

### 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.

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### PARTICIPANTS

<u>MINISTERS</u>	The People of God
<u>ORGANIST</u>	Marvis McNeil
<u>CHOIR DIRECTOR</u>	Marty Cantleberry
<u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	Shirley Jones
<u>LECTOR</u>	Shirley Jones
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	Joanne Huggler, Rita Chase
<u>USHERS &amp; GREETERS</u>	Dennis Dziesinski, Roy Wekwert Jesse and Jessica O'Neil
<u>CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS</u>	None today
<u>LITTLES' WORSHIP CENTER LEADERS</u>	None today
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>	Sue Robb and Karen Hamann

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

## St. Paul Lutheran Church Worship Service

celebrates and shares God's love and compassion

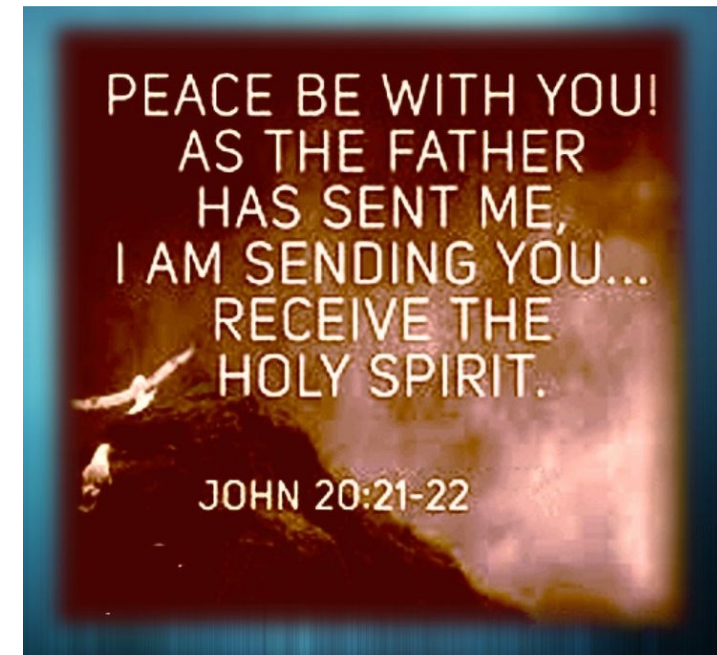
727 S. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Alpena, MI 49707

Phone 989-356-1658

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

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

Monthly Ministry Highlight:  
*Outreach*



**April 12, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.**

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**  
**The Second Sunday of Easter**  
**April 12, 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.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

“Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!”

(Red) #380

**We will resume the ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY program** with a kick off of our MDOT clean up on today, **April 12th**. We will meet at the church at 12:00 to view a video before venturing out for the clean up. Join us!

**Scouting America Troop 92 invites you to a Breakfast Fundraiser at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.** Free Will Offering. All you can eat plus take-out option. If you have any questions, please contact Scoutmaster Steve Donajkowski at 989-255-6521.

**We will have a “Spring Spruce Up” on Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. thru noon.** Come and help us spruce up the building for the spring. RSVP to the office. Lunch will be provided.

**Dust off your tea party hat!** The Women’s Tea will be held from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Please RSVP to Patti at 989-335-0336. More information and online registration are available. Mark your calendars now and invite a friend.

**Everyone is invited to our May Video Educational Experience** on Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. We will be watching “**Sound of Hope, the Story of Possum Trot**” and a meal will be provided with discussion throughout.

**The Church Rummage Sale dates are set for June 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>!** 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.

**If you would like to make further donations to the Cancer Center,** for patients undergoing treatment we are needing packaged nuts, crackers with peanut butter or cheese, rice crispy treats, candy bars, Jolly Rancher hard candies, oatmeal packets, pudding snacks. Please drop them off at Miss Linda’s office.

