

### 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.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Shirley Jones
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Shirley Jones
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Myra Gapske, Patti Byce
	9:00 a.m.	Laurie Stafford
<u>USHERS &amp; GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Dennis and Sherry McDonald
	9:00 am.	Paul Kieliszewski, Barb Szczesniak Tim Moggie, Richard Miller
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.	Evan Peterson
	9:00 a.m.	Emily Smith
<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. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Alpena, MI 49707

Phone 989-356-1658

[www.stpaul.org](http://www.stpaul.org)

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

Monthly Ministry Highlight:  
Men’s Dynamic Ministry



“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 15, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.**

**June 16, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.**

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**  
**The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**June 15, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**June 16, 2024 - 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 God of manna, the God of miracles, the God of mercy. **Amen.**

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**

“You Are Holy”

(Red) #525

**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.**

**SALT** (*Sisters Abiding in Light and Truth*) will meet on Sunday, June 16th for a bonfire at Pastor John’s home from 6:00—8:00 p.m. We will continue to meet the 3rd Sunday of each month. On July 21st we will meet at the picnic grounds for volleyball and a picnic, and August 18th for Putt-Putt Golf. This is for younger women who are 18 - 45.

The "Little's Worship Center," (nursery) is being cleaned and we are searching for servant leaders who love babies. If you would like to help our families with babies at the 10:30 worship service, speak with Pam Laity, 586-634-9841.

**There will be a VBS planning meeting** on Monday, June 17th at 5:30 p.m. Come join us.

**For the July 4th parade, our float theme is Faith • Family • Freedom.** We are looking for a trailer, or hay wagon, a truck, and driver to pull the float, volunteers to help decorate, tear down, ride or walk alongside of the float. We are also looking for hard candy donations (Chocolates, caramel etc. melt quickly in the heat!), small waters, or freeze pops. Monetary donations will also be accepted.

**Beatrice and David Henning will be welcoming their new baby later this month.** Please keep them in your prayers for a smooth delivery. If you would like to bless them during this time of celebration, please drop diapers or wipes at the church office.

**We will be celebrating Karen Wallace’s 80th Birthday with a Party on Sunday, June 23,** at 12 pm in St Paul’s Dining Room. If you would like to attend, please RSVP to Sue Moggie (989-590-0600) by June 13th.

**The Soul Sisters are kayaking every Thursday,** except the first of the month, through September, weather permitting, at 6:00 p.m. Come join us. Please contact Sue (989-354-8673) if you have any questions.

**Worship on the Beach.** We will celebrate at our beach property the final Saturday of each month (June 29, July 27, August 31 and September 28) 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 - 9. If it rains, we will reschedule.

**A new group was formed in honor of Joy "Shirley" Brooks called "Stitches of Joy."** If you would like to join this dynamic ministry, we are meeting at Sandy Dee's Quilt Shop every month, on the third Thursday (July 18<sup>th</sup>). Bring your sewing machine and supplies, a sack lunch and an open heart. Questions? Contact Karen at 989-464-0204.

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

<b>WEEK AT A GLANCE: JUNE 16—23, 2024</b>	
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children’s Church - 10:30; The Adventure Club (Arzo Amusement Park) – 3:00 p.m.; SALT Bonfire at Pastor John’s house - 6:00 p.m
<u>MON.</u>	Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; E.T.A. – 5:00 p.m.; VBS Planning Meeting—5:30 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Cub Scouts–5:30; Senior Leaders – 5:30 p.m.; Church Council – 6:00 p.m.; Boy Scouts– 6:30 p.m.; Narcotics Anonymous – 8:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles <i>Women’s Breakfast</i> (at JJ’s)–7:30; Pastor John’s Study–1:00 & 5:30; Nena’s Bible Study–5:30
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.; Stitches of Joy – 10:00 a.m.; Gentle Yoga –1:30 p.m.; Chair Yoga – 3:00 p.m.; Soul Sisters Kayaking – 6:00 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.
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children’s Church - 10:30; Karen Wallace’s 80th Birthday Party – 12:00 p.m.

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

**WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:**

Tammy Stoutenburg-unspecified need	Pam Laity – health issues	Colton Henning -medical issues
Bodo Hanson–health issues	Annette Wade – medical issues	Art Hoffmeyer- heart issues
Scott Brooks – health issues	Laura Kieliszewski – health	Joel Foster – health concerns
Jack Walters – unspecified need	John Wegmeyer – health issues	Eugene Brooks–health issues
Marian Dove–unspecified need	Karen Tovey – health issues	Judy Hand - Pneumonia
Karen Wallace – unspecified need	Phyllis Robb-unspecified need	Miranda – health issues
David Reeves – health issues	Dixie Creiver – health issues	Linda Doan – health issues
Dale Zielaskowski - health issues	Dena Stevens – health issues	Margaret Lucian – health issues
	Chad Hamill – health issues	Evelyn Hein – unspecified need

*(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: Leer Lutheran Church, Posen, Supply Pastors

**We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church.** This week we specifically pray for the Highway Pick Up Volunteers.

**THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL** (foot of the cross) are given as a happy 100<sup>th</sup> heavenly birthday to Marion Seguin, love Barb, Kathy, and families.

