

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.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Scott Parkham
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	Scott Parkham
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Sue Robb
	9:00 a.m.	Janice Boboltz
<u>USHERS &amp; GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Bruce Anschuetz
	9:00 am.	Steve and Andrea Dutcher
		Kathy Burton, Tim Moggie
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.	Evan Peterson
	9:00 a.m.	Emily Smith
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Karen Hamann and Sue Robb

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

**St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Worship Service**

celebrates and shares God’s love and compassion

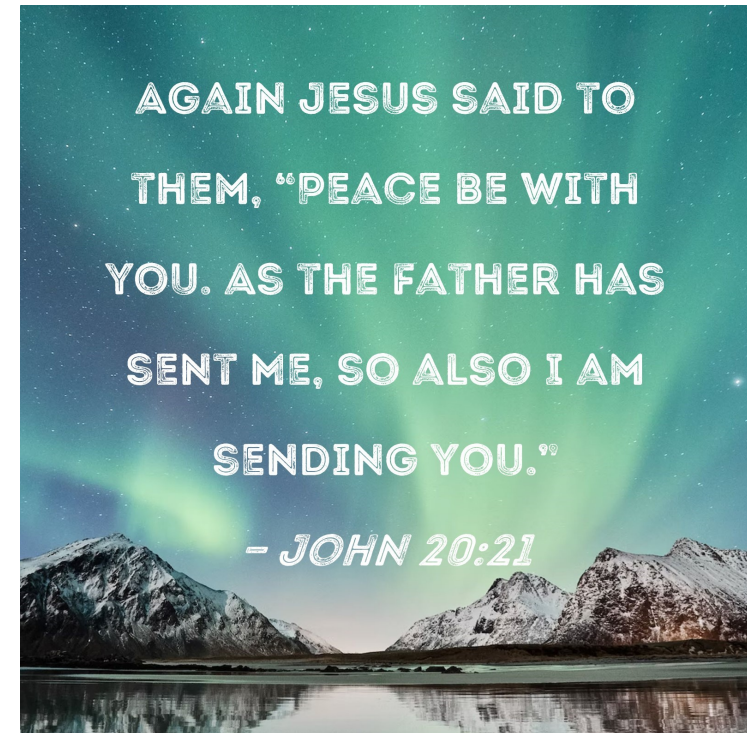
727 S. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Alpena, MI 49707

Phone 989-356-1658

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

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

Monthly Ministry Highlight:  
*Outreach*



**April 6, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.  
April 7, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.**

## GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

The Second Sunday of Easter

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

April 7, 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** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice and Sing!" (Red) [#385](#)

**We would like to thank** Rev. William Rayment and Rev. Eugene Bacon for leading us in worship this week-end.

**This is your last chance to purchase a St. Paul sweatshirt.** Please contact Joanne 989-356-6532 or Sherry, 989-356-9600 if interested and get your money in by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

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 returned by April 30.

**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 one of our Stephen Leaders - Iris Arthur, Judy Beyer, Nena Shipman, Sue Keyes, or Shirley Jones.

All are invited to a **Peace Gathering** at Grace Lutheran on April 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. with cookies and punch to follow. Come and take part in an evening of gentle music provided by Mr. David Usher followed by intermittent readings and quiet reflection.

**Mark your calendars!** We will also have a **Spring Spruce Up Day** on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The property leaders are making a list of items that can be spruced up on that day. This is a church wide event with a meal that is free of charge. No task is too small or great.

**The Adventure Club has a wonderful time planned to swim at the Alpena Plaza Pool** on April 21st from 1:00 – 3:00 PM. Bring your spirit of adventure as you explore and share your faith through fun within this intergenerational educational experience. The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1-105 years old.

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.

**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.

#### WEEK AT A GLANCE: APRIL 7–14, 2024

<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and 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>	Gratitude Lunches – 9:00 a.m.; Stephen Ministry – 10:00 a.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30; Air Rifle – 5:30 p.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles <i>Women's Breakfast</i> (at JJ's) – 7:30; 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.; Air Rifle Team – 5:30
<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 and Children's Ch. – 10:30 a.m.

