

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>ORGANIST</u>		Marvis McNeil
<u>CHOIR DIRECTOR</u>		Marty Cantleberry
<u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Sue Keyes
	9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Patti Byce and Myra Gapske
	9:00 a.m.	Carla Steinke
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Dennis & Sherry McDonald
	9:00 a.m.	Owen Werth, Paul Kieliszewski
<u>CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS</u>		Cathy Kieliszewski, Ryan Panknin
		Joanne Huggler, Rita Chase
<u>LITTLES' WORSHIP CENTER LEADERS</u>		Ashley Reed, Cathy Kieliszewski
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Andrea Dutcher, Evie Bicker
		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. 2nd, Alpena, MI 49707

Phone 989-356-1658

www.stpaul.org

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Monthly Ministry Highlight:
Outreach



April 18, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.

April 19, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

The Third Sunday of Easter

April 18, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.

April 19, 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.

Scouting America Troop 92 invites you to a Breakfast Fundraiser at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Sunday, April 19th from 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Free Will Offering. All you can eat plus take-out option. If you have any questions, please contact Scoutmaster Steve Donajkowski at 989-255-6521.

You are invited to come to the Alpena Peace Community Vigil on April 19th at 4:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church. Donations of non-perishable food items for Grace Lutheran’s Little Food Pantry are appreciated as a thank you for the building use.

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.

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.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: APRIL 19—26, 2026	
SUN.	Scout Breakfast – 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service/Children’s Church/C.I.A. (Youth) - 10:30 a.m.
MON.	Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts -4:00 p.m.; E.T.A. Group – 5:30
TUES.	Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Senior Leaders – 5:30 p.m.; Church Council – 6:00 p.m.; Scouting America – 6:30 p.m.
WED.	Breakfast Belles–7:30 a.m.; Trust Meeting – 4:00 p.m.; Choir Practice – 4:30 p.m.
THURS.	3M Men’s Breakfast (JJs) - 7:00 a.m.; Stitched Together – 10:00 a.m.; Open Line Dance– 1:00 p.m.; Chair Yoga– 3:00 p.m.
FRI.	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.
SAT.	Spring Spruce-Up (Inside) – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 4:30 p.m.; Worship Service/HC – 5:30 p.m.
SUN.	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 Mike H. - illness
 Yvonne McQuarrie - health issues Sally Wong - medical issues Patricia B. - health issues
 Chuck Piontkowski – medical issues June Sylvester – fractured back Tina Yeager – health issues
 Kevin Atkinson – health issues Storm Yakes – medical issues Kioni Peoples family - grief
 Dixie Crevier – health issues Greg Dzieszinski- health issues Lisa Dzieszinski-health issue
 Kevin Reiser – health issues Joel Foster – health issues Billie Jo Foster – health issues
 Cathy Murtha – medical issues Phyllis Robb-unspecified need Malary Smith – unspecified
 Margaret Lucian – health issues Lee Werth—health issues Adam Schmidt- health issues
 Carol Kuhl – health issues Ann Martin – medical issues Dena Stevens – health issues
 John Wegmeyer– health issues Alan Marwede—health issues Laura Fair – fell

(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: St. James Lutheran Church, Rogers City, Rev. Mary Hughes.

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

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday 04/12 9:00 a.m. 102

END OF JANUARY

Income 21,227.40

Expenses 34,674.00

Difference (13,446.60)

YEAR TO DATE

21,227.40

34,674.00

(13,446.60)

Condolences to the family and friends of Arthur Cochrane who joined our Lord in eternity January 19, 2026. A memorial service will be announced at a later date.

Condolences to the family and friends of Doris A. Siegert who joined our Lord in eternity on April 9, 2026. Her funeral service was held on Saturday, April 18th at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

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

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.

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.

GATHERING HYMN

“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!”

(Red) #377

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, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

^{14a} But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem,

³⁶ Let all the house of Israel therefore know assuredly that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷ Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, “Brethren, what shall we do?” ³⁸ And Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is to you and to your children and to all that are far off, every one whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other words and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this crooked generation.” ⁴¹ So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 (Read Responsively)

I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live.

The snares of death encompassed me; the pangs of Sheol laid hold on me; I suffered distress and anguish.

Then I called on the name of the Lord: “O Lord, I beseech thee, save my life!”

What shall I render to the Lord for all his bounty to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord,
I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints.

O Lord, I am thy servant; I am thy servant, the son of thy handmaid. Thou hast loosed my bonds.

I will offer to thee the sacrifice of thanksgiving and call on the name of the Lord.

