

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.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Esther Kindt
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Cathy Kieliszewski
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Sue Robb
	9:00 a.m.	Joanne Huggler
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Patti Byce
	9:00 a.m.	Jesse & Jessica O'Neil
		Dennis & Lori Dzieszinski
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.	Evan Peterson
	9:00 a.m.	Alayna Krey
<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. 2nd, Alpena, MI 49707

Phone 989-356-1658

www.stpaul.org

A Stephen Ministry Congregation



Yes, I am the gate.

THOSE WHO COME IN THROUGH ME
WILL BE SAVED. THEY WILL COME
AND GO FREELY AND WILL FIND
GOOD PASTURES.

John 10:9

April 29, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.
April 30, 2023 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 29, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.
April 30, 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. 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, by whose hand we are given new birth, by whose speaking we are given new life. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring. In mercy and might you have freed us from death and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead. In baptismal waters our old life is washed away, and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for waters that wash us clean, quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures. Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism, the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.

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

“God Is Here!”

(Red) #526

Everyone is invited to the Adventure Club Swim Party on Sunday, May 7th from 3–5 p.m. at the Plaza Pool. Come and be part of this free, wonderful expression of fun. Bring your spirit of adventure and hope as you explore and share your faith through fun and adventure within this intergenerational educational experience. The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1-105 years old.

We will resume the ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY program with a kick off of our MDOT clean up on Sunday, May 21, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. Meet at our church to view the video prior to venturing out for the clean up at our location on M-32. Hope you can be there to help with this project! All are welcome!!!

Please Note! The Sanctuary carpet project began on April 24th with the removal of the pews, so the floor will be open and ready for Alpena Furniture to begin their work So, until further notice services will be held in the Multi-Purpose Room.

Fellowship on Saturday night and between services on Sunday will be in the dining room until the carpet project is finished. Come join us.

We are collecting funds for St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Herron. The church suffered heavy smoke and water damage from a fire on Good Friday. You can put your contributions in an envelope in the pew racks and designate it for St. Rose Church, or donations can be brought to the church office.

Pastor John will have a “Blessing of Marriages,” on the weekend of the 13th and 14th of May. Each couple who wishes to participate will honor their spouse with words of renewal (*the words will be given to you*). Please come and celebrate the gift of marriage and welcome God’s blessings of your union.

First Communion Sunday will take place on the 21st of May. If you have a child you would like to participate in the Eucharist, please contact the office. There is a class associated with this blessed event.

St. Paul **Scholarship Committee** will be awarding a scholarship to a 2023 graduating senior or current college student. Applications are available in the church office and must be completed and returned by April 30th.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: APRIL 30 - MAY 7, 2023	
<u>SUN.</u>	Sunday Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service & Children’s Church - 10:30 a.m.
<u>MON.</u>	Tech Talks – 11:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; ETA – 5:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 6:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Forget-Me-Nots – 12:00 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Air Rifle – 5:30 p.m.; Education Committee – 5:30 p.m.; Prayer Shawl – 6:00 p.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Women’s Breakfast (at JJ’s) – 7:30 a.m.; Choir – 5:30 p.m.; Property Committee – 5:30 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	Men’s Breakfast (at JJ’s) – 7:00 a.m.; Chair Yoga – 3:00 p.m.; Air Rifle Team–5:30 p.m.; Recovery Yoga – 5:30 p.m.; Singles Group – 6:00 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.
<u>SUN.</u>	Sunday Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service & Children’s Church - 10:30 a.m.; The Adventure Club Swim at Plaza Pool – 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: Tyler Kerby, Calvin Urban, Steve Gould, David Reeves, John Wegmeyer, Sandy Wozniak, Annette Wade, Evelyn Green, Sam Weis, Tom Christou, Geri Hanson, William Taylor, Kaye Remboski, Mary Kuhl, Mya Hall, Myra Gapske, Keeley Knapp, Don Urban Sr., Billiejo Foster, Gus Schultz, Jerry Swanson, 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. *We also remember our homebound members.* They are: Geraldine Wyman, Harriet Burke, Virginia Kraft, Deb Lange, Phyllis Robb, and Norm Dutcher. *(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: Peace Lutheran Church, Charlotte, Rev. Neil Brady

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

CONDOLENCES TO: the family and friends of Fritz Stafford, who joined our Lord in eternity April 25, 2023. His funeral service was held Saturday, April 29th, at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL (foot of the cross) are given in loving memory of my son Michael Brown from Barbara Crittenden.

