

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.

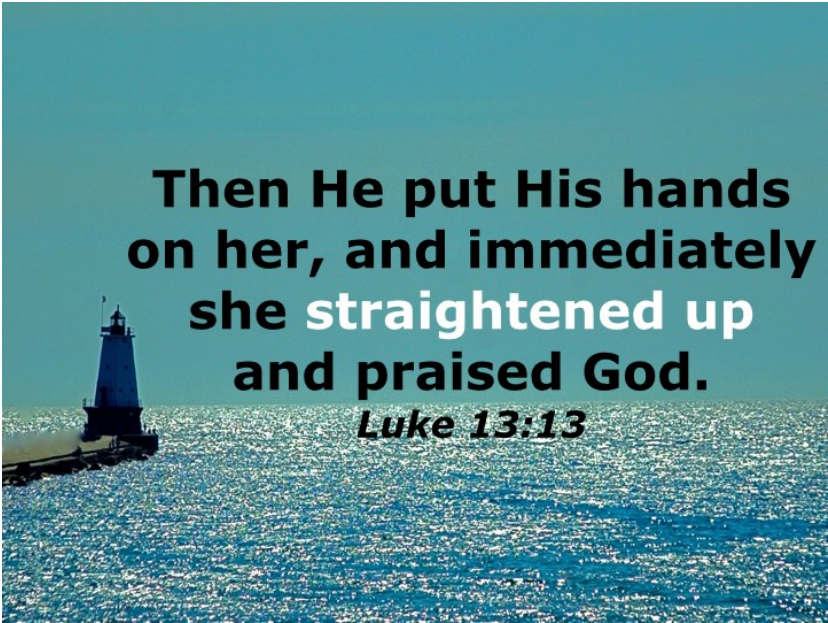
There are **restrooms** located in the basement of this building and on the ground floor of the hallway leading to our fellowship hall and on each floor of the educational building.

<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.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	Phil Wickstrom
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	Phil Wickstrom
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Anita Laub
	9:00 a.m.	Janice Boboltz
<u>HEAD USHER</u>		Roy Wekwert
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Bruce Anschuetz
	9:00 am.	Jeff Ciupka, Ryan Panknin
		Paul Kieliszewski, Barb Szczesniak
<u>CHILDREN’S CHURCH LEADERS</u>		Sue Robb, Kathy Burton
		Bonnie Duby, Nena Shipman
<u>LITTLES’ WORSHIP CENTER LEADERS</u>		Ophelia Steinke, Ashley MacKay
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Patti Byce 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:
Personnel Committee



August 23, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.
August 24, 2025 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 23, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.
August 24, 2025 - 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

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. 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 “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” (Red) #858

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.

Pastor John and Nena are inviting you to come to their house (1921 Long Rapids Road) for a fireside chat on Sunday, August 31st from 5:00-7:00 p.m. We will sit by the firepit near the river (or in the house or gaze-bo) 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.

CIA (Christians in Action) will be starting up Sunday, September 7th during the 10:30 service. We will meet each week on the 3rd floor in the youth room. All teens 6th-12th grades are invited to attend.

Join us September 6th & 7th for T-Shirt Weekend/Friendship Weekend/God’s Work Our Hands Weekend. Wear your favorite T-shirt and invite a friend!

Join us for a Bowling Event “Strikes Spark Compassion” on Friday, September 12, 2025, at the Thunder Bowl Lanes. Please come out to bowl (\$60) 4-person team, be a lane sponsor (\$75) or an event sponsor (\$100). With the bowling you get a pizza and a pitcher of pop. Chinese Raffle and 50-50 during the event. This is a fund raiser for St. Paul Church for weather-proofing the church with the bid being \$60,000.00. This needs to be done to keep the moisture out of the brick and mortar, which is leaking into the church. Questions? Please contact the church office or Val Urban, 989-916-5560.

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran is sponsoring, **“A Salute to our Veterans”** on Saturday, September 6th from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. a free meal will be provided to all veterans. Zoo’s Tasty EatZ will be set up in our parking lot.

