

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.

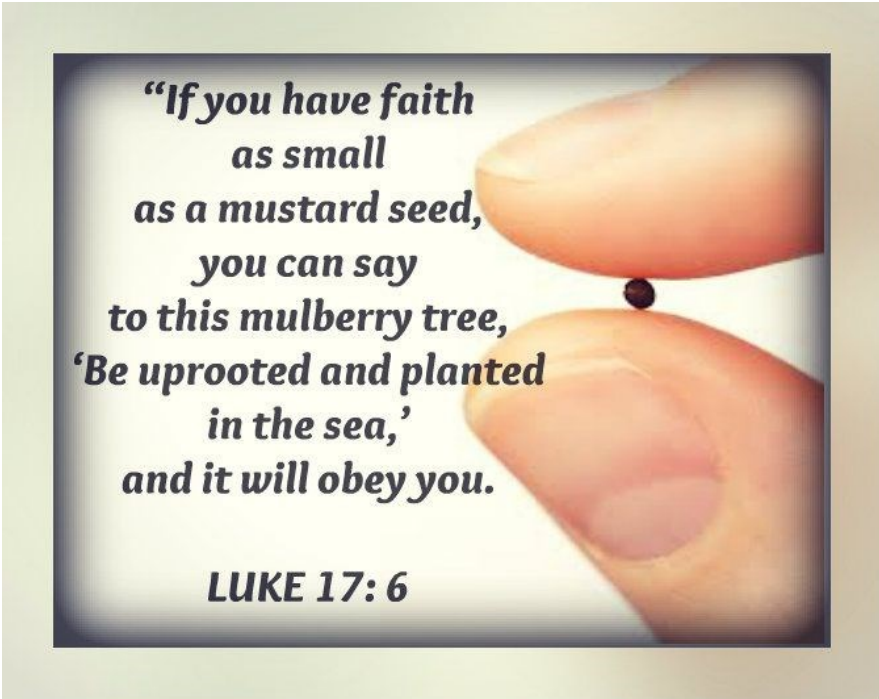
<u>PARTICIPANTS</u>		
<u>MINISTERS</u>		The People of God
<u>PASTOR</u>		Rev. John Shipman
<u>ORGANIST</u>		Marvis McNeil
<u>CHOIR DIRECTOR</u>		Marty Cattleberry
<u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Shirley Jones
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Phil Wickstrom
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Sue Robb
	9:00 a.m.	Sandra Christopherson, Zully Dameworth
<u>HEAD USHER</u>		Roy Wekwert
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Bruce Anschuetz
	9:00 am.	Dennis Dziesinski, Tim Moggie
		Barb Szczesniak, Ryan Panknin
<u>CHILDREN’S CHURCH LEADERS</u>		Karen Wekwert, Amy DeRosia, Sue Robb
<u>LITTLES’ WORSHIP CENTER LEADERS</u>		Jesse and Jessica O’Neil
<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

Monthly Ministry Highlight:
Christmas Bazaar



October 4, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.
October 5, 2025 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 4, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.
October 5, 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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper. **Amen.**

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. 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 “God Is Here!” (Red) #526

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.

Join the Dynamic Duo Couple Ministry for “The Leisurely Olympics” at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, October 17th. The Dynamic Duo Ministry is a couple focused small group. Call the church office to sign up.

The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, October 19th, right after the 9:00 a.m. service. Please note: There will be only one service (Sunday 9:00 a.m.) that weekend. Packets are available this weekend in the Narthex, one per family. Please review prior to the meeting.

The Adventure Club is going to have some Fun Fall Activities at the Johnson Camp (10606 Indian Reserve Road) on Sunday, October 19th. There will be pumpkin carving, wagon rides and yummy snacks. Please RSVP by October 15th, to help us plan. The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1 to 105 years old.

Pastor John will lead a Stroll through the Tombstones at Evergreen Cemetery on October 19th at 6:00 p.m. Please come with stories to share about loved ones, stories about Alpena and how others shaped our history.