I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people,
in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)

¹⁷ And if you invoke as Father him who judges each one impartially according to his deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your fathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was made manifest at the end of the times for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have confidence in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

²² Having purified your souls by your obedience to the truth for a sincere love of the brethren, love one another earnestly from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable seed but of imperishable, through the living and abiding word of God;

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

“Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise”

Thank-ful hearts and voices 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.

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

“Thine Is the Glory”

(Red) #376

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

LORD'S PRAYER

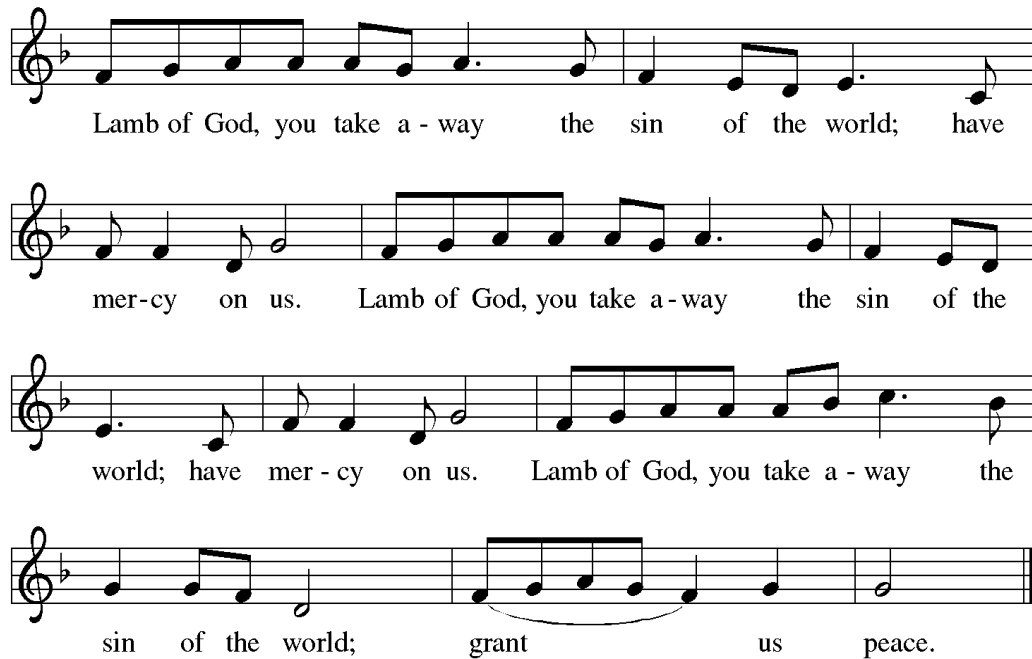
Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

(Pleased 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.

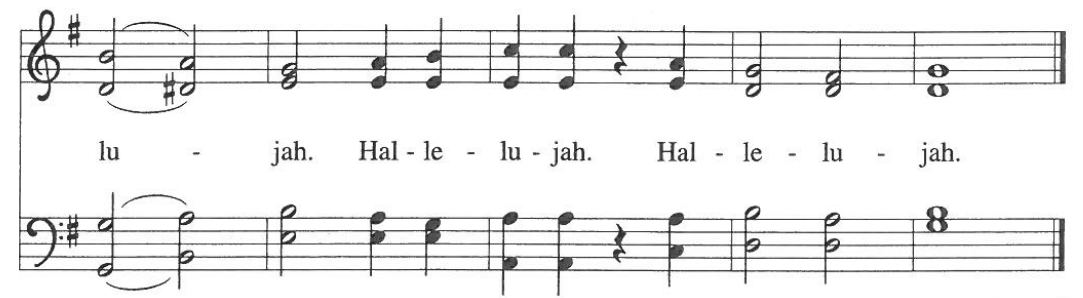


Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

“Lamb of God”

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

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE



lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

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

GOSPEL READING: Luke 24:13-35

¹³ That very day two of them were going to a village named Emma'us, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. ¹⁶ But their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, “What is this conversation which you are holding with each other as you walk?” And they stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, named Cle'opas, answered him, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?” ¹⁹ And he said to them, “What things?” And they said to him, “Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since this happened. ²² Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning ²³ and did not find his body; and they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb, and found it just as the women had said; but him they did not see.” ²⁵ And he said to them, “O foolish men, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself.

²⁸ So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He appeared to be going further, ²⁹ but they constrained him, saying, “Stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent.” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at table with them, he took the bread and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ And their eyes were opened and they recognized him; and he vanished out of their sight. ³² They said to each other, “Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures?” ³³ And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven gathered together and those who were with them, ³⁴ who said, “The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

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

“Were Not Our Hearts Burning?” Rev. Rosie Gibson
(Saturday)
Rev. Eugene Bacon *(Sunday)*

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY “That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright” (Red) #384

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

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.

EUCHARISTIC BLESSING