

### 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>PASTOR</u>		Rev. John Shipman
<u>ORGANIST</u>		Marvis McNeil
<u>CHOIR DIRECTOR</u>		Marty Cantleberry
<u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	5:30 p.m.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	Scott Parkham
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Myra Gapske
	9:00 a.m.	Ann Hardesty
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Sue Robb
	9:00 a.m.	Janice Boboltz
<u>USHERS &amp; GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Bruce Anschuetz
	9:00 a.m.	Cathy Kieliszewski, Kathy Burton
		Barb Szczesniak
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.	Odessa Morrison
	9:00 a.m.	Harley Steinke
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Karen Hamann and Sue Robb

*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*



**October 7, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.**

**October 8, 2023 - 9:00 a.m.**



**The Annual Meeting** will be Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, right after the 9:00 a.m. service. Please note: There will be only one service (Sunday 9:00 a.m.) that weekend. Packets are available in the Narthex, one per family please.

**The Adventure Club will meet on Sunday, October 15 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. at 5868 Dietz Road in Alpena.** We will have pumpkin carving, cider and cookies, games, and get your picture with a long horn cow. Bring your spirit of adventure and hope as you explore and share your faith through fun and food within this intergenerational educational experience. The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1 – 105 years old.

The Dynamic Duo Ministry is sponsoring a **Progressive Dinner** on Friday, October 20<sup>th</sup>. We will be traveling from house to house for different parts of a meal. This event is open to all couples. Come and be part of this new ministry expression. You may sign up online or call the church office.

Boy Scout Troop 92 invited you to join us for a **Soup & Pie Dinner on Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup>** from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Prices are \$10 for Adult, \$6 for children (10 and under), \$28 for a family of four and children under 4 are free. You can buy tickets from any of the Boy Scouts or pick them up in the church office on Thursday mornings from Joanne, if possible. Come and enjoy a selection of delicious homemade soups and desserts!

**The St. Paul Christmas Bazaar is November 4<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose room,** with our famous “Turkey Noodle Casserole” being served from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Tickets for the luncheon are now available for sale either at the church office or bazaar member. To honor our former chairperson – Lori Ludwig, we are splitting our “tithe” money between the two places she served graciously for so many years, the Friendship Room at St. Bernards and Trinity Sunday Supper. Our next meeting is Monday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. in the lounge. If you have any questions, please call Esther at 989-471-2274.

**Please note:** The water at the church picnic grounds will be turned off for the winter on October 18th.

<b>WEEK AT A GLANCE: OCTOBER 8 – 15, 2023</b>	
<u>SUN.</u>	Sunday Worship/HC – 9:00; Fellowship – 10:00; Contemporary Service & Children’s Church and C.I.A. (Youth) – 10:30 a.m.
<u>MON.</u>	Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; E.T.A. – 5:00 p.m.; Christmas Bazaar Meeting – 5:30 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 6:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Gratitude Lunches – 9:00 a.m.; Stephen Ministry – 10:00 a.m.; Stewardship – 5:00 p.m.; Air Rifle Team – 5:30 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles (at JJ’s) – 7:30 a.m.; St. John Bible Study (Pastor John) – 1:00 & 5:30 p.m.; “Joshua – Winning the Worry Battle” Study (Nena) – 5:30 p.m.; Choir – 6:00 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast (at JJ’s) – 7:00 a.m.; Chair Yoga – 3:00 p.m.; Outreach – 5:00 p.m.; Recovery Yoga – 5:30 p.m.; Air Rifle Team – 5:30 p.m.; Singles – 5:30 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Singles Retreat – 6:00 p.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	No Worship Service – Join us for the 9 a.m. service tomorrow and the Annual Meeting following
<u>SUN.</u>	Sunday Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Annual Meeting – 10:00 a.m. ; The Adventure Club (5868 Dietz Road) - 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.; Newsletter Deadline

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

**WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:** Nate Cosbitt, Liz Smith, Warren MacNeil, Shirley Kowalski, Barbara Carlson, Marty & Liz Smith, Loccia Fifield, Sue Kaiser, Andy Beagle, Phyllis Robb, Jillian Kerby, Frank, Sarah Moe Melching, Brendia Mantea, Allison Dutcher, David Hunt, Dolores Libka, David Reeves, Julie Troy, Geri Hanson, Billiejo Foster, Gus Schultz, Elaine Kingsbury, Sally Barney, Joel Foster, 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: St. Matthew Lutheran Church, Herron, Rev. Leslie Nye.

