

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.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Myra Gapske
	9:00 a.m.	Barb Szczesniak
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Sue Robb
	9:00 a.m.	Janice Boboltz
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	John and Linda Snyder
	9:00 am.	Owen Werth, Ryan Panknin Dennis and Lori Dziesinski
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.	Odessa Morrison
	9:00 a.m.	
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Carol Kindt and Marty Cantleberry

We thank all participants for enriching our worship service.

St. Paul Lutheran Church Worship Service

celebrates and shares God's love and compassion

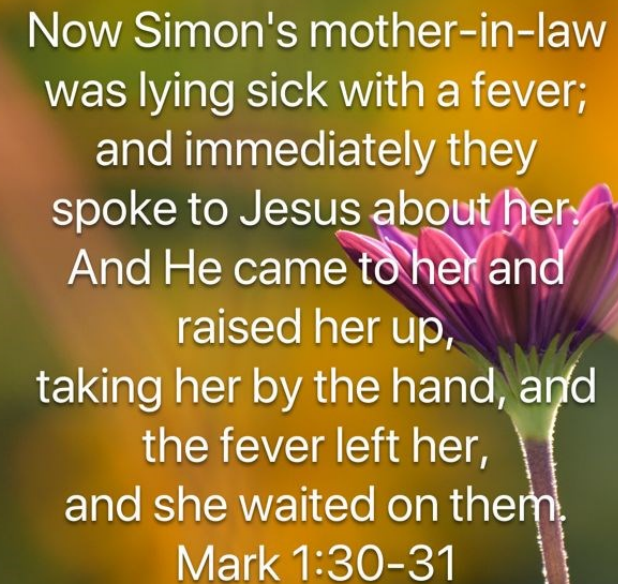
727 S. 2nd, Alpena, MI 49707

Phone 989-356-1658

www.stpaul.org

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Monthly Ministry Highlight:
Christian Education



Now Simon's mother-in-law
was lying sick with a fever;
and immediately they
spoke to Jesus about her.
And He came to her and
raised her up,
taking her by the hand, and
the fever left her,
and she waited on them.
Mark 1:30-31

February 3, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.

February 4, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.

SALT (Sisters Abiding in Light and Truth) will be meeting at Rosa’s Lookout Inn (6808 US 23, Spruce) on Friday, February 9th at 6:00 p.m. Please register on the app or call the church office so reservations can be made. We will meet at the church at 5:30 p.m. to carpool. Come and be inspired.

The Church will celebrate Shove Tuesday with a Pancake Supper on Tuesday February 13th from 4:30-6:30 PM. It will have sausage as well. Everyone is invited and there will be a free will offering. Our Education and Cub Scout Pack 3092 are sponsoring the event.

Pastor John and Miss Nena have planned Lent Educational Opportunities that will run February 14th – March 20th. Pastor John’s Class will meet on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. and Miss Nena’s class will also meet on Thursdays at 5:30 PM. Pastor John will hold a Book Study on “Let Go, Let God” by John E. Keller and Miss Nena will lead a Book Study on “Chasing Vines: Finding Your Way to an Immensely Fruitful Life” DVD by Beth Moore. Please, sign up online or call the church office. Thanks.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14th. There will be two opportunities for you to worship that day:
 * 12:25 p.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church, with a Lenten Soup preceding the service at 12:00 p.m.
 * 7:00 p.m at the Ecumenical Service at Grace Lutheran Church. There will be a soup supper beginning at 6:00 preceding the worship service. The imposition of ashes and Holy Communion will be part of both services.

Join us for our next Couples Retreat will be on Friday, February 16th. The event will begin at 6:00 p.m. at 1921 Long Rapids Road and there is no cost associated with this event. We will explore God’s promises for community and fellowship for couples. Ages 18 – 100 are invited to discover God’s faithfulness in your faith journey.

Join the Stephen Ministry Team for an informational meeting to answer questions about becoming a Servant Leader on the Stephen Minister team in the lounge after each service on Saturday February 17th and Sunday February 18th

The Adventure Club will host Karaoke on February 18th from 1:00 - 3:00 PM. We will be singing Karaoke and dancing. Come, be part of this wonderful expression of fun within this intergenerational educational experience. The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1-105 years old.

We are in need of donations of cookies for fellowship hour. Questions? Please contact Janice, 989-356-4834.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: FEBRUARY 4 - 11, 2024	
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service & Children’s Church – 10:30 a.m.
<u>MON.</u>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; E.T.A.—5:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 6:00 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Forget-Me-Nots – 12:00 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Air Rifle–5:30 p.m.; Education Committee– 5:30 p.m.; Prayer Shawl – 6:00 p.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles Women’s Breakfast (at JJ’s) – 7:30 a.m.; AARP Taxes- 8:00 a.m.; Property Committee – 5:30 p.m.; Movie Night “Silence” – 6:00 p.m.; Choir Practice – 6:00 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast–7:00 a.m.; Chair Yoga–3:00 p.m.; Outreach–5:00 p.m.; Air Rifle Team–5:30 p.m.; Recovery Yoga – 5:30 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Alpena Line Dance Club–5:00 p.m.; SALT (Rosa’s) – 6:00 p.m. <i>(meet at the church to carpool at 5:30 p.m.)</i>
<u>SAT.</u>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; 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 & Children’s Church – 10:30 a.m.

