

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.	Phil Wickstrom
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Myra Gapske
	9:00 a.m.	Danielle McDonald
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Anita Laub
	9:00 a.m.	Zully Dameworth
<u>HEAD USHER</u>		Roy Wekwert
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Tim and Barb Smith
	9:00 a.m.	Kathy Burton, Richard Miller
		Paul Kieliszewski, Barb Szczesniak
<u>CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS</u>		Jean Johnson, Bonnie Duby, Kathy Burton
<u>LITTLES' WORSHIP CENTER LEADERS</u>		Joanne Huggler, Rita Chase
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Marty Cantleberry 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

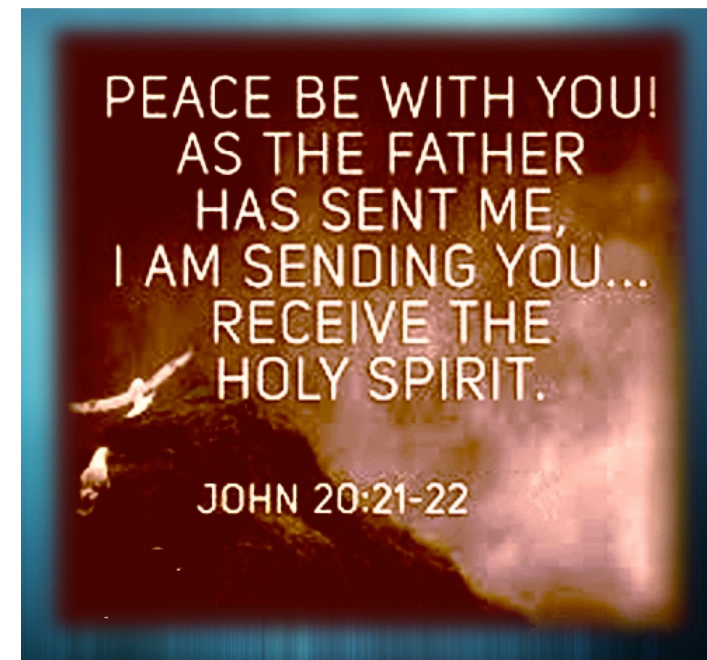
727 S. 2nd, Alpena, MI 49707

Phone 989-356-1658

www.stpaul.org

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Monthly Ministry Highlight:
Women's Dynamic Ministry



May 23, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.

May 24, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Eighth Sunday of Easter
May 23, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.
May 24, 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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne and to the Lamb!
Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Merciful God,
 you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come. You lead us beside still waters. We thank you for the waters of creation: morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves. We thank you for the waters that nourish us (local waters may be named). Blessed are you.
You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.
You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.
You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.
Amen.

Bishop Julie Schneider-Thomas has offered a “Listening Team” to St. Paul. This time of listening will take place on Monday, June 8 from 2-5 and 6-8. In addition to Bishop Julie, there will be 2 other leaders from the synod meeting one on one with those who sign up. Each time slot will be for 15 minutes. You are invited to come and share your reflections on all things St. Paul Lutheran Church: the pastoral ending, the transition period thus far, the joys you experience at St. Paul, the gaps in ministry, the things that give you energy, and the things you may be struggling with. The goal of these listening sessions is to give St. Paul folks a place to share. Important trends will be communicated to leadership, but that is not the goal. The goal is for you to be heard and cared for. Call the church office to sign up.

The Church Rummage Sale dates are set for June 11th – 13th! You may start bringing in your items in stackable sealed boxes and leave them on the right side of the storage area off the dining room. Mark your boxes with a general description of what is in them. Please leave bigger stuff until the week of the rummage sale. We will again be accepting clean used clothing and shoes for our sale. If you have any questions, please call Andrea Dutcher at 989-354-3651.

The Soul Sisters are going to start kayaking in June. We are planning to meet at Duck Park at 5:30 p.m. on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month this summer. So, for June we will be meeting on June 10th and the 24th. If you have any questions, please call Sue Robb at 989-354-8673.

We will celebrate “T-Shirt/Bring a Friend” Weekend on June 13th and 14th. Please don your favorite St. Paul Ev. Lutheran T-Shirt and wear it proudly in worship. Also, bring a friend to join the celebration.

