

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.

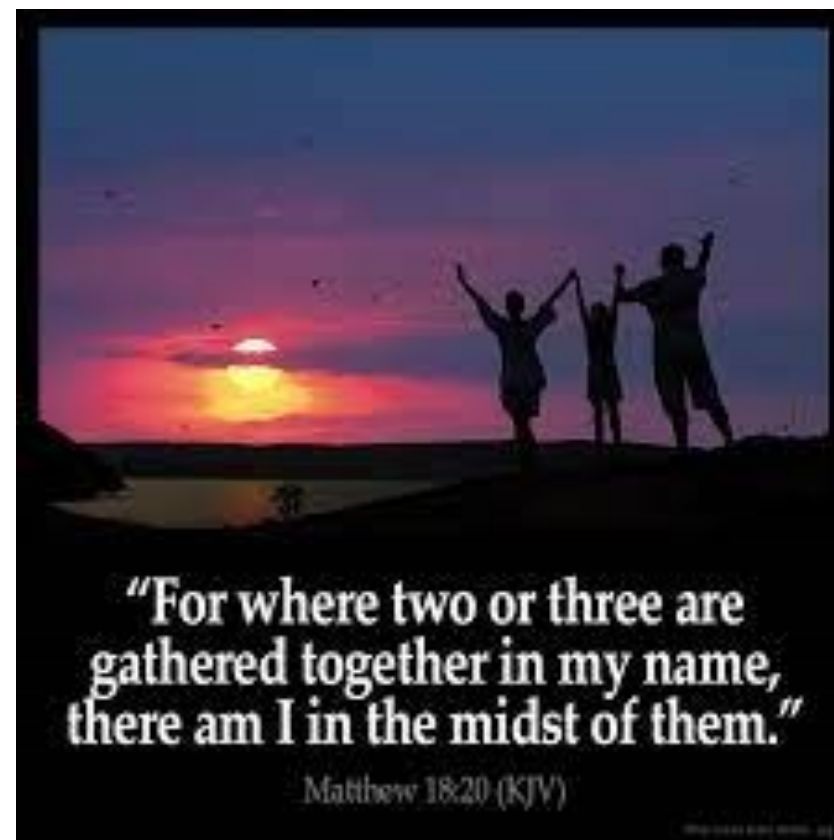
There are **restrooms** located in the basement of this building and on the ground floor of the hallway leading to our fellowship hall and on each floor of the educational building.

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.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	Alayna Krey
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	Danielle McDonald
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Joan Smolinski
	9:00 a.m.	Joanne Huggler
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Dennis and Sherry McDonald
	9:00 a.m.	Tim Moggie, Nancy Smithem
		Dennis and Lori Dzieszinski
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.	Emily Smith
	9:00 a.m.	Alex Wickstrom
<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. 2nd, Alpena, MI 49707
Phone 989-356-1658
www.stpaul.org
A Stephen Ministry Congregation



September 9, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.
September 10, 2023 - 9:00 a.m.



GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 9, 2023 - 5:30 p.m.
September 10, 2023 - 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 God, the one who forms us, + Jesus who bears the cross, the Spirit who makes our joy complete. **Amen.**

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Steadfast and faithful God,
you have revealed the ways of justice, yet we fail to follow you. We are overwhelmed by the world's violence and suffering. We are afraid to risk what we have for the sake of others. For the harm we have caused, known and unknown, forgive us. For the unjust demands we place on others and your creation, forgive us. For the ways we turn away from you and our neighbor, forgive us. Lead us back to you and set us on the right path; in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior. 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 “As We Gather at Your Table” (Red) #522

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 Adventure Club on Sunday, September 17th, at Lee's Miniature Golf, 1:00 p.m. We are going to test our golfing skills and have lots of fun! Please pre-register in the office or on our app. *Thank you.*

Pastor John and Nena are inviting you to come to their house for a Fireside Chat on September 24th from 5:00-7:00. We will sit by the firepit by the river (or in the house or gazebo) and talk about life, hope, grace, and the love of God (no agenda). Come for 15 minutes or for 2 hours.

