

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. Carol Kindt 9:00 a.m. Shirley Jones |
| <u>LECTOR</u> | 5:30 p.m. Sue Keyes 9:00 a.m. Scott Parkham |
| <u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u> | 5:30 p.m. Barb Crittenden, Geri Hanson 9:00 a.m. Joanne Huggler, Pat Brodziak |
| <u>USHERS & GREETERS</u> | 5:30 p.m. Cindy Tchorzynski 9:00 am. Nancy St. Onge, Paul Kieliszewski Tim Moggie, Kathy Burton |
| <u>ACOLYTE</u> | 9:00 a.m. Alayna Krey |
| <u>ALTAR CARE</u> | Marty Cantleberry and Laurie Stafford |

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



March 12, 2022 - 5:30 p.m.
March 13, 2022 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 12, 2022 - 5:30 p.m.

March 13, 2022 - 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

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,

we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. 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

“Gather Us In”

(Red) #532, vs. 1 & 4

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.

If you would like a special invitation for your children or grandchildren for the Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday April 16th please notify the office and we will contact them.

The Ray of Sonshine Ministry is looking for Servant Leaders to help their ministry of outreach. Please contact the office if you would like to become part of this ministry. They next meet on March 15 at 5:30.

There will be a Kitchen Krew Leaders meeting on Wednesday, March 16, from 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

The Youth continue to meet on the 4th Sunday each month. **On March 27th we will have a Spring Break Kick Off!** We will meet at the church from 3:00—6:00 p.m. and will enjoy food, drinks, music and dancing, watching the “Men in Black” movie and playing yard and table games. Please join us!

The Soul Sisters (Women 50-70) will meet on Tuesday, March 29th, at 6:00 p.m. in the Multi Purpose Room for a Pizza Dinner and to hear a presentation by professional organizer, Doris Puls, on how to declutter and organize. Free will offering for the pizza. Please RSVP to Shirley at 989-464-6472. Join us for a fun evening!

The Alpena Cancer Center recently reached out to our church to see if we would be willing to donate snacks for patients who come there for treatment. They are asking for prepackaged snacks. If you would like to participate, please drop off your items at Miss Nena’s office.

A chair yoga class begins at 3:00 on Thursday afternoons (except March 24) in the multi-purpose room. Bev Suszek will be the teacher. A free will donation is appreciated. Members of the Forget-Me-Nots are interested in participating and we invite others to join us. Call Ann at (989) 471-5304 with any questions.

The Forget-Me-Knots have been invited to join the Adventure Club on Sunday, March 20 from 3:00 – 5:00 at the Jesse Besser Museum and visit the planetarium. If you plan to attend, please let Karen Wekwert know (989) 356-0040. The next regular meeting of the Forget-Me-Knots will be on Tuesday, April 5 at 12:00. We will bring a snack lunch and beverage. Ms. Nena will speak to us about the Sonshine Ministry Program. Next, those wishing to go visit the Jesse Besser Museum will carpool to the museum and tour the exhibits.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: MARCH 13—20, 2022

| | |
|---------------|--|
| <u>SUN.</u> | Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children’s Church– 10:30 a.m.; Jr./Sr. High Sunday School – 10:30 a.m. |
| <u>MON.</u> | AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 5:30 p.m. |
| <u>TUES.</u> | Stephen Ministry – 1:00 p.m.; Senior Leaders – 5:00 p.m.; Ray of Sonshine – 5:30 p.m.; Church Council – 6:00 p.m.; Cub/Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.; Newsletter Deadline |
| <u>WED.</u> | AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Wednesday Lunch and Worship Service – 12:00 p.m.; Job Bible Study (Pastor John) – 1:00 p.m.; Kitchen Krew – 2:00 p.m.; Stephen Ministry – 3:30 p.m. |
| <u>THURS.</u> | Men’s Fellowship (JJ’s) – 7:00 a.m.; Chair Yoga - 3:00 p.m.; Yoga–5:30 p.m.; Girl Scouts–6:00 p.m.; Book Study (Nena) – 6:30 p.m. |
| <u>FRI.</u> | AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 11:00 a.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 and Children’s Church – 10:30; Jr./Sr. High Sunday School – 10:30 a.m.; The Adventure Club – 3:00 p.m. |

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: Lexi Liske, Madelyn Mills, Geraldine Rhoads, Gary Rich, Alvin Sharp, Josh Paulson, David Sigmon, Stanley Wikaryasz, Cindi Parfitt, Laurie Stafford, Phyllis Robb, Eugene Brooks, Don Kirschner, Kenneth and June Sylvester, Bodo Hanson, Roy Sommerfeld, Melissa Smith, Sutton Badder, Marian Dove, Dolores Sumerix, Eleanor Schellie, Megan Schleben, Audrey Reck, Tim Grossman, Deb Lange, Bernice Menck, Annette Jones, and Karen Wallace.

We remember our prayer partners in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod: All Saints Lutheran Church, Mason, Rev. Erick Johnson, Stated Supply.

