

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.	Shirley Jones
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	Danielle McDonald
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Patti Byce, Myra Gapske
	9:00 a.m.	Laurie Stafford
<u>USHERS &amp; GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Dennis and Sherry McDonald
	9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak, Paul Kieliszewski
		Tim Moggie, Kathy Burton
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.	Evan Peterson
	9:00 a.m.	Alayna Krey
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Marty Cantleberry, Pat Cornelius, Carol Kindt

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

**St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Worship Service**

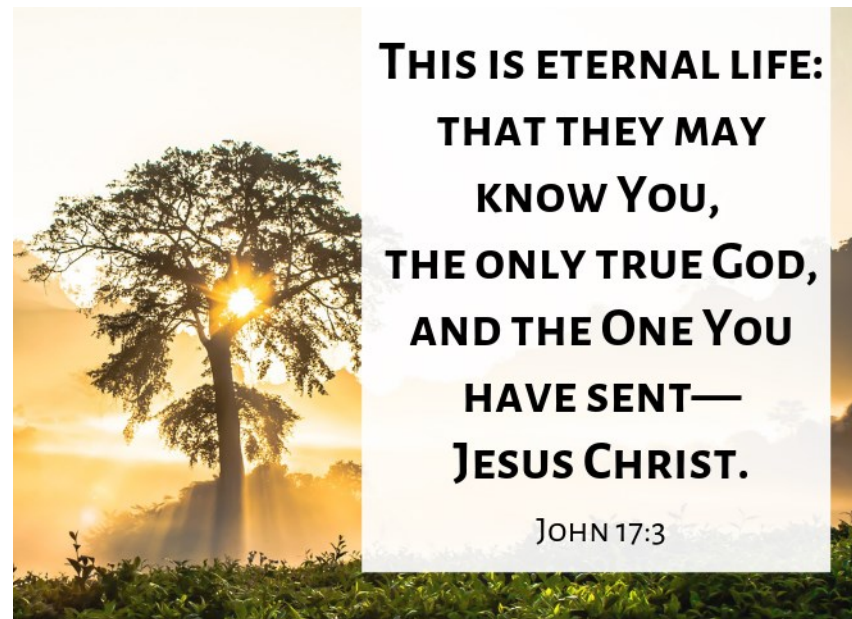
celebrates and shares God’s love and compassion

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

Phone 989-356-1658

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

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*



**May 20, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.  
May 21, 2023 - 9:00 a.m.**

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**  
**The Seventh Sunday of Easter**  
**May 20, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**May 21, 2023 - 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, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

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**                      “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”                      (Red) #392

The Forget-Me-Nots will attend the Alpena Civic Theatre production of Little Women on Sunday, May 21 at 2:00 pm. Our next monthly meeting will be on Tuesday, June 6. We will gather at the St. Paul Picnic Grounds at noon, weather permitting. Please bring your picnic lunch and a beverage. In case of inclement weather, we will meet at the church. We hope you can join us for these events.

The Parade Planning Committee will be meeting on Monday, June 5<sup>th</sup>, in the Lounge. Come join us! Donations of candy are needed. Please drop off at the church.

Volunteers are needed to join the Fellowship Team. Please call Janice (989-464-6211) or Joanne (989-356-6532) to let them know you would like to serve in this way and which service you would like to do.

Our May Service Activity is Hope Shores Alliance. The items needed are: Matching shampoo and conditioner, matching body wash and lotion, razors, tampons, hairbrushes and combs, nail files, nail clippers, chap stick, hair ties, baby monitors, notebooks, folders, calendars/planners/appointment books, basic household items - i.e. kitchen items, dishes, and bedding items. They also need gift cards for food, groceries, gas, etc. Please leave your donation items on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

The Scholarship Committee is grateful to those that have brought in their bottle returns, we ask that you keep them coming! The bottle returns can be placed in the janitorial closet next to the elevator on the Mirre Street side, there is a sign on the door to prevent confusion.

Pastor John and Miss Nena have planned Summer Educational Opportunities, that will run through June 7<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>! Pastor John’s Class meets on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM and 5:30 p.m. and Miss Nena’s class also meets on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM. Pastor John will do a Bible Study on Daniel, and Miss Nena will do a Bible Study - “I’m Waiting God, Finding Blessings in God’s Delays” by Barb Roose (DVD). Please call the church office to sign up.

