

### 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.

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	<u>PARTICIPANTS</u>	
<u>MINISTERS</u>		The People of God
<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.	Phil Wickstrom
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	Shirley Jones
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Sue Robb
	9:00 a.m.	Mary Courtney
<u>HEAD USHER</u>		Roy Wekwert
<u>USHERS &amp; GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	
	9:00 a.m.	Jeff Ciupka, Dennis Dzieszinski
		Richard Miller, Barb Szczesniak
<u>CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADERS</u>		Jessica O'Neil, Joanne Huggler, Sue Robb
<u>LITTLES' WORSHIP CENTER LEADERS</u>		Cathy Kieliszewski, Mary Courtney
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Sue Moggie, Karen Wekwert, Shirley Kowalski, Jessica O'Neil

*We thank all participants for enriching our worship service.*

## St. Paul Lutheran Church Worship Service

celebrates and shares God's love and compassion

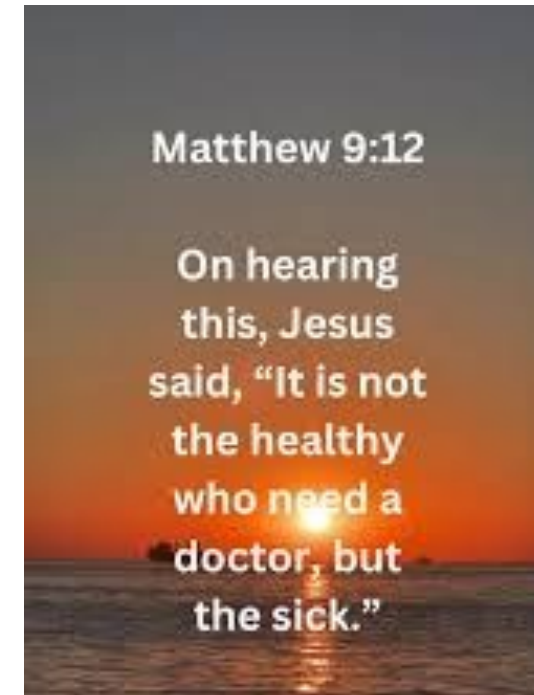
727 S. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Alpena, MI 49707

Phone 989-356-1658

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

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

Monthly Ministry Highlight:  
*Men's Dynamic Ministry*



**June 6, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.**

**June 7, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.**

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**  
**The Second Sunday after Pentecost**  
**June 6, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.**  
**June 7, 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, whose compassion endures forever.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin to God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Compassionate God,

**we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.**

Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” In the name of God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God’s love. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**      “Joyful, Joyful We Adore thee”      (Red) #836

**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.**

**The Forget-Me-Nots will meet on June 9** at the Jesse Besser Museum at noon. We will bring a picnic lunch and eat outdoors, weather permitting. In case of rain, there is a place to eat indoors. After lunch, Christine Witulski, Museum Director, will give us a tour of the Salvatore Dali exhibit. Invite a friend to join us. Questions? Call Ann (989-590-2055).

**The Church Rummage Sale dates are set for June 11<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup>!** The hours are from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. on Thursday and Friday and from 9:00 a.m. – noon on Saturday. You may bring in your items this week. We will again be accepting clean used clothing and shoes for our sale. Those wishing to help with the rummage sale, either with set-up or the actual garage sale days, please just show up. If you have any questions, call Andrea Dutcher at 989-354-3651.

**The Soul Sisters are going to start kayaking in June.** We are planning to meet at Duck Park at 5:30 p.m. on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays of every month this summer. So, for June we will be meeting on June 10<sup>th</sup> and the 24<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, please call Sue Robb at 989-354-8673.

**We will celebrate “T-Shirt/Bring a Friend” Weekend on June 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>.** Please don your favorite St. Paul Ev. Lutheran T-Shirt and wear it proudly in worship. Also, bring a friend to join the celebration.

**The Adventure Club will be having some summer fun as they head out to Arzo Amusement Park on Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, at 1:00.** You must register online or call the church office (989-356-1658). There are some height and weight restrictions. The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1–105 years old.

**We are looking** for a team to help with the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade float this year. Please contact the church office if you would like to be part of this ministry vision/outreach.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS:** Bishop Julie Schneider-Thomas will be here June 20th and 21st!  
 “Tidal Wave of Love” Vacation Bible School – July 28 – 30, 2026.

<b>WEEK AT A GLANCE: JUNE 7 - 14, 2026</b>	
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m. - <i>Honoring Graduates</i> ; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service/Children’s Church/C.I.A. (Youth) - 10:30 a.m.
<u>MON.</u>	Line Dancing - 2:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts - 4:00 p.m.; Personnel Meeting – 5:00 p.m.; E.T.A. Group - 5:30; Rummage Sale Set-Up – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Rummage Sale Set-Up – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Recovery Yoga – 5:00 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Scouting America – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Rummage Sale Set-Up – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Breakfast Belles – 7:30 a.m.; Soul Sisters Kayaking – 5:30 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast (JJs) - 7:00 a.m.; Rummage Sale – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Open Line Dance – 1:00 p.m.; Chair Yoga– 3:00 p.m.; Stephen Ministry - 3:30 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Rummage Sale – 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.; Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	Rummage Sale – 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.; Rummage Sale Clean-Up – 12:00 p.m.; Fellowship – 4:30 p.m.; Worship Service/HC – 5:30 p.m. ( <i>T-Shirt/Bring a Friend weekend</i> )
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m. ( <i>T-Shirt/Bring a Friend weekend</i> ); Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service/Children’s Church/C.I.A. (Youth) - 10:30 a.m.