<b>WEEK AT A GLANCE: APRIL 12 -19, 2026</b>	
<b><u>SUN.</u></b>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Informational Session following the service; Highway Pick-Up – 12:00 p.m.; Scout Banquet – 12:00 p.m.
<b><u>MON.</u></b>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts -4:00 p.m.; E.T.A. Group – 5:30 p.m.
<b><u>TUES.</u></b>	Gratitude Lunches – 9:00 a.m.; Stewardship – 4:00 p.m.; Recovery Yoga – 5:00 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Scouting America – 6:30 p.m.
<b><u>WED.</u></b>	Newsletter Deadline; Breakfast Belles – 7:30 a.m.; AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Choir Practice – 4:30 p.m.
<b><u>THURS.</u></b>	3M Men’s Breakfast (JJs) - 7:00 a.m.; Stitches of Joy – 10:00 a.m.; Open Line Dance – 1:00 p.m.; Chair Yoga– 3:00 p.m.
<b><u>FRI.</u></b>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.
<b><u>SAT.</u></b>	Fellowship – 4:30 p.m.; Worship Service/HC – 5:30 p.m.
<b><u>SUN.</u></b>	Scout Breakfast – 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.; 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                      Laura Fair – fell  
David McNeil–upcoming surgery                      Chad Hamill – health issues                      Mike H. - illness  
Bennett Gilmet – medical issues                      June Sylvester – fractured back                      Tina Yeager – health issues  
Kevin Atkinson – health issues                      Storm Yakes – medical issues                      Kioni Peoples family - grief  
Dixie Crevier – health issues                      Greg Dzieszinski- health issues                      Lisa Dzieszinski-health issue  
Kevin Reiser – health issues                      Joel Foster – health issues                      Billie Jo Foster – health issues  
Cathy Murtha – medical issues                      Phyllis Robb-unspecified need                      Malary Smith – unspecified  
Margaret Lucian – health issues                      Lee Werth—health issues                      Adam Schmidt- health issues  
Carol Kuhl – health issues                      Ann Martin – medical issues                      Dena Stevens – health issues  
John Wegmeyer– health issues                      Alan Marwede–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 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: Hope Lutheran Church, Rockford, Supply Pastors.

**We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church.** This week we specifically pray for the Christmas Bazaar group.

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

**Following the service today there will be an informational session** with Rev. Scott Torkko, Assistant to the Bishop, from the Synod Office. Everyone is invited to stay for that session.

**The April Service Activity is Wilson Elementary School.** Items needed: Pocket folders, clip boards, poster boards (any color), Clorox wipes, Kleenex, sidewalk chalk, bubbles, lined filler paper, and individually wrapped snacks. Please leave your items on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

**The Scholarship Committee would like to remind** all senior high school students and college students, that we are accepting scholarship applications starting April 1st. Applications can be picked up in the office April 1st. Please complete all portions of the application and return it by April 30<sup>th</sup>.

**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.

**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 life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, 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 2:14a, 22-32**

<sup>14a</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, <sup>22</sup> “Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs which God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—<sup>23</sup> this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. <sup>24</sup> But God raised him up, having loosed the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. <sup>25</sup> For David says concerning him, ‘I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; <sup>26</sup> therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover my flesh will dwell in hope. <sup>27</sup> For thou wilt not abandon my soul to Hades, nor let thy Holy One see corruption. <sup>28</sup> Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; thou wilt make me full of gladness with thy presence.’

<sup>29</sup> “Brethren, I may say to you confidently of the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. <sup>30</sup> Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants upon his throne, <sup>31</sup> he foresaw and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. <sup>32</sup> This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 16 (Read Responsively)**

Preserve me, O God, for in thee I take refuge.

**I say to the Lord, “Thou art my Lord; I have no good apart from thee.”**

As for the saints in the land, they are the noble, in whom is all my delight.

**Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their libations of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips.**

The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup; thou holdest my lot.

**The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; yea, I have a goodly heritage.**

I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

**I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**

Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also dwells secure.

**For thou dost not give me up to Sheol, or let thy godly one see the Pit.**

Thou dost show me the path of life; in thy presence there is fulness of joy, in thy right hand are pleasures for evermore.

**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:3-9 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)**

<sup>3</sup> Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,<sup>4</sup> and to an inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,<sup>5</sup> who by God's power are guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.<sup>6</sup> In this you rejoice, though now for a little while you may have to suffer various trials,<sup>7</sup> so that the genuineness of your faith, more precious than gold which though perishable is tested by fire, may redound to praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.<sup>8</sup> Without having seen him you love him; though you do not now see him you believe in him and rejoice with unutterable and exalted joy.<sup>9</sup> As the outcome of your faith you obtain the salvation of your souls.

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.

Lord re - jice 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. A - men, a - men.

**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**

“Jesus Shall Reign”