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

**WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:**

Tim Grossman – health issues	Margaret Lucian - health
Tammy Stoutenburg-unspecified need	Annette Wade – medical issues
Bodo Hanson–health issues	Laura Kieliszewski – health
Barb Hoffmeyer – health issues	John Wegmeyer – health issues
Laurie Stafford – health issues	Harriet Burke–unspecified need
Chad Hamill – health issues	Marian Dove–unspecified need
Karen Wallace – unspecified need	Dolores Libka–unspecified need
Ryan Duby – healing	David Reeves – health issues
Chris Smetak –health issues	Anita Laub – medical issues
Tom & Beth Mackinnon-health	Joanne Kindt – 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: First Lutheran Church, Muskegon, Rev. William Uetrict

**We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church.** This week we specifically pray for the Spur of the Moment Ministry.

**THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL** (foot of the cross) are given in loving memory of our mother Ada Precour from Geri and Bodo Hanson, Steve and Madelyn Precour and Barb Crittenden.

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>		<u>END OF FEBRUARY</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Maundy Thursday (3/28) 12:25 p.m.	44	Income 24,098.22	44,298.88
Good Friday (3/29) 6:00 p.m.	38	Expenses 31,096.24	59,155.28
Easter Sunday (03/31) 6:30 a.m.	38	Difference (6,998.02)	(14,856.40)
	159		
	37		
Total	316		

There was a change in the **Yoga classes** schedule that began on Thursday, April 4th. There is now a Gentle Yoga class at 1:30 p.m. and the Chair Yoga class at 3:00 p.m. Please, come join us.

**The April Service Activity is Wilson Elementary School.** Items needed for recess: footballs, soccer balls, basketballs, nerf footballs, regular jump ropes, Double Dutch jump ropes, ladder toss, giant checkers/Tic Tac Toe mat, and sidewalk chalk. Please leave items on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

Everyone is invited to our April Video Educational Experience on April 17th at 6:00 p.m. We will be watching **“Do You Believe?”** and a meal will be provided with discussion throughout.

**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. Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord’s resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, 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: Acts 4:32-35**

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

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

**PSALM: Psalm 133 (Read Responsively)**

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!  
**It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.**  
 It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life for evermore.

**SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1-2:2 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)**

<sup>1</sup>We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— <sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— <sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus

his Son cleanses us from all sin.<sup>8</sup> If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.<sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.<sup>10</sup> If we say that we have not

sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.  
<sup>2:1</sup> My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous;<sup>2</sup> and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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 - lu - jah. Hal - le - 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. A - men, a - men.

**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

“The Strife Is O’er, the Battle Done”

(Red) #366

**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 20:19-31**

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.’ <sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.’

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, ‘We have seen the Lord.’ But he said to them, ‘Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.’

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you.’ <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, ‘Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.’ <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, ‘My Lord and my God!’ <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, ‘Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.’

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

**Children’s Message**

**“Jesus Loves Me”**

Jesus loves me this I know  
For the Bible tells me so  
Little ones to Him belong  
They are weak but He is strong  
Yes Jesus loves me. Yes Jesus loves me  
Yes Jesus loves me the Bible tells me so

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*(Please be seated)*

**SERMON** Reverends William Rayment (Saturday) and Eugene Bacon (Sunday)

*(Please stand)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today; Alleluia!” (Red) #369



## 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.**

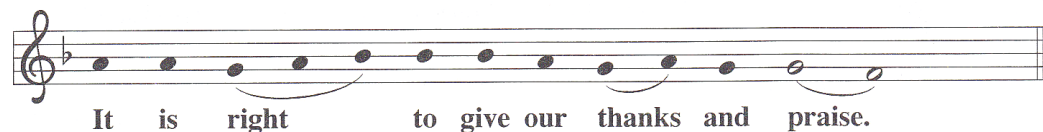
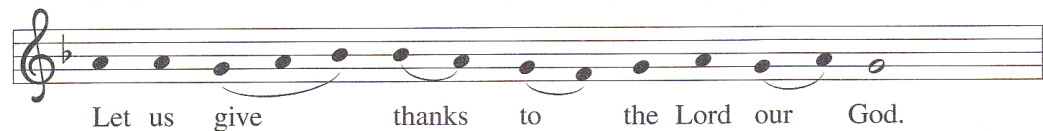
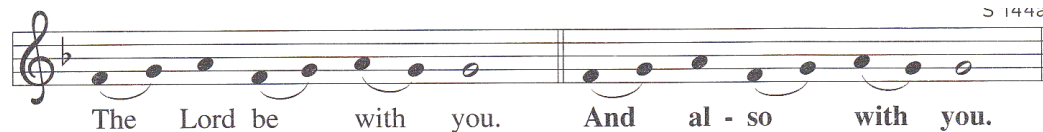
## OFFERING PRAYER

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



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 - dores 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"