

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 Cattleberry
<u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Danielle McDonald
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Patti Byce, Myra Gapske
	9:00 a.m.	Laurie Stafford
<u>HEAD USHER</u>		Roy Wekwert
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Patti Byce, Jimmy Nensewitz
	9:00 am.	Paul Kieliszewski, Roy Wekwert
		Jesse & Jessica O’Neil
<u>CHILDREN’S CHURCH LEADERS</u>		Jesse & Jessica O’Neil
		Kathy Burton
<u>LITTLES’ WORSHIP CENTER LEADERS</u>		Joanne Huggler, Rita Chase
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Sandy Samp 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

Monthly Ministry Highlight:
Worship Dynamic Ministry



Jesus answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, but one thing is needed. Mary has chosen the good part, which will not be taken away from her.”
Luke 10:41-42

July 19, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.
July 20, 2025 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
July 19, 2025 - 5:30 p.m.
July 20, 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

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life. 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 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” (Red) #834

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.

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church is an amazing place of growth and opportunity. Three sons and a daughter of St. Paul are exploring the possibility of serving as a Pastor in the ELCA. Scott, Phil, Jared and Danielle ask for your prayers as they continue their journey into God’s future. We rejoice that Jared and Danielle have the opportunity to lead worship on Sunday. If you are interested/feel called to serve in this capacity, please speak with Pastor John.

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

Pastor John and Nena are inviting you to come to their house (1921 Long Rapids Road) for a fireside chat on Sunday, July 27th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. We will sit by the firepit near 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 for 2 hours.

“Splash into God’s Word” VBS Program will be at the Starlight Beach Pavillion Tuesday – Thursday, July 29th – 31st from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. This year’s Theme is “What to do in a Drought.” We will be exploring Elijah, Joseph, and Jesus who all went through desert/drought experiences. All are welcome. Who can you invite? We also need cookie donations for the VBS nights. Please drop them off at the church the week of VBS. Call Karen Wekwert if you have any questions.

The Soul Sisters are kayaking on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of every month this summer. We will meet next at Sytek Park at the Bagley Street Bridge at 5:30 p.m. on July 22nd. We hope to see you there.

The next ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY MDOT clean-up will be on Sunday, July 27th at 12:00 p.m. We will 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!!!

Fellowship volunteers are needed to host Fellowship on Sunday mornings. Call this church office or Janice Boboltz at 989-464-6211 if you are interested in serving on this ministry at our church. We need volunteers!

WEEK AT A GLANCE: <i>JULY 20—27, 2025</i>	
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children’s Church – 10:30 a.m.
<u>MON.</u>	Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; E.T.A. Group – 5:30 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Cub Scouts –5:30 p.m.; Soul Sisters Kayaking – 5:30 p.m.; Senior Leaders – 5:30 p.m.; Church Council – 6:00 p.m.; Scouting America – 6:30 p.m.; Narcotics Anonymous – 8:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles – 7:30 a.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.; Stitched Together – 10:00 a.m.; Open Line Dance – 1:00 p.m.; Yoga 101 – 5:00 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.; Worship on the Beach – 7:00 p.m.
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children’s Church – 10:30 a.m.; MDOT Clean-Up – 12:00 p.m.; Fireside Chats – 5:00 p.m.

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

<u>WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:</u>	Joan Smolinski – knee surgery	Debra Gapske – health issues
Dave Szejbach – medical concern	Jeanne Phillips – health issues	Gary Lumsden - surgery
Steve Plowman - recovery	Carol – medical concerns	Lee Werth—health issues
Kathy Panich – unspecified	Sarah Henry – heart surgery	Vicki Carlson – health issues
Amy Sharp – medical concerns	Jay Robarge – health concerns	Alex Gonzales-medical concerns
Mark Christou – health issues	David McNeil – health issues	Randy Krebs—health issues
Adam Schmidt- health issues	Gary—medical concerns	Art Hoffmeyer - heart issues
Laura Kieliszewski – health issues	Jan Plamondon – grief	Chad Hamill – health issues
Lisa Cook – surgery	Ann Martin – medical issues	Dennis Diamond – health issues
Margaret Lucian – health issues	Shelly Hoffmeyer– shoulder	John Wegmeyer– health issues
Dena Stevens – health issues	Annette Wade – medical issues	Laura Cussen – stroke
Karen Wallace – unspecified need	Cruz – health issues	Phyllis Robb-unspecified need

(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.)

