

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.	Myra Gapske
	9:00 a.m.	Alayna Krey
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Myra Gapske
	9:00 a.m.	Ann Hardesty
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Anita Laub
	9:00 a.m.	Justin and Ashley MacKay
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Patti Byce
	9:00 am.	Owen Werth, Cathy Kieliszewski
		Jesse & Jessica O'Neil, Mary Senchuk
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	9:00 a.m.	Emily Smith
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Marty Cantleberry, Pat Cornelius, 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



November 26, 2022 - 5:30 p.m.
November 27, 2022 - 9:00 a.m.

Help is needed to decorate the church building for Christmas. We will meet on Monday, December 5th beginning at noon. Please call Donna Kensa or the office if you can help. *Thank you.*

Pastor John and Miss Nena have planned Advent Educational Opportunities, that will run November 30th -December 21st. Pastor John's Class will meet on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM and 5:30 p.m. and Miss Nena's class will also meet on Wednesdays at 5:30 PM. Pastor John will hold a Book Study on "To Know and Follow Jesus" by Thomas Hart and Miss Nena will lead a Book Study on "I Second that Emotion: Untangling Our Zany Feelings" by Patsy Clairmont. Please call the office so we know how to plan/books to order.

The remaining items from the Christmas bazaar are in the dining room until the end of the month. Please check out the items that would make great Christmas gifts and check out the jams still looking for a good home. If you would like to pick up the items you brought, do so by the end of the month.

The Forget-Me-Knots will next meet for lunch on Tuesday, December 6 at noon at the 19th Hole Restaurant. Please call Ann Hardesty (989-590-2055) to let her know if you will attend. We hope to see you there. *The Alpena County Library will again be sponsoring Blizzard of Books.* If you would like to give a book to a child in our community, please bring a book with you. The books are wrapped at the library and given to the Salvation Army for Christmas gifts to families with young children.

The Scholarship Committee is very grateful to those that have brought in their bottle returns, we ask that you keep them coming! The bottle returns can be place in the janitorial closet next to the elevator on the Mirre street side. There is a sign on the door for less confusion. Please contact Val Urban 989-356-4613 if you have questions.

The Adventure Club will go Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 18th at 5:00 p.m. Please join us at the church as we head out to share God's love with our voices in the community.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: NOVEMBER 27—DECEMBER 4, 2022	
<u>SUN.</u>	Sunday Worship/HC—9:00; Fellowship—10:00; Contemporary Service and Children's Church, and C.I.A. (Youth) – 10:30 a.m.
<u>MON.</u>	Tech Talks—11:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 6:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Senior Leaders – 5:00 p.m.; Cub Scouts - 5:30 p.m.; Church Council – 6:00 p.m.; Boy Scouts - 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Women's Breakfast—7:30 a.m.; Advent Service and Lunch – 12:00 p.m.; Book Study (Pastor John) 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m.; Book Study (Nena) – 5:30 p.m.; Choir Practice – 6:00 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	Men's Fellowship (JJs) – 7:00 a.m.; Chair Yoga – 3:00 p.m.; Yoga – 5:30 p.m.; Singles@St.Paul- 6:00 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Narcotics Anonymous – 6:00 p.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	Fellowship – 4:30 p.m.; Worship/HC – 5:30 p.m.
<u>SUN.</u>	Sunday Worship/HC—9:00; Fellowship—10:00; Contemporary Service & Children's Church – 10:30 a.m.

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: Donna Burton, Jimmy Abend, Cheryl Rosbeck, George Morley, Steve Zbytowski, Austin Scull, Peter Roznowski, Paula Baker, Lucille Hanna Withum, Philip Donakowski, June Sylvester, Aggie Woloszyk, Jerry Swanson, Annette Wade, Zay, Lisa Hilberg, Sandra Christopherson, Larkin Kerby, William Taylor, John Wegmeyer, Gus Schultz, Elaine Kingsbury, Sally Barney, Joel Foster, Nancy Chrzan, Hattie Sheppler, Phyllis Robb, Eugene Brooks, Bodo Hanson, Sutton Badder, Marian Dove, Dolores Sumerix, Eleanor Schellie, Audrey Reck, Deb Lange, Bernice Menck, and Karen Wallace. *We also remember our homebound members.* They are: Geraldine Wyman, Harriet Burke, Virginia Kraft, Deb Lange, Phyllis Robb, and Delores Stevens. *(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: St. John's Lutheran Church, Three Rivers, Rev. James Smith.