Scouting America Troop 92 invites you to a Breakfast Fundraiser at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Sunday, October 19 from 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Free Will Offering. All you can eat plus take-out option. They are also doing a *Take and Bake* Thanksgiving Pie Fundraiser. Apple Pies are \$20. Orders and payments are taken October 19-November 1. The Pick-up day is November 16th from 3:00—5:00 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. If you have any questions, please contact Scoutmaster Steve Donajkowski at 989-255-6521.

The community Trunk or Treat event will be held downtown behind City Hall on Friday, October 24th from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. We will be participating in this event again this year. We are accepting donations of candy, just drop them off at the church office.

Help us Celebrate with Stacy and Jacob as they welcome their new little one in October. St Paul would like to shower them with diapers. They are planning to make use of cloth diapers, which are pre-folded, snap with one size fits all in mind, with less impact on the environment. They will be blessed with ANY TYPE of diapers that folks are willing to give, but the preference is cloth. Drop your gifts off to Miss Nena’s office.

The October Service Activity is Ella White Elementary School. Items needed: sweatpants/leggings – sizes 6-14, underwear – sizes 6-14, tennis shoes – all kids sizes, snacks for students – any type of prepackaged snack item is beneficial. Please leave your donations on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

St. Paul’s Eucharistic Ministry: We have trained Eucharistic Ministers who will take communion kits to shut-ins on a regular basis. Questions? Contact Esther Kindt at 471-2274.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: <i>OCTOBER 5 - 12, 2025</i>	
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children’s Church/C.I.A. – 10:30 a.m.
<u>MON.</u>	Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 4:00 p.m.; E.T.A. – 5:30 p.m.; Christmas Bazaar Planning – 5:30
<u>TUES.</u>	Education – 5:30 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Scouting America – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles – 7:30 a.m.; Pastor John’s Book Study – 1:00 & 5:30 p.m.; Choir – 4:30 p.m.; Nena’s Bible Study – 5:30 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.; Open Line Dance – 1:00 p.m.; Chair Yoga – 3:00 p.m.; Stephen Min. 3:30
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Singles Retreat – 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; Contemporary Service/Children’s Church & C.I.A. – 10:30

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

Belinda Page – recovery/broken ankle	Bob Christou – knee surgery rec.	Joyce Piper-Ross - healing
Sharon Tinker-knee surgery rec.	Lisa Creguer – cancer treatments	Cody Franklin - leukemia
Debra Gapske – health issues	Chad Hamill– health issues	Carol Kuhl—health issues
Karen Wallace–unspecified need	Laura – health issues	Malary Smith - unspecified
Lee Werth – health issues	Margaret Lucian – health issues	David McNeil – health issues
Ric Schmidt – recovery from surgery	Ann Martin – medical issues	Art Hoffmeyer - heart issues
Adam Schmidt- health issues	John Wegmeyer– health issues	Karen Schwochow – strength
Laura Kieliszewski – health issues	Dena Stevens – health issues	Laura Cussen – stroke
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.	Phyllis Robb-unspecified need	Julie Troy – 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: Mamrelund Lutheran Church, Kent City, Rev. Ken Johnson and Rev. Rob Johnson.

We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. This week we specifically pray for the AARP Tax organization.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Saturday (09/27) 5:30 p.m.	58
Sunday (09/28) 9:00 a.m.	74
10:30 a.m.	<u>55</u>
Total	187

END OF AUGUST

Income	27,081.85
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>31,408.88</u>
Difference	(3,732.03)

YEAR TO DATE

240,116.51
<u>258,601.80</u>
(18,485.29)

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL (foot of the cross) are given in celebration of Jerry and Bonnie Gougeon’s 60th Wedding Anniversary from their children Tom and Jennifer and grandson, Cayden.

Join us for the next Christmas Bazaar Planning meeting on Monday, October 6th at 5:30 p.m.

Join us for our Autumn Educational Opportunities, which runs through October 22. Pastor John is holding a Book Study on “Death and Dying” and Miss Nena is leading a Bible Study on “Reckless Love: Jesus’ Call to love our Neighbor” Each class length will be 1 hour. Pastor John’s Class meets on Wednesdays at 1:00 and 5:30 p.m. and Miss Nena’s class meets on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. *Come join us.*

The Single’s Retreat is set for October 10th at 6:00 p.m. at 1921 Long Rapids Road. Come explore the vision of “Being Single and having Faith, Hope and Love in a Digital Age.” There is no cost. All singles, ages 18-100, are invited.

The great "Trail Adventure" is being planned for October 12th starting at 2:00 p.m. in Hillman (exact location is TBD). Bring your side by side or ATV for an afternoon of fun and fellowship in God’s great outdoors. Contact Karen Wekwert if you have any questions, at 989-464-0204.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Habakkuk 1:1-4, 2:1-4

¹ The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. ² O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you ‘Violence!’ and you will not save? ³ Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. ⁴ So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous— therefore judgement comes forth perverted.

¹ I will stand at my watch-post, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. ² Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. ³ For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. ⁴ Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 37:1-9 (Read Responsively)

Do not fret because of the wicked; do not be envious of wrongdoers, **for they will soon fade like the grass, and wither like the green herb.** Trust in the Lord, and do good; so you will live in the land, and enjoy security. **Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you the desires of your heart.** Commit your way to the Lord; trust in him, and he will act.

He will make your vindication shine like the light, and the justice of your cause like the noonday.

Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for him; do not fret over those who prosper in their way, over those who carry out evil devices.

Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath. Do not fret—it leads only to evil.

For the wicked shall be cut off, but those who wait for the Lord shall inherit the land.

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 1:1-14

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

² To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³ I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. ⁴ Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵ I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶ For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; ⁷ for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸ Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, ⁹ who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰ but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Saviour Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹ For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹² and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. ¹³ Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴ Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

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.

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass clef, in G major (one sharp). It consists of two systems. The first system has two lines of music. The second system also has two lines of music. The lyrics are written below the notes.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN “Faith of Our Fathers” (Red) #812

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
Thanks be to God.

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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.

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.

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

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

GOSPEL READING: Luke 17:5-10

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, ‘Increase our faith!’ ⁶The Lord replied, ‘If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, “Be uprooted and planted in the sea”, and it would obey you. ⁷‘Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from ploughing or tending sheep in the field, “Come here at once and take your place at the table”? ⁸Would you not rather say to him, “Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink”? ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, “We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!”’

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

Children’s Message

“I Love to Tell the Story”
 I love to tell the story
 'Twill be my theme in glory
 To tell the old old story
 Of Jesus and His love

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(Please be seated)
SERMON “A Mustard Seed Faith” Rev. John Shipman

(Please stand)
HYMN OF THE DAY “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” (Red) #733
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.

