

### 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.

#### 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.	Barb Szczesniak
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Gail Atkins
	9:00 a.m.	Danielle McDonald
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Joan Smolinski
	9:00 a.m.	Joanne Huggler
<u>USHERS &amp; GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Patti Byce
	9:00 a.m.	Cathy Kieliszewski, Richard Miller Owen Werth, Jeff Ciupka
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.	Odessa Morrison
	9:00 a.m.	Karen Hamann and Sue Robb
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		

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

## St. Paul Lutheran Church Worship Service

celebrates and shares God's love and compassion

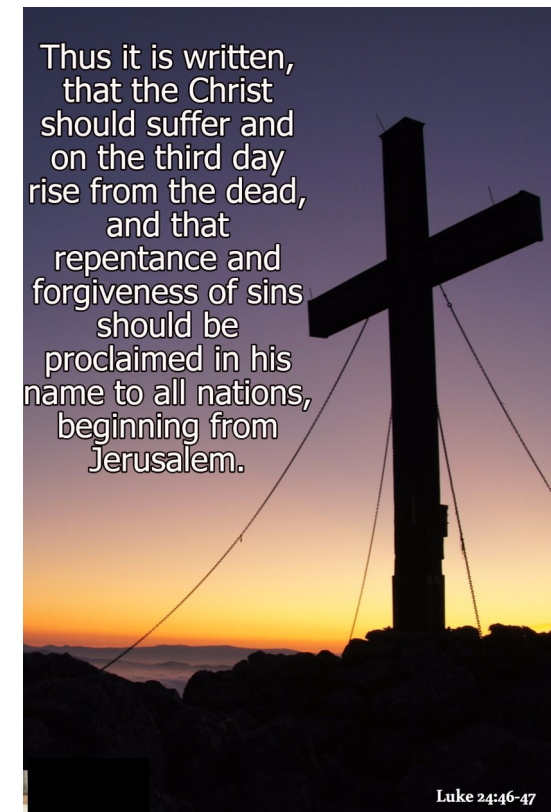
727 S. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Alpena, MI 49707

Phone 989-356-1658

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

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

Monthly Ministry Highlight:  
*Outreach*



**April 13, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.**

**April 14, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.**

## GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

The Third Sunday of Easter

April 13, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.

April 14, 2024 - 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 the holy Trinity, + one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us.

**We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian official entered your boundless baptismal life.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

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**

“Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!”

(Red) #377

All are invited to a **Peace Gathering** at Grace Lutheran on April 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. with cookies and punch to follow. Come and take part in an evening of gentle music provided by Mr. David Usher followed by intermittent readings and quiet reflection.

**Mark your calendars!** We will also have a **Spring Spruce Up Day** on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The property leaders are making a list of items that can be spruced up on that day. This is a church wide event with a meal that is free of charge. No task is too small or great.

The **Adventure Club** has a wonderful time planned to swim at the **Alpena Plaza Pool** on April 21st from 1:00 – 3:00 PM. Bring your spirit of adventure as you explore and share your faith through fun within this intergenerational educational experience. The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1-105 years old.

The **SALT (Sisters Abiding in Light and Truth)** young women's group will be meeting for a movie night on **Sunday, April 21st at 6:30 p.m. at the Sanctuary Cinema.** The movie and popcorn is free. Please contact the church office or sign up online if you plan to attend.

**A new group is being formed in honor of Joy "Shirley" Brooks called "Stitches of Joy."** This group will gather to sew projects that will be distributed throughout the community in her name. If you would like to join this dynamic ministry, we are meeting for the first time on **April 25 (please note the date change!)**, at 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at Sandy Dee's Quilt Shop and every third Thursday after that, each month. Bring your sewing machine and supplies, your inspiration, a sack lunch and an open heart. If you have any questions contact Karen at 989-464-0204.

We will hold an **Emergency Class** which will answer questions and have a CPR procedures class, by a representative from the Alpena Township Fire Department, on April 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. and April 28<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 and 11:30 a.m. Plan now to attend.

The **April Service Activity is Wilson Elementary School.** Items needed for recess: footballs, soccer balls, basketballs, nerf footballs, regular jump ropes, Double Dutch jump ropes, ladder toss, giant checkers/Tic Tac Toe mat, and sidewalk chalk. Please leave items on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

**This is your last chance to purchase a St. Paul sweatshirt.** Please contact Joanne 989-356-6532 or Sherry, 989-356-9600 if interested and get your money in by April 15<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

#### WEEK AT A GLANCE: APRIL 14 - 21, 2024

<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children's Ch. - 10:30
<u>MON.</u>	Line Dancing – 2:00; E.T.A. – 5:30 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 6:00 p.m.; Newsletter Deadline
<u>TUES.</u>	Ray of Sonshine – 5:00 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30; Air Rifle – 5:30 p.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles <i>Women's Breakfast</i> (at JJ's) – 7:30; Choir – 6:00 p.m.; "Do You Believe?" Movie – 6:00
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men's Breakfast – 7:00; Gentle Yoga – 1:30; Chair Yoga – 3:00; Air Rifle Team – 5:30 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Alpena Line Dance Club – 5:00 p.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	Spring Spruce Up Day – 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.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 and Children's Ch. - 10:30; The Adventure Club at Plaza Pool 1:00-3:00 p.m.; S.A.L.T. Movie at Sanctuary Cinema – 6:30 p.m.

