

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.	Phil Wickstrom
	9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Gail Atkins
	9:00 a.m.	Scott Parkham
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Sue Robb
	9:00 a.m.	Janice Boboltz
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Dennis & Sherry McDonald
	9:00 a.m.	Jesse & Jessica O’Neil
		Steve & Andrea Dutcher
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.	Alex Wickstrom
	9:00 a.m.	Emily Smith
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Laurie Stafford and Marty Cantleberry

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:
Stewardship



March 2, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.

March 3, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

The Third Sunday of Lent
March 2, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.
March 3, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.

Congregational responses are printed in bold.

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 writes the law on our hearts, who draws all people together through Jesus. **Amen.**

Held in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. 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 "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" (Red) #324

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.

Pastor John and Miss Nena have Lent Educational Opportunities that will run through March 20th. Pastor John's classes meet on Wednesdays at 1:00 and Thursdays at 5:30. Miss Nena's class meets on Thursdays at 5:30 PM. Pastor John holds a Book Study on "Let Go, Let God" by John E. Keller and Miss Nena leads a Book Study on "Chasing Vines: Finding Your Way to an Immensely Fruitful Life" DVD by Beth Moore. Join us.

Wednesday Lent Services continue. There are two opportunities for you to worship on March 6th.

* 12:25 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, with a Lenten Soup preceding the service at 12:00 p.m.

* 7:00 p.m. at the Ecumenical Service at First United Methodist Church. There will be a soup supper beginning at 6:00 preceding the worship service.

The next meeting of the Forget-Me-Nots will be on Tuesday, March 5, at the 19th Hole Restaurant. Please call Ann at 989-590-2055 to make a reservation. Interest was shown in the Alpena Civic Theatre production of "And Then There Were None." Contact Joanne by March 3rd if you are interested in seeing this play. She will collect the money and purchase tickets for the 2:00pm Sunday, March 10th matinee performance.

Save the Date: **We will again be having our delicious Potato Bake on Saturday, March 16th,** after the Saturday service. Come and enjoy baked potatoes with numerous choices or toppings, and ice cream with toppings. Write this date on your calendar and plan now to attend. Tickets are available at the church office or scan the QR code and sign up online.



Life Line Screening will offer affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Friday, March 22nd, 2024. A package of four screenings to identify risk for stroke, heart disease and other chronic conditions will be offered. The special package pricing for all 4 screenings is \$149. To register for your appointment and to receive the special discount, please call 1-800-640-6307 or visit LLSA.SOCIAL/HC.

The Fellowship Ministry wishes to thank those of you who have been supplying us with cookies/baked goods for Fellowship before the Saturday service and between the Sunday morning services. Our compliments and gratitude for sharing your baking talents with us. If you have questions, please call Nena Shipman at the church or Janice Boboltz at 989-356-4834.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: MARCH 3 - 10, 2024

<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>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; E.T.A. – 5:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 6:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Forget Me Nots (19 th Hole) – at 12:00 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Air Rifle – 5:30 p.m.; Education – 5:30 p.m.; Prayer Shawl – 6:00 p.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles Women's Breakfast (at JJ's) – 7:30 a.m.; AARP Taxes – 8:00; Lent Soup & Service – 12:00 p.m.; Book Study – PJ – 1:00 p.m.; Choir Practice – 5:00 p.m.; Ecumenical Service at First United Methodist Church – 7:00 p.m., preceded by a Soup Supper at 6:00 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men's Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.; Chair Yoga – 3:00 p.m.; Air Rifle Team – 5:30; Recovery Yoga – 5:30 p.m.; Book Study – Pastor John – 5:30 p.m.; Book Study – Nena – 5:30 p.m.; Singles – 6:30 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Alpena Line Dance Club – 5:00 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 – 10:30

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:	Bill Hoppe – health issues	Evelyn Green - surgery
Tammy Stoutenburg-unspecified need	Annette Wade – medical issues	Art Hoffmeyer- heart issues
Danielle Lawrence – health issues	Bodo Hanson–health issues	Tom Woizeschske–health issues
Barb Hoffmeyer – health issues	John Wegmeyer – health issues	Eugene Brooks–health issues
Marty & Liz Smith – home sells	Bill Kimball – health issues	Gary Villeneuve – health issues
Rosalie Turske – health issues	Marian Dove– unspecified need	Phyllis Robb-unspecified need
Karen Wallace – unspecified need	Dolores Libka–unspecified need	Ann Haske – health issues
Cameron – health issues	Karen Wekwert – healing	David Reeves – health issues
Adam Schmidt – health issues	Hazel Bonnard – health issues	Doreen Britton – health issues
Ken Hemming – health issues	Anita Laub – medical issues	Todd Mercure – medical issues
Brandon Urban – health issues	Marvis McNeil – health issues	Haley & Russ First– unspecified
Harriet Burke – unspecified need	Dena Stevens – health issues	Dixie Creiver – health issues
Tim Grossman—health issues	Chris Smetak—health issues	Joel Foster—health concerns

ARMED SERVICES: Katie Copping, Jake Przysiecki, Noah Hardesty, Dominick Christou, Sawyer Hein, Rachael Mayes, Brandon Sloan, Andrew Hein, Justin A. Smith, Maragely Hein, Amelia Berles, Josh Gapske, Nicole Stafford, Chuck Dziedzic, and Dale Kirkendoll.

(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: All Saints Lutheran Church, Mason, Rev. Gerald Ferguson

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

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

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>			<u>END OF JANUARY</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Wednesday (2/21)	12:25 p.m.	39	Income	20,200.66	20,200.66
Saturday (02/24)	5:30 p.m.	54	Expenses	<u>28,059.04</u>	<u>28,059.04</u>
Sunday (02/25)	9:00 a.m.	51	Difference	(7,858.38)	(7,858.38)
	10:30 a.m.	<u>39</u>			
Total		183			

The March Service Activity is Pied Piper School. *Items needed:* coloring books, crayons, washable markers, healthy snacks, wet ones, and Kleenex. Please leave items on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

The American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) is helping seniors with their taxes. St. Paul Lutheran Church will sponsor their efforts again this year by allowing this agency to use part of our building. You may schedule an appointment by calling 989-278-8104.

We are hopping towards spring and the Easter Egg Hunt open to the community. Donations of candy and family friendly baskets for the raffle can be dropped at the office. Thank you for your help.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only 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: Exodus 20:1-17

¹Then God spoke all these words: ²I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹For six days you shall labour and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. ¹³You shall not murder. ¹⁴You shall not commit adultery. ¹⁵You shall not steal. ¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbour’s house; you shall not covet your neighbour’s wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

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

PSALM: Psalm 19 (Read Responsively)

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun, which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hidden from its heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;
the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;
 the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring for ever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.
 Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.
But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.
 Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)

¹⁸ For 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. ¹⁹ For it is written, ‘I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.’

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

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

Gospel Acclamation

“Return to the Lord”

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. A - men, a - men.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

(Red) #705

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share your bread.

Thanks be to God.

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”

Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
 mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
 stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

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

GOSPEL READING: John 2:13-22

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money-changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money-changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, ‘Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father’s house a market-place!’ ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, ‘Zeal for your house will consume me.’ ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, ‘What sign can you show us for doing this?’ ¹⁹Jesus answered them, ‘Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.’ ²⁰The Jews then said, ‘This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?’ ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

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

“Zeal That Consumes”

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY “Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways” (Red) #772

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

Let us pray. Jesus, you are the bread of life and the host of this meal. Bless these gifts that we have gathered that all people may know your goodness. Feed us not only with this holy food but with hunger for justice and peace. We pray this in your name. **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.

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.**