Fellowship volunteers are needed to host Fellowship on Sunday mornings. Please call the church office or Janice Boboltz at 989-356-4834 or 989-464-6211 if you are interested in serving on this ministry at our church.

Next weekend we will collect the noisy offering for the Boys and Girls Club, so bring your change!

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.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: <i>AUGUST 24—31, 2025</i>	
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children’s Church – 10:30 a.m.
<u>MON.</u>	Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; E.T.A. Group – 5:30 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Soul Sisters Kayaking – 5:30 p.m.; Scouting America – 6:30 p.m.; Narcotics Anonymous – 8:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles – 7:30 a.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.; Stitched Together – 10:00 a.m.; Open Line Dance – 1:00 p.m.; Yoga 101 – 5:00 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.; Worship on the Beach – 7:00 p.m.
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children’s Church – 10:30 a.m.; Fireside Chat – 5:00 p.m.

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

<u>WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:</u>	Karen Schwochow – strength	George Sneden-health issues
Lisa Creguer – cancer treatments	Gary Lumsden – surgery	Don Barnard—recovery
Debra Gapske – health issues	Vicki Carlson – health issues	Alan Marwede—health issues
Karen Wallace–unspecified need	Annette Wade – medical issues	Dena Stevens – health issues
Lee Werth—health issues	Randy Krebs—health issues	Art Hoffmeyer - heart issues
Joan Smolinski – knee surgery recovery	John Wegmeyer– health issues	Mark Christou – health issues
Adam Schmidt- health issues	Chad Hamill – health issues	Jan Plamondon – grief
Laura Kieliszewski – health issues	Phyllis Robb-unspecified need	Laura Cussen – stroke
Ann Martin – medical issues	Margaret Lucian – health issues	David McNeil – 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. Thank you.)

We remember our prayer partners in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod: Peace Lutheran Church, Holland, Supply Pastors.

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

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	END OF JUNE	YEAR TO DATE
Saturday (08/16) 5:30 p.m.	Income 36,225.99	177,439.06
Sunday (08/17) 9:00 a.m. 50	<u>Expenses 44,453.02</u>	<u>195,632.16</u>
10:30 a.m. 35	Difference (8,227.03)	(18,193.10)
Total		

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

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.

Worship on the Beach. We will celebrate 2 more times this summer at our beach property. The last Saturday of each month (August 30 and September 27) 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 p.m. We will carpool from the church and travel to the beach property at 6:30 p.m. The service and time of fellowship will last from 7:00-9:00 p.m. If there is rain, we will reschedule.

The Soul Sisters are kayaking on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month this summer. We meet at Sytek Park at 5:30 p.m. So, in August we will meet next on August 26th. All women are invited to join us. If you have any questions, please call Sue Robb at 989-590-7611.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:9b-14

^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,
¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. ¹¹ The Lord will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail.
¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.
¹³ If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the Lord honourable; if you honour it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs;
¹⁴ then you shall take delight in the Lord, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

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

PSALM: Psalm 103:1-8 (Read Responsively)

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits—
who forgives all your iniquity, who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the Pit, who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good as long as you live so that your youth is renewed like the eagle’s.
The Lord works vindication and justice for all who are oppressed.
He made known his ways to Moses, his acts to the people of Israel.
The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 12:18-29

¹⁸ You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. ²⁰ (For they could not endure the order that was given, ‘If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death.’ ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, ‘I tremble with fear.’) ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are

²⁵ See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! ²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, ‘Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven.’ ²⁷ This phrase ‘Yet once more’ indicates the removal of what is shaken—that is, created things—so that what cannot be shaken may remain. ²⁸ Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; ²⁹ for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

