

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.

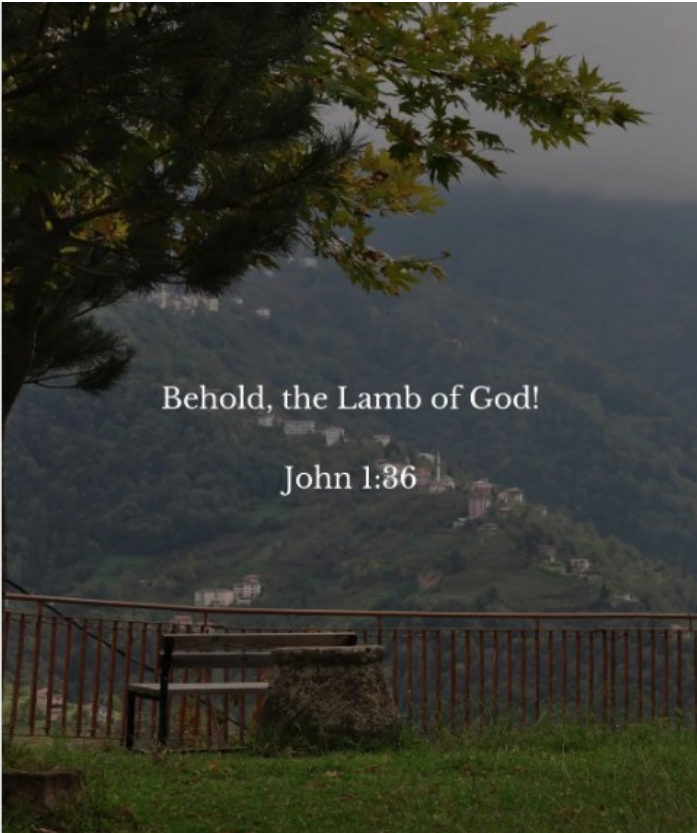
There are **restrooms** located in the basement of this building and on the ground floor of the hallway leading to our fellowship hall and on each floor of the educational building.

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.	Phil Wickstrom
	9:00 a.m.	Scott Parkham
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Myra Gapske
	9:00 a.m.	Scott Parkham
<u>HEAD USHER</u>		Roy Wekwert
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Patti Byce, Jimmy Nensewitz
	9:00 am.	Tim Moggie, Owen Werth
		Jesse and Jessica O’Neil
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Myra Gapske, Patti Byce
	9:00 a.m.	Carla Steinke
<u>CHILDREN’S CHURCH LEADERS</u>		Ashley Reed, Bonnie Duby
		Cathy Kieliszewski, Nena Shipman
<u>LITTLES’ WORSHIP CENTER LEADERS</u>		Andrea Dutcher and Evie Bicker
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>	Sue Moggie, Jessica O’Neil, Karen Wekwert, Shirley Kowalski	

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



2026 Theme: “Be Our Vision Lord”

January 17, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.
January 18, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.

The Adventure Club will meet on Sunday January 18th from 1:00-3:00 p.m. to go sledding, at 1921 Long Rapids Road. You can come and watch the children and remember the times when you hit the hills. There will be hot cocoa and hot apple cider. The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1-125 years old.

We will be packing food for the Feeding Kids Ministry on Monday, January 19th at the old Sunset School, 1421 Hobbs Drive. Call Sherry McDonald if you are willing to help or have questions, 356-9600.

The undecorating of the church was rescheduled for this Thursday, January 22nd at 8:30 a.m. Please join us!

3M Men’s meal and fellowship – January 22nd at 6:00 p.m. Open to the entire 3M and Band of Brothers community. Come and be part of this celebration. Please RSVP to the church office, to help us plan. Thank you.

Our next **Women’s Retreat** will be on Friday, January 23rd at 6:00 p.m. The event will take place at 1921 Long Rapids Road and there is no cost associated with this event. The theme is “Being a Woman and having Faith, Hope and Love in a Digital Age.”

Next weekend we will collect the noisy offering for the Boys and Girls Club, so bring your change!

All are invited to our February Video Educational Experience on Wednesday, February 4th at 6:00 p.m. We will be watching “Ordinary Angels” and a meal will be provided with discussion throughout.

Save the Date! The **Dynamic Duo Couples Retreat** will be Friday, February 13th at 6:00 p.m.
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, February 17th, 4:00-5:30 p.m. Mark your calendar now and plan to attend!