We are desperately looking for a main entree' cook for DOD on the fourth Tuesday of each month from September thru May to serve up soup or a casserole meal. We have a person who makes cookies and another who bakes the bread. Please call Janice Boboltz at 989-356-4834(H) or 989-464-6211(C) for more information regarding this ministry at our church.

The September Service Activity is Lincoln Elementary School. Items needed: school supplies, especially composition notebooks and dry erase markers, and children's clothing, knit pants sizes 5-8 and new underwear size small and medium. Please leave your donations on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

The next ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY program of our MDOT pick up will be on Sunday, September 24th, at 12:00. Meet at our church to view the video prior to venturing out for the clean up at our location on M-32. Hope you can be there to help with this project! All are welcome!!!

Worship on the Beach on Saturday, September 30 at 7:00 p.m. You are invited to bring a friend, a beverage of choice, a lawn chair, snacks and a joyful spirit. We will carpool from the church after the 5:30 service and travel to the beach property at 6:30. The service and time of fellowship will last from 7:00-9:00

God has blessed some of us with companions that cannot speak, and yet they love and offer us comfort. **Pastor John will offer a blessing on your pet from 10-12 on Saturday, September 30th,** at the church.

Pastor Tom Orth and Rabbi Howard Morrison are teaming up for an informative **Community Outreach program** exploring “Unity and Diversity within and between Judaism and Christianity.” It will be held at Grace Lutheran Church on Thursday, September 14, from 6-8 p.m. Rabbi Morrison, will be joining us via Zoom from Toronto, Canada. There will be two sessions with refreshments in between.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: SEPTEMBER 10—17, 2023	
<u>SUN.</u>	Sunday Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children's Church & C.I.A. (Youth)–10:30 a.m.; <i>T-Shirt/Friend/"God Work. Our Hands" Weekend</i>
<u>MON.</u>	Children's Church Meeting – 11:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; E.T.A. – 5:00 p.m.; Christmas Bazaar Planning Meeting – 5:30 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Gratitude Lunches – 9:00 a.m.; Stephen Ministry – 10:00 a.m.; Forget-Me-Nots (Picnic Grounds) – 12:00; Stewardship – 5:00 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Air Rifle Team –5:30 p.m.; Soul Sisters Kayaking – 5:30 p.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles (at JJ's) – 7:30 a.m.; Trust Fund Meeting – 5:30 p.m.; Choir –6:00 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men's Breakfast (at JJ's) – 7:00 a.m.; Outreach – 5:00 p.m.; Air Rifle Team–5:30 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Newsletter Deadline
<u>SAT.</u>	Fellowship – 4:30 p.m.; Worship/HC -5:30 p.m.
<u>SUN.</u>	Sunday Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children's Church – 10:30 a.m.; The Adventure Club (Lee's Mini-Golf) – 1:00 p.m.

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: Sue Kaiser, Andy Beagle, Phyllis Robb, Jillian Kerby, Frank, Pat Brodziak, Sarah Moe Melching, Brendia Mantea, Laurie Stafford, Allison Dutcher, Brendon & Heather Maroney, David Hunt, Dolores Libka, David Reeves, Josh Paulsen, Julie Troy, Cathy Moe, Cathy Beigaey, Mary Senchuk, John Wegmeyer, Tom Christou, Geri Hanson, Keeley Knapp, Billiejo Foster, Gus Schultz, Elaine Kingsbury, Sally Barney, Joel Foster, Eugene Brooks, Bodo Hanson, Sutton Badder, Marian Dove, Dolores Sumerix, Audrey Reck, Bernice Menck, and Karen Wallace. *(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: Trinity Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, Rev. Robert Linstrom, Rev. Daniel Schewe, and Rev. Kari Fast

We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. This week we specifically pray for the Altar Care Ministry.

