

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.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Sue Robb
	9:00 a.m.	Janice Boboltz
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	John & Linda Snyder
	9:00 a.m.	Don Kowalski, Tim Moggie
		Kathy Burton, Barb Szczesniak
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.	Evan Peterson
	9:00 a.m.	Alex Wickstrom
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Shirley Kowalski, Sue Moggie, Jessica O'Neil, Karen Wekwert

We thank all participants for enriching our worship service.

St. Paul Lutheran Church Worship Service

celebrates and shares God's love and compassion

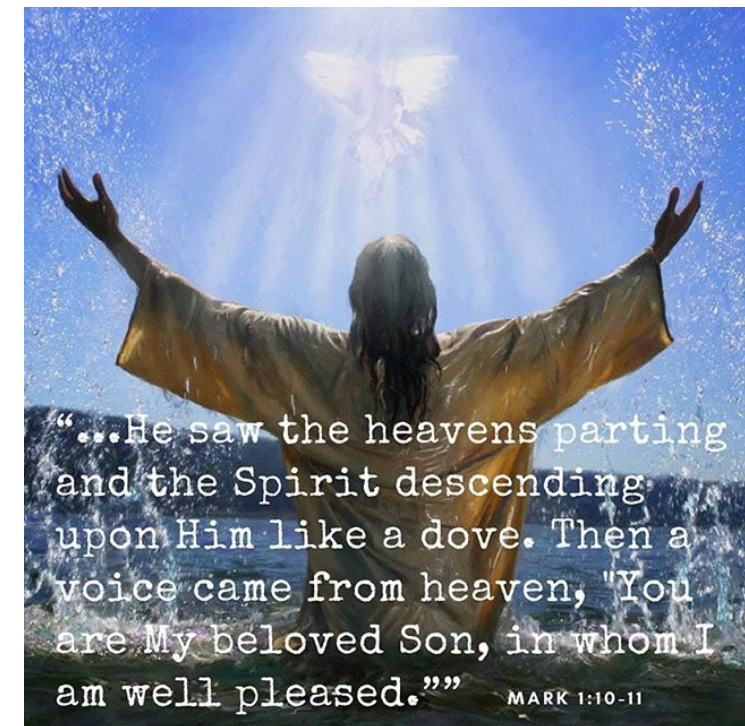
727 S. 2nd, Alpena, MI 49707

Phone 989-356-1658

www.stpaul.org

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Monthly Ministry Highlight:
Stephen Ministry



January 6, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.

January 7, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.

All are invited to our January Video Educational Experience on January 10th at 6:00 p.m. We will be watching “Breakthrough” and a meal will be provided with discussion throughout.

The Forget-Me-Nots will gather on Saturday, January 20 at 2:00 pm to attend a special event to honor the Girl Scouts of America at the Jesse Besser Museum. Our troop from St. Paul will be represented. If you have not visited the Museum recently, this will be a good time to tour the museum and also support the Girl Scout troop affiliated with St. Paul.

Mark your calendars for our next Women’s Retreat on Friday, January 26th. Our theme is “Vision of Leadership for Women.” The event will take place at 1921 Long Rapids Road and there is no cost associated with this event. We will explore God’s promises for community and fellowship for women. Ages 18 – 100 are invited to discover God’s faithfulness in your faith journey.

If you would like to make further donations to the Cancer Center, for patients undergoing treatment we are needing packaged nuts, crackers with peanut butter or cheese, rice crispy treats, candy bars, Jolly Rancher hard candies, oatmeal packets, pudding snacks. Please drop them off at Miss Nena’s office.

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.