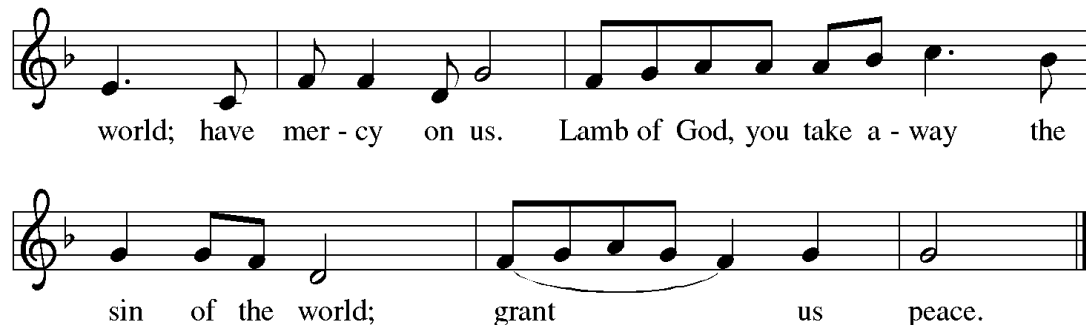
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

3

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

8



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”



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

GOSPEL READING: Luke 13:10-17

¹⁰Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. ¹¹And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. ¹²When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, ‘Woman, you are set free from your ailment.’ ¹³When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. ¹⁴But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, ‘There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day.’ ¹⁵But the Lord answered him and said, ‘You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? ¹⁶And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?’ ¹⁷When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

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

“Freedom Oh Freedom”

Rev. John Shipman

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“We Come to You for Healing, Lord”

(Red) #617

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 PRAYER

(Please stand)
(Sung at the 9:00 a.m. service.)
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

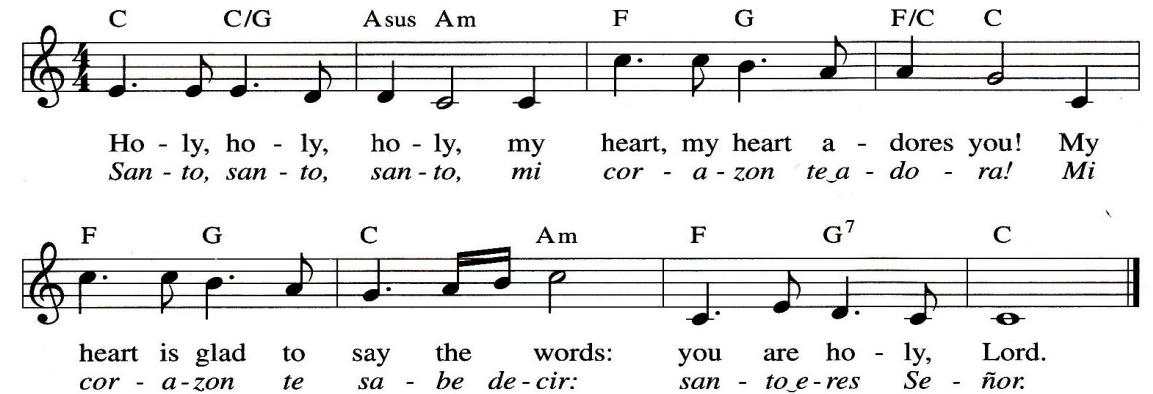
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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



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

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

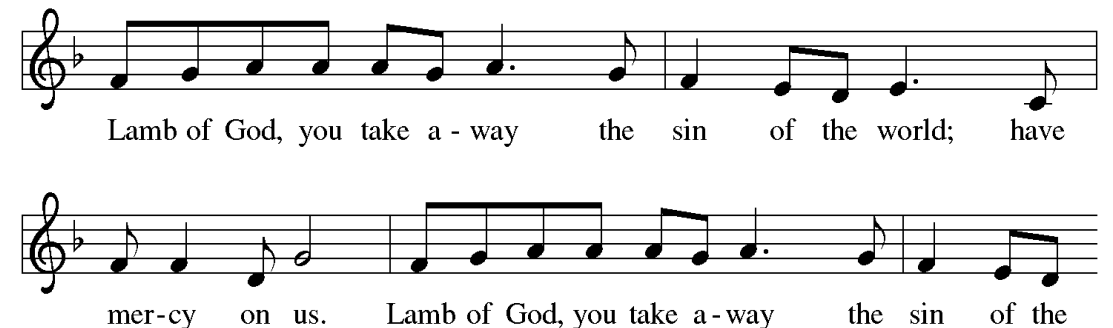
Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us:

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