Mexican Night - The Stewardship Committee will again host a Mexican Night on Saturday, February 21, following the 5:30 service. There will be a limited number of no-cost tickets available (135) at the church office. A Free-Will Offering will be collected for the meal. There will be a Chinese raffle and 50/50 raffle. If you would like to help with a dessert or raffle item, reach out to Dennis at 464-7112 or Lori at 590-8568.

If you would like to add a St. Paul-affiliated college student to our list, the Taste from Home Ministry will send them a care package during final exams week. Forward their name & contact information to Nancy at nrsmith6@gmail.com or call 989-255-0976. If you want to be a part of our ministry, new members welcome.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: <i>JANUARY 18—25, 2026</i>	
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC–9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00; Contemporary Service/Children’s Church/C.I.A. - 10:30; The Adventure Club Sledding – 1:00 p.m.; Forget-Me-Nots Matinee – 2:00 p.m.
<u>MON.</u>	Line Dancing–2:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts–4:00 p.m.; E.T.A. Group–5:30 p.m.; Feeding Kids Ministry–5:30
<u>TUES.</u>	Cub Scouts–5:30 p.m.; Senior Leaders–5:30 p.m.; Church Council–6:00 p.m.; Scouting America– 6:30
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles – 7:30 a.m.; Choir Practice – 4:30 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast (JJs)- 7:00 a.m.; Undecorate Church—8:30 a.m.; Stitched Together – 10:00 a.m.; Open Line Dance – 1:00 p.m.; Chair Yoga – 3:00 p.m.; 3M Men’s Meal Event – 6:00 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Women’s Retreat – 6:00 p.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	Fellowship – 4:30 p.m.; Worship Service – 5:30 p.m.
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC– 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00; Contemporary Service/Children’s Church/C.I.A. - 10:30

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

Milt Paquette – health issues	Mary Crockitt – health issues	Sally Wong – health issues
Bennett Gilmet – medical issues	Anne Eaton – health issues	Donita M. – health issues
Cathy Murtha – medical issues	Alan Marwede– future surgery	Joanne Kindt – health issues
Lianna Kruttlin – health issues	Storm Yakes – medical issues	Cheryl Daher–awaiting surgery
Kevin Reiser – health issues	Greg Dziesinski- health issues	Lisa Dziesinski-health issue
Darlene Ackerman – health issues	Joel Foster – health issues	Adam Schmidt- health issues
Margaret Lucian – health issues	Phyllis Robb-unspecified need	Billie Jo Foster – health issues
Carol Kuhl – health issues	Lee Werth—health issues	Nancy Yahne –surgery
Ric Schmidt – recovery from surgery	Ann Martin – medical issues	Dena Stevens – health issues
Tina Yeager – health issues	John Wegmeyer– health issues	Malary Smith – unspecified
	Nancy St. Onge – health issues	

(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. Thanks.)

We remember our prayer partners in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod: Harbor of Grace Lutheran Church, Muskegon, Rev. William Uetricht.

We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. This week we specifically pray for the Education Bible/Book Studies.

CONDOLENCES TO: the family and friends of Dana Panknin who joined our Lord in eternity January 10, 2026. Her funeral service was held on Thursday, January 15th, at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

CONDOLENCES TO: the family and friends of Norman Dutcher who joined our Lord in eternity Monday, January 12, 2026. His memorial service was held January 17, 2026 at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Saturday 01/10	5:30 p.m.	59
Sunday 01/11	9:00 a.m.	31
	10:30 a.m.	<u>27</u>
	Total	117

END OF NOVEMBER

Income	26,935.55
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>29,537.57</u>
Difference	(2,602.02)

YEAR TO DATE

336,894.61
<u>361,647.50</u>
(24,752.89)

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL (foot of the cross) are given in memory of Bill and Marie Welk from Bill Kimball.

The January Service Activity is Alpena High School. Items needed: mechanical pencils, day planners, men’s/women’s deodorant, Chapstick, hair ties, men’s/women’s shampoo, hair brushes, girls leggings (all sizes), unisex hoodies (all sizes), and unisex sweatpants (all sizes). Please leave your items on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

The Forget Me Nots (Women 70 and older) did not meet on the first Tuesday in January. Instead, we are going to the play “The God Committee” on Sunday, January 18th at 2:00 p.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

The 2nd Sunday after Epiphany

January 17, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.