We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. This week we specifically pray for our Men’s Monthly Evening Meetings.

| WORSHIP ATTENDANCE | END OF JANUARY | | YEAR TO DATE |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Wednesday Lent Service (03/02) 49 | | | |
| Saturday (03/05) 5:30 p.m. 65 | Income | 20,494.21 | 20,494.21 |
| Sunday (03/06) 9:00 a.m. 40 | Expenses | <u>19,475.25</u> | <u>19,475.25</u> |
| 10:30 a.m. 19 | Difference | 1,018.96 | 1,018.96 |
| Total 173 | | | |

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

The March Service Activity is Pied Piper School. Items needed: bubbles, bubble machine, sidewalk chalk, sand toys, watercolor paints, Bingo daubers, sensory fidget toys, outside playground balls (basketballs, soccer balls, volleyballs, large rubber balls). Please place your items on the altar.

The Wednesday Lenten Services will continue each week, preceded by a Soup lunch at 12:00 p.m. Please grab the beige Trifold in the Narthex, which has the entire schedule for Lent and Easter. If you would like to volunteer to bring soup and bread for one of the lent lunches call the church office at 356-1658.

Join us for our Lenten Educational Opportunities, which run through April 14. Pastor John will hold a Book Study on Job and Miss Nena will lead a Book Study on “Me, Myself, and Lies... a Thought Closet Makeover,” by Jennifer Rothschild. Each 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.

Adam, our Media Coordinator, will be hosting another “**Tech Talk**” in March. It will be held on Friday, **March 25th** at 3:00 p.m. If you have any questions email Adam at media@stpaul.org.

The Adventure Club is traveling to the Besser Museum on the 20th of March from 3:00-5:00 PM. We will tour both the Museum and the Planetarium. Bring your spirit of adventure and hope as you explore and share your faith through fun, adventure, and food within this intergenerational educational experience. A free will donation will be taken to cover the cost. The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1-105 years old.

Council packets have been sent out electronically. Printed copies will be available at Tuesday’s meeting.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, 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: Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

¹After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, “Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.” ²But Abram said, “O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?” ³And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” ⁴But the word of the LORD came to him, “This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.” ⁵He brought him outside and said, “Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.” Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.” ⁶And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷Then he said to him, “I am the LORD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess.” ⁸But he said, “O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?” ⁹He said to him, “Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon.” ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away. ¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, “To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.

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

PSALM: Psalm 27 (Read Responsively)

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh—my adversaries and foes—they shall stumble and fall.

Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

Hear, O Lord, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

“Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!” Your face, Lord, do I seek.

Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

If my father and mother forsake me, the Lord will take me up.

Teach me your way, O Lord, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies.

Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord!

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:17-4:1

¹⁷ Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸ For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹ Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

^{4:1} Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

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. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. Amen.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing”

(Red) #543

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. **Thanks be to God.**

(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. Luke. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Luke 13:31-35

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³² He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

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

(Please be seated)

SERMON

“God’s Desire”

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Thy Holy Wings”

(Red) #613

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 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. Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

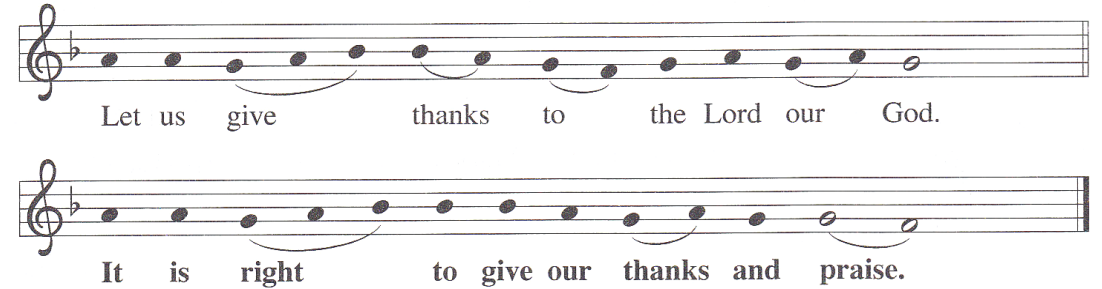
(Please stand)

(Sung at the 9:00 a.m. service.)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



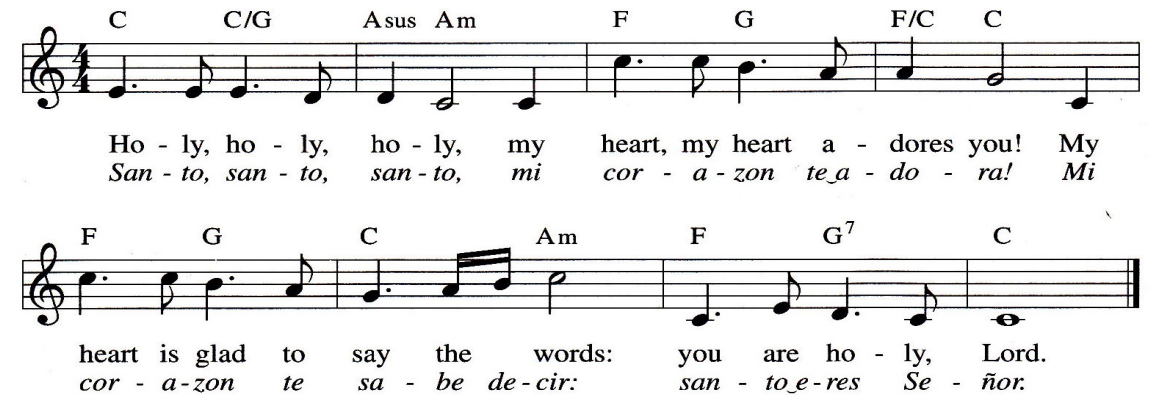
The Lord be with you. And also with you.
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.



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.

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. 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.