(Red) #434

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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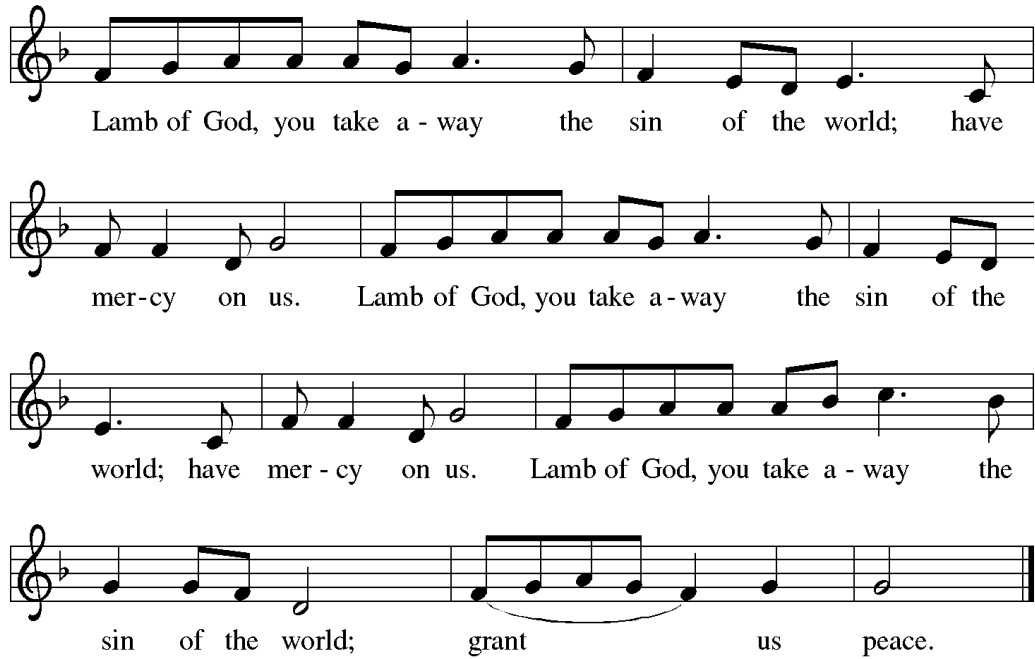
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
 and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

*(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.

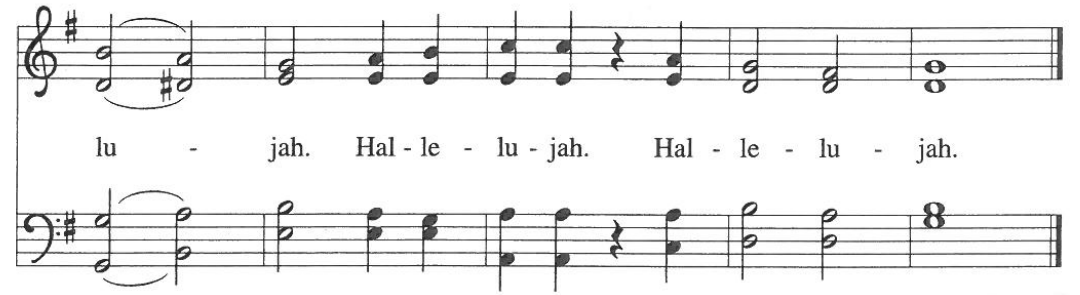
Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

**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



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 20:19-31**

<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**

“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**

Rev. Scott Torkko  
(Assistant to the Bishop)

*(Please stand)*  
**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“The Peace of the Lord”

(Red) #646

**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

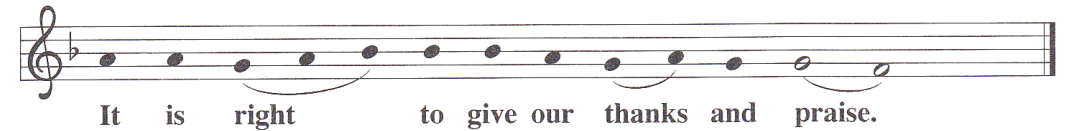
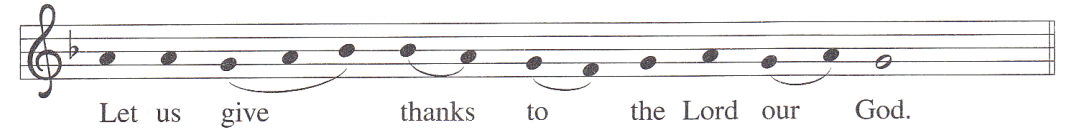
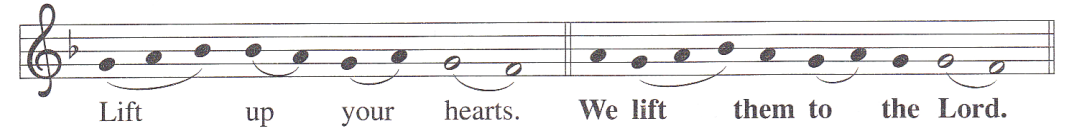
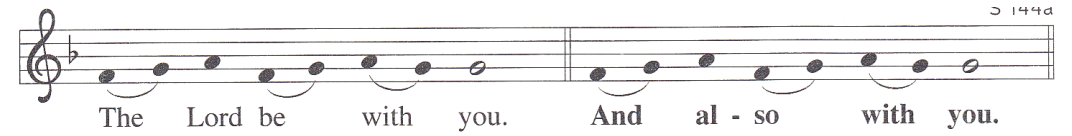
**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** Merciful God,  
receive our prayer.

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

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

**OFFERING PRAYER**

*(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 - 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.

**EUCHARISTIC 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;**