

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

MINISTERS

PASTOR

ORGANIST

ASSISTING MINISTER

LECTOR

USHERS & GREETERS

ALTAR CARE

The People of God

Rev. John Shipman

Marvis McNeil

Shirley Jones

Alayna Krey

Richard Miller, Mary Jo Beck

Paul Kieliszewski, Barb Szczesniak

Laurie Stafford and Patti Byce

We thank all participants for enriching our worship service.

St. Paul Lutheran Church
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



December 26, 2021

9:00 a.m.

The Scholarship Committee is very grateful to those that have brought in their bottle returns, we ask that you keep them coming! The bottle returns can be place in the janitorial closet next to the elevator on the Mirre street side. There is a sign on the door for less confusion. Please contact Val Urban 356-4613 if you have questions.

Please Note: The Church Office closed on Christmas Eve and will remain closed until Monday, January 3, 2022.

Please don't forget to re-cycle the canning jars and rings from this year's bazaar. They can be brought to the "Jar Room" across from the lounge anytime. *Thank you.*

WEEK AT A GLANCE: DECEMBER 26, 2021—JANUARY 3, 2022	
<u>SUN.</u>	Hymn Sing Unity Service – 9:00 a.m.
<u>MON.</u>	Church Office Closed
<u>TUES.</u>	Church Office Closed
<u>WED.</u>	Church Office Closed
<u>THURS.</u>	Church Office Closed
<u>FRI.</u>	Church Office Closed
<u>SAT.</u>	Worship/HC – 5:30 p.m.
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service – 10:30 a.m.

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: Betty and Donald Kirschner, Stacey Mikesch, Tim, Dawn & Mitchel Havercroft, Kenneth and June Sylvester, Gary Rich, Karen Morton, Kelci Ghiata, Skyler Kilcrease, Jim Miller, Randy Donakowski, John Tinker, Gladys Kelsey, Nathan LeTourneau, Maryanna Miller, Bodo Hanson, Pete Creguer, Roy Sommerfeld, Dorothy Carr, Melissa Smith, Sutton Badder, Marian Dove, Dolores Sumerix, Amy Waite, Charlie Busuttill, Eleanor Schellie, Megan Schleben, Audrey Reck, Tim Grossman, Deb Lange, Bernice Menck, Annette Jones, and Karen Wallace. *We also remember our homebound members.* They are: Harriet Burke, Virginia Kraft, Virginia Beaulieu, Deb Lange, Phyllis Robb, and Delores Stevens.

We remember our prayer partners in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod: Advent Lutheran Church, Lake Ann, Rev. Timothy Jahn

This week we join in prayer with the other LARCC parishes (Grace Lutheran, Trinity Episcopal, First Congregational UCC, All Saints Parish) for Catholic Women of Alpena at All Saints Parish.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	END OF OCT.	YEAR TO DATE
Saturday (12/18) 5:30 p.m.	Income 26,514.41	252,615.69
Sunday (12/19) 9:00 a.m. 35	Expenses <u>26,707.26</u>	<u>249,864.70</u>
10:30 a.m. <u>13</u>	Difference (192.85)	2,750.99
Total		

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL are given to the glory of God.

Recovery Yoga is meeting on Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. only. Please come join us.

The Adventure Club is a new educational vision that meets twice a month, on the first and third Sundays from 5:30 –6:30 p.m. **We will have a Christmas Caroling Adventure for Everyone on Sunday, December 19th at 5:30 p.m.** We will meet at the church for a quick bite to eat and then head out to share Christ's joy to others.

The December Service Activity is Hope Shores Alliance. Items needed: Gift cards for gas or food, any amount appreciated. Please place your items on the altar.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

1st Sunday in the season of Christmas

Lessons and Carols Unity Service

December 26, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.

WELCOME

Karen Wekwert

Call to Worship: The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ, Word made flesh, born of Mary, be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Gathering Hymn

“The First Noel”

(Red) #300, vs. 1-3

CHRISTMAS DIALOGUE

Shirley Jones

L: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

C: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

L: Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

C: We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.

L: To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

C: In the Word was life, and the life was the light of all people.

Prayer of the Day

Karen Wekwert

L: Let us pray. All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth 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.

Lessons and Carols

FIRST READING: Genesis 1:1–5, 14–18

“The First Noel”

Richard Miller
(Red) #300, vs. 4-5

SECOND READING: Micah 5:2–5a Ann Hardesty

O Little Town of Bethlehem

(Red) #279

THIRD READING: Luke 1:26–35, 38 Judy Beyer

Of the Father’s Love Begotten

(Red) #295, vs. 1& 3

FOURTH READING: Luke 2:1-7 Annie Olsen

Away in a Manger

(Red) #278

FIFTH READING: Luke 2:8–14 Shirley Jones

Angels from the Realms of Glory

(Red) #275 (verses 1,2,4)

SIXTH READING: Luke 2:15-20 Mary Jo Beck

Silent Night

(Red) #281

SEVENTH READING: Matthew 2:1-11 Ann Hardesty

What Child Is This

(Red) #296

EIGHTH READING: John 1:1–14 Annie Olsen

Joy to the World

(Red) #267, vs. 1 & 3

RESPONSIVE PRAYER

Shirley Jones

P: Glory to God in the highest,

C: and peace to God's people on earth.

P: Blessed are you, Prince of peace. You rule the earth with truth and justice.

C: Send your gift of peace to all nations of the world.

P: Blessed are you, Son of Mary. You share our humanity.

C: Have mercy on the sick, the dying, and all who suffer this day.

P: Blessed are you, Son of God. You dwell among us as the Word made flesh.

C: Reveal yourself to us in word and sacrament that we may bear your light to all the world.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of the Christ of Bethlehem be with you always. **Karen Wekwert**

C: And also with you.

Offering/Offertory

Offertory Prayer

Shirley Jones

L: Let us pray: God with us: You came as a baby to a manger. You slept on straw and greeted shepherds. You come again in bread and wine. Remind us how good you are at blessing ordinary things. And then, through these gifts, help us to bless the lives of others in the strength of your holy name.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Karen Wekwert

Leader: Gathered into one by the Spirit, let us 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

BLESSING

Ann Hardesty

May Christ, who by his incarnation has filled us with grace and truth, give you peace this Christmas and always. Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **C: Amen.**

Sending Hymn

“Go Tell It on the Mountain”

(Red) #290

Silent Prayer

Dismissal

Shirley Jones

P: Christ is with you. Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude