

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.	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.	Bruce Anschuetz
	9:00 a.m.	Dennis Dziesinski, Jeff Ciupka Paul Kieliszewski, Richard Miller
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Anita Laub
	9:00 a.m.	Janice Boboltz
<u>CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS</u>		Jesse and Jessica O'Neil Kathy Burton, Amy DeRosia
<u>LITTLES' WORSHIP CENTER LEADERS</u>		Cathy Kieliszewski and Mary Courtney
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Sandy Samp, Laurie Stafford, and Carol Kindt

We thank all participants for enriching our worship service.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Worship Service

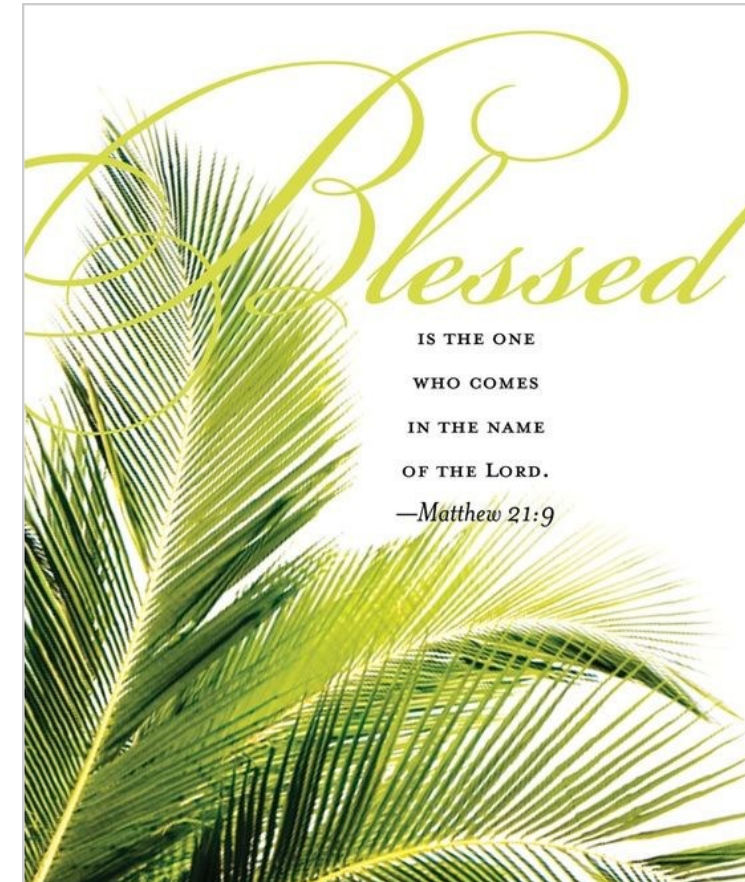
celebrates and shares God's love and compassion

727 S. 2nd, Alpena, MI 49707

Phone 989-356-1658

www.stpaul.org

A Stephen Ministry Congregation



2026 Theme: "Be Our Vision Lord"

March 28, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.

March 29, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Palm Sunday

March 28, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.

March 29, 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, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word: Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit: Gracious

God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ

offers: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope

in the world: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come

forth to life: Gracious God, **have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.**

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

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”

(Red) #344

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.

Join us for the Holy Week Services. They are as follows:

- Palm Sunday we will have our three regular weekend services
- Maundy Thursday Worship April 2, at 6:00 p.m., preceded by a Soup Supper at 5:00 p.m.
- Good Friday Services, April 3rd -Tre-Ore Service (at First Presbyterian Church) from 12:00-3:00 p.m. There will be an evening service at 6:00 p.m. (at St. Paul), followed by the movie “The Passion” at 7:00
- Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 4th, at noon. Invite a friend to come with you.
- Easter Sunday, April 5th, we will have three services: A Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m., Liturgical Service at 9:00 a.m. and Contemporary Service at 10:30 a.m. There will be an Easter Breakfast after the 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service. Please note there will be no Saturday service on April 4th.

The Forget-Me-Nots will be meeting on Tuesday, April 7 at noon in the church dining hall. Please bring your own lunch. Coffee, tea and water will be provided. We hope to see you there.

