

### 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.	
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Gail Atkins
	9:00 a.m.	Shirley Jones
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Anita Laub
	9:00 a.m.	Nancy Clark
<u>USHERS &amp; GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Patti Byce
	9:00 am.	Paul Kieliszewski, Roy Wekwert Jesse and Jessica O'Neil
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	5:30 p.m.	Alex Wickstrom
	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

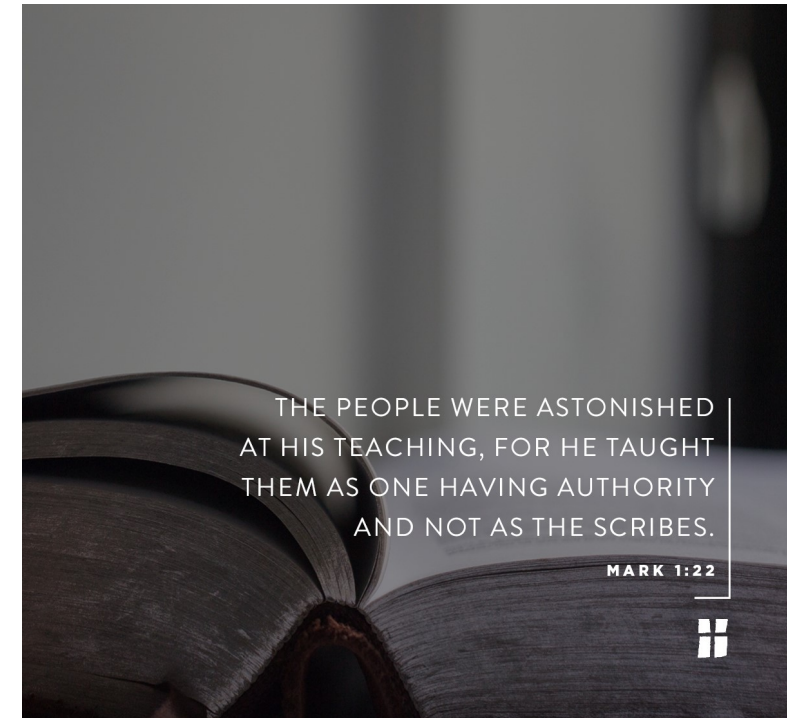
727 S. 2<sup>nd</sup>, Alpena, MI 49707

Phone 989-356-1658

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

*A Stephen Ministry Congregation*

Monthly Ministry Highlight:  
*Stephen Ministry*



**January 27, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.**

**January 28, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.**

**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 Hardesty at 989-590-2055 to let me know if you plan to attend. You may ask a friend to join us for lunch and conversation.

**The Church will celebrate Shove Tuesday with a Pancake Supper on Tuesday February 13<sup>th</sup>** 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 14<sup>th</sup> – March 20<sup>th</sup>.** 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 so we will know how many books to order. Thanks.

**Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 14<sup>th</sup>.** 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 p.m., preceding the worship service. The imposition of ashes and Holy Communion will be part of both services.

**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 want to thank everyone who came and made the Pasta Night a huge success!** A special thanks to those that made desserts, pastas, donated raffle items, bought pop, ice and milk, and helped clean up after. You all made it possible!

<b>WEEK AT A GLANCE: JANUARY 28—FEBRUARY 4, 2024</b>	
<b><u>SUN.</u></b>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service & Children's Church – 10:30 a.m.
<b><u>MON.</u></b>	Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; E.T.A. – 5:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 6:00 p.m.
<b><u>TUES.</u></b>	Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Air Rifle – 5:30 p.m.; Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<b><u>WED.</u></b>	Breakfast Belles Women's Breakfast (at JJ's) – 7:30 a.m.; Choir Practice – 6:00 p.m.
<b><u>THURS.</u></b>	3M Men's Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.; Chair Yoga – 3:00 p.m.; Air Rifle Team – 5:30 p.m.; Recovery Yoga – 5:30 p.m.; Singles@St.Paul – 5:30 p.m.
<b><u>FRI.</u></b>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Alpena Line Dance Club – 5:00 p.m.; Boy Scouts Spaghetti Dinner – 4:00 p.m.
<b><u>SAT.</u></b>	Fellowship – 4:30 p.m.; Worship/HC – 5:30 p.m.
<b><u>SUN.</u></b>	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:** Kevin Langerfield - recovery Don Urban Sr. —health needs  
Tammy Stoutenburg-unspecified need Annette Wade – medical issues Art Hoffmeyer- heart issues  
Danielle Lawrence – health issues Bodo Hanson–health issues Tom Woizeschske–health issues  
Barbara Carlson –unspecified need John Wegmeyer – health issues Eugene Brooks–health issues  
Marty & Liz Smith – home sells Bill Kimball – health issues Ashley O’Neil Jaskolski - health  
Rosalie Turske – health issues Marian Dove– unspecified need Phyllis Robb-unspecified need  
Karen Wallace – unspecified need Dolores Libka–unspecified need Ann Haske – health issues  
Cameron – health issues Bill Hoppe – health issues

