

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.

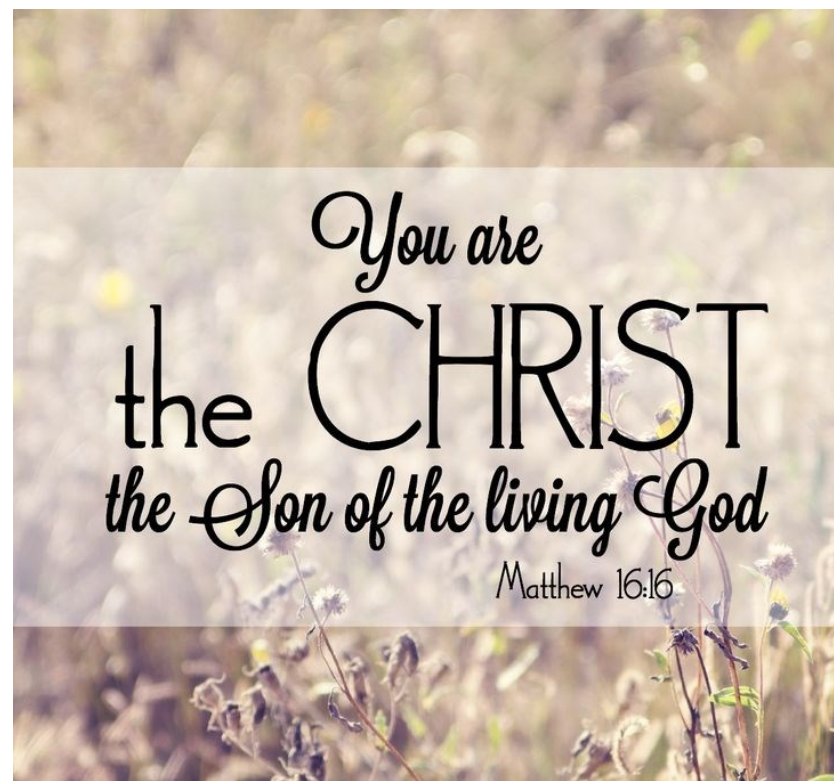
**St. Paul welcomes all to the Communion Table.** Christ is the Host and the Meal. Come, taste, and see that the Lord is good. Grape juice is available for those who prefer it rather than wine. Children and those choosing not to receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

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>PASTOR</u>			Rev. John Shipman
<u>ORGANIST</u>			Marvis McNeil
<u>CHOIR DIRECTOR</u>			Marty Cantleberry
<u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	5:30 p.m.		Phil Wickstrom
	9:00 a.m.		Esther Kindt
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.		Phil Wickstrom
	9:00 a.m.		Cathy Kieliszewski
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.		Anita Laub
	9:00 a.m.		Nancy Clark, Angie Parrish
<u>USHERS &amp; GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.		Bruce Anschuetz
	9:00 a.m.		Owen Werth, Nancy St. Onge
			Barb Szczesniak, Jeff Ciupka
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.		Odessa Morrison
	9:00 a.m.		Harley Steinke
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>			Patti Byce and Laurie Stafford

*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*



**August 26, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**August 27, 2023 - 9:00 a.m.**



**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**  
**The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**August 26, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**August 27, 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, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails, whose promise is sure. **Amen.**

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

Righteous God,  
**we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. We have spoken falsely. We have squandered your blessings. In the name of Jesus, forgive us and grant us your mercy.**

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**      “The Church’s One Foundation”      (Red) #654

**GREETING**

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray. God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**The Forget-Me-Nots** will be meeting on Tuesday, September 12 at noon for a picnic at our church picnic grounds. We will not meet on the first Tuesday because that is right after Labor Day. Please bring your lunch and a beverage. We hope to see you there!

**St. Paul choir** will be starting up again on Wednesday evening, September 6, at 6:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. Looking forward to gathering together again, and hoping to have some new voices join us.

**The August Service Activity** is Besser Elementary School. Items needed: Expo markers, pencils, crayons, colored pencils, markers, notebooks, glue, water bottles, Kleenex, Clorox wipes, headphones, post-it notes, colored popsicle sticks, manilla folders, Ziploc bags (snack or sandwich size), red pens, pencil cap erasers, brown or white lunch paper bags, stickers, Dum Dums suckers, snacks, Playdough, paper towels, sponges, ice packs, band aids, coffee filters (to hold snacks), Dollar Tree gift cards (used to purchase incentives for the classroom), socks, underwear (all sizes) hair ties, sweat pants (smaller sizes) and plastic folders with three prongs in the center. Please leave your donations on the altar. Thank you.

The next **Bazaar Meeting** is Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30 in the lounge. We hope to see you there.

**Popcorn!** St Paul’s Cub Scouts Pack 3092 will be coming to the services on Saturday September 9<sup>th</sup> before and after the 5:30 service, and on Sunday September 10<sup>th</sup> before and after the 9:00 & 10:30 service to sell popcorn to our congregation. Please come and be prepared to help support them. Thank you.