**WORSHIP ATTENDANCE**

		<u>END OF APRIL</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday (06/08)	5:30 p.m.	60	Income 25,334.44
Sunday (06/09)	9:00 a.m.	62	Expenses 20,929.81
	10:30 a.m.	<u>40</u>	Difference 4,404.63
Total		162	(13,638.57)

**The June Service Activity is the Alpena Baby Pantry.** Items needed: Diapers (all sizes), wipes, baby powder, shampoo, lotion, formula, baby food, cereal, juice, clothing, and bedding. Please leave items on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

**Pastor John and Miss Nena have planned Summer Educational Opportunities that run from June 5<sup>th</sup> – 26<sup>th</sup>.** Pastor John’s classes meet on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM and 5:30 p.m. and Miss Nena’s class meets on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. Pastor John is holding a Bible Study on “The Lost Gospels of Jesus” and Miss Nena will lead a Book Study on “Lessons I Learned in the Dark” by Jennifer Rothschild. Please join us.

**The Adventure Club** will be having some summer fun as they head out to Arzo Amusement Park on Sunday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 p.m. **If you pre-registered, we will see you then.** The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1 – 105 years old.

**Do you have questions about your faith or you would like to learn/know more?** Pastor John is offering a class on “Christian Basics.” Pastor will meet with you one on one or in a small group, once or twice a month. He will be using the book with the same title “Christian Basics” by Dorothy and Gabriel Fackre in this learning process. Please contact Pastor to set up a time you could meet with him.

**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.**

*(Please be seated)*

**FIRST READING: Ezekiel 17:22-24**

<sup>22</sup> Thus 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. <sup>23</sup> On 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. <sup>24</sup> All 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 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)**

<sup>6</sup> So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— <sup>7</sup> for we walk by faith, not by sight.

<sup>14</sup> For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup> And 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.

<sup>16</sup> From 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. <sup>17</sup> So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

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 - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le - lu - jah.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

Glory to You, O Lord.

**GOSPEL READING: Mark 4:26-34**

<sup>26</sup> He also said, ‘The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, <sup>27</sup> and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. <sup>28</sup> The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. <sup>29</sup> But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.’

<sup>30</sup> He also said, ‘With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? <sup>31</sup> It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the

**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

“The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”

(Red) #551

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

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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.

smallest of all the seeds on earth; <sup>32</sup> yet when it is 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.’

<sup>33</sup> With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup> 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.**

**Children’s Message** “This Little Light of Mine”  
This little light of mine  
I’m gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine  
I’m gonna let it shine  
This little light of mine  
I’m gonna let it shine  
Let it shine let it shine let it shine

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*(Please be seated)*  
**SERMON** “Growth and Harvest” Pastor John Shipman

*(Please stand)*  
**HYMN OF THE DAY** “As Rain from the Clouds” (Red) #508

**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 prayer.

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

## 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.**

*(Please stand)*

*(Sung at the 9:00 a.m. service.)*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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

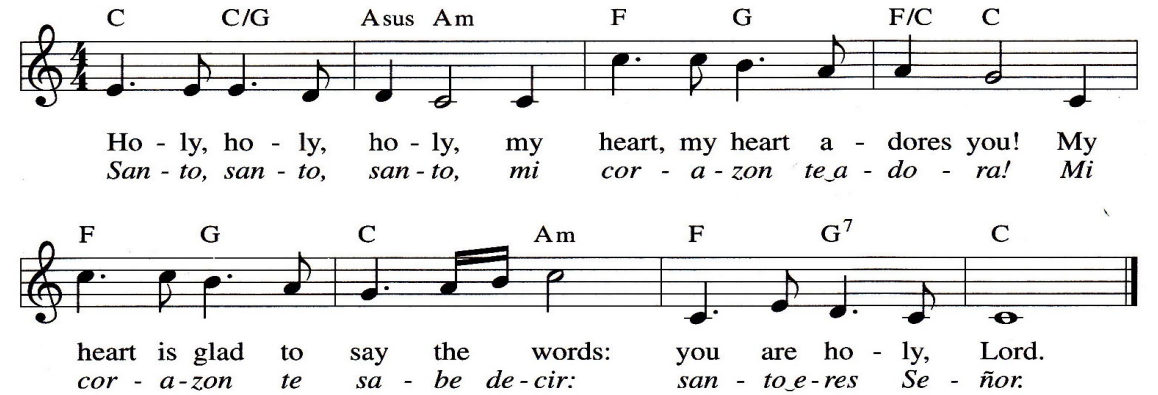
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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 G<sup>7</sup> 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:

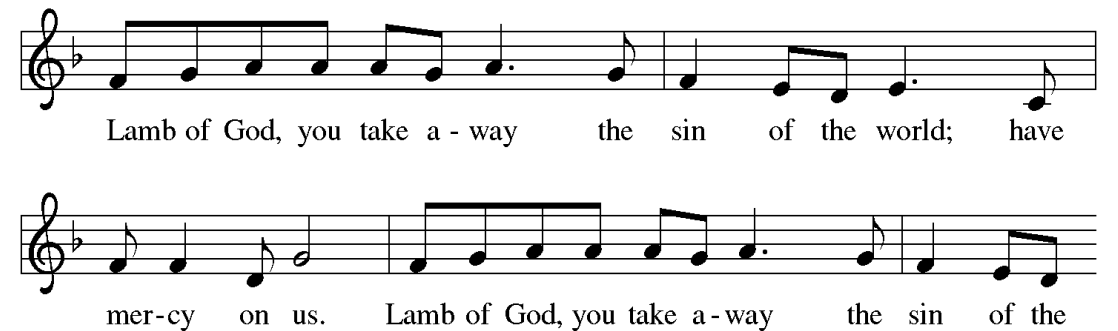
**People: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
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"



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