We will have one service on the weekend of April 11/12. It will be on Sunday, April 12th at 9:00 a.m. Following the service there will be an informational session with Scott Torkko, Assistant to the Bishop, from the Synod Office. If you have any questions, contact Jessica O’Neil at 989-278-9633 or jonel7478@gmail.com.

The Scholarship Committee would like to remind all senior high school students and college students, that we are accepting scholarship applications starting April 1st. Applications can be picked up in the office April 1st. Please complete all portions of the application and return it by April 30th.

The Scholarship Committee is grateful to those that have brought in their bottle returns, we ask that you keep them coming! The bottle returns can be placed in the janitorial closet next to the elevator on the Mirre Street side, there is a sign on the door to prevent confusion.

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. Please drop them off at Linda’s office.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: MARCH 29—APRIL 5, 2026

<u>SUN.</u>	Palm Sunday Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service/Children’s Church/C.I.A. - 10:30 a.m.
<u>MON.</u>	AARP Taxes–8:00 a.m.; Line Dancing–2:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 4:00 p.m.; E.T.A. Group – 5:30 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Recovery Yoga – 5:00 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Scouting America – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles – 7:30 a.m.; AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Choir Practice – 4:00 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast (JJs) - 7:00 a.m.; AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Open Line Dance – 1:00 p.m.; Chair Yoga– 3:00 p.m.; Maundy Thursday Soup Supper – 5:00 p.m.; Maundy Thursday Service – 6:00 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Good Friday Tre-Ore Service at the Presbyterian Church – 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.; Good Friday Service (here) – 6:00 p.m.; “The Passion” Movie – 7:00 p.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	No Worship Service – Join us tomorrow for one of the three Easter services
<u>SUN.</u>	Easter Worship – 6:30 a.m., 9:00 a.m., and 10:30 a.m.; The 6:30 service will be followed by an Easter Breakfast

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

<u>WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:</u>	Patricia Nelson - grief	Laura Fair – fell
David McNeil–upcoming surgery	Leonard – health issues	Chad Hamill – health issues
Bennett Gilmet – medical issues	Connie - health issues	Tina Yeager – health issues
Kevin Atkinson – health issues	Storm Yakes – medical issues	Kioni Peoples family - grief
Dixie Crevier – health issues	Greg Dzieszinski- health issues	Lisa Dzieszinski-health issue
Kevin Reiser – health issues	Joel Foster – health issues	Billie Jo Foster – health issues
Cathy Murtha – medical issues	Phyllis Robb-unspecified need	Malary Smith – unspecified
Margaret Lucian – health issues	Lee Werth—health issues	Mike H. - illness
Carol Kuhl – health issues	Ann Martin – medical issues	Dena Stevens – health issues
John Wegmeyer– health issues	Alan Marwede–health issues	Adam Schmidt- health issues

We also remember our homebound member, Phyllis Robb. (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: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Reed City, Rev. Marcy Miller.

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

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>END OF JANUARY</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Wednesday 03/18- 12:30 p.m. <i>ice storm</i>	Income 21,227.40	21,227.40
Saturday 03/21 5:30 p.m. 70	<u>Expenses 34,674.00</u>	<u>34,674.00</u>
Sunday 03/22 9:00 a.m. 45	Difference (13,446.60)	(13,446.60)
10:30 a.m. <u>63</u>		
Total 178		

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

The March Service Activity is Pied Piper School. Items needed: coloring and activity books, markers, large crayons, Kleenex, hand sanitizer, and Clorox wipes. Fidget toys would also be great for the students. Please leave your items on the altar. Thank you for your generosity.

If you would like to order an Easter flower in honor or in memory of someone, there are order forms in the Narthex or church office to fill out. The deadline to get your order in is March 30th.

On Saturday, April 4th, the Adventure Club is again planning an Easter Egg Hunt for our community within our building, at 12:00 p.m. We would love donations of grass for baskets, candy, and items to be included in our family friendly baskets for the raffle. These items can be dropped off at the office. *Thank you.*

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a

¹The Sovereign LORD has given me a well-instructed tongue, to know the word that sustains the weary. He wakens me morning by morning, wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed. ⁵The Sovereign LORD has opened my ears; I have not been rebellious, I have not turned away. ⁶I offered my back to those who beat me, my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard; I did not hide my face from mocking and spitting. ⁷Because the Sovereign LORD helps me, I will not be disgraced. Therefore have I set my face like flint, and I know I will not be put to shame. ⁸He who vindicates me is near. Who then will bring charges against me? Let us face each other! Who is my accuser? Let him confront me! ^{9a}It is the Sovereign LORD who helps me. Who will condemn me?

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

PSALM: Psalm 31:9-16 (Read Responsively)

Be merciful to me, Lord, for I am in distress; my eyes grow weak with sorrow, my soul and body with grief.

My life is consumed by anguish and my years by groaning; my strength fails because of my affliction, and my bones grow weak.

Because of all my enemies, I am the utter contempt of my neighbors and an object of dread to my closest friends— those who see me on the street flee from me.

I am forgotten as though I were dead; I have become like broken pottery.

For I hear many whispering, “Terror on every side!” They conspire against me and plot to take my life.

But I trust in you, Lord; I say, “You are my God.”

My times are in your hands; deliver me from the hands of my enemies, from those who pursue me.

Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love.

SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11 (Sunday 9:00 a.m.)

⁵ In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

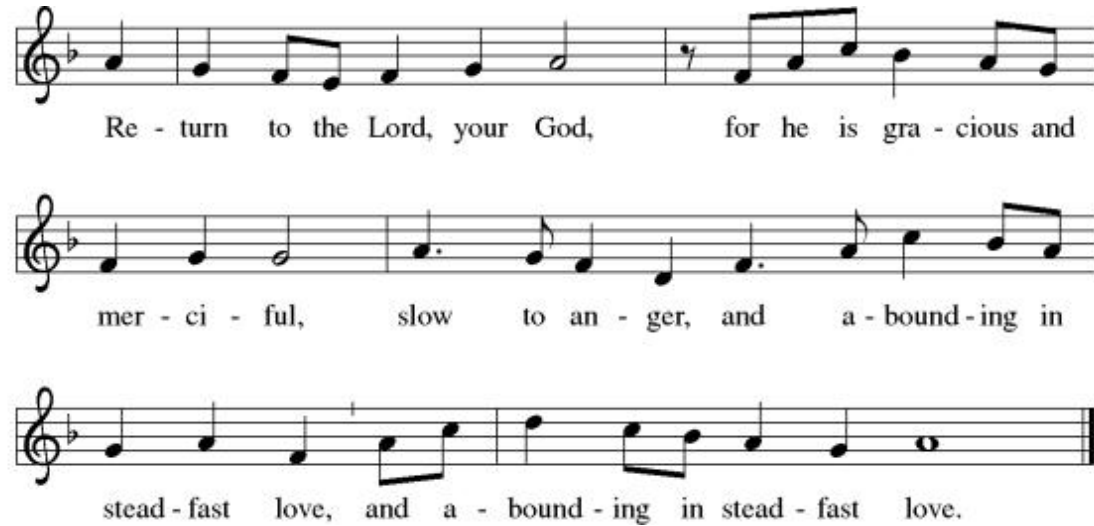
⁶ Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage; ⁷ rather, he made himself nothing by taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness. ⁸ And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death— even death on a cross! ⁹ Therefore God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

Gospel Acclamation



Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for he is gra - cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a - bound - ing in
stead - fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew.

Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 21:1-11

¹As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵“Say to Daughter Zion, ‘See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. ⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

¹¹The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news.

Thanks be to God.

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Thank - ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev - 'ry -
 one what God has done. Let all who seek the
 Lord re - jice 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. A - men, a - men.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN "Christ, the Life of All the Living" (Red) #339

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

Children's Message

"Jesus Loves Me"
 Jesus loves me this I know
 For the Bible tells me so
 Little ones to Him belong
 They are weak but He is strong
 Yes Jesus loves me. Yes Jesus loves me
 Yes Jesus loves me the Bible tells me so

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(Please be seated)

SERMON

"Hosanna"

Pastor John Shipman

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

(Red) #338

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

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name. **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

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.

(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.**

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

"Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"