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

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>			<u>END OF JUNE</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday (09/02)	5:30 p.m.	41	Income	31,148.16	165,703.26
Sunday (09/03)	9:00 a.m.	46	Expenses	<u>27,891.66</u>	<u>175,117.05</u>
	10:30 a.m.	<u>30</u>	Difference	3,256.50	(9,413.79)
Total		117			

The next **Christmas Bazaar Meeting** is Monday, September 11th, at 5:30 in the lounge. Hope to see you there.

The Soul Sisters will meet for their last two Kayaking Adventures on September 12th (at Sytek Park) and **September 26th** at 5:30 p.m. For borrowing kayaks or questions please call Sue Robb at 989-354-8673.

The Forget-Me-Nots will be meeting on Tuesday, September 12 at noon for a picnic at our church picnic grounds. We will not meet on the first Tuesday because that is right after Labor Day. Please bring your lunch and a beverage. We hope to see you there!

The Annual Meeting will be Sunday, October 15th, right after the 9:00 a.m. service. The deadline to get your financial budget and annual reports into the church office is September 7th.

Popcorn! St Paul's Cub Scouts Pack 3092 are at the services this weekend to sell popcorn to our congregation. Please help support them.

Join us for our Autumn Educational Opportunities, which run September 20 through October 25. Pastor John will hold a Bible Study on the Gospel of John and Miss Nena will lead a Book Study on "Joshua - Winning the Worry Battle," by Barb Roose. Each class length will be 1 hour. Pastor John's Class will meet on Wednesdays at 1:00 and 5:30 PM and Miss Nena's class will also meet on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM. Please call the office so we know how to plan/books to order.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷ So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹ But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰ Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹ Say to them: As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 119:33-40 (Read Responsively)

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end.

Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.

Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.

Turn my heart to your decrees and not to selfish gain.

Turn my eyes from looking at vanities; be gracious to me according to your word.

Confirm to your servant your promise, which is for those who fear you.

Turn away the disgrace that I dread, for your ordinances are good.

See, I have longed for your precepts; in your righteousness be gracious to me

SECOND READING: Romans 13:8-14 (Sunday 9:00 a.m.)

⁸ Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹ The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰ Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹ Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹² the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the

armor of light; ¹³ let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴ Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 18:15-20

¹⁵ “If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee”

(Red) #836

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. God is at work in you.

Thanks be to God.

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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.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

(Please be seated)
SERMON

“Building Community”

Rev John Shipman

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Oh, Praise the Gracious Power”

(Red) #651

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

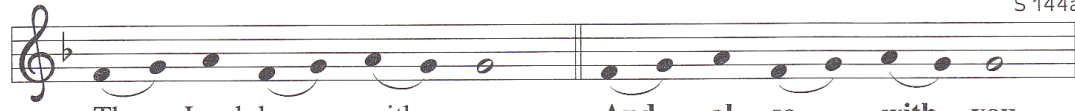
OFFERING PRAYER

(Please stand)

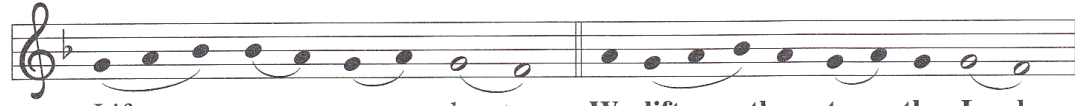
(Sung at the 9:00 a.m. service.)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

S 144a



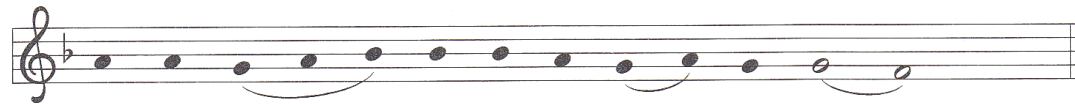
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.



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



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



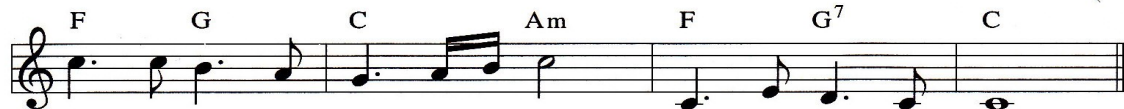
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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"



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.