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

**WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:**

Dorothy Carr—health issues	Lee Szczesniak—medical issues
David McNeil—health issues	Patricia Nelson - grief
Yvonne McQuarrie - health issues	Shelly Hoffmeyer – recovery
Chuck Piontkowski – medical issues	Tina Yeager – health issues
Travis Schmidt – health issues	Patricia P. - health issues
Dixie Crevier – health issues	Lisa Dziesinski-health issue
Kevin Reiser – health issues	Billie Jo Foster – health issues
Bruce Miller – unspecified need	Malary Smith – unspecified
Margaret Lucian – health issues	Adam Schmidt- health issues
Ann Martin – medical issues	Dena Stevens – 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: Faith Lutheran Church, Sidney, Supply Pastors.

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

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>END OF APRIL</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday 05/30 5:30 a.m. 48	Income 24,273.97	104,903.09
Sunday 05/31 9:00 a.m. 46	Transferred/G & M 10,000.00	
10:30 a.m. <u>39</u>	<u>Expenses</u> 27,918.08	<u>130,423.82</u>
Total 133	Difference 6,355.89	(25,520.73)

**THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL** (foot of the cross) are given in celebration of Dawn and Mike Yakes on their Wedding yesterday, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

**ADDITIONAL FLOWERS** are given in memory of Kenneth Sylvester, on his birthday from wife, June.

**Bishop Julie Schneider-Thomas has offered a “Listening Team” to St. Paul.** This time of listening will take place on Monday, June 8 from 3-5 and 6-8. In addition to Bishop Julie, there will be 2 other leaders from the synod meeting one on one with those who sign up. Each time slot will be for 15 minutes. You are invited to come and share your reflections on all things St. Paul Lutheran Church: the pastoral ending, the transition period thus far, the joys you experience at St. Paul, the gaps in ministry, the things that give you energy, and the things you may be struggling with. The goal of these listening sessions is to give St. Paul folks a place to share. Important trends will be communicated to leadership, but that is not the goal. The goal is for you to be heard and cared for. Call the church office to sign up.

**Attention all you bakers out there!!!!** Fellowship is in need of cookies before the Saturday Service and between the Sunday Services. We thank you for your generous donations in the past and for the future. There is also a need for gluten free cookies. Thank you for your consideration!

**We are looking for ushers** for the 5:30 p.m. and 9:00 a.m. service. Please call the church to volunteer

**Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray. O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**FIRST READING: Hosea 5:15-6:6**

<sup>15</sup> I will return again to my place until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face. In their distress they will beg my favour:

<sup>1</sup> ‘Come, let us return to the Lord; for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us; he has struck down, and he will bind us up. <sup>2</sup> After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. <sup>3</sup> Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord; his appearing is as sure as the dawn; he will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth.’

<sup>4</sup>What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. <sup>5</sup> Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have killed them by the words of my mouth, and my judgement goes forth as the light. <sup>6</sup> For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt-offerings.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 50:7-15 (Read Responsively)**

‘Hear, O my people, and I will speak, O Israel, I will testify against you. I am God, your God.

**Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you; your burnt-offerings are continually before me.**

I will not accept a bull from your house, or goats from your folds.

**For every wild animal of the forest is mine, the cattle on a thousand hills.**

I know all the birds of the air, and all that moves in the field is mine.

**‘If I were hungry, I would not tell you, for the world and all that is in it is mine.**

Do I eat the flesh of bulls, or drink the blood of goats?

**Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High.**

Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.’

**SECOND READING: Romans 4:13-25 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)**

<sup>13</sup> For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup> If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup> For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup> For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, <sup>17</sup> as it is written, ‘I have made

you the father of many nations’)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.<sup>18</sup> Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become ‘the father of many nations’, according to what was said, ‘So numerous shall your descendants be.’<sup>19</sup> He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb.<sup>20</sup> No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God,<sup>21</sup> being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised.<sup>22</sup> Therefore his faith ‘was reckoned to him as righteousness.’<sup>23</sup> Now the words, ‘it was reckoned to him’, were written not for his sake alone,<sup>24</sup> but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead,<sup>25</sup> who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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 - 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.

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: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

**MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BENEDICTION**

SENDING HYMN

“I’m So Glad Jesus Lifted Me”

(Red) #860

**DISMISSAL**

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

**Thanks be to God.**

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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.

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

**GOSPEL READING: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26**

<sup>9</sup> As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, ‘Follow me.’ And he got up and followed him.

