

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.

<u>PARTICIPANTS</u>		
<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.	Dawn Yakes
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Gail Atkins
	9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Sue Robb
	9:00 a.m.	Janice Boboltz
<u>HEAD USHER</u>		Roy Wekwert
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Jimmy Nensewitz
	9:00 a.m.	Joanne Huggler, Jeff Ciupka
<u>CHILDREN’S CHURCH LEADERS</u>		Kathy Burton, Paul Kieliszewski
<u>LITTLES’ WORSHIP CENTER LEADERS</u>		Amy DeRosia, Karen Wekwert, Sue Robb
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Joanne Huggler, Ophelia Steinke
		Sandy Samp and 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. 2nd, Alpena, MI 49707
Phone 989-356-1658
www.stpaul.org
A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Monthly Ministry Highlight:
Worship Dynamic Ministry



July 4, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.
July 5, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 4, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.
July 5, 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

Blessed be the holy Trinity,+ one God, whose compassion endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” In the name of God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God’s love. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN “O Beautiful for Spacious Skies” (Red) **#888**

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.

The Soul Sisters are kayaking on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month this summer. So, for July they will meet next on July 8th and 22nd at Sytek Park. Questions? Please call Sue at 989-354-8673.

The Forget-Me-Nots will meet for a picnic lunch and conversation on Tuesday, July 7th at noon at the church picnic grounds, weather permitting. Please bring your lunch and a beverage. Hope to see you there. If you have any questions, call Ann at (989) 590-2055.

Life Line Screening, the nation’s leading provider of preventive health screenings will offer non-invasive and painless health screenings at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Wednesday, July 8th. Please call 1-800-324-9458 to register or visit LLSA.SOCIAL/HSCA.

Are you ready for some fresh grilled hot dogs and hamburgers? Meet us at the Picnic Grounds on Sunday, July 12, beginning at noon until ????. The Adventure Club will provide meat, grill masters and drinks. If you wish, bring a dish to pass, swimsuit, lawn chair and your enthusiasm as we swim, play volleyball and relax in God’s creation with God’s people.

“Tidal Wave of Love” Summer Vacation Bible School is scheduled for the evenings of July 28 – 30, from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. We will meet at the Starlite Beach Splash Park in Alpena for tons of fun and sharing God’s love with others. Please come join us and think of little ones you would like to invite.

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 Call Committee met last week and we are off to a good start. We will be asking the congregation for input soon. We are praying for a smooth process and prayers from the congregation.

The Stewardship Committee will meet on Tuesday, July 14th, at 5:00 p.m., in the lounge.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: <i>JULY 5—12, 2026</i>	
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service/Children’s Church/C.I.A. (Youth) - 10:30 a.m.
<u>MON.</u>	Alpena Peace Community – 1:00 p.m.; Line Dancing - 2:00 p.m.; E.T.A. Group - 5:30 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Forget-Me-Nots (Church Picnic Grounds) – 12:00 p.m.; Recovery Yoga – 5:00 p.m.; Education – 5:00 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Scouting America – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles – 7:30 a.m.; Life Line Screening; Stephen Ministry Training – 4:30 p.m.; Soul Sisters Kayaking (Sytek Park) – 5:30 p.m.; Treasury Committee – 5:30 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast - 7:00 a.m.; Chair Yoga – 11:00 a.m.; Open Line Dance–1:00 p.m.; Stephen Ministry – 3:30 p.m.; Personnel Committee – 5:00 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	Fellowship–4:30 p.m.; Worship Service/HC– 5:30 p.m.
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service/Children’s Church/C.I.A. (Youth) - 10:30 a.m.; The Adventure Club - Church Picnic – 12:00 p.m.

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

<u>WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:</u>	Dorothy Carr – health issues	Lee Szczesniak–medical issues
Alan Courtney – health issues	David McNeil–health issues	Mary Boomer-Scott – health
Shelly Hoffmeyer – recovery	Tina Yeager – health issues	Malary Smith – unspecified
Nancy St. Onge – health issues	Lee Werth—health issues	Ann Martin – medical issues
Travis Schmidt – health issue	John Wegmeyer– health issues	Patricia P. - health issues
Dixie Crevier – health issues	Lisa Dzieszinski-health issue	Dena Stevens – health issues
Kevin Reiser – health issues	Joel Foster – health issues	Billie Jo Foster – health issues
Phyllis Robb-unspecified need		

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 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: Saron Lutheran Church, St. Joseph, Rev. James Smith

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

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>END OF APRIL</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday 06/27 5:30 a.m. 38	Income 24,273.97	104,903.09
Sunday 06/28 9:00 a.m. 48	Transferred/G & M 10,000.00	
10:30 a.m. <u>20</u>	<u>Expenses</u> 27,918.08	<u>130,423.82</u>
Total 106	Difference 6,355.89	(25,520.73)

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL (foot of the cross) are given in celebration of Jesse and Jessica O’Neil on their 11th Wedding Anniversary.