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

Karen Wekwert-healing	Evelyn Green - surgery
Tammy Stoutenburg-unspecified need	Annette Wade – medical issues
Danielle Lawrence – health issues	Bodo Hanson–health issues
Barbara Carlson –unspecified need	John Wegmeyer – health issues
Marty & Liz Smith – home sells	Bill Kimball – health issues
Rosalie Turske – health issues	Marian Dove– unspecified need
Karen Wallace – unspecified need	Dolores Libka–unspecified need
Bill Hoppe – health issues	the family of Ashley O’Neil Jaskolski

ARMED SERVICES: Katie Copping, Jake Przysiecki, Noah Hardesty, Dominick Christou, Sawyer Hein, Rachael Mayes, Brandon Sloan, Andrew Hein, Justin A. Smith, Maragely Hein, Amelia Berles, Josh Gapske, Nicole Stafford, Chuck Dziedzic, and Dale Kirkendoll.

We remember our prayer partners in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod: Emanuel Lutheran Church, Ludington, Rev. Domingo Shriver, Ecumenical.

We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. This week we specifically pray for Bible and Book Studies.

CONDOLENCES TO: the family and friends of Marilyn Sharp who joined our Lord in eternity January 25, 2024. A celebration of life service will be held at a later date.

CONDOLENCES TO: the family and friends of Roy Wekwert, Sr. who joined our Lord in eternity January 25, 2024. On January 31 a Mass was held at St. Anne Church of All Saints Parish.

CONDOLENCES TO: to the family and friends of Andrew Bunting who joined our Lord in eternity January 25, 2024. A celebration of life service was held on February 2 at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL (foot of the cross) are given in honor of Bodo and Geri Hanson on their 72nd Wedding Anniversary, February 2nd.

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>			<u>END OF DECEMBER</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday (01/27)	5:30 p.m.	89	Income	69,165.77	367,522.95
Sunday (01/28)	9:00 a.m.	41	Expenses	<u>31,919.18</u>	<u>349,656.86</u>
	10:30 a.m.	<u>39</u>	Difference	37,246.59	17,866.09
Total		169			

Year End Statements will be in the Narthex on Saturday and Sundays and in Nena's office weekdays.

The Forget-Me-Nots will next meet on Tuesday, February 6 at 12:00 at the church. Lunch will be grinder sandwiches catered by Mancino's. Chips, cookies, coffee and water will be provided. The cost will be \$5 per person, payable at the luncheon. Please call Ann at 989-590-2055 to let me know if you plan to attend. Thanks.

We will have a February Video Educational Experience on February 7th at 6:00 p.m. We will be watching "Silence" and a meal will be provided with discussion throughout. *Rated R - for adults only.*

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 3, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.
February 4, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.

Congregational responses are printed in bold.

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 holy Trinity, + one God, creator of darkness and light, word of truth, wind sweeping over the waters. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God, our rock and refuge,
we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. 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.**

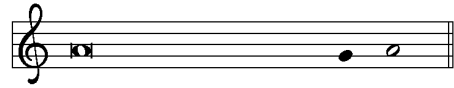
GATHERING HYMN "We Come to You for Healing, Lord" (Red) #617

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



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



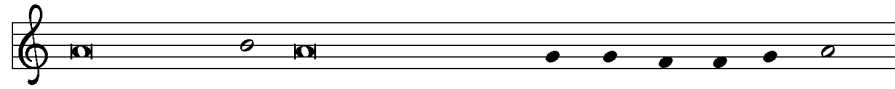
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

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SERMON NOTES

“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.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Giver of every gift, Christ's body is our food, and we are Christ's body. Raise us to life by your power for the benefit of all and to your glory, now and forever. Amen.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

“Oh, Worship the King”

(Red) #842

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.
Thanks be to God.

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. Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble. ²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. ²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, ‘My way is hidden from the Lord, and my right is disregarded by my God?’ ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

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

PSALM: Psalm 147:1-11, 20c (Read Responsively)

Praise the Lord! How good it is to sing praises to our God; for he is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

The Lord builds up Jerusalem; he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

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

(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 - dore 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:

He heals the broken-hearted, and binds up their wounds.

He determines the number of the stars; he gives to all of them their names.

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power; his understanding is beyond measure.

The Lord lifts up the downtrodden; he casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make melody to our God on the lyre.

He covers the heavens with clouds, prepares rain for the earth, makes grass grow on the hills.

He gives to the animals their food, and to the young ravens when they cry.

His delight is not in the strength of the horse, nor his pleasure in the speed of a runner;

but the Lord takes pleasure in those who fear him, in those who hope in his steadfast love.

Praise the Lord!

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe betide me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, so that I might by any means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Mark 1:29-39

²⁹ As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹ He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³² That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴ And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵ In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷ When they found him, they said to him, 'Everyone is searching for you.' ³⁸ He answered, 'Let us go on to the neighbouring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.' ³⁹ And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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

"Searching For Jesus"

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

(Red) #858

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,
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. Liberating God, you break the bonds of injustice and let the oppressed go free. Receive these offerings in thanksgiving for all your works of merciful power, and shape us as people of your justice and freedom. You we magnify and adore, through Jesus our Savior, **Amen.**

(Please stand)