<sup>10</sup> And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax-collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. <sup>11</sup> When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, ‘Why does your teacher eat with tax-collectors and sinners?’ <sup>12</sup> But when he heard this, he said, ‘Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup> Go and learn what this means, “I desire mercy, not sacrifice.” For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.’

<sup>18</sup> While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, ‘My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.’ <sup>19</sup> And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. <sup>20</sup> Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, <sup>21</sup> for she said to herself, ‘If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.’ <sup>22</sup> Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, ‘Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.’ And instantly the woman was made well. <sup>23</sup> When Jesus came to the leader’s house and saw the flute-players and the crowd making a commotion, <sup>24</sup> he said, ‘Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping.’ And they laughed at him. <sup>25</sup> But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. <sup>26</sup> And the report of this spread throughout that district.

The 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**

“Mercy not Sacrifice”

Rev. Rosie Gibson

*(Please stand)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“We Come to You for Healing, Lord”

(Red) #617

**Honoring Graduates**

**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**

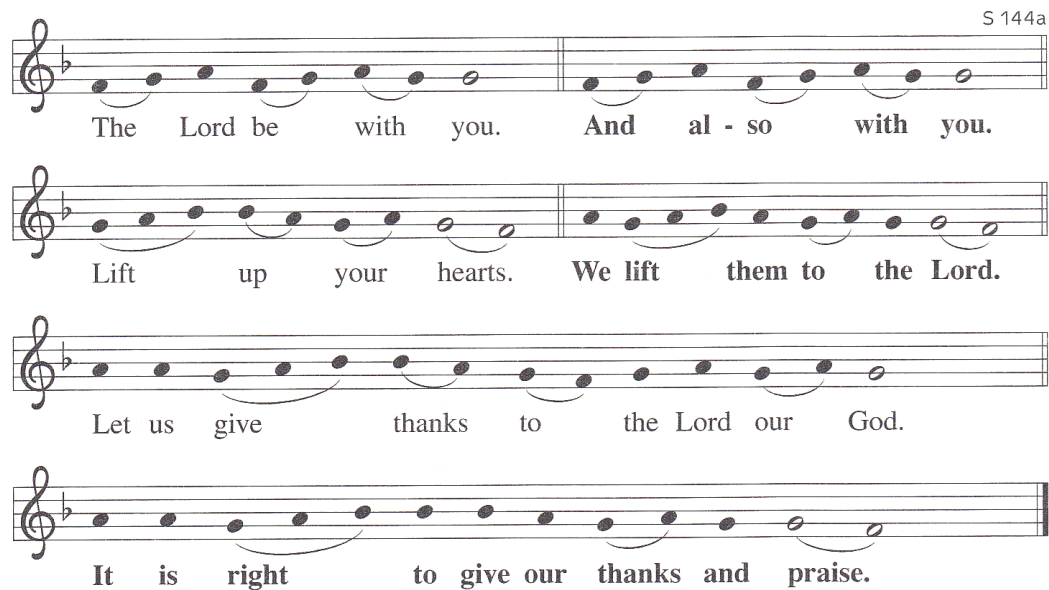
**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH** God of grace,  
 hear our prayer.

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**  
 The peace of the Risen Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

**OFFERING PRAYER**  
 Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **Amen.**

*(Please stand)*  
*(Sung at the 9:00 a.m. service.)*  
**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

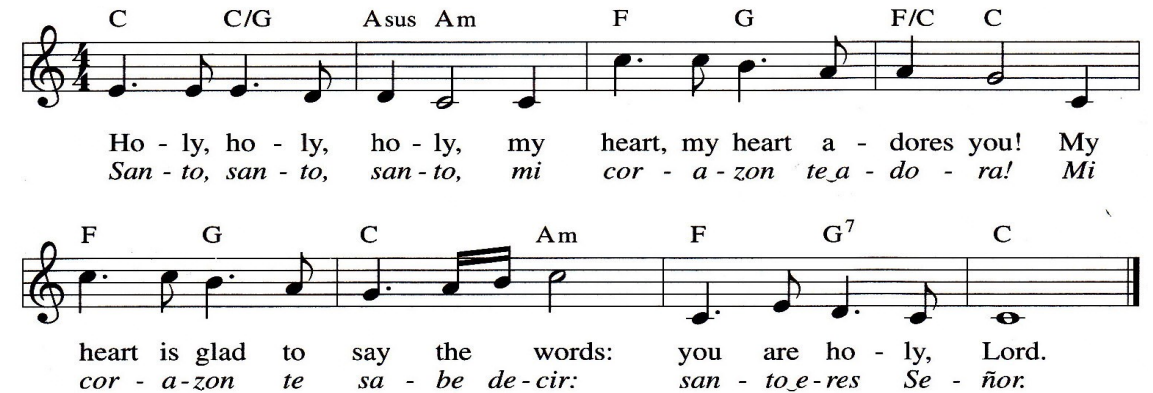
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The Lord be with you. And also with you.  
 Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
 It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:

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.

**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.**

*(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 in the middle circle for those who prefer it. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.

"Lamb of God"