

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

MINISTERS

PASTOR

ORGANIST

CHOIR DIRECTOR

ASSISTING MINISTER

LECTOR

HEAD USHER

USHERS & GREETERS

ALTAR CARE

The People of God

Rev. John Shipman

Marvis McNeil

Marty Cattleberry

Scott Parkham

Cheri Fletcher

Roy Wekwert

Cathy Kieliszewski, Ryan Panknin

Paul Kieliszewski, Owen Werth

Karen Hamann and Sue Robb

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 19, 2025 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 19, 2025 - 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, our maker, our helper, and our keeper. **Amen.**

Trusting in God’s mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,
we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy. We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found. 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 “Day by Day” (Red) #790

GREETING

Pastor: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

We will be participating again in the community Trunk or Treat event, which will be held behind City Hall on Friday, October 24th from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m. We are accepting donations of candy, just drop them off at the office.

The Forget-Me-Nots will attend the Sunday, October 26th matinee performance of Deer Camp, the Musical, at 2:00 p.m. Please call Ann Hardesty at (989) 590-2055 by Thursday, October 23, if you would like a ticket. The ticket price is \$20. We will be going out for lunch at JJ’s on Tuesday, November 4 at 12:00. Please call Ann if you plan to attend.

Join the Soul Sisters on Monday October 27th at 6:00 p.m. where they will host another “Sweater” Pumpkin Event. Bring a sweater (stretchy material, color of your choice) to cut up and make 2 pumpkins, embellishments to decorate your pumpkin, scissors, glue gun (*optional*) and \$5.00 (for the stuffing and other accessories). Please RSVP to Susan Moggie by Monday, October 20th at 989-590-0600, so she can plan accordingly. Join us for this fun event!

Help us Celebrate with Stacy and Jacob as they welcome their new little one in October. St Paul would like to shower them with diapers. They are planning to make use of cloth diapers, which are pre-folded, snap with one size fits all in mind, with less impact on the environment. They will be blessed with ANY TYPE of diapers that folks are willing to give, but the preference is cloth. Drop your gifts off at Miss Nena’s office.

The Blessing of Hunters and Veterans and First Responders Service will be November 1st and 2nd. The service of blessing is a reminder of God’s hope found in the hunt. Come and know God’s blessing during this special time in God’s creation.

There will be a Men’s Retreat on Friday, November 7th at 6:00 p.m. at 1921 Long Rapids Road. Our theme is “Being a Man and having Faith, Hope and Love in a Digital Age.” There is no cost associated with this event. Ages 18 – 100 are invited to discover God’s faithfulness in your faith journey.

All are invited to our November Video Educational Experience on November 12th at 6:00 p.m. We will be watching “Overcomer” and a meal will be provided with discussion throughout.

Come join the celebration, servant volunteers needed to help decorate the building for the Advent and Christmas Season on Monday, December 1st beginning at 2:00 p.m. Call Donna Kensa if you can help at 989-464-5385. Thanks!

If you would like to have altar flowers in honor, memory, or celebration of a special person or occasion, please sign up on the flower chart located in the narthex. Then, call the church office and let them know what you would like to print in the bulletin on that date. There are currently lots of dates available and the cost is only \$19.50.

WEEK AT A GLANCE: OCTOBER 19—26, 2025	
<u>SUN.</u>	Scouting America Breakfast Fundraiser—8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m.; Worship/HC – 9:00; Annual Meeting – 10:00; The Adventure Club Fall Romp (Johnson Camp) – 1:00 p.m.; Stroll through the Tombstones – 6:00
<u>MON.</u>	Line Dancing – 2:00 p.m.; Girl Scouts – 4:00 p.m.; E.T.A. – 5:30 p.m.
<u>TUES.</u>	Cub Scouts – 5:30 p.m.; Senior Leaders – 5:30 p.m.; Church Council – 6:00 p.m.; Scouting America – 6:30
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles – 7:30 a.m.; Pastor John’s Book Study – 1:00 & 5:30 p.m.; Choir – 4:30 p.m.; Nena’s Bible Study – 5:30 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.; Stitches of Joy – 10:00 a.m.; Stitched Together – 10:30 a.m.; Open Line Dance – 1:00 p.m.; Chair Yoga – 3:00 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.; Trunk R Treat (Downtown) – 5:30 – 7:30 p.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/Children’s Church/C.I.A. - 10:30; Forget-Me-Nots Matinee—2:00 p.m.

