

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.

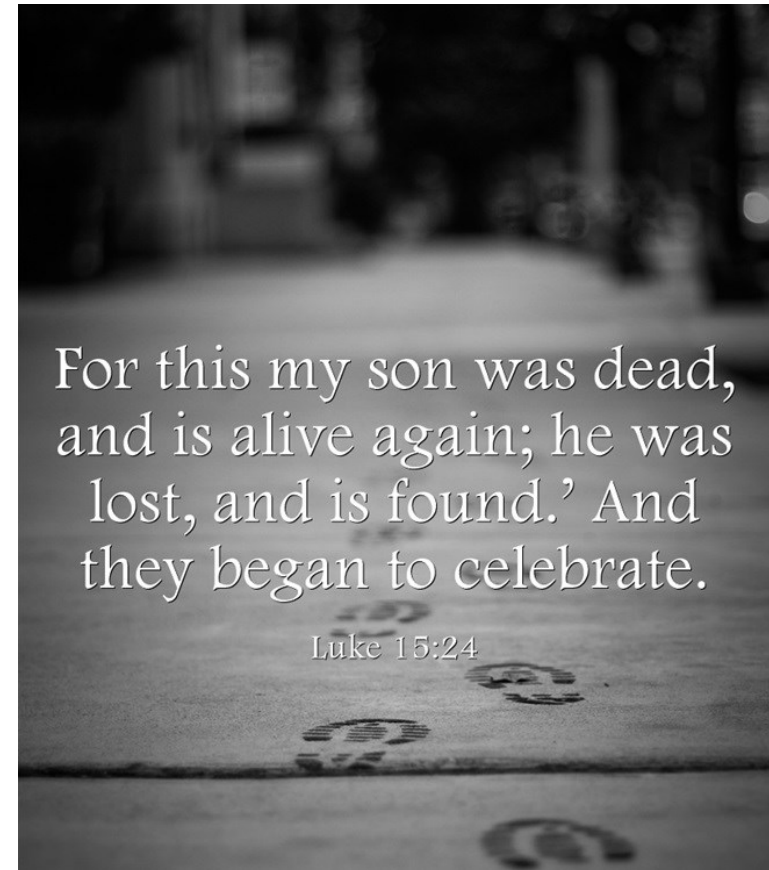
St. Paul welcomes all to the Communion Table. Christ is the Host and the Meal. Come, taste, and see that the Lord is good. Grape juice is available for those who prefer it rather than wine. Children and those choosing not to receive Holy Communion are invited to come forward to receive a blessing.

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>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	5:30 p.m.	Carol Kindt
	9:00 a.m.	Esther Kindt
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Gail Atkins
	9:00 a.m.	Kathy Burton
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Anita Laub
	9:00 a.m.	Justin MacKay, Ashley Reed
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Patti Byce
	9:00 am.	Owen Werth, Richard Miller
		Tim Moggie
<u>ACOLYTE</u>	9:00 a.m.	Evan McDonald
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Marty Cantleberry 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



March 26, 2022 - 5:30 p.m.
March 27, 2022 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 26, 2022 - 5:30 p.m.
March 27, 2022 - 9:00 a.m.

Congregational responses are printed in bold; Additional items for the 9:00 a.m. service only are printed in blue.)

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

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,
we confess that we have wandered far from you: we have not trusted your promises, we have ignored your prophets in our own day, we have squandered our inheritance of grace, we have failed to recognize you in our midst. Have mercy on us! Forgive us and turn us again to you. Teach us to follow in your ways, assure us again of your love, and help us to love our neighbor. 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 “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” (Red) #807

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 our Lenten Educational Opportunities, which run through April 13. Pastor John will hold a Book Study on Job and Miss Nena will lead a Book Study on “Me, Myself, and Lies... a Thought Closet Makeover,” by Jennifer Rothschild. Each class length will be 1 hour. Pastor John’s Class will meet on Wednesdays at 1:00 PM and Miss Nena’s class will meet on Thursdays at 6:30 PM.

The Youth continue to meet on the 4th Sunday each month. **On March 27th we will have a Spring Break Kick Off!** We will meet at the church from 3:00—6:00 p.m. and will enjoy food, drinks, music and dancing, watching the “Men in Black” movie and playing yard and table games. Please join us!

The Soul Sisters (Women 50-70) **will meet on Tuesday, March 29th**, at 6:00 p.m. in the Multi Purpose Room for a Pizza Dinner and to hear a presentation by professional organizer, Doris Puls, on how to declutter and organize. Free will offering for the pizza. Please RSVP to Shirley at 989-464-6472. Join us for a fun evening!

The next regular meeting of the Forget-Me-Nots will be on Tuesday, April 5 at 12:00. We will bring a snack lunch and beverage. Ms. Nena will speak to us about the Sonshine Ministry Program. Next, those wishing will go to visit the Jesse Besser Museum. We will carpool there, meet with Director, and tour the exhibits.

On April 16th the Adventure Club is planning an **Easter Egg Hunt** for our community within our building. We would love donations of time, candy, and plastic Easter eggs. Plan now to attend.

The Crafters will be hosting a Bake Sale on Easter Sunday, between the Easter Services. Come check out the cinnamon rolls, coffee cakes, cupcakes, sweet breads, and other choices for your Easter Sunday festivities. All proceeds from the sale will go towards the purchase of fruit, vegetables, and canning supplies for the Christmas Bazaar. If you have any questions call Lori Ludwig at 356-4753.

