

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.

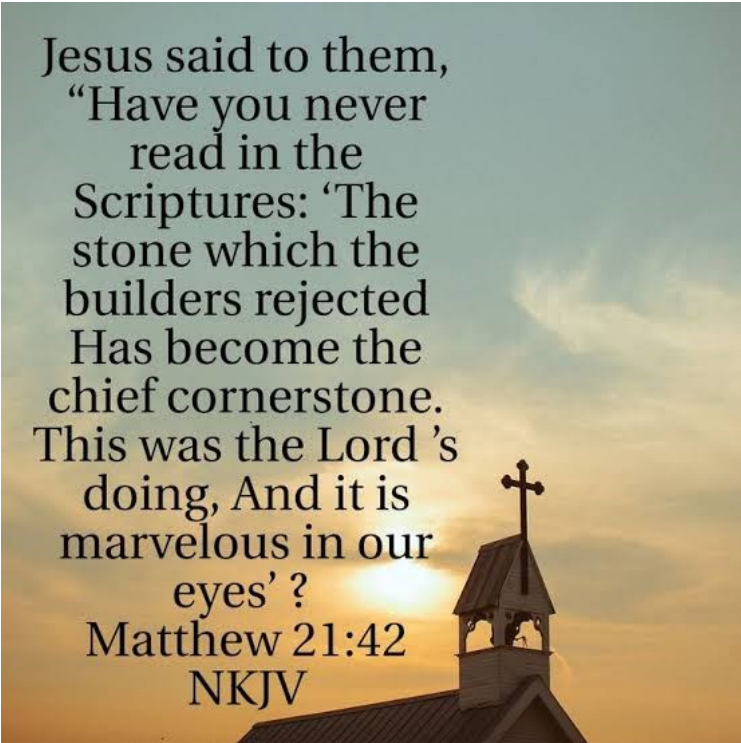
There are **restrooms** located in the basement of this building and on the ground floor of the hallway leading to our fellowship hall and on each floor of the educational building.

<u>PARTICIPANTS</u>		
<u>MINISTERS</u>		The People of God
<u>ORGANIST</u>		Marvis McNeil
<u>CHOIR DIRECTOR</u>		Marty Cantleberry
<u>ASSISTING MINISTER</u>	5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Shirley Jones
<u>LECTOR</u>	5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Scott Parkham
<u>FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	Sue Robb
	9:00 a.m.	Janice Boboltz
<u>HEAD USHER</u>		Roy Wekwert
<u>USHERS & GREETERS</u>	5:30 p.m.	John & Linda Snyder
	9:00 a.m.	Richard Miller, Dennis Dziesinski
		Jeff Ciupka, Roy Wekwert
<u>CHILDREN’S CHURCH LEADERS</u>		Karen Wekwert, Sue Robb, Amy DeRosia
<u>LITTLES’ WORSHIP CENTER LEADERS</u>		Jesse and Jessica O’Neil
<u>ALTAR CARE</u>		Sue Robb and Carol Kindt

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:
Christmas Bazaar



October 3, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.
October 4, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 3, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.
October 4, 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, who pours love into our hearts and healing upon the earth.
Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness in the world and in our own hearts. Creation groans from overuse. Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships. Indifference keeps us from seeking justice. Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love to others. Turn our hearts back to you. Restore our world and reconcile us to one another. Renew us to live as your holy people, following the way of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hear this good news: We have peace with God through + Jesus Christ, in whom there is no condemnation, but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life. Receive freely this healing gift of grace. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN “All Creatures, Worship God Most High!” (Red) #835

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.

Scouting America Troop 92 invites you to a Breakfast Fundraiser at St. Paul Lutheran Church on Sunday, October 18th, 8:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. Free will offering. All you can eat plus take-out options

The Soul Sisters will be Kayaking on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays in October, October 14th & 28th, weather permitting. We will meet at Sytek Park at 5:30 p.m. and launch at 6:00 p.m.

The Forget-Me-Nots will not be meeting the first Tuesday in October but instead will be attending the matinee performance of "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" at the Alpena Civic Theatre on Sunday, October 25. Please call Ann Hardesty (989-590-2055) by Thursday, October 22, if you want a ticket.

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be Sunday, October 18th at 9:00 a.m. Plan now to join us. There will only be one service (Sunday 9:00 a.m.) that weekend. Packets are available this weekend in the Narthex, one per family. Please review prior to the meeting.

Mark Your Calendars! The Adventure Club is going to have some Fun Fall Activities at the Johnson Camp (10606 Indian Reserve Road) on Sunday, October 18th. There will be pumpkin carving, wagon rides and yummy snacks. Please RSVP by October 11th, to help us plan. The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1 to 105 years old.

We have some weekends open for Altar Flowers. If you are interested in putting flowers on the altar in memory or honor of someone or of a special occasion, just put your name on the chart in the Narthex under the date you would like them. Then call the church office and let them know what you would like to have printed in the bulletin. The cost is \$20.00. Thanks.

St. Paul’s Eucharistic Ministry: We have trained Eucharistic Ministers who will take communion kits to shut-ins on a regular basis. Questions? Contact Esther Kindt at 471-2274.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: OCTOBER 4–11, 2026	
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00 a.m.; 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.; E.T.A. Group – 5:30 p.m.; Christmas Bazaar – 5:30 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Church Council – 5:30 p.m.; Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Scouting America – 6:30 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles – 7:30 a.m.; Stephen Ministry Training – 4:30 p.m.; Choir Practice 4:30 p.m.; Education – 5:30 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast - 7:00 a.m.; Open Line Dance – 1:00 p.m.; Chair Yoga – 3:15 p.m.; Stephen Ministry 3:30 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	Soul Sisters – leave church for Knabe’s Fall Outing – 10:30 a.m.; Fellowship – 4:30 p.m.; Worship Service/HC– 5:30 p.m.
<u>SUN.</u>	Worship/HC – 9:00; Fellowship – 10:00; Contemporary Service/Children’s Church/C.I.A - 10:30 a.m.