CONDOLENCES TO: the family and friends of Patricia Leahy, who joined our Lore in eternity June 12, 2026. A memorial service will be held at the First Congregational United Church of Christ on July 25th at 12:00 p.m., with visitation preceding at 10:30 a.m.

Our July Service Activity is the Little Food Pantry at Grace Lutheran Church. Items Needed: macaroni & cheese, individual breakfast cereal, non-perishable milk, pancake mix, syrup, paper towels, toilet paper, baby foods, bread, quick easy meals for one, meat in pouches, canned meat, microwavable meals, canned fruits and vegetables, snacks for kids, peanut butter & jelly, and feminine hygiene products. Please leave your donation items on the altar and thank you so much for your generosity.

If you are interested in becoming a new member, please call the church office at 989-356-1658.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for your-self, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰ He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the warhorse from Jerusalem; and the battle-bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.

¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

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

PSALM: Psalm 145:8-14 (Read Responsively)

The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. **The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.**

All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you. **They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power, to make known to all people your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.**

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.

The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.

SECOND READING: Romans 7:15-25a (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)

¹⁵ I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶ Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷ But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸ For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹ For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰ Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹ So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²² For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³ but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴ Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵ Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

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

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

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 11:16—19, 25-30

¹⁶ ‘But to what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another, ¹⁷ “We played the flute for you, and you did not dance; we wailed, and you did not mourn.” ¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, “He has a demon”; ¹⁹ the Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, “Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax -collectors and sinners!” Yet wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.’

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: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

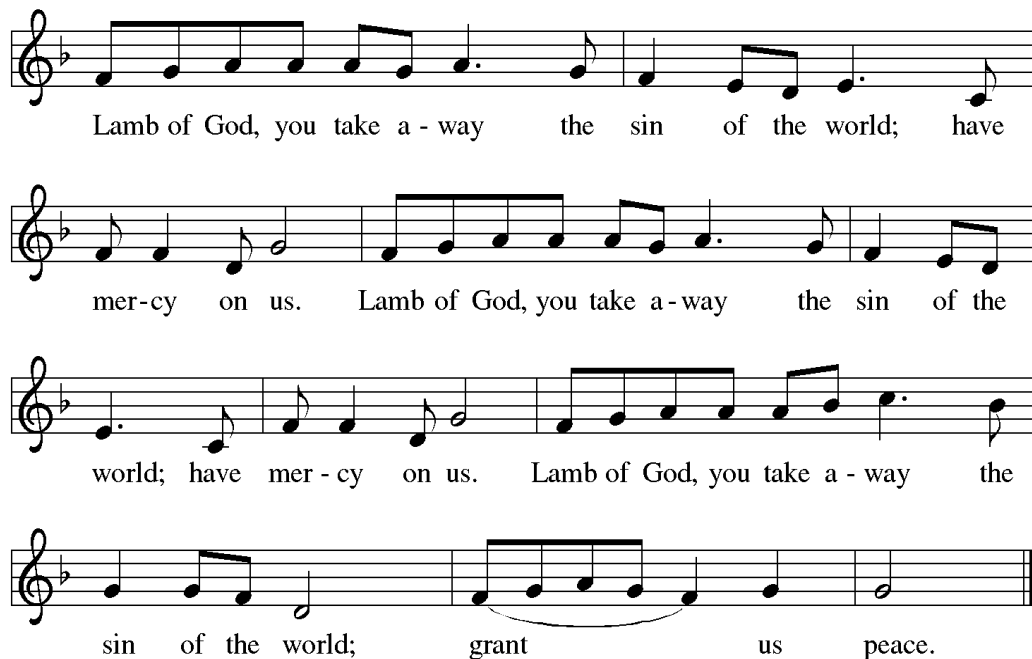
BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN “Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory” (Red) #890

DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
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”



²⁵ At that time Jesus said, ‘I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; ²⁶ yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷ All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. ²⁸ ‘Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.’

The Gospel of Our Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Children’s Message

“I Love to Tell the Story”

I love to tell the story
'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old old story
Of Jesus and His love

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(Please be seated)

SERMON

Pastor Rosie Gibson

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY “Softy and Tenderly Jesus is Calling”

(Red) #608

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.**

(Please stand)

OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

(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 - dore 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.**

(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 in the middle circle for those who prefer it. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

"Lamb of God"