*We also remember our homebound members.* They are: Harriett Kelm, Dixie Weiler, Elaine Kingsbury, Geraldine Wyman, Harriet Burke, Virginia Kraft, Phyllis Robb, and Norm Dutcher. *(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: Redeemer Lutheran Church, Lansing, Rev. Janice Hite.

**We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church.** This week we specifically pray for Baked Potato and Ice Cream Bar Event.

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

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>			<u>END OF DECEMBER</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday (01/20)	5:30 p.m.	99	Income	69,165.77	367,522.95
Sunday (01/21)	9:00 a.m.	37	Expenses	<u>31,919.18</u>	<u>349,656.86</u>
	10:30 a.m.	<u>38</u>	Difference	37,246.59	17,866.09
Total		174			

**We will have a February Video Educational Experience on February 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.** We will be watching “Silence” and a meal will be provided with discussion throughout. *This is for adults only.*

**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.

**We are in need of donations of cookies** for fellowship hour. Please contact Janice if you can help or if you have any questions at 989-356-4834

**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.

**GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD**

**The Fourth Sunday after Epiphany**

**January 27, 2024 - 5:30 p.m.**

**January 28, 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.**

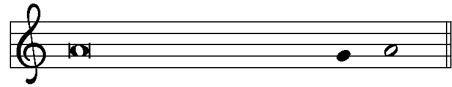
**GATHERING HYMN** “Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” (Red) #886

**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.



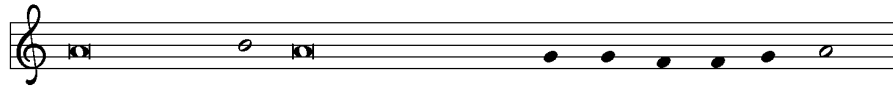
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. You are God's beloved.

**Thanks be to God.**

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**SERMON NOTES**

## 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.**

## 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

“Jesus Shall Reign”

(Red) #434

## 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. Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*(Please be seated)*

**FIRST READING: Deuteronomy 18:15-20**

<sup>15</sup>“The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. <sup>16</sup>This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said, ‘Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God or see this great fire any more, lest I die.’ <sup>17</sup>Then the LORD replied to me, ‘They are right in what they have said. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. <sup>19</sup>Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. <sup>20</sup>But any prophet who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak or who speaks in the name of other gods, that prophet shall die.’

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

**PSALM: Psalm 111 (Read Responsively)**

Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

**Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.**

Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

**He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

**He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.**

The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

**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.**

(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

**They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.

**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.**

### SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)

<sup>1</sup> Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that “all of us possess knowledge.” Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup> Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge, <sup>3</sup> but anyone who loves God is known by him.

<sup>4</sup> Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that “no idol in the world really exists” and that “there is no God but one.” <sup>5</sup> Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—

<sup>6</sup> yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

<sup>7</sup> It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol, and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup> “Food will not bring us close to God.” We are no worse off if we do not eat and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup> But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup> For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? <sup>11</sup> So by your knowledge the weak brother or sister for whom Christ died is destroyed. <sup>12</sup> But when you thus sin against brothers and sisters and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup> Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never again eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

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 1:21-28**

<sup>21</sup>They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. <sup>22</sup>They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes. <sup>23</sup>Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, <sup>24</sup>and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” <sup>25</sup>But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be quiet and come out of him!” <sup>26</sup>And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. <sup>27</sup>They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” <sup>28</sup>At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

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

**Children’s Message/Noisy Offering**

**“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**

“What Is This?”

*(Please stand)*

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“Healer of Our Every Ill”

(Red) #612

**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)*