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

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

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>			<u>END OF AUGUST</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday (09/30)	5:30 p.m.	57	Income	26,400.89	213,982.64
Sunday ( 10/01)	9:00 a.m.	46	Expenses	<u>29,813.22</u>	<u>233,530.17</u>
	10:30 a.m.	<u>43</u>	Difference	(3,412.33)	(19,547.53)
Total		146			

Join us for our Autumn Educational Opportunities, which run through October 25. Pastor John is holding a Bible Study on the Gospel of John and Miss Nena is leading a Book Study on "Joshua- Winning the Worry Battle," by Barb Roose. Each class length will be 1 hour. Pastor John's Class meets on Wednesdays at 1:00 and 5:30 PM and Miss Nena's class also meets on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m.

The October Service Activity is Ella White Elementary School. Items needed: Sweatpants/leggings (sizes 6-14), underwear (sizes 6-14), tennis shoes (all kid sizes), and snacks for our students (any type of pre-packaged snack item is beneficial) Please leave your donations on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

We will be taking part in the community Trunk R Treat again this year, which will be held Friday, October 27<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. So, if you would like to donate candy, please drop it off at the church. *Thanks.*

Pastor Troy Spencer (our former intern) and Emily Reese are marrying on October 7<sup>th</sup> in Pennsylvania. If you would like to send them a wedding gift, their address is: 1600 Fowler Ave., Berwick, PA 18603.

The Singles Retreat is set for October 13<sup>th</sup>! Come explore the vision of "Living Your Best Single Life in Christ." This event will take place at 1921 Long Rapids Road at 6:00 and there is no cost associated with this. We will explore God's promises for community and fellowship for single Christians, ages 18-100.

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**  
**The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**October 7, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**October 8, 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 God, the one who forms us, + Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Steadfast and faithful God,  
**you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.**

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**

"You Are Holy"

(Red) #525

**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. Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

### **FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7**

<sup>1</sup>I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. <sup>2</sup>He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes. <sup>3</sup>And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. <sup>4</sup>What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes? <sup>5</sup>And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. <sup>6</sup>I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. <sup>7</sup>For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM: Psalm 80:7-15 (Read Responsively)**

Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

**You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.**

You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.

**The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches;**

it sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River.

**Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?**

The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.

**Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven and see;**

have regard for this vine, the stock that your right hand planted.

### **SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14 (Sunday 9:00 a.m.)**

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my

## Sermon Notes

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

**Thanks be to God.**

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own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. <sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead. <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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 - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

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

**GOSPEL: Matthew 21:33-46**

<sup>33</sup>“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. <sup>34</sup>When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. <sup>35</sup>But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup>Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ <sup>39</sup>So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” <sup>41</sup>They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

<sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’?”

<sup>43</sup>“Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. <sup>44</sup>The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

<sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

**Children’s Message**

**“Jesus Loves Me”**  
Jesus loves me this I know  
For the Bible tells me so  
Little ones to Him belong  
They are weak but He is strong  
Yes Jesus loves me. Yes Jesus loves me  
Yes Jesus loves me the Bible tells me so

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*(Please be seated)*

SERMON

“The Vineyard”

*(Please stand)*

HYMN OF THE DAY

“The Church of Christ, in Every Age”

(Red) #729

**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**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

**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.**

**MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BENEDICTION**

SENDING HYMN

“My Lord of Light”

(Red) #832