

### 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.

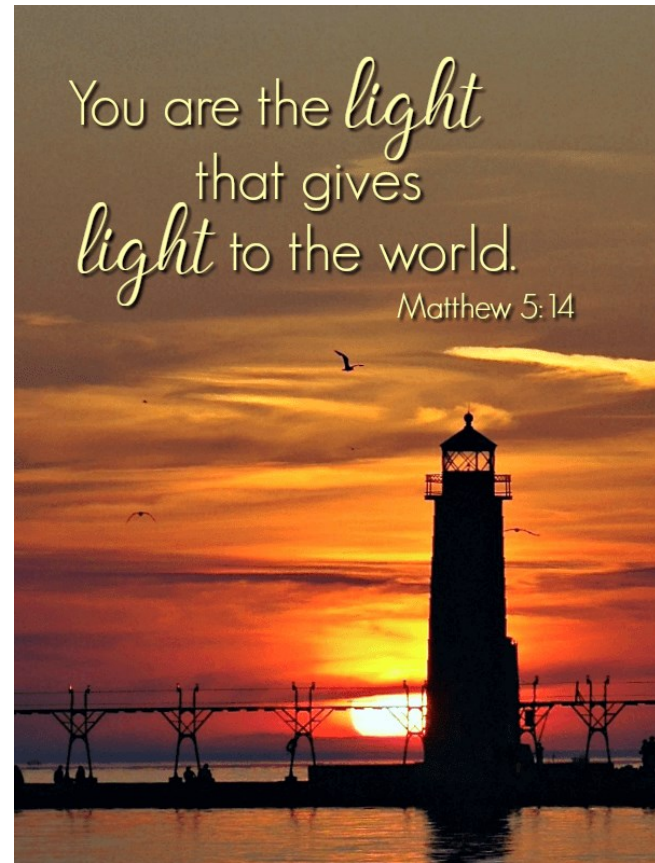
There are **restrooms** located in the basement of this building and on the ground floor of the hallway leading to our fellowship hall and on each floor of the educational building.

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<u>PARTICIPANTS</u>	
<u>MINISTERS</u>	The People of God
<u>PASTOR</u>	Rev. John Shipman
<u>ORGANIST</u>	Marvis McNeil
<u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	5:30 p.m. 9:00 a.m. Esther Kindt
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m. 9:00 a.m. Boy Scouts
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m. 9:00 a.m. Sue Robb Janice Boboltz
<u>USHERS &amp; GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m. 9:00 a.m. Patti Byce Boy Scouts
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m. 9:00 a.m. Alayna Krey Emily Smith
<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. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Alpena, MI 49707  
Phone 989-356-1658  
[www.stpaul.org](http://www.stpaul.org)  
*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*



**February 4, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**February 5, 2023 - 9:00 a.m.**

**Mark your calendars for a February Video Educational Experience.** We will see “Flywheel” on February 8th at 6:00 PM. A meal is provided and discussion afterward. All are invited to attend. Please call the church office if you are coming, which will help us with our planning.

**Join us for our next Couples Retreat on February 17th** – our theme is “A Journey Together.” The event will begin at 6:00 p.m. at 1921 Long Rapids Road and there is no cost associated with this event. We will explore God’s promises for community and fellowship for couples. Ages 18 – 100 are invited to discover God’s faithfulness in your faith journey.

The **PASTA NIGHT will be Saturday, February 18th**, following the Saturday 5:30 p.m. service. Plan to come and enjoy good food, fellowship, and fun. A Chinese auction and 50/50 raffle will be part of the evening. If anyone would like to donate raffle items, please contact Dennis or Lori Dziesinski at 989- 464-7112 or 989-590-8568. A portion of the proceeds will go to the *Second Chance Animal Shelter* and the *Taste from Home Ministry*.

**The Adventure Club will be going to the A-Plex for a special time Ice Skating** on the February 19<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Bring your spirit of adventure and hope as you explore and share your faith through fun, adventure, and food within this intergenerational educational experience. There is a cost of \$2.00 for skate rental if needed. *The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1-105 years old.*

**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 Nena’s office.

<b>WEEK AT A GLANCE: FEBRUARY 5 – 12, 2023</b>	
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m. ( <i>Boy Scout Sunday</i> ); Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service & Children’s Church – 10:30 a.m.
<u>MON.</u>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Tech Talks – 11:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 6:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Forget-Me-Nots – 1:00 p.m.; Education Committee – 5:30 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Air Rifle – 5:30 p.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.; Prayer Shawl – 6:00 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Women’s Breakfast (at JJ’s) – 7:30 a.m.; AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Yoga 101 – 11:00 a.m.; Movie Night “Flywheel” – 6:00 p.m.; Choir – 6:00 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	Men’s Breakfast (at JJ’s) – 7:00 a.m.; Chair Yoga – 3:00 p.m.; Outreach – 5:00 p.m.; Air Rifle Team – 5:30 p.m.; Recovery Yoga – 5:30 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Narcotics Anonymous – 6:00 p.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 4:30 p.m.; Worship/HC – 5:30 p.m.
<u>SUN.</u>	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.