**Come join us for weekend Fellowship.** On Saturday Night we meet before the service at 4:30 for coffee and baked goods until 5:20. Fellowship for the 9:00 service and the 10:30 service will occur in-between the service time. Everyone is invited to join us.

<b>WEEK AT A GLANCE: AUGUST 27– SEPTEMBER 3, 2023</b>	
<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.; Fireside Chats (at Shipman’s house) – 5:00 p.m.
<u>MON.</u>	Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; E.T.A. – 5:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Air Rifle Team – 5:30 p.m.; Soul Sisters Kayaking – 5:30 p.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Women’s Breakfast (at JJ’s) – 7:30 a.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	Men’s Breakfast (at JJ’s) – 7:00 a.m.; Air Rifle Team – 5:30 p.m.
<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 and Children’s Church – 10:30 a.m.

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

**WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:** Pat Brodziak, Ken Sylvester, Sarah Moe Melching, Brendia Mantea, Laurie Stafford, Allison Dutcher, Brendon & Heather Maroney, David Hunt, Dolores Libka, David Reeves, Josh Paulsen, Julie Troy, Krissy, Carol Grabow, Cathy Moe, Cathy Beigaey, Mary Senchuk, John Wegmeyer, Tom Christou, Geri Hanson, 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. We also remember our homebound members. They are: Geraldine Wyman, Harriet Burke, Virginia Kraft, Phyllis Robb, and Norm Dutcher. *(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: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, Rev. Karsten Voskuil-RCA

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

**THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL** (foot of the cross) are given in honor of Maxine Miller from her family.

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>			<u>END OF JUNE</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday (08/26)	5:30 p.m.	47	Income	31,148.16	165,703.26
Sunday ( 08/27)	9:00 a.m.	50	Expenses	<u>27,891.66</u>	<u>175,117.05</u>
	10:30 a.m.	<u>22</u>	Difference	3,256.50	(9,413.79)
Total		119			

**The Soul Sisters next Kayaking Adventure is August 29<sup>th</sup>** at Sytek Park at Bagley Street Bridge at 5:30 p.m. For borrowing kayaks or questions please call Sue Robb, 989-354-8673.

**Worship on the Beach.** We will celebrate the final Saturday of each month (August 26 and September 30) at 7:00 P.M. You are invited to bring a friend, a beverage of choice, a lawn chair, snacks and a joyful spirit. Saturday Night services will continue at 5:30. We will carpool from the church and travel to the beach property at 6:30. The service and time of fellowship will last from 7:00-9:00. If there is rain, we will reschedule.

**Pastor John and Nena are inviting you to come to their house for a Fireside Chat** on August 27 from 5:00-7:00. We will sit by the firepit by the river (or in the house or gazebo) and talk about life, hope, grace, and the love of God (no agenda). This is a gift from Nena and I, so nothing is required to be part of this experience. Come for 15 minutes or for 2 hours.

*(Please be seated)*

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 51:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug. <sup>2</sup>Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you, for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. <sup>3</sup>For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

<sup>4</sup>Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation, for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples. <sup>5</sup>I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out, and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. <sup>6</sup>Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

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

**PSALM: Psalm 138 (Read Responsively)**

I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I sing your praise;  
**I bow down toward your holy temple and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness, for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.**

On the day I called, you answered me; you increased my strength of soul.  
**All the kings of the earth shall praise you, O Lord, for they have heard the words of your mouth.**

They shall sing of the ways of the Lord, for great is the glory of the Lord.  
**For though the Lord is high, he regards the lowly, but the haughty he perceives from far away.**

Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve me against the wrath of my enemies; you stretch out your hand, and your right hand delivers me.  
**The Lord will fulfill his purpose for me; your steadfast love, O Lord, endures forever. Do not forsake the work of your hands.**

**SECOND READING: Romans 12:1-8 (Sunday 9:00 a.m.)**

<sup>1</sup>I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. <sup>2</sup>Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

<sup>3</sup>For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the

measure of faith that God has assigned. <sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. <sup>6</sup> We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; <sup>7</sup> ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; <sup>8</sup> the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

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.

SENDING HYMN

“O Savior, Precious Savior”

(Red) #820

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

**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”

**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: We thank you, generous God, for the refreshment we have received at your banquet table. Send us now to spread your generosity into all the world, through the one who is our dearest treasure, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BENEDICTION

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

### GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” <sup>14</sup> And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” <sup>15</sup> He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” <sup>16</sup> Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” <sup>17</sup> And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. <sup>18</sup> And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. <sup>19</sup> I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” <sup>20</sup> Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of Our Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ.**

*(Please be seated)*

SERMON

“Keys of the Kingdom”

Rev John Shipman

*(Please stand)*

HYMN OF THE DAY

“My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less”

(Red) #597

### Welcoming New 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

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

*(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

C C/G Asus Am F G F/C C

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

F G C Am F G<sup>7</sup> 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.**

*(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"

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.