January 18, 2026 - 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, the Creator of heaven and earth, the Word who spoke life into being, the Wind stirring the waters. **Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Mighty God, lover of justice,
you call us to life in community, but we have served our own interests at the expense of our neighbors. We have sown deceit where honesty was needed. We say the right words, but our hearts are far from you. Turn us to seek your face. Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ, that we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. 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.**

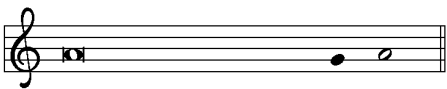
GATHERING HYMN “Arise, Your Light Has Come!” (Red) #314


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.

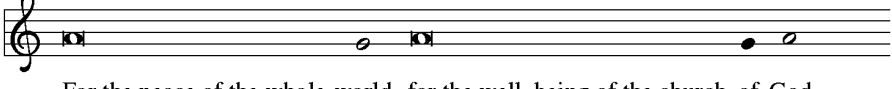
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

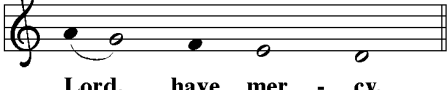

Lord, have mer - cy.

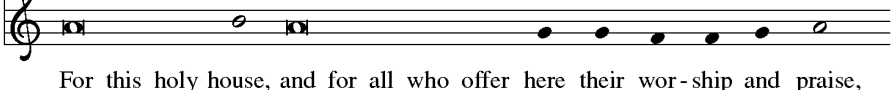

For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.

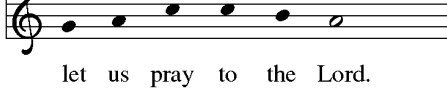

Lord, have mer - cy.

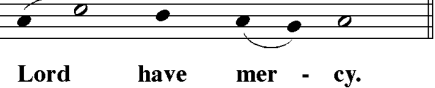

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

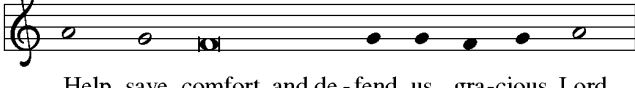

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,


let us pray to the Lord.


Lord have mer - cy.


Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.


A - men.

SENDING HYMN

“We Are Marching in the Light”

(Red) #866

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Do Justice. Love mercy.
Thanks be to God.

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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: Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain
Assisting minister
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All
1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and
strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the
hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and
might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain

has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 49:1-7

¹Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. ²He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. ³And he said to me, 'You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified.' ⁴But I said, 'I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God.' ⁵And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength— ⁶he says, 'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.' ⁷Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, 'Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 40:1-11 (Read Responsively)

I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord.

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.

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God of majesty, no eye has seen, no ear has heard what you have prepared for those who love you, yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy. Use what we have gathered to feed us with the reign of God come near, 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

C C/G Asus Am F G F/C C

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

F G C Am F G⁷ C

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.

Happy are those who make the Lord their trust, who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods.

You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts towards us; none can compare with you. Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.

Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required.

Then I said, ‘Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.

I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart.’

I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord.

I have not hidden your saving help within my heart, I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.

Do not, O Lord, withhold your mercy from me; let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe for ever.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 (Sunday 9:00 a.m.)

¹ Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, ² To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: ³ Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— ⁶ just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸ He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)
Gospel Acclamation



The Holy Gospel according to St. John. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: John 1:29-42

²⁹ The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, ‘Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!’ ³⁰ This is he of whom I said, “After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.” ³¹ I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.’ ³² And John testified, ‘I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³ I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, “He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.”’ ³⁴ And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.’

³⁵ The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶ and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, ‘Look, here is the Lamb of God!’ ³⁷ The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸ When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, ‘What are you looking for?’ They said to him, ‘Rabbi’ (which

translated means Teacher), ‘where are you staying?’ ³⁹ He said to them, ‘Come and see.’ They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o’clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰ One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother. ⁴¹ He first found his brother Simon and said to him, ‘We have found the Messiah’ (which is translated Anointed). ⁴² He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, ‘You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas’ (which is translated Peter).

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

Children’s Message **“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

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(Please be seated)
SERMON “What Have you Found in This Life?” Pastor John Shipman

(Please stand)
HYMN OF THE DAY “Jesus Calls Us; o’er the Tumult” (Red) #696

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 prayers.

SHARING OF THE PEACE
 The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**