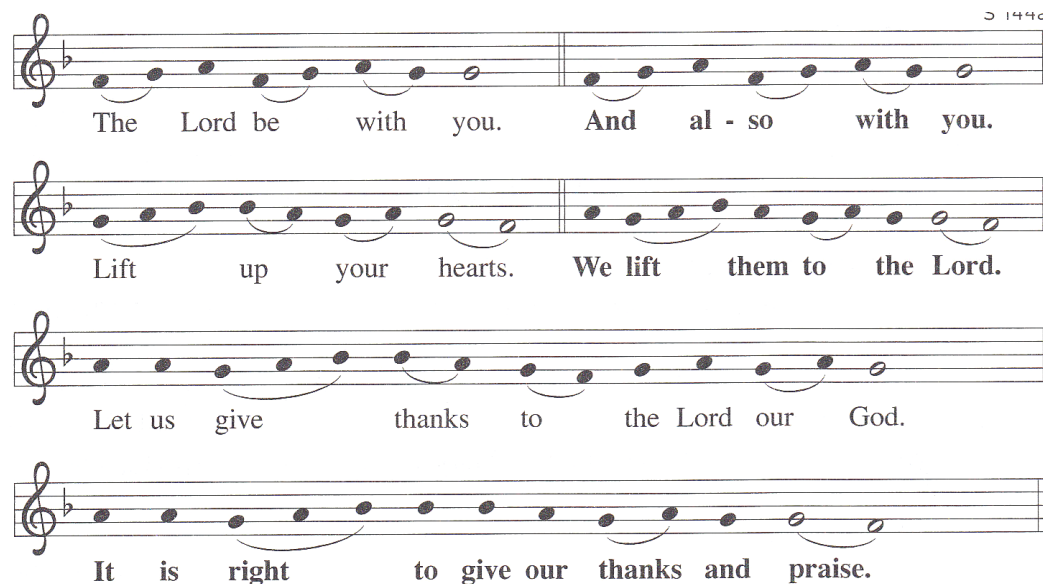
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
 I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy *catholic Church,
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.
 *Universal

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH God of grace,
 receive our prayer.

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.

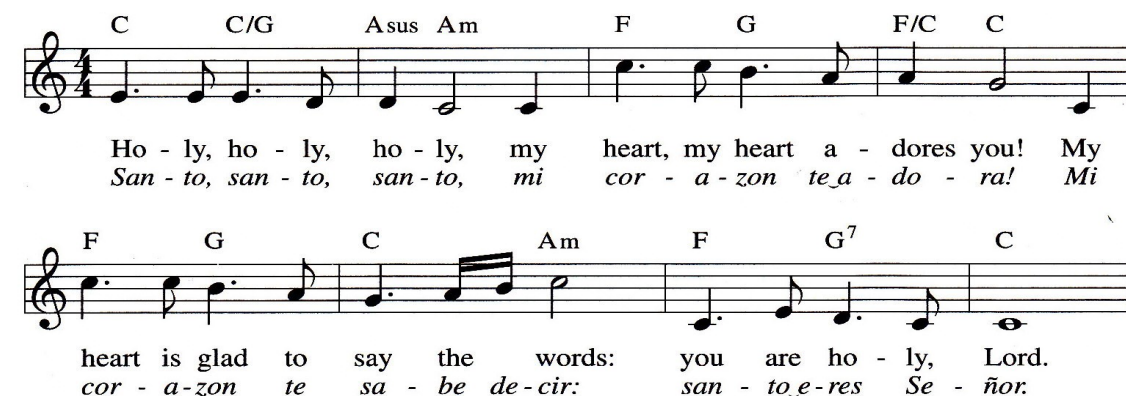
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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

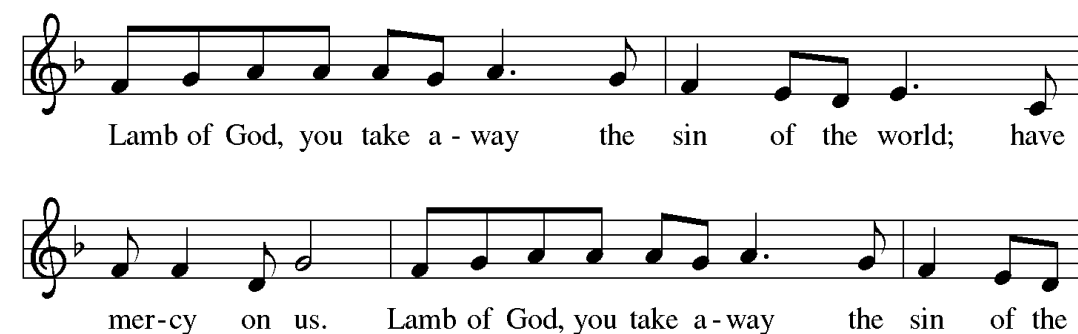
Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us:

**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