 2024 graduating senior or current college student. Applications are available in the office and must be completed and returned by April 30.

**Reminder:** The church office will close at 11:00 a.m. on Good Friday and will remain closed through Easter Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup>.

#### WEEK AT A GLANCE: MARCH 24–31, 2024

<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service & Children's Church- 10:30 a.m.
<u>MON.</u>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; E.T.A. – 5:30 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 6:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Dinner on a Doorknob – 9:00 a.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30; Air Rifle – 5:30; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles Women's Breakfast (at JJ's) – 7:30 a.m.; AARP Taxes- 8:00; Choir Practice – 5:00 p.m.; Book Study (Nena) – 5:30 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men's Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.; Stitched Together – 11:00 a.m.; Maundy Thursday Service (here) - 12:00 p.m.; Chair Yoga – 3:00 p.m.; Air Rifle Team – 5:30; Recovery Yoga – 5:30 p.m.; Ecumenical Maundy Thursday Service at Trinity Episcopal – 7:00 p.m., preceded by a soup super at 6:00 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00; Ecumenical Tre-Ore Service at First United Methodist Church – 12:00 p.m.; Alpena Line Dance Club – 5:00 p.m.; Good Friday Service at St. Paul – 6:00 p.m.; "The Passion" Movie – 7:00 p.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	The Adventure Club Easter Egg Hunt – 12:00 p.m.; No Worship Service today
<u>SUN.</u>	Easter Sunday Worship/HC – 6:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.; Easter Breakfast following the 6:30 service

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

<b>WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:</b>	Bill Hoppe – health issues	Tim Grossman – health issues
Tammy Stoutenburg-unspecified need	Annette Wade – medical issues	Art Hoffmeyer- heart issues
Bodo Hanson–health issues	Laura Kieliszewski – health	Joel Foster – health concerns
Barb Hoffmeyer – health issues	John Wegmeyer – health issues	Eugene Brooks–health issues
Laurie Stafford – health issues	Dale Rex – in accident	Gary Villeneuve – health issues
Chad Hamill – health issues	Marian Dove– unspecified need	Phyllis Robb-unspecified need
Karen Wallace – unspecified need	Dolores Libka–unspecified need	Taylor Smetak – in accident
Cameron – health issues	Ryan Duby – healing	David Reeves – health issues
Adam Schmidt – health issues	Hazel Bonnard – health issues	Doreen Britton – health issues
Ken Hemming – health issues	Anita Laub – medical issues	Joanne Kindt – health issues
Brandon Urban – health issues	Marvis McNeil – health issues	Haley & Russ First– unspecified
Harriet Burke – unspecified need	Dena Stevens – health issues	Dixie Creiver – health issues
Chris Smetak—health issues	Tom & Beth Mackinnon-health	

*(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: Trinity Lutheran Church, Millersburg, Rev. Mary Hughes

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

**CONDOLENCES TO:** the family and friends of Rosalie Turske, who joined our Lord in eternity March 19, 2024. Her funeral service will be held Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at St. Paul Lutheran Church at 11:00 a.m.

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

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>		<u>END OF FEBRUARY</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Wednesday (3/13) 12:25 p.m.	49	Income 24,098.22	44,298.88
Saturday (03/16) 5:30 p.m.	142	Expenses <u>31,096.24</u>	<u>59,155.28</u>
Sunday (03/17) 9:00 a.m.	34	Difference (6,998.02)	(14,856.40)
	10:30 a.m.	<u>45</u>	
Total	270		

**We are having an Easter Egg Hunt** on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at noon. Invite your family and friends! Donations of family friendly baskets for the raffle can be dropped at the office. Thank you.

**If you would like to order an Easter flower** in honor or in memory of someone, there are order forms in the Narthex or church office to fill out. The deadline to get your order in is March 25<sup>th</sup>.

**The Girl Scout exhibit is still at the Besser Museum.** Come see it before it closes on Easter Sunday.

**Next weekend we will collect the noisy offering,** which will support children in foster care to attend summer camp. Do not forget to bring your change!

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray. Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a**

<sup>4</sup>The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens— awakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. <sup>5</sup> The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards. <sup>6</sup> I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting.

<sup>7</sup> The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; <sup>8</sup> he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. <sup>9</sup> It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

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

**PSALM: Psalm 31:9-16 (Read Responsively)**

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am in distress; my eye wastes away from grief, my soul and body also.

**For my life is spent with sorrow, and my years with sighing; my strength fails because of my misery, and my bones waste away.**

I am the scorn of all my adversaries, a horror to my neighbours, an object of dread to my acquaintances; those who see me in the street flee from me.

**I have passed out of mind like one who is dead; I have become like a broken vessel.** For I hear the whispering of many— terror all around!— as they scheme together against me, as they plot to take my life.

**But I trust in you, O Lord; I say, ‘You are my God.’**

My times are in your hand; deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

**Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.**

**SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)**

<sup>5</sup> Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup> but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup> he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup> Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup> so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup> and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please Stand)*

**Gospel Acclamation**

“Return to the Lord”



The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL READING: Mark 11:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup> and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” <sup>4</sup>They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup> some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” <sup>6</sup> They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup> Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup> Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup> Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting, “Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! <sup>10</sup> Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

<sup>11</sup> Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

**BENEDICTION**

SENDING HYMN

“O Savior, Precious Savior”

(Red) #820

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share your bread.

**Thanks be to God.**

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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 - jice 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. A - men, a - men.

### POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **Amen.**

### MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

“Hosanna”

*(Please stand)*

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”

(Red) #338

### 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**

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. **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 G<sup>7</sup> 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"

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.