Join us for the Holy Week Services. They are as follows: Palm Sunday we will have our three regular weekend services; Maundy Thursday, April 14th, at 7:00 p.m., preceded by a Soup Supper at 6:00 p.m.; Good Friday Services, April 15th, Tre-Ore Service (sponsored by 1st Presbyterian) from 12:00-3:00, evening service at 6:00 (at St. Paul), followed by the movie “The Passion” at 7:00 p.m.; Easter Sunday, April 17th, 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.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: MARCH 27—APRIL 3, 2022	
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children’s Church– 10:30 a.m.; Jr./Sr. High Sunday School – 10:30 a.m.; Youth Group (Spring Break Kick-Off!) – 3:00 – 6:00 p.m.
<u>MON.</u>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 5:30 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Education Meeting—5:15 p.m.; Soul Sister’s Pizza Dinner and Organizational Speaker – 6:00 p.m.; Cub/Boy Scouts – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	AARP Taxes – 8:00 a.m.; Wednesday Lenten Lunch and Worship Service – 12:00 p.m.; Job Bible Study (Pastor John) – 1:00 p.m.; Stephen Ministry – 4:00 p.m.; Choir Practice—6:00 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	Men’s Fellowship (JJ’s) –7:00 a.m.; Chair Yoga - 3:00 p.m.; Yoga – 5:30 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 6:00 p.m.; Book Study (Nena) – 6:30 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.
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; Fellowship – 10:00 a.m.; Contemporary Service and Children’s Church – 10:30; Jr./Sr. High Sunday School – 10:30 a.m.

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS: Cory Fisher, Lexi Liske, Madelyn Mills, Geraldine Rhoads, Gary Rich, Alvin Sharp, Josh Paulson, David Sigmon, Stanley Wikaryasz, Cindi Parfitt, Laurie Stafford, Phyllis Robb, Eugene Brooks, Don Kirschner, Bodo Hanson, Roy Sommerfeld, Melissa Smith, Sutton Badder, Marian Dove, Dolores Sumerix, Eleanor Schellie, Megan Schleben, Audrey Reck, Tim Grossman, Deb Lange, Bernice Menck, Annette Jones, and Karen Wallace. *We also remember our homebound members.* They are: Harriet Burke, Virginia Kraft, Virginia Beaulieu, Deb Lange, Phyllis Robb, and Delores Stevens. *(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: St. Timothy Lutheran Church, Midland

We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. This week we specifically pray for our Soul Sisters women’s group.

CONDOLENCES TO: the family and friends of George LaFleche, who joined our Lord in eternity March 18th.

CONDOLENCES TO: the family and friends of John Gauthier, who joined our Lord in eternity March 19th.

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE		END OF FEBRUARY	YEAR TO DATE
Wednesday Lent Service (03/16)	40	Income 33,177.49	53,621.70
Saturday (03/19) 5:30 p.m.	59	Expenses <u>34,891.50</u>	<u>54,366.75</u>
Sunday (03/20) 9:00 a.m.	36	Difference (-1,714.01)	(-745.05)
10:30 a.m.	<u>19</u>		
Total	154		

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL are given to the glory of God.

The March Service Activity is Pied Piper School. Items needed: bubbles, bubble machine, sidewalk chalk, sand toys, watercolor paints, Bingo daubers, sensory fidget toys, outside playground balls (basketballs, soccer balls, volleyballs, large rubber balls). Please place your items on the altar.

The Wednesday Lenten Services will continue each week, preceded by a Soup lunch at 12:00 p.m. Please grab the beige Trifold in the Narthex, which has the entire schedule for Lent and Easter. If you would like to volunteer to bring soup and bread for one of the lunches call the church office at 356-1658.

Choir Practice will meet on March 30th and April 6th at 6:00 p.m. All interested singers are welcome. We will be singing at the 9:00 a.m. Easter Sunday service, April 17th. If you have any questions please call the church office at 356-1658. Hope to see you there!

If you would like to direct your Thrivent Choice® dollars to St. Paul Lutheran Church please go online to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice, or you may call 1-800-847-4836. You can make a profound impact!

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Joshua 5:9-12

⁹ The LORD said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” And so that place is called Gilgal to this day.

¹⁰ While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹ On the day after the passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹² The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

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

PSALM: Psalm 32 (Read Responsively)

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Happy are those to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

While I kept silence, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long.

For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.

Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,” and you forgave the guilt of my sin.

Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them.

You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.

I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you.

Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the Lord.

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

SECOND READING: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer

in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Please Stand)

Gospel Acclamation

“Return to the Lord”

S 142b

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. Luke.

Glory to You, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.”

³ So he told them this parable:

¹¹“There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and

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: Blessed Jesus, in this rich meal of grace, you have fed us with your body, the bread of life. Now send us forth to bear your life-giving hope to a world in need. Amen.

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

(Red) #324

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. **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.

traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

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

(Please be seated)

SERMON

“Come To Life”

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

(Red) #779

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 IS BEING RECEIVED IN THE BACK & THE FRONT OF THE CHURCH BUILDING

OFFERING PRAYER
 Let us pray. Extravagant God, you have blessed us with the fullness of creation. Now we gather at your feast where you offer us the food that satisfies. Take and use what we offer here, come among us, and feed us with the body and blood of Christ, in whose name we pray. **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

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 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:
**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"