We remember our prayer partners in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Greenville, Pastor Nan Dehnke

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

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE			END OF MAY		YEAR TO DATE
Saturday (07/12) 5:30 p.m.	51		Income	34,327.00	141,213.07
Sunday (07/13) 9:00 a.m.	55		<u>Expenses</u>	<u>32,230.47</u>	<u>151,179.14</u>
10:30 a.m.	<u>60</u>		Difference	2,096.53	(9,966.07)
Total	166				

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

Our July Service Activity is Little Food Pantry at Grace Lutheran. Items Needed: macaroni & cheese, individual breakfast cereal, non-perishable milk, pancake mix, syrup, paper towels, toilet paper, baby foods, bread, quick easy meals for one, meat in pouches, canned meat, microwavable meals, canned fruits and vegetables, snacks for kids, peanut butter & jelly, and feminine hygiene products. Please leave your donation items on the altar and thank you so much for your generosity.

Worship on the Beach. We will celebrate 3 more times this summer at our beach property. The last Saturday of each month (July 26, August 30 and September 27) 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 p.m. We will carpool from the church and travel to the beach property at 6:30 p.m. The service and time of fellowship will last from 7:00-9:00 p.m. If there is rain, we will reschedule.

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

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Genesis 18:1-10a

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ² He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them and bowed down to the ground. ³ He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴ Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵ Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” ⁶ And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” ⁷ Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸ Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” ¹⁰ Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.”

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

PSALM: Psalm 15 (Read Responsively)

O Lord, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

Those who walk blamelessly and do what is right and speak the truth from their heart;

who do not slander with their tongue and do no evil to their friends nor heap shame upon their neighbors;

in whose eyes the wicked are despised but who honor those who fear the Lord; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;

who do not lend money at interest and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:15-28

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he

might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

²¹ And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him, ²³ provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a minister of this gospel.

²⁴ I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵ I became its minister according to God’s commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷ To them God chose to make known how great among the gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸ It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

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.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN “O Savior, Precious Savior” (Red) #820

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS103345

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.
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.

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 10:38-42

³⁸ Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. ³⁹ She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me.” ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her.”

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

© Public Domain: Arabella Catherine Hankey | William Gustavus Fischer

(Please be seated)

SERMON

“The Better Part”

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Jesus, the Very Thought of You”

(Red) #754

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,
 hear 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



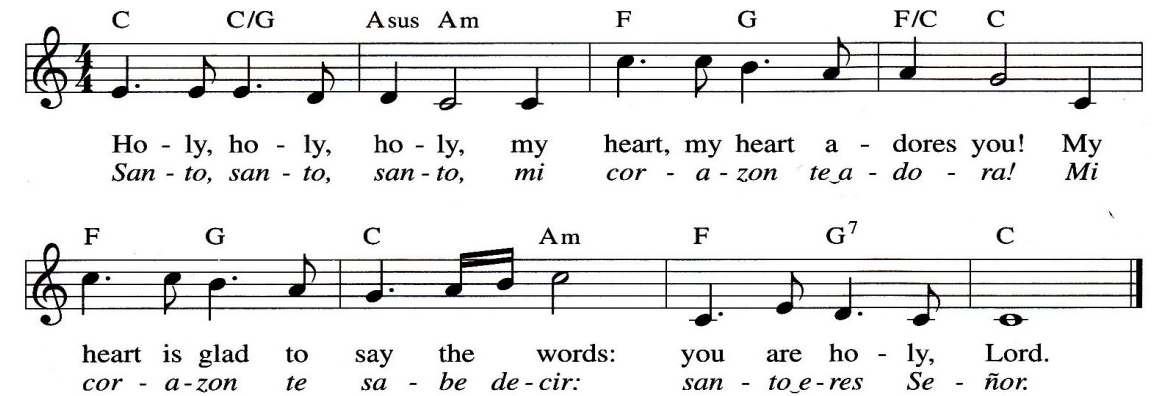
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

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 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

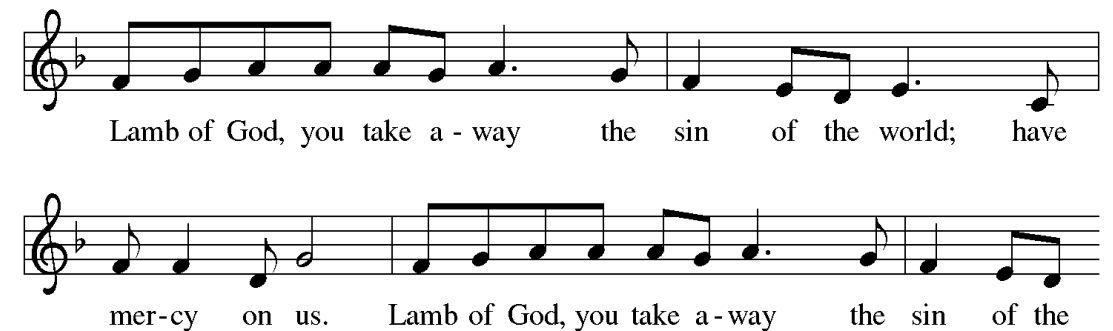
Pastor: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, we pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

(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"



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