Dust off your kayaks and join us for the first Soul Sisters Kayaking Adventure on Tuesday May 30, 5:30 pm at Duck Park. Group will meet the 2nd, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5th Tuesdays through September.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: MAY 21 – 28, 2023	
<u>SUN.</u>	Sunday Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service & Children’s Church - 10:30 a.m.; Highway Pick-Up – 12:00 p.m.; Forget-Me-Nots – Civic Theatre – 2:00
<u>MON.</u>	Tech Talks–11:00 a.m.; Line Dancing–2:00 p.m.; ETA–5:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 6:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Dinner on a Doorknob – 9:00 a.m.; Senior Leaders – 5:00 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Air Rifle – 5:30 p.m.; Church Council – 6:00 p.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Women’s Breakfast (at JJ’s) – 7:30 a.m.; Choir – 5:30 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	Men’s Breakfast (at JJ’s) – 7:00; Stitched Together – 11:00 A.M.; Chair Yoga – 3:00; Air Rifle Team–5:30 p.m.; Recovery Yoga – 5:30
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	Fellowship – 4:30 p.m.; Worship/HC -5:30 p.m.
<u>SUN.</u>	Sunday Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service & Children’s Church and 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:** Sue Keyes, Bob Laity, Deb Dewar, Tyler Kerby, Calvin Urban, Steve Gould, David Reeves, John Wegmeyer, Sandy Wozniak, Annette Wade, Evelyn Green, Sam Weis, Tom Christou, Geri Hanson, William Taylor, Kaye Remboski, Mary Kuhl, Mya Hall, Keeley Knapp, Don Urban Sr., Billiejo Foster, Gus Schultz, Elaine Kingsbury, Sally Barney, Joel Foster, Nancy Chrzan, Phyllis Robb, Eugene Brooks, Bodo Hanson, Sutton Badder, Marian Dove, Dolores Sumerix, Audrey Reck, Bernice Menck, and Karen Wallace. *(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: Messiah Lutheran Church, Constantine Park, Rev. Thomas Pederson

**We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church.** This week we specifically pray for the A Taste from Home ministry.

**CONDOLENCES TO:** the family and friends of Dennis Huard, who joined our Lord in eternity May 13, 2023.

**THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL** (foot of the cross) are given in honor of Kenneth and June Sylvester on their 71<sup>st</sup> Wedding Anniversary.

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>			<u>END OF MARCH</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>	
Saturday (05/13)	5:30 p.m.	132	Income	26,257.92	72,916.80	
Sunday ( 05/14)	9:00 a.m.	70	Expenses	<u>35,868.12</u>	<u>93,788.34</u>	
	10:30 a.m.	<u>24</u>	Difference	(9,610.20)	(20,871.54)	
Total		226				

**We will resume the ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY program** with a kick off of our MDOT clean up on Sunday, May 21, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. Meet at our church to view the video prior to venturing out for the clean up at our location on M-32. Hope you can be there to help with this project! All are welcome!!!

**First Communion Sunday will take place on Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>.**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church will have a Garage Sale on June 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>.** Please set aside your items for this upcoming sale. This year we are going to accept clean used clothing and shoes. You may start dropping off your things at the church on May 22. We need help with the garage sale and people to pick items up. To volunteer please contact Andrea Dutcher at 354-3651.

**Due to the** Sanctuary carpet project, until further notice service, Worship Services will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room. **Fellowship** on Saturday night and between services on Sunday will be in the dining room until the carpet project is finished.

**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 of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, 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 1:6-14**

<sup>6</sup> So when they had come together, they asked him, “Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?” <sup>7</sup> He replied, “It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. <sup>8</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” <sup>9</sup> When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup> While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup> They said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

<sup>12</sup> Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. <sup>13</sup> When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying: Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup> All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

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

**PSALM: Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 (Read Responsively)**

Let God rise up; let his enemies be scattered; let those who hate him flee before him. **As smoke is driven away, so drive them away; as wax melts before the fire, let the wicked perish before God.**

But let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy. **Sing to God; sing praises to his name; lift up a song to him who rides upon the clouds his name is the Lord— be exultant before him.**

Father of orphans and protector of widows is God in his holy habitation. **God gives the desolate a home to live in; he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,**

**but the rebellious live in a parched land.**

O God, when you went out before your people, when you marched through the wilderness,

**the earth quaked, the heavens poured down rain at the presence of God, the God of Sinai, at the presence of God, the God of Israel.**

Rain in abundance, O God, you showered abroad; you restored your heritage when it languished;

**your flock found a dwelling in it; in your goodness, O God, you provided for the needy.**

Sing to God, O kingdoms of the earth; sing praises to the Lord,

**O rider in the heavens, the ancient heavens; listen, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice.**

Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel and whose power is in the skies.

**Awesome is God in his sanctuary, the God of Israel; he gives power and strength to his people. Blessed be God!**

**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11 (Sunday 9:00 a.m.)**

<sup>12</sup> Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup> But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup> If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

<sup>6</sup> Humble yourselves, therefore, under the mighty hand of God, so that he may exalt you in due time. <sup>7</sup> Cast all your anxiety on him, because he cares for you. <sup>8</sup> Discipline yourselves; keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup> Resist him, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. <sup>10</sup> And after you have suffered for a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup> To him be the power forever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please Stand)*

**Gospel Acclamation**

“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.  
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: Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

**MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BENEDICTION**

SENDING HYMN

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

(Red) #855

**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

**Thanks be to God.**

**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”

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**

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

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

**GOSPEL: John 17:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup>since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

<sup>6</sup>“I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they

are yours. <sup>10</sup> All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup> And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

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

*(Please be seated)*

SERMON

“Finish the Work”

Rev John Shipman

*(Please stand)*

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Lord, You Give the Great Commission”

(Red) #579

**First Communion**

**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**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*(Please stand)*

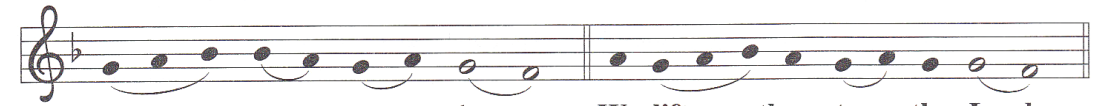
*(Sung at the 9:00 a.m. service.)*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

S 144a



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



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - does 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: