

### 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.

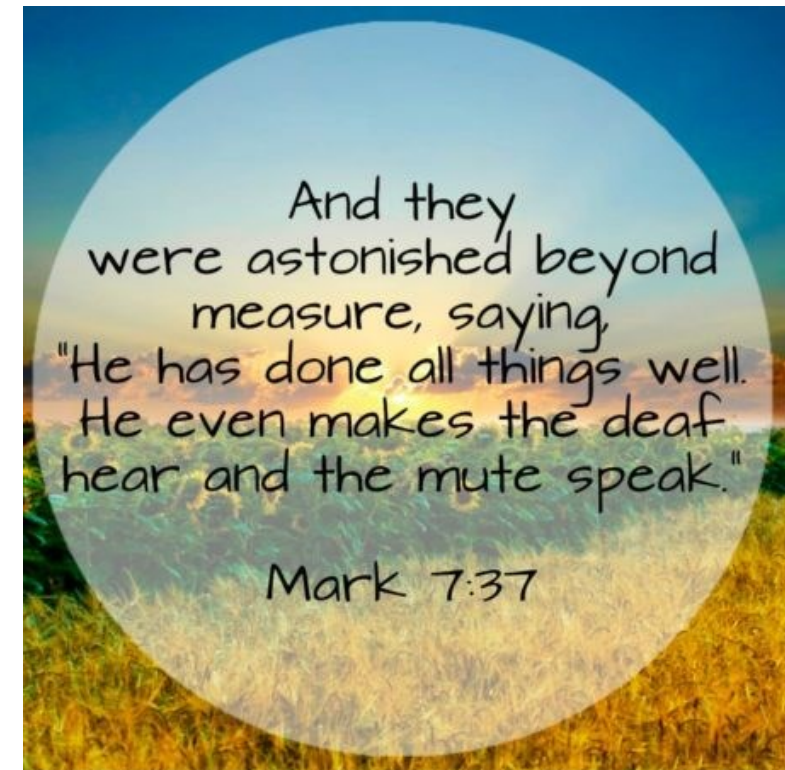
There are **restrooms** located in the basement of this building and on the ground floor of the hallway leading to our fellowship hall and on each floor of the educational building.

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<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 Cantleberry
<u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	5:30 p.m. Iris Arthur 9:00 a.m. Esther Kindt
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m. Sue Keyes 9:00 a.m. Kathy Burton
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m. Sue Robb, Jodi Lahti 9:00 a.m. Joy Brooks
<u>USHERS &amp; GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m. 9:00 am. Jeff Ciupka, Cathy Kielieszewski Richard Miller, Barb Szczesniak
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	9:00 a.m. Evan Peterson
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>	Patti Byce and Carol Kindt

*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. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Alpena, MI 49707  
Phone 989-356-1658  
[www.stpaul.org](http://www.stpaul.org)  
*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*



**September 4, 2021 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**September 5, 2021 - 9:00 a.m.**

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**  
**The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**September 4, 2021 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**September 5, 2021 - 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, whose teaching is life, whose presence is sure, and whose love is endless. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God, our comforter:

**like lost sheep, we have gone astray. We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity. We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression. We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed. Free us from our sin, gracious God. Listen when we call out to you for help. Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves. 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** “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” (Red) #858

**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 planned for adult education opportunities in 2021-2022;** Bible studies and book studies to inspire your faith walk throughout the coming school year. Each class will last for six weeks (or less) and the class length will be 1 hour. Pastor John’s Class will meet on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM and Miss Nena’s class will meet on Thursdays at 6:30 PM. ***The first Autumn Educational Opportunities runs September 15 – October 28.*** Pastor John will hold a Bible Study on Luke and Miss Nena will lead a Book Study on 5 Leadership Essentials for Women. Please call the office so we know how to plan/books to order.

**On September 16th at 10 A.M. all kitchen leaders are invited to attend a meeting** with Executive Chef Jessica Ziobron in the St Paul Ev. Lutheran Church Kitchen. Chef Ziobron will address kitchen best practices, answer questions, detail preparing menus, and safe procedures when using our equipment and appliances.

**The Adventure Club is a new educational vision that begins Sunday September 19th from 5-6 pm** in the downstairs education rooms. Bring your spirit of adventure and hope as you explore and share your faith through fun, adventure, and food within this intergenerational educational experience. The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1-105 years old.