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

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:

Johnathan O. – health issues	Dena Stevens – health issues
Kathy Prevo – medical issues	Morgan Kibbe & Baby Colton
Alan Courtney – health issues	Jeff Wittenburg - medical
Eleanor Coddington – health issues	Luke Boyk—health issues
Nancy St. Onge – health issues	Mary Boomer-Scott – health
Mollie Skiba – health issue	Chuck Piontkowski—health
Sandra Christopherson – unspecified	Jesse O’Neil – health issues
Joel Foster – health issues	Ann Martin – medical issues
ARMED SERVICES: Cayden Wekwert, Katie Copping, Jake Przysiecki, Noah Hardesty, Dominick Chris-	Adam Schmidt – health issues
tou, Sawyer Hein, Rachael Mayes, Brandon Sloan, Andrew Hein, Justin A. Smith, Maragely Hein, Amelia	John Wegmeyer– health issues
Berles, Josh Gapske, Nicole Stafford, Chuck Dziedzic, and Dale Kirkendoll. (<i>Prayer is the best medicine and</i>	Chad Hamill – health issues
<i>we are prepared to pray indefinitely for folks. Would you help the church office keep our list current? Unless we</i>	Lisa Dziesinski-health issue
<i>know otherwise, our normal practice is to remove names after a month. Thanks.)</i>	Phyllis Robb - unspecified
	Billie Jo Foster – health issues
	Cindy DeRosia – health

We remember our prayer partners in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod: Grace Lutheran Church, Alpena, Supply Pastors.

We pray for the Dynamic Ministries here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. This week we specifically pray for AARP Taxes Organization.

THE FLOWERS IN THE CHANCEL (foot of the cross) are given in celebration of Austin and Brooke Hawks on their 1st Wedding Anniversary.

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>			<u>END OF JUNE</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday	09/19 5:30 a.m.	36	Income	30,413.77	145,880.52
Sunday	09/20 9:00 a.m.	50	G & M Loan	20,000.00	20,000.00
	10:30 a.m.	<u>39</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>17,187.95</u>	<u>172,917.68</u>
	Total	125	Difference	3,225.82	(27,037.16)

Commitment Cards are available in the back of the church for those who missed getting one on Commitment Weekend. Please fill one out and put in the offering plate or drop off at the church office.

If you are interested in becoming a new member, please call the church office at 989-356-1658.

The October Service Activity is Ella White Elementary School. Items needed: Sweatpants/leggings sizes 6-14, underwear – sizes 6-14, tennis shoes – all kids sizes, and snacks for students (any type of pre-packaged snack item is beneficial). Please leave your donations on the altar. *Thank you.*

The Soul Sisters will have a Fun Fall Outing to Knaebe's on Saturday, October 10th. We will depart the church parking lot at 10:30. That way, we can get those that wanted to go to church, back in time! Come and enjoy some fall tasty treats and fellowship!

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 5:1-7

¹ Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. ² He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watch-tower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. ³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. ⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? ⁵ And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. ⁶ I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. ⁷ For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 80:7-15 (Read Responsively)

Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.

You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.

The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches;

it sent out its branches to the sea, and its shoots to the River.

Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.

Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven, and see;

have regard for this vine, the stock that your right hand planted.

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)

^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. ⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him,

not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

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.

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

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 21:33-46

³³ ‘Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants and went

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: Sustaining God, with this bread and cup, you nourish us with mercy and abundant life. By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world. Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love, following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN “The Church of Christ, in Every Age” (Red) #729

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
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.

to another country. ³⁴ When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵ But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶ Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷ Finally he sent his son to them, saying, “They will respect my son.” ³⁸ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, “This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.” ³⁹ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰ Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?’ ⁴¹ They said to him, ‘He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.’ ⁴² Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures: “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes”?’ ⁴³ Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.’ ⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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

“Wisdom”

Pastor Bob Case

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

(Red) #803

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 Hear us, O God.
 Your mercy is great.

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

(Please stand)

OFFERING PRAYER

God of creation, you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly. All blessings are from you; make us generous with what we have. Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts in service to you and in love to our neighbors, today and always. **Amen.**

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

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

S 144a



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

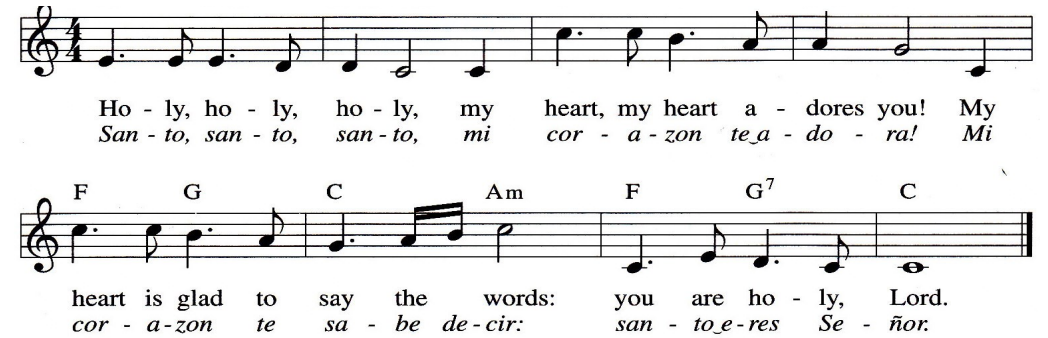
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

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 un-
 ending 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

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

"Lamb of God"