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

**WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:** Mary Kuhl, Mya Hall, Myra Gapske, Brandon Urban, Judy Burley, Keeley Knapp, Don Urban Sr., Billiejo Foster, Donna Burton, Jimmy Abend, Cheryl Rosbeck, George Morley, Steve Zbytowski, Austin Scull, Paula Baker, Lucille Hanna Withun, Jerry Swanson, Annette Wade, Zay, Lisa Hilberg, Sandra Christopherson, Larkin Kerby, William Taylor, John Wegmeyer, Gus Schultz, Elaine Kingsbury, Sally Barney, Joel Foster, Nancy Chrzan, Phyllis Robb, Eugene Brooks, Bodo Hanson, Sutton Badder, Marian Dove, Dolores Sumerix, Audrey Reck, Deb Lange, Bernice Menck, and Karen Wallace. **ARMED SERVICES:** Michael Emington, Dominick Christou, Sawyer Hein, Rachael Mayes, Brandon Sloan, Andrew Hein, Alexander Gould, Mandy Killingbeck, Jacqueline Crimmins, Ashley (Dingman) Grant, Charles Tudor, Justin A. Smith, and Maragely Hein. *(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: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Allegan, Rev. Christopher Laughlin.

**We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church.** This week we specifically pray for the Men's Evening Monthly Gathering.

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

**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.

**Our February Service Activity is Hinks Elementary School.** The items needed are: Underwear – boys size small (6) and girls size 8 and 10; Socks – boys med/large, girls med/large; Pants – boys size 10; Gloves – medium/large. Please leave your donation items on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

**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.

**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 Forget-Me-Nots will meet on Tuesday, February 7 at 1:00 in the multi-purpose room.** Bring your favorite game for an afternoon of playing games and visiting. If you wish to provide a snack, please bring it with you. Pop and water will be available. You may invite a friend to join us. Hope to see you on February 7.

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**  
**The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**  
**February 4, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**February 5, 2023 - 9:00 a.m.**

*Congregational responses are printed in bold; Additional items for the 9:00 a.m. service only are printed in blue.)*

**Welcome! Celebrations of birthdays, Anniversaries and a time to welcome our guests. The offering will be received at the back and front of the church building. We ask that you fill out the communion card and place it in the offering plate in the front or back of the church before you depart the church.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

*(Please Stand)*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One, source of our renewal,  
**we confess that we are wrapped up in sin, and cannot free ourselves. We have not practiced your righteousness. Our hearts have turned away from you. For the sake of the world you so love, forgive us, that we may be reconciled to one another for the glory of your holy name. 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**

“Gather Us In”

(Red) #532

**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.**



**█** 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, we thank you for the healing that springs forth abundantly from this table. Renew our strength to do justice, love kindness, and journey humbly with you. **Amen.**

**MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BENEDICTION**

SENDING HYMN "We Are Marching in the Light" (Red) #866

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Follow in the way of Jesus. **Thanks be to God.**

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**HYMN OF PRAISE**

*Refrain*  
 Assisting minister  
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 All  
 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us  
 free to be peo - ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and  
 strength, and hon - or and bless - ing and glo - ry are his.  
*Refrain*  
 This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.  
 2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the  
 hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and  
 might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.



*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain  
has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray. Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:1-9a**

<sup>1</sup>Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. <sup>2</sup>Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side. <sup>3</sup>“Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?” Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. <sup>4</sup>You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. <sup>5</sup>Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the Lord? <sup>6</sup>Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? <sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin? <sup>8</sup>Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard. <sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

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

**PSALM: Psalm 112:1-9 (Read Responsively)**

Praise the LORD! Happy are those who fear the LORD, who greatly delight in his commandments.

**Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

**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 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”

D 144d

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 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.**

Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever. **They rise in the darkness as a light for the upright; they are gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

It is well with those who deal generously and lend, who conduct their affairs with justice.

**For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever.**

They are not afraid of evil tidings; their hearts are firm, secure in the LORD. **Their hearts are steady; they will not be afraid; in the end they will look in triumph on their foes.**

They have distributed freely; they have given to the poor; their righteousness endures forever; their horn is exalted in honor.

**SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 2:1 - 12**

<sup>1</sup>When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. <sup>2</sup>For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. <sup>3</sup>And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. <sup>4</sup>My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, <sup>5</sup>so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

<sup>6</sup>Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. <sup>7</sup>But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory <sup>8</sup>and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. <sup>9</sup>But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—

<sup>10</sup>God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. <sup>11</sup>For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. <sup>12</sup>Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

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

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

**GOSPEL: Matthew 5:13-20**

<sup>13</sup>“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

<sup>14</sup>“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. <sup>15</sup> People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. <sup>16</sup> In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

<sup>17</sup>“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. <sup>18</sup> For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. <sup>19</sup> Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. <sup>20</sup> For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.

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

*(Please be seated)*

SERMON

“Excel In Righteousness”

Pastor John Shipman

*(Please stand)*

HYMN OF THE DAY

“This Little Light of Mine”

(Red) #677

**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 prayers.

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

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

**OFFERING IS BEING RECEIVED IN THE BACK & THE FRONT OF THE CHURCH BUILDING**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray. Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, **Amen.**

*(Please stand)*

*(Sung at the 9:00 a.m. service.)*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**