Stephen Ministers are specifically trained Lay Caregivers who offer confidential, one-to-one Christian support to people experiencing a difficult time. We would like to begin another training session. Because we have no male Stephen Ministers, we are especially seeking men who feel called to provide support to other men in our congregation. So, if you feel God nudging you toward this ministry, or if you would like more information, please reach out to either Sue Keyes, Shirley Jones, or any of our active Stephen Ministers.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: MAY 24—31, 2026	
<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>	Memorial Day; Church Office Closed
<u>TUES.</u>	Dinner on a Doorknob – 9:00 a.m.; Recover Yoga – 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.; Choir Practice – 4:30 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast (JJs)-7:00 a.m.; Stitched Together–10:00 a.m.; Open Line Dance–1:00 p.m.; Chair Yoga– 3:00 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.

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

Patricia Nelson - grief	Lee Szczesniak–medical issues
David McNeil–health issues	Chad Hamill – health issues
Yvonne McQuarrie - health issues	Sally Wong - medical issues
Chuck Piontkowski – medical issues	Nancy St. Onge – health issues
Travis Schmidt – health issues	Storm Yakes – medical issues
Dixie Crevier – health issues	Greg Dzieszinski- health issues
Kevin Reiser – health issues	Joel Foster – health issues
Bruce Miller – unspecified need	Phyllis Robb-unspecified need
Margaret Lucian – health issues	Lee Werth—health issues
Ann Martin – medical issues	Dena Stevens – health issues
John Wegmeyer– health issues	Patricia P. - health issues

(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: Resurrection Lutheran Church, Saginaw, Supply Pastors.

We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. This week we specifically pray for the Gratitude Lunches group.

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>END OF MARCH</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday 05/16 5:30 a.m. 27	Income 21,747.29	70,629.12
Sunday 05/17 9:00 a.m. 64	<u>Expenses</u> 36,586.18	<u>102,505.74</u>
10:30 a.m. 19	Difference (14,838.89)	(31,876.62)
Total 110		

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL (foot of the cross) are given to the glory of God!

Please note: The Church Office will be closed on Memorial Day, May 25, 2026.

We are looking for a team to help with the 4th of July Parade float this year. Please contact the church office if you would like to be part of this ministry vision/outreach.

Instead of meeting the first Tuesday next month, the Forget-Me-Nots we will meet on June 9 at the Jesse Besser Museum at noon. We will bring a picnic lunch and eat outdoors, weather permitting. In case of rain, there is a place to eat indoors. After lunch, Christine Witulski, Museum Director, will give us a tour of the Salvatore Dali exhibit. Invite a friend to join us. Questions? Call Ann (989-590-2055)

Fellowship is in need of cookies served before the Saturday Service and between the Sunday Services. We thank you for your generous donations in the past and for the future. There is also a need for some gluten free cookies. Thank you for your consideration!

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.

Prayer of the Day
Let us pray. O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)
FIRST READING: Acts 2:1-21
¹ When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?” ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³ But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

¹⁴ But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵ Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ ‘In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. ¹⁸ Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. ¹⁹ And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰ The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. ²¹ Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’

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

PSALM: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b (Read Responsively)

O Lord, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

There is the sea, great and wide; creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.

There go the ships and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

These all look to you to give them their food in due season;

when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.

May the glory of the Lord endure forever; may the Lord rejoice in his works—

who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the Lord.

Bless the Lord, O my soul. Praise the Lord!

SECOND READING: 1Corinthians 12:3b-13 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)

^{3b}And no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit. ⁴Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, ⁵and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, ⁶and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. ⁷To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. ⁸To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

¹²For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

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

(Please Stand)

Gospel Acclamation



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: Holy One, through this meal you have made your home among us and are making all things new. Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts, to love our enemies, and to bring your healing to the nations. In the name of Jesus, **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN “God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind” (Red) #400

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

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”

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”

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 READING: John 20:19-23

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

The Gospel of Our Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Children’s Message

“This Little Light of Mine”
 This little light of mine
 I'm gonna let it shine

This little light of mine
 I'm gonna let it shine
 This little light of mine
 I'm gonna let it shine
 Let it shine let it shine let it shine

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(Please be seated)

SERMON

Pastor Tom Downs (5:30 p.m.)
 “The Power Is On” Pastor Eugene Bacon
 (9:00 a.m.)

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Holy Spirit, Truth Divine” (Red) #398

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

Merciful God,
 receive our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more.

Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus, **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

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.**