We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. This week we specifically pray for our Office Volunteers.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL (foot of the cross) are given in memory of Theresa Stoppa and Karen Morton from their family

ADDITIONAL FLOWERS are given as a *Happy Anniversary* for Nancy and Pat Smith from their loved ones.

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>			<u>END OF SEPTEMBER</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday (11/19)	5:30 p.m.	50	Income	20,953.89	227,822.56
Sunday (11/20)	9:00 a.m.	36	Expenses	<u>26,261.59</u>	<u>238,059.13</u>
	10:30 a.m.	<u>16</u>	Difference	(-5,307.70)	(-10,236.57)
		102			

Come join us for weekend Fellowship. On Saturday Night we meet before the service at 4:30 for coffee and baked goods until 5:20. Fellowship for the 9:00 service and the 10:30 service will occur in-between the service time. Everyone is invited to join us.

If you would like to make further donations to the Cancer Center, for patients undergoing treatment we are needing packaged nuts, crackers with peanut butter or cheese, rice crispy treats, candy bars, Jolly Rancher hard candies, oatmeal packets, pudding snacks. Drop them off at Miss Nena's office.

Our November Service Activity is Thunder Bay Jr. High. Items needed: Women's underwear (all sizes), men's underwear (all sizes), athletic socks for men and women (all sizes), black leggings (small/Med/Large/SL), winter hats and gloves in adult sizes. Please leave your items on the altar.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The First Sunday of Advent
November 26, 2022 - 5:30 p.m.
November 27, 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

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. Blessed be God's name forever. **Amen.**

Beloved, now is the time to wake from sleep. Let us confront our sins, and confess them to the one who is merciful and just.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of new beginnings,
we confess that we have not welcomed your holy reign. We have strayed from your paths. We prepare for war instead of peace. We dishonor one another and your creation. Purify us with your refining fire and set us again on your way of love, that we may bear fruit worthy of repentance, and welcome your coming among us. 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 "Fling Wide the Door" (Red) #259

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



A In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



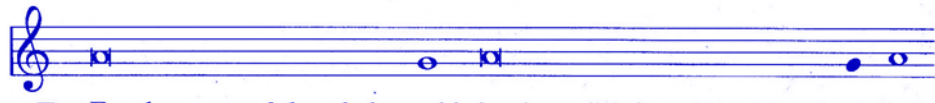
B Lord, have mer - cy.



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



B Lord, have mer - cy.



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



and for the uni-ty of all, let us pray to the Lord.



B Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord.

SERMON NOTES



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: Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

(Red) #244

DISMISSAL

God in peace. Christ is near.
Thanks be to God.

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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. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Pastor: Praise to you, O God, our salvation who is near. You hold us in our waiting and keep us awake to the world. You show up in our lives at unexpected times. Bless us as we light this candle to keep vigil for your arrival. We trust that even though we do not know the day or the hour, you hurry to gather all people to your peace. **Amen.**

Light the first candle of hope.

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.
² In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.
³ Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.
⁴ He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more.
⁵ O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

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

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.

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.

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.**

(Please 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"

PSALM: Psalm 122 (Read Responsively)

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord!"

Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.

To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you.

Peace be within your walls and security within your towers."

For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."

For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14

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

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44

³⁶“But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴²Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

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

(Please be seated)

SERMON

“Expect Jesus”

Pastor John Shipman

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“My Lord, What a Morning”

(Red) #438

Confession of Faith: The Nicene Creed

People: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH God, 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. Eternal God, you make the desert bloom and send springs of water to thirsty ground. Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money, and make us messengers of your mercy and love for all in need of your healing and justice. We ask this through Christ our Savior. **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: