

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.

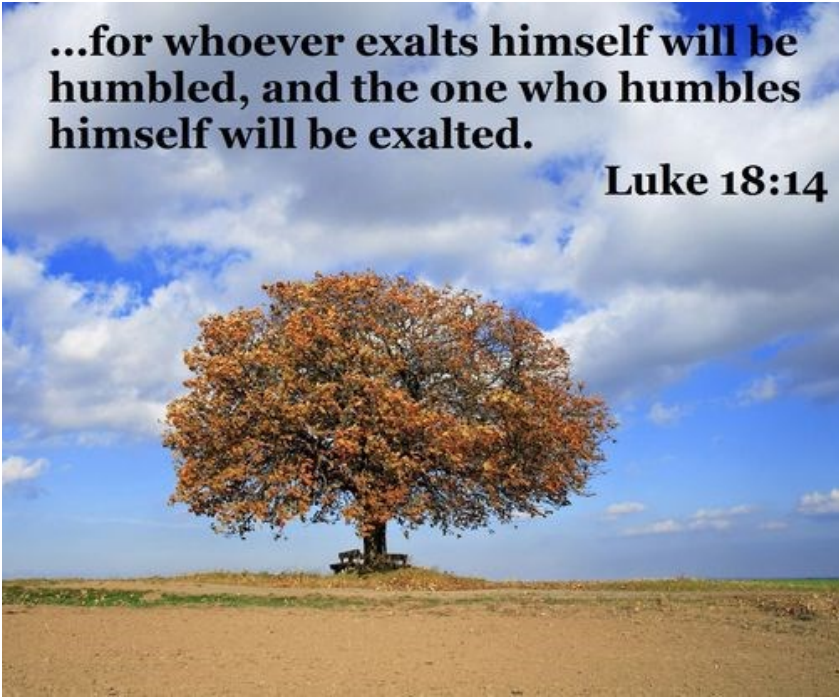
<u>PARTICIPANTS</u>		
<u>MINISTERS</u>		The People of God
<u>PASTOR</u>		Rev. John Shipman
<u>ORGANIST</u>		Marvis McNeil
<u>CHOIR DIRECTOR</u>		Marty Cantleberry
<u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	5:30 p.m.	Phil Wickstrom
	9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Gail Atkins
	9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Anita Laub
	9:00 a.m.	Janice Boboltz
<u>HEAD USHER</u>		Roy Wekwert
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Mike Yakes, Dawn Grzeskowiak
	9:00 am.	Kathy Burton, Tim Moggie
		Roy Wekwert, Dennis Dziesinski
<u>CHILDREN’S CHURCH LEADERS</u>		Jesse and Jessica O’Neil
<u>LITTLES’ WORSHIP CENTER LEADERS</u>		Nena Shipman, Kathy Burton
<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 25, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.
October 26, 2025 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
Reformation Sunday
October 25, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.
October 26, 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 “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God” (Red) #504

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.

We are still in need of a Float Coordinator for the Holiday Parade. Call the church office if you are interested.

If you would like to have altar flowers in honor, memory, or celebration of a special person or occasion, please sign up on the flower chart located in the narthex. Then, call the church office and let them know what you would like to print in the bulletin on that date. There are currently lots of dates available and the cost is only \$20.00.

Reminder: Next Sunday is Popcorn/Movie Day for Children’s Church! Adults can sneak some too.

All women are invited to join the Soul Sisters on Monday October 27th at 6:00 p.m. where they will host another “Sweater” Pumpkin Event. Bring a sweater (stretchy material, color of your choice) to cut up and make 2 pumpkins, embellishments to decorate your pumpkin, scissors, glue gun (*optional*) and \$5.00 (for the stuffing and other accessories). Please RSVP to Susan Moggie at 989-590-0600 so she can plan accordingly.

The Blessing of Hunters and Veterans service will be November 1st and 2nd. The service of blessing is a reminder of God’s hope found in the hunt. Come and know God’s blessing during this special time in God’s creation.

Don’t forget to set your clocks back an hour Saturday night, November 2. Daylight Saving Time ends November 3.

The Forget-Me-Nots will be going out for lunch at JJ’s on Tuesday, November 4th at 12:00 p.m. Please call Ann at (989) 590-2055 if you plan to attend.

