

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.	Sue Keyes
	9:00 a.m.	Shirley Jones
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Sue Keyes
	9:00 a.m.	Danielle McDonald
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Janice Boboltz
	9:00 a.m.	Janice Boboltz
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Patti Byce
	9:00 am.	Richard Miller, Tim Moggie Steve and Andrea Dutcher
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Patti Byce and Laurie Stafford

We thank all participants for enriching our worship service.

St. Paul Lutheran Church Worship Service

celebrates and shares God's love and compassion

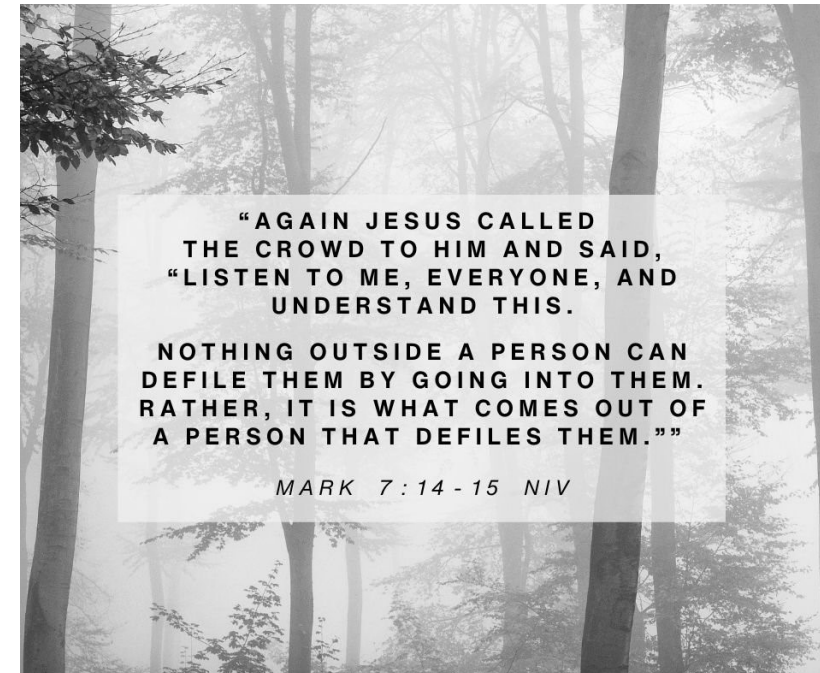
727 S. 2nd, Alpena, MI 49707

Phone 989-356-1658

www.stpaul.org

A Stephen Ministry Congregation

Monthly Ministry Highlight:
Personnel Committee



August 31, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.
September 1, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost
August 31, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.
September 1, 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, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin and come to God for healing.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have honored you with our lips, but have harmed our neighbors with our tongues. The cravings at war within us cause conflicts and disputes. In our desire to be first we make distinctions among ourselves. We place the needs of the poor and the suffering last. In your great mercy, forgive us our sins. Draw near to us with grace in time of need, and turn us to follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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 “For the Beauty of the Earth” (Red) #879

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 September 7th & 8th for T-Shirt Weekend/Friendship Weekend/God’s Work Our Hands Weekend. Wear your favorite T-shirt and invite a friend!

On September 8th at 6:00 p.m. Pastor John will lead a **Stroll through the Tombstones** at Evergreen Cemetery. The stroll will last for about an hour. Please come with stories to share about loved ones, stories about Alpena and how others shaped our history. This is a time of joy, remembrance, celebration and blessing. Please sign up if you plan to attend and for more information concerning this new ministry opportunity.

The Forget-Me-Nots will gather at the church picnic grounds at noon on Tuesday, September 10th. Please bring your lunch and a beverage. We hope to see you there!

Pastor John and Nena are inviting you to come to their house (1921 Long Rapids Road) for a fireside chat on September 29th 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.

Please note: **The Prayer Shawl Group** will be meeting on Wednesday, September 4th at 6:15 p.m.

Join us for our Autumn Educational Opportunities, which will run September 18 through October 23. Pastor John will hold a Bible Study on “Luther’s Small Catechism for Adults” and Miss Nena will lead a Bible Study on “Messy People: Life Lessons from Imperfect Biblical Heroes.” Each class length will be 1 hour. Pastor John’s Class will meet on Wednesdays at 1:00 and 5:30 p.m. and Miss Nena’s class will also meet on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. Please call the office so we know how to plan/books to order. Thank you.

The September Service Activity is Lincoln Elementary School. Items needed: washable markers, colored pencils, #2 pencils, paper, 2 pocket folders, dry erase markers, glue sticks, Kleenex, and disinfecting wipes. Please leave your donations on the altar. Thank you.

The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 2nd, for Labor Day.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: <i>SEPTEMBER 1–8, 2024</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>	Labor Day; Church Office Closed
<u>TUES.</u>	Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Air Rifle Team – 5:30 p.m. ;Education Committee – 5:30 p.m.; Soul Sisters Kayaking (Sytek Park) – 5:45 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 a.m.; Property Committee – 5:30 p.m.; Prayer Shawl – 6:15 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3 M’s Men’s Breakfast (JJ’s)– 7:00 a.m.; Chair Yoga – 3:00 p.m.; Yoga 101 – 5:30 p.m.; Air Rifle – 5:30 p.m.; Choir – 5:30 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. (T-Shirt Weekend)
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m. (T-Shirt Weekend); Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children’s Ch.-10:30 a.m.; <i>God’s Work. Our Hands</i> Sunday; Stroll through the Tombstones – 6:00 p.m.

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:	Bill Woodward – health issues	Calvin Urban - medical
Joanne Kindt - health issues	Annette Wade – medical issues	Art Hoffmeyer- heart issues
Laura Kieliszewski – health	Joel Foster – health concerns	Billiejo Foster – health issues
Arlene Nye – health issues	John Wegmeyer – health issues	Eugene Brooks–health issues
Harvey Atkinson– health issues	Adam Schmidt – health issues	Barry Laub – health issues
Marian Dove–unspecified need	Phyllis Robb-unspecified need	Vicki Carlson - illness
Karen Wallace – unspecified need	Dixie Creiver – health issues	Jim Smith – health issues
Tammy Stoutenburg-unspecified	Dena Stevens – health issues	Margaret Lucian – health issues
Dale Zielaskowski - health issues	Larry Liebler – illness	David Reeves – health issues

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.

(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: Saron Lutheran Church, St. Joseph, Supply Pastors

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

CONDOLENCES TO: the family and friends of Clinton Kirchoff who joined our Lord in eternity August 27, 2024. His funeral service was held at St. Paul Lutheran Church on August 31, 2024.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL (foot of the cross) are given in honor of Aunt Maxine on her birthday from her family who love her a lot.

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>			<u>END OF JUNE</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday (08/24)	5:30 p.m.	47	Income	30,820.56	160,895.13
Sunday (08/25)	9:00 a.m.	74	Expenses	28,930.60	176,225.26
	10:30 a.m.	<u>54</u>	Difference	1,889.96	(15,330.13)
Total		175			

The Adventure Club is going to Wolf Creek Park for fishing, food and fun on Sunday, September 15th, from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Make plans now to come and join the fun and fellowship. The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1 to 105 years old.

Worship on the Beach. We will celebrate on Saturday, 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 service 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.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you.

⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!’ ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children’s children

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 take up a reproach against their neighbours;

in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honour 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: James 1:17-27 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfilment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God’s righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

²² But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³ For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴ for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵ But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

²⁶ If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷ Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.

Glory to You, O Lord.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray: Holy God, you have welcomed us to this meal and fed us with dignity at your table. Send us now to welcome others and to be at peace with one another, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

“We Are Called”

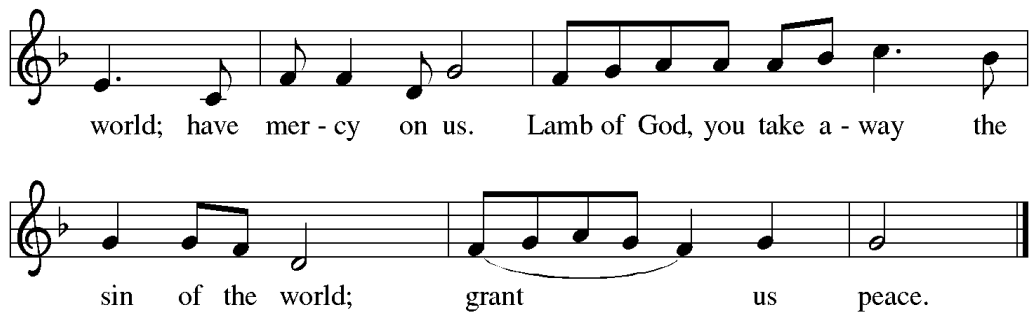
(Red) #720

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow Jesus.

Thanks be to God.

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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”



GOSPEL READING: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, ² they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³ (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴ and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵ So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, ‘Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?’ ⁶ He said to them, ‘Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, “This people honours me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; ⁷ in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.” ⁸ You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.’

¹⁴ Then he called the crowd again and said to them, ‘Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵ there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.’

²¹ For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, ²² adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. ²³ All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.’

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

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(Please be seated)

SERMON

“A Heart For Jesus”

Pastor John Shipman

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY “Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways”

(Red) #772

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. Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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

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.

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