The January Service Activity is Alpena High School. Items needed: Boys gym shorts (all sizes), boys tank tops (all sizes), mechanical pencils, backpacks, girls bras (size A & B). Please leave items on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: JANUARY 7–14, 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>	Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; E.T.A. – 5:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 6:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Gratitude Lunches – 9:00 a.m.; Stephen Ministry – 10:00 a.m.; Stewardship – 5:00 p.m.; Education -5:30 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Air Rifle – 5:30 p.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles Women’s Breakfast (at JJ’s) – 7:30 a.m.; “Breakthrough” Movie Night – 6:00 p.m.; Choir Practice – 6:00 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.; Chair Yoga – 3:00 p.m.; Outreach – 5:00 p.m.; Air Rifle Team – 5:30 p.m.; Singles – 5:30 p.m.; Yoga – 5:30 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Alpena Line Dance Club – 5:00 p.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	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 & Children’s Church – 10:30 a.m.

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: Kevin Langerfield - recovery Don Urban Sr.—health needs
Tammy Stoutenburg-unspecified need Annette Wade – medical issues Art Hoffmeyer – heart issues
Danielle Lawrence - health issues Bodo Hanson–health issues David Reeves – health issues
Barbara Carlson –unspecified need John Wegmeyer – health issues Eugene Brooks–health issues
Marty & Liz Smith – home sells Alisha Freese - illness Sutton Badder–unspecified
Jake Shipman – accident Marian Dove– unspecified need Phyllis Robb-unspecified need
Dolores Libka – unspecified need Karen Wallace – unspecified need

ARMED SERVICES: 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: Advent Lutheran Church, Lake Ann, Rev. Timothy Jahn

We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. This week we specifically pray for the Men in Motion monthly evening gathering.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL (foot of the cross) are given in honor of Harriett Kelm on her 96th birthday, January 11th, from her family.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Sunday (12/31) 5:30 p.m. 56

END OF OCTOBER

Income 25,620.92
Expenses 26,162.41
Difference (541.49)

YEAR TO DATE

266,579.91
288,926.06
(22,346.15)

Save the date – Saturday, January 20th! The Stewardship Committee will again be hosting a **PASTA NIGHT** following the Saturday 5:30 p.m. service. Plan to come and enjoy good food, fellowship, and fun. A Chinese auction and 50/50 raffle will be part of the evening. If anyone would like to donate raffle items, please contact Dennis or Lori Dziesinski at 989-464-7112 or 989-590-8568. This year we are requiring people to get a ticket. The tickets will have no cost but will help with making sure we have enough food or not too much, however a free will offering will be taken at the dinner. Get your ticket from committee members or at the church office.

The Adventure Club will be going bowling on January 21st! We will meet at Thunder Bowl Lanes from 1:00–3:00. Sign up on the app or call the office. Bring your spirit of adventure and hope as you explore and share your faith through fun, adventure, and food within this intergenerational educational experience. We welcome everyone from 1-105 years old.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

The Baptism of Our Lord

January 6, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.

January 7, 2024 - 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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our rock and refuge,

we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. 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

“Arise, Your Light Has Come”

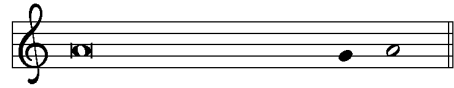
(Red) #314

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.

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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



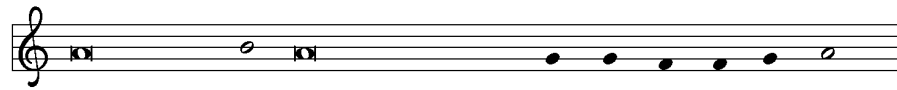
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

SERMON NOTES

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: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN "Shall We Gather at the River" (Red) #423

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.
Thanks be to God.

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HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain
Assisting minister
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

All
1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and
strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.

2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the
hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain
has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, 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: Genesis 1:1-5

¹ When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

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

PSALM: Psalm 29 (Read Responsively)

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendor.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.

The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, “Glory!”

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.

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.**

(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"

The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.
 May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!

SECOND READING: Acts 19:1-7 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)

¹While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." ³Then he said, "Into what, then, were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." ⁴Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied, ⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11

⁴ so John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. ⁸ I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. ¹¹ And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of Our Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON

“Well Pleased”

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY “Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized” (Red) #304

Installation of Council Members

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,
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. Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, **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