**The Soul Sister’s next kayaking event will be Wednesday, September 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.,** weather permitting. We will meet at Squaw Bay. Come join us and bring a friend!

**Attention committees and other groups:** Your financial budget and annual report deadline is September 7, 2021. Each is due in the church office on that date. Our annual congregational meeting will take place on Sunday, October 17, 2021 after the 9:00 a.m. service.

**St. Paul’s Eucharistic Ministry:** We have trained Eucharistic Ministers who will take communion kits to shut-ins on a regular basis. Questions? Contact Bernie at 595-6835.

**We are looking for a media coordinator** to work Monday, Friday and Sunday mornings, hours and wages negotiable. If interested please speak with Pastor John.

<b>WEEK AT A GLANCE: SEPTEMBER 5 - 12, 2021</b>	
<b>SUN.</b>	Worship/HC – 9:00; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Jr/Sr. High Sunday school–10:30; Contemporary Service & Children’s Church– 10:30 a.m.
<b>MON.</b>	Labor Day; Church Office Closed
<b>TUES.</b>	Forget-Me-Nots at Picnic Grounds—11:30 a.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<b>WED.</b>	Prayer Shawl—6:00 p.m.
<b>THURS.</b>	Men’s Fellowship at JJ’s—7:00 a.m.; Outreach Committee Meeting—5:00 p.m.
<b>FRI.</b>	Line Dancers – 11:00 a.m.
<b>SAT.</b>	Romel/Ansuetz Wedding; Fellowship– 4:30 p.m.; Worship Service/HC–5:30 p.m. ( <i>wear t-shirt</i> )
<b>SUN.</b>	Worship/HC – 9:00 ( <i>Friendship/God’s Work Our Hands Sunday – wear t-shirt</i> ); Fellowship – 10:00.; Jr/Sr. High Sunday school–10:30; Contemporary Service & Children’s Church– 10:30 a.m.

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

**WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:** Roy Sommerfeld, Howard & Gloria Lumsden, Rosely Taylor, Natalie, Sally Barney, Gary Rich, Fritz Stafford, Clyde Shipman, Dorothy Carr, Peter Brown, Melissa Smith, Amy Nolan, Sutton Badder, Randy Byard, Lyla Wyman, 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. **ARMED SERVICES:** Michael Emington, Dominick Christou, Sawyer Hein, Rachael Mayes, Brandon Sloan, Lauren Hoeksema, Alexander Gould, Andrew Hein, Mandy Killingbeck, Jacqueline Crimmins, Ashley (Dingman) Grant, Charles Tudor, Abigail Miller, Justin A. Smith, and Maragely Hein.

**We remember our prayer partners** in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod: Trinity Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, Rev. Robert Linstrom, Rev. Daniel Schewe, and Rev. Karen Niemeyer

**This week we join in prayer** with the other LARCC parishes (Grace Lutheran, Trinity Episcopal, First Congregational UCC, All Saints Parish) for the Youth Ministry at All Saints Parish.

**CONDOLENCES TO:** the family and friends of Rev. Ronald Bessert, who joined our Lord in eternity August 30, 2021. A memorial service will be held at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Allegan, Michigan on September 11<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church is sending funeral flowers from the congregation honoring this good and faithful servant – Pastor Ronald Bessert.

**THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL** are given in loving memory of our daughter, Mary Lou Hamer, from Fritz and Jan Stafford.

**ADDITIONAL FLOWERS** are given in honor of Myra Gapske, on her birthday, from her children and grandchildren.

**Our September Service Activity is the Clothing Closet at Immanuel Lutheran.** Items Needed: One -subject spiral notebooks, snacks and prizes (Christian oriented). Please leave items on the altar. Thank you.

**The Forget-Me-Nots enjoyed a wonderful time of fellowship at the church picnic grounds** on August 3. We decided that we would again meet there on **Tuesday, September 7 at 11:30.** Please bring a picnic lunch, a drink, and a lawn chair. We hope you will be able to join us and bring a friend. Ann Hardesty 471-5304.

**Friendship Sunday will take place next week** in conjunction with the ELCA's *God's work our Hands* Sunday. Please wear a Tee shirt from the church for that weekend – Any tee shirt, 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary, Soul Sisters, Forget-Me-Nots, etc. and serve someone/someplace in Christ's name.