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

**WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:** Tim Grossman – health issues Margaret Lucian - health  
 Tammy Stoutenburg-unspecified need Annette Wade – medical issues Art Hoffmeyer- heart issues  
 Bodo Hanson–health issues Laura Kieliszewski – health Joel Foster – health concerns  
 Barb Hoffmeyer – health issues John Wegmeyer – health issues Eugene Brooks–health issues  
 Laurie Stafford – health issues Joanne Kindt – health issues Dale Rex – in accident  
 Chad Hamill – health issues Marian Dove–unspecified need Phyllis Robb-unspecified need  
 Karen Wallace – unspecified need Dolores Libka–unspecified need Taylor Smetak – in accident  
 Ryan Duby – healing David Reeves – health issues Dena Stevens – health issues  
 Chris Smetak –health issues Anita Laub – medical issues Marvis McNeil – health issues  
 Tom & Beth Mackinnon-health Dixie Creiver – health issues Dale Zielaskowski-health issues  
*(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: Harbor of Grace Lutheran Church, Muskegon, Rev. Jake Ferra

**We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church.** This week we specifically pray for the A Taste from Home Ministry.

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

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>			<u>END OF FEBRUARY</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday (04/06)	5:30 p.m.	56	Income	24,098.22	44,298.88
Sunday (4/07)	9:00 a.m.	44	Expenses	31,096.24	59,155.28
	10:30 a.m.	<u>23</u>	Difference	(6,998.02)	(14,856.40)
Total		123			

**We would like to thank** Rev. William Rayment and Rev. Eugene Bacon for leading us in worship this week-end.

The **Scholarship Committee** will be awarding a scholarship to a 2024 graduating senior or current college student. Applications are available in the office and must be returned by April 30.

**We are excited to announce that our church's Stephen Ministry is gearing up for training sessions tentatively** starting in late April. These 2-1/2 hour classes offer a unique program that equips you with the skills and empathy needed to make a positive impact on the lives of others. There is still time to apply! If you feel drawn to this ministry or have questions, please contact a Stephen Leader - Iris Arthur, Judy Beyer, Nena Shipman, Sue Keyes or Shirley Jones.

Everyone is invited to our April Video Educational Experience on April 17th at 6:00 p.m. We will be watching **“Do You Believe”** and a meal will be provided with discussion throughout.

**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. Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection 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 3:12-19**

<sup>12</sup> When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, ‘You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? <sup>13</sup> The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup> But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup> and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup> And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you.

<sup>17</sup> And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup> In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup> Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.

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

**PSALM: Psalm 4 (Read Responsively)**

Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

**How long, you people, shall my honour suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?**

But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him.

**When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent.**

Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord.

**There are many who say, ‘O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!’**

You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound.

**I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.**

**SECOND READING: 1 John 3:1-7 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)**

<sup>1</sup> See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup> Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup> And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. <sup>4</sup> Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup> You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup> No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup> Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

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

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: Shepherding God, you have prepared a table before us and nourished us with your love. Send us forth from this banquet to proclaim your goodness and share the abundant mercy of Jesus, our redeemer and friend. **Amen.**

**MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BENEDICTION**

SENDING HYMN

“Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!”

(Red) #380

**DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

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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  
Lord re - jice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.**

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

**GOSPEL READING: Luke 24:36b-48**

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’<sup>37</sup> They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost.<sup>38</sup> He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?’<sup>39</sup> Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’<sup>40</sup> And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet.<sup>41</sup> While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’<sup>42</sup> They gave him a piece of broiled fish,<sup>43</sup> and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup> Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’<sup>45</sup> Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures,<sup>46</sup> and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day,<sup>47</sup> and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.’<sup>48</sup> You are witnesses of these things.

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** Reverends William Rayment (Saturday) and Eugene Bacon (Sunday)

*(Please stand)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** “As We Gather at Your Table” (Red) #522

**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** God of grace,  
 hear our prayer.

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**  
 The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

**OFFERING PRAYER**  
 Let us pray. Risen One, you call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine. **Amen.**

*(Please stand)*

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

The Lord be with you. And also 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 - 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;  
 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"