

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.

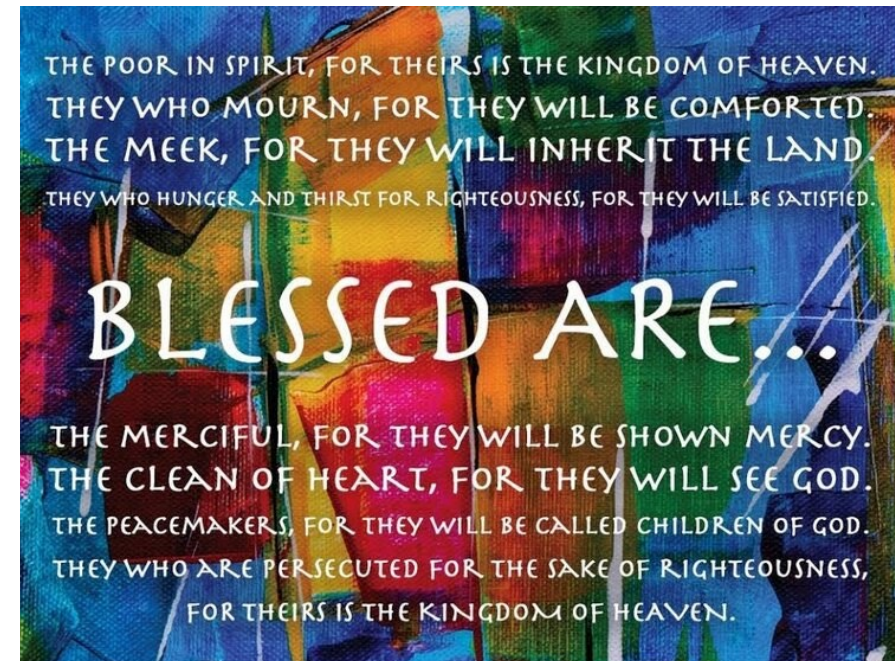
St. Paul welcomes all to the Communion Table. Christ is the Host and the Meal. Come, taste, and see that the Lord is good. Grape juice is available for those who prefer it rather than wine. Children and those choosing not to receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

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>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Alayna Krey
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Ann Hardesty
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Janice Boboltz
	9:00 a.m.	Joanne Huggler
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Bruce Anschuetz
	9:00 am.	Owen Werth, Ryan Panknin Dennis and Lori Dziesinski
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.	Harley Steinke
	9:00 a.m.	Evan Peterson
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>	Shirley Kowalski, Sue Moggie, Jessica O’Neil, Karen Wekwert	

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



January 28, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.
January 29, 2023 - 9:00 a.m.

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.

Year-end Contribution Statements can be picked up in the Narthex at the Saturday and Sunday services this weekend, or in Miss Nena’s office during the week. Those not picked up by January 31st will be mailed out.

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.

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. Thanks.

Our next Couples Retreat will be on February 17th, and 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 Adventure Club will be going to the A-Plex for a special time Ice Skating on the February 19th, 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.*

Please note: Miss Jackie is on vacation this week.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: JANUARY 29 - FEBRUARY 5, 2023	
<u>SUN.</u>	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.; Girl Scouts – 6:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Air Rifle – 5:30 p.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Women’s Breakfast (at JJ’s)–7:30; Yoga 101 – 11:00; Property – 5:30; Choir – 6:00 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@StPaul – 6:00 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Boy Scouts Spaghetti Dinner – 4:30 p.m.; Narcotics Anonymous – 6:00 p.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	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: Mya Hall, Mary Kuhl, 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. We also remember our homebound members. They are: Geraldine Wyman, Harriet Burke, Virginia Kraft, Deb Lange, Phyllis Robb, and Delores Stevens. *(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: Feast of Victory Lutheran Church, Acme, Rev. Carolyn Heider

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

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

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>			<u>END OF OCTOBER</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday (01/21)	5:30 p.m.	48	Income	26,834.54	254,657.10
Sunday (01/22)	9:00 a.m.	41	Expenses	<u>27,421.62</u>	<u>265,480.75</u>
	10:30 a.m.	<u>19</u>	Difference	(-587.08)	(-10,823.65)
Total		108			

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 January Service Activity is Alpena High School. The items needed are men's belts, women's underwear (sizes small, medium, and large), dry shampoo, deodorants (mens and womens), and hair ties. Please leave your donation items on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

The Boy Scouts will be having a Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, February 3, 4:00-7:00. See you there!

The **PASTA NIGHT will be on 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 Dzieszinski 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*.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
January 28, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.
January 29, 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.**

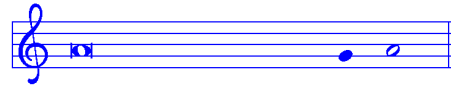
GATHERING HYMN "O God of Mercy, God of Light" (Red) #714

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.

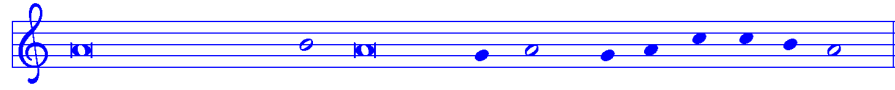
KYRIE



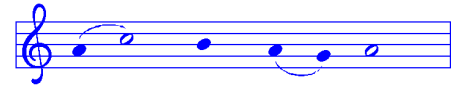
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



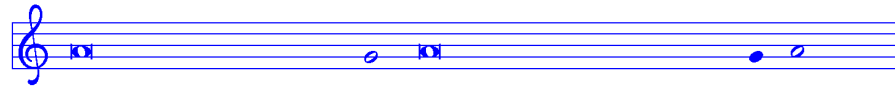
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

SERMON NOTES

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 "O Master, Let Me Walk with You" (Red) #818

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.



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. Holy God, you confound the world’s wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8

¹Hear what the Lord says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ²Hear, you mountains, the case of the Lord, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the Lord has a case against his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³“O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the Lord.” ⁶“With what shall I come before the Lord and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?” ⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

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

PSALM: Psalm 15 (Read Responsively)

O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right and speak the truth from their heart;

who do not slander with their tongue and do no evil to their friends nor heap shame upon their neighbors;

**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

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.**

**in whose eyes the wicked are despised but who honor those who fear the Lord;
who stand by their oath even to their hurt;**
who do not lend money at interest and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18 - 31

¹⁸For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, ²⁹so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

Gospel Acclamation

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²And he began to speak and taught them, saying:
³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.
⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.
⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.
⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.
⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

¹¹ “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹² Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

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

(Please be seated)
SERMON

“Blessed or Lucky?” Pastor John Shipman

(Please stand)
HYMN OF THE DAY

“Rise Up, O Saints of God!” (Red) #669

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