There will be a Men’s Retreat on Friday, November 7th at 6:00 p.m. at 1921 Long Rapids Road. Our theme is “Being a Man and having Faith, Hope and Love in a Digital Age.” There is no cost associated with this event. Ages 18 – 100 are invited to discover God’s faithfulness in your faith journey.

The St. Paul Christmas Bazaar is November 8th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose room, with our famous “Turkey Noodle Casserole” being served from 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Tickets for the luncheon are available at the church office, or before church services this weekend and next. Bazaar items may be dropped off on Friday, November 7th from 9:00-4:00. If you have any questions, call Esther Kindt at 989-471-2274.

All are invited to our November Video Educational Experience on November 12th at 6:00 p.m. We will be watching “Overcomer,” and a meal will be provided with discussion throughout.

Come join the celebration, servant volunteers needed to help decorate the building for the Advent and Christmas Season on Monday, December 1st beginning at 2:00 p.m. Call Donna Kensa if you can help at 989-464-5385. Thanks!

WEEK AT A GLANCE: <i>OCTOBER 26—NOVEMBER 2, 2025</i>	
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC–9:00 a.m.; Fellowship–10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service/Children’s Church/C.I.A. - 10:30; Adventure Club Fall Romp (Johnson Camp – 1:00 p.m.; Stroll through the Tombstones – 6:00 p.m.
<u>MON.</u>	Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 4:00 p.m.; E.T.A. – 5:30 p.m.; Soul Sisters & Women’s Sweater Pumpkin Event – 6:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Dinner on a Doorknob – 9:00 a.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Scouting America – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles – 7:30 a.m.; Choir – 4:30 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.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	Fellowship – 4:30 p.m.; Worship/HC – 5:30 p.m.; Set clocks back an hour when going to bed tonight
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC–9:00 a.m.; Fellowship–10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service/Children’s Church/C.I.A. - 10:30

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

<u>WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:</u>	Cheryl Daher – illness	Mark Byce – health issues
Belinda Page – rec./broken ankle	Marlis Roznowski– health issues	Shelly Hoffmeyer-recovery
Sharon Tinker-knee surgery rec.	Cody Franklin – leukemia	Lee Werth—health issues
Laura – health issues	Phyllis Robb-unspecified need	Carol Kuhl—health issues
Karen Wallace–unspecified need	Margaret Lucian – health issues	David McNeil – health issues
Julie Troy – health issues	Ann Martin – medical issues	Dena Stevens – health issues
Ric Schmidt – recovery from surgery	John Wegmeyer– health issues	Chad Hamill– health issues
Adam Schmidt- health issues	Laura Cussen – stroke	Malary Smith – unspecified
<i>We also remember our homebound members. They are Geraldine Wyman, Phyllis Robb, and Norm Dutcher.</i>		
<i>(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.)</i>		

We remember our prayer partners in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod: Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Lansing, Rev. Matt Smith and Rev. John Burow.

We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. This week we specifically pray for the Girl Scouts.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE	END OF SEPTEMBER	YEAR TO DATE
Sunday 10/19 9:00 a.m. 138	Income 47,394.50	287,906.01
	<u>Expenses 36,066.24</u>	<u>294,668.04</u>
	Difference 11,328.26	(6,762.03)

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL (foot of the cross) are given in memory of Howard L. Scull who went to meet the Lord on October 29, 2016 and is now at peace, from his wife and family. We love you.

We remember Winnie and Clinton Kirchoff on their wedding anniversary, October 25, 1952.

- Rescheduled from last Sunday:*
- * **The Adventure Club is going to have some Fun Fall Activities at the Johnson Camp (10606 Indian Reserve Road) on Sunday, October 26th, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.** There will be pumpkin carving, wagon rides and yummy snacks. 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 26th at 6:00.** Come with stories to share about loved ones, stories about Alpena and how others shaped our history.

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 at 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.

Scouting America Troop 92 are doing a *Take and Bake* Thanksgiving Pie Fundraiser. Apple Pies are \$20. Orders and payments are being taken now through 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.