**Please note:** The church office will be closed on Monday, September 6, for Labor Day.

## **Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray. Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

## **FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:4-7a**

<sup>4</sup> Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

<sup>5</sup> Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; <sup>6</sup> then shall the lame man leap like a hart, and the tongue of the dumb sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; <sup>7</sup> the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water;

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: Psalm 146 (Read Responsively)**

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!

**I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have being.**

Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no help.

**When his breath departs he returns to his earth; on that very day his plans perish.**

Happy is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord his God, **who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith for ever; who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free;**

**the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.**

The Lord watches over the sojourners, he upholds the widow and the fatherless; but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

**The Lord will reign for ever, thy God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the Lord!**

## **SECOND READING: James 2:1-17**

<sup>1</sup>My brethren, show no partiality as you hold the faith of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Lord of glory. <sup>2</sup>For if a man with gold rings and in fine clothing comes into your assembly, and a poor man in shabby clothing also comes in, <sup>3</sup>and you pay attention to the one who wears the fine clothing and say, "Have a seat here, please," while you say to the poor man, "Stand there," or "Sit at my feet," <sup>4</sup>have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? <sup>5</sup>Listen, my beloved brethren. Has not God chosen those who are poor in the world to be rich in faith and heirs of the kingdom which he has promised to those who love him? <sup>6</sup>But you have dishonored the poor man. Is it not the rich who oppress you, is it not they who drag you into court? <sup>7</sup>Is it not they who blaspheme the honorable name which was invoked over you?

<sup>8</sup> If you really fulfil the royal law, according to the scripture, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself,” you do well.<sup>9</sup> But if you show partiality, you commit sin, and are convicted by the law as transgressors.<sup>10</sup> For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it.<sup>11</sup> For he who said, “Do not commit adultery,” said also, “Do not kill.” If you do not commit adultery but do kill, you have become a transgressor of the law.<sup>12</sup> So speak and so act as those who are to be judged under the law of liberty.<sup>13</sup> For judgment is without mercy to one who has shown no mercy; yet mercy triumphs over judgment.

<sup>14</sup> What does it profit, my brethren, if a man says he has faith but has not works? Can his faith save him?<sup>15</sup> If a brother or sister is ill-clad and in lack of daily food,<sup>16</sup> and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, be warmed and filled,” without giving them the things needed for the body, what does it profit?<sup>17</sup> So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*(Please Stand)*

**Gospel Acclamation**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray: Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation. Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy, bearing witness to the abundance of your love in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BENEDICTION**

SENDING HYMN “Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”

(Red) #719

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

**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.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

**Glory to You, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: Mark 7:24-37**

<sup>24</sup> And from there he arose and went away to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And he entered a house, and would not have any one know it; yet he could not be hid. <sup>25</sup> But immediately a woman, whose little daughter was possessed by an unclean spirit, heard of him, and came and fell down at his feet. <sup>26</sup> Now the woman was a Greek, a Syrophoeni'cian by birth. And she begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. <sup>27</sup> And he said to her, “Let the children first be fed, for it is not right to take the children’s bread and throw it to the dogs.” <sup>28</sup> But she answered him, “Yes, Lord; yet even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” <sup>29</sup> And he said to her, “For this saying you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter.” <sup>30</sup> And she went home, and found the child lying in bed, and the demon gone. <sup>31</sup> Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, through the region of the Decap'olis. <sup>32</sup> And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech; and they besought him to lay his hand upon him. <sup>33</sup> And taking him aside from the multitude privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue; <sup>34</sup> and looking up to heaven, he sighed, and said to him, “Eph'phatha,” that is, “Be opened.” <sup>35</sup> And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. <sup>36</sup> And he charged them to tell no one; but the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. <sup>37</sup> And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well; he even makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.”

The Gospel of Our Lord.

**Praise to You, O Christ**

*(Please be seated)*

SERMON

“Speak Plainly”

Pastor John Shipman

*(Please stand)*

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Healer of Our Every Ill”

(Red) #612

**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** Lord, in your mercy,  
hear our prayer.

**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. God of abundance, you cause streams to break forth in the desert and manna to rain from the heavens. Accept the gifts you have first given us. Unite them with the offering of our lives to nourish the world you love so dearly; through 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**

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.**

*(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"