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>			<u>END OF MARCH</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday (04/22)	5:30 p.m.	47	Income	26,257.92	72,916.80
Sunday (04/23)	9:00 a.m.	53	Expenses	<u>35,868.12</u>	<u>93,788.34</u>
	10:30 a.m.	<u>20</u>	Difference	(9,610.20)	(20,871.54)
Total		120			

St. Paul Lutheran Church will have a Garage Sale on June 8th – 10th. Please set aside your items for this upcoming sale. This year we are going to accept clean used clothing and shoes. You may start dropping off your things at the church on May 22. We need help with the garage sale and people to pick items up. To volunteer please contact Andrea Dutcher at 354-3651.

Mark your calendars for a May Video Educational Experience. We will see “Facing the Giants” on Wednesday, May 10th at 6:00. A meal is provided and discussion afterward. All are invited to attend. Please call the church office (989-356-1658) if you are coming, which will help us with our planning.

Our April Service Activity is Wilson Elementary School. The items needed are: Girls leggings-mostly small and medium, some large and XL; Boys sweatpants-small and medium; Boys shoes- size 7 & 8; Girls shoes-size 8 & 9; Chapstick; Boys backpacks (*we have lots of pink/purple*); Snacks-granola bars, fruit bars, and trail mix. Please leave your donation items on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

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 our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through 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 2:42-47

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 23 (Read Responsively)

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹For it is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps.

²² “He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.”

²³ When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴ He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵ For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian 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.
lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

The Holy Gospel according to St. John.

Glory to You, O Lord.

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: Gracious God, in you we live and move and have our being. With your word and this meal of grace, you have nourished our life together. Strengthen us to show your love and serve the world in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

“I Know That My Redeemer Lives!”

(Red) #619

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

Thanks be to God.

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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 - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.

GOSPEL: John 10:1-10

¹“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ² The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³ The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴ When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵ They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

The Gospel of Our Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

SERMON

“Abundant Life”

Rev John Shipman

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

(Red) #789

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

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. Living God, you gather the wolf and the lamb to feed together in your peaceable reign, and you welcome us all at your table. Reach out to us through this meal, and show us your wounded and risen body, that we may be nourished and believe in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please stand)

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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

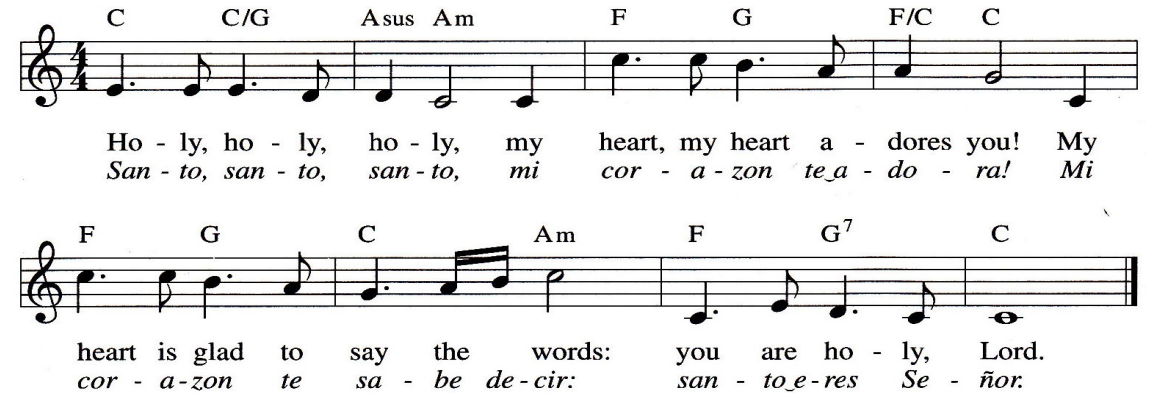
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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



C C/G Asus Am F G F/C C

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

F G C Am F G⁷ 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. 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"