

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>VICAR</u>		Troy Spencer
<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.	Shirley Jones
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Alayna Krey
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Dennis & Sherry McDonald
	9:00 am.	Steve & Andrea Dutcher
		Nancy St. Onge, Cathy Kieliszewski
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	9:00 a.m.	Evan McDonald
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Sue Moggie, Jessica O'Neil, Karen Wekwert

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 and Fax 989-356-3206

www.stpaul.org



"How can I describe the Kingdom of God? What story should I use to illustrate it? It is like a tiny mustard seed. Though this is one of the smallest of seeds, it grows to become one of the largest of plants, with long branches where birds can come and find shelter."

Mark 4:30-32

June 12, 2021 - 5:30 p.m.

June 13, 2021 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Third Sunday after Pentecost
June 12, 2021 - 5:30 p.m.
June 13, 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, the God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Alleluia!**

Drawn to Christ and seeking God’s abundance, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our provider,
help us. It is hard to believe there is enough to share. We question your ways when they differ from the ways of the world in which we live. We turn to our own understanding rather than trusting in you. We take offense at your teachings and your ways. Turn us again to you. Where else can we turn? Share with us the words of eternal life and feed us for life in the world. 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 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” (Red) #807

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.

Worship on the Beach. We will celebrate on the last Saturday of each month (June 26, July 31, August 28 and September 25) at 7:00 P.M. You are invited to bring a friend, a beverage of choice, a lawn chair, snacks and a joyful spirit. Saturday Night services will continue at 5:30. We will carpool from the church and travel to the beach property at 6:30. The service and time of fellowship will last from 7:00-9:00. If there is rain, we will reschedule.

If you would like to reserve a copy/copies of the 150th Anniversary Cookbook please call Lori at 356-4753. They are \$10.00 each.

Our June Service Activity is the Baby Pantry. Items needed: diapers, baby wipes and formula. Please leave items on the altar. *Thanks.*

We are asking for Servant Leaders to help with the Eucharistic Ministry at St. Paul. The words of Jesus are reflected in this request, “Do this in remembrance of me.” This vital ministry connects people with a sacramental vision as they deliver communion once a month to members who are unable to attend worship. If you are interested, please contact the office to set up at time to discuss with Pastor.

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

A Tree of Life image is on display within the Youth Ministry Room. If you were confirmed at St. Paul and would like to have your name placed on this tree of life, please call Miss Nena or Miss Jackie for instructions how to make this happen.

Continue to Keep our Stephen Minister Trainees in your prayers. This week they discussed “Caring between Visits: Caregiving and Communications Technology,” because while Stephen Ministry is primarily a face-to-face ministry, it may be necessary at times to use the phone and other communication tools to connect with their care receivers to enhance their ministry.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: JUNE 13–20, 2021	
SUN.	Worship/HC – 9:00; Jr/Sr. High Sunday school –10:30; Contemporary Service & Children’s Church– 10:30 a.m.
MON.	Line Dancers – 4:00 p.m.; Book Study “Finding God in the Garden” – 4:00 p.m.
TUES.	Senior Leaders – 5:00 p.m.; Church Council – 6:00 p.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.; Newsletter Deadline
WED.	Hosea Bible Study – 1:00 p.m.; Stephen Ministry Training – 1:00 p.m.
THURS.	Men’s Fellowship at JJ’s—7:00 a.m.; Internship Committee – 5:30 p.m.
FRI.	Line Dancers – 11:00 a.m.
SAT.	Worship Service/HC – 5:30 p.m.
SUN.	Worship/HC – 9:00; Jr/Sr. High Sunday school–10:30; Contemporary Service & Children’s Church– 10:30 a.m.; Block Party—1:00—4:00 p.m.

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: Fritz Stafford, Clyde Shipman, Dorothy Carr, Peter Brown, Rev. Daniel Deutsch, Melissa Smith, Norm Dutcher, Amy Nolan, Sutton Badder, Ted Sommerfeld, Randy Byard, Ann Hardesty, Beverly Page, Billi Jo Foster, Doris Peterson, Lyla Wyman, Marian Dove, Dolores Sumerix, Amy Waite, Charlie Busuttill, Eleanor Schellie, Geri Hanson, 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:

*Our Savior's Lutheran Church, Edmore

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

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL are given in memory of our mom Marion Seguin from Kathy, Barb, and families.

Worship has begun again in our building. The wearing of masks is optional. If you want a mask and don't have one, we will provide it at the door. Be open to directions for your safety and the safety of others. Services will be different due to social distancing so please have an open mind/heart and rejoice that we are worshipping again.

Our Bible study and book study will run June 2 – 28. The class length will be 1 hour. Pastor John's class (on Hosea) will meet on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM and Vicar Troy's class ("Finding God in the Garden" by Balfour Brickner) will meet on Mondays at 4:00 PM. Sign up for one or both of these opportunities to grow in faith.

Mark your calendars. **The 150th Anniversary Celebration will be on July 18th!**

Fireside chats at the Shipmans. Pastor John and Nena are inviting you to come to their house (1921 Long Rapids Road) for a fireside chat in June on the 27th 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). This is a gift from Nena and I so nothing is required to be part of this experience. Come for 15 minutes or 2 hours.

On Sunday June 20th we will host a Block Party at St. Paul from 1:00—4:00 p.m. We will block off Mirre Street by the church and celebrate with live music, fun, and friendship! Hot dogs, beverages, popcorn, and cotton candy will be provided. This will be a time to share stories about our past, speak about our future and celebrate the Gospel message to everyone who attends. Bring your lawn chairs, weather permitting. **We are also asking** everyone who will be in worship that weekend on Saturday or Sunday to wear the St Paul 150 Anniversary T-Shirt. If you have questions please call the church office.

Barb Szczesniak will be answering the church phones on Monday and Friday mornings. *Thanks Barb!*

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24

²²Thus says the Lord God: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. ²³On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. ²⁴All the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the Lord have spoken; I will accomplish it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15 (Read Responsively)

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High; **to declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night,** to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.

For you, O Lord, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

The righteous flourish like the palm tree, and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.

They are planted in the house of the Lord; they flourish in the courts of our God.

In old age they still produce fruit; they are always green and full of sap, **showing that the Lord is upright; he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.**

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17

⁶So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord—⁷for we walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. ¹⁰For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

¹⁴For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

(Please Stand)

Gospel Acclamation

Hal-le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

GOSPEL: Mark 4:26-34

²⁶ He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸ The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." ³⁰ He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³² yet when it is

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: Jesus, Bread of life, we have received from your table more than we could ever ask. As you have nourished us in this meal, now strengthen us to love the world with your own life. In your name we pray.
Amen.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN "On Our Way Rejoicing" (Red) #537

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

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sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”³³ With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴ he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

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

(Please be seated)

SERMON

“Growing Kingdom”

Vicar Troy Spencer

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“We are Baptized in Christ Jesus”

(Red) #451

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. Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world. **Amen.**

(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.

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.

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"