Prayer of the Day
Let us pray. Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through 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: Jeremiah 31:31-34
³¹ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, ‘Know the LORD’, for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

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

PSALM: Psalm 46 (Read Responsively)
God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns.
The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.
The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.
Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations he has brought on the earth.
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire.
‘Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.’
The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

¹⁹ Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰ For ‘no human being will be justified in his sight’ by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹ But now, irrespective of law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²² the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³ since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴ they are now justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶ it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷ Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸ For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

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.

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: 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 “The Church’s One Foundation” (Red) #654

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
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.

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 18:9-14

⁹ He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰ “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

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

Children’s Message/Noisy Offering

“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

© Public Domain: Arabella Catherine Hankey | William Gustavus Fischer

(Please be seated)

SERMON

“Regarding Others”

Rev. John Shipman

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Built on a Rock”

(Red) #652

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.

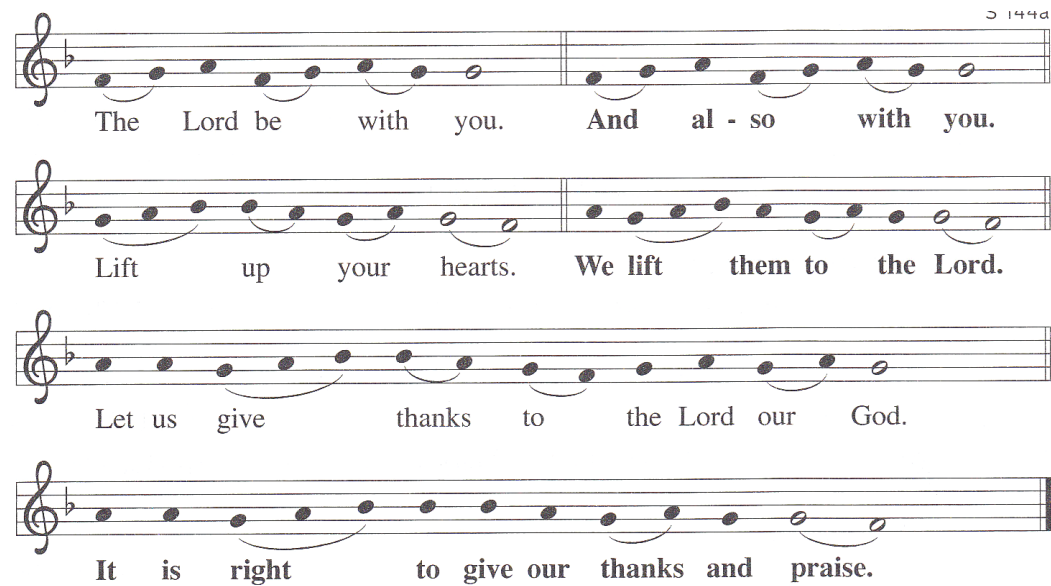
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge 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.

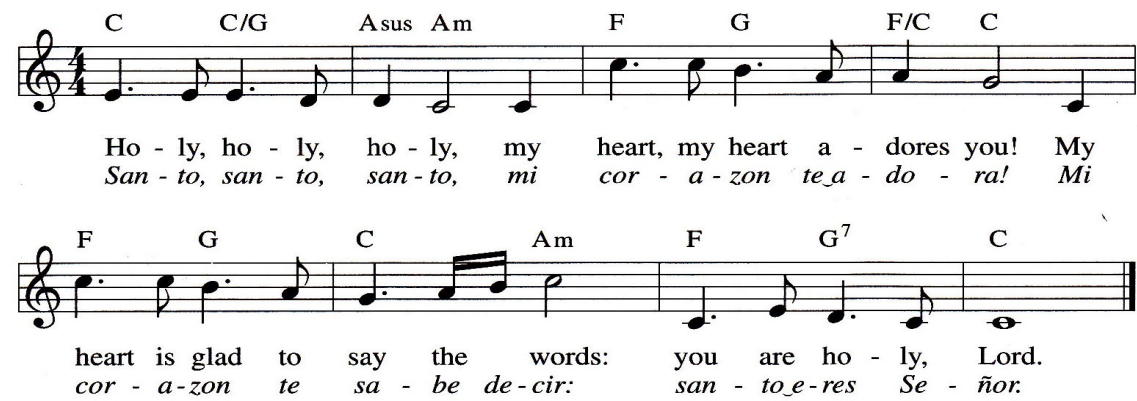
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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 un- ending 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"