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

<u>WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:</u>	Cheryl Daher – illness	Mark Byce – health issues
Belinda Page – rec./broken ankle	Malary Smith – unspecified	Lee Werth—health issues
Sharon Tinker-knee surgery rec.	Cody Franklin – leukemia	Carol Kuhl—health issues
Debra Gapske – health issues	Laura – health issues	Phyllis Robb-unspecified need
Karen Wallace–unspecified need	Margaret Lucian – health issues	David McNeil – health issues
Julie Troy – health issues	Ann Martin – medical issues	Art Hoffmeyer - heart issues
Ric Schmidt – recovery from surgery	John Wegmeyer– health issues	Chad Hamill– health issues
Adam Schmidt- health issues	Dena Stevens – health issues	Laura Cussen – stroke
<i>(Prayer is the best medicine and we are prepared to pray indefinitely for folks. Would you help the church office keep our list current? Unless we know otherwise, our normal practice is to remove names after a month. Thank you.)</i>		

We remember our prayer partners in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod: Advent Lutheran Church, Lake Ann, Rev. Rosanne Anderson.

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

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE			END OF AUGUST		YEAR TO DATE
Saturday (10/11) 5:30 p.m.	45		Income	27,081.85	240,116.51
Sunday 10/12) 9:00 a.m.	65		<u>Expenses</u>	<u>31,408.88</u>	<u>258,601.80</u>
	10:30 a.m.	<u>49</u>	Difference	(3,732.03)	(18,485.29)
	Total	159			

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

CONDOLENCES TO: the family and friends of Harry Werth, who joined our Lord in eternity October 9, 2025. A private graveside service with immediate family will take place at a later date.

The Annual Meeting is today, right after the 9:00 a.m. service.

Scouting America Troop 92 invites you to a Breakfast Fundraiser at St. Paul Lutheran Church today from 8:30 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Free Will Offering. All you can eat plus take-out option. They are also doing a *Take and Bake* Thanksgiving Pie Fundraiser. Apple Pies are \$20. Orders and payments are taken October 19 - November 1. The Pick-up day is November 16th from 3:00 - 5:00 at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Questions? Call Steve at 989-255-6521.

The Adventure Club is going to have some Fun Fall Activities at the Johnson Camp (10606 Indian Reserve Road) on Sunday, October 19th. There will be pumpkin carving, wagon rides and yummy snacks. The Adventure Club welcomes everyone from 1 to 105 years old.

Pastor John will lead a Stroll through the Tombstones at Evergreen Cemetery on October 19th at 6:00 p.m. Please come with stories to share about loved ones, stories about Alpena and how others shaped our history.

Next weekend we will collect the noisy offering for the Boys and Girls Club, so bring your change!

Let us pray. O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)
FIRST READING: Genesis 32:22-31

²² The same night he got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob’s hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, ‘Let me go, for the day is breaking.’ But Jacob said, ‘I will not let you go, unless you bless me.’ ²⁷ So he said to him, ‘What is your name?’ And he said, ‘Jacob.’ ²⁸ Then the man said, ‘You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed.’ ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, ‘Please tell me your name.’ But he said, ‘Why is it that you ask my name?’ And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, ‘For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved.’ ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

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

PSALM: Psalm 121 (Read Responsively)
I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.
He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.
The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.
The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and for evermore.

SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5
¹⁴ But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵ and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶ All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷ so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

4 In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

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. Luke. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

DISMISSAL
Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
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”



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: O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN “On Our Way Rejoicing” (Red) #537

GOSPEL READING: Luke 18:1-8

¹Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, ‘In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, “Grant me justice against my opponent.” ⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, “Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.”’ ⁶And the Lord said, ‘Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?’

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

(Please stand)

HYMN OF THE DAY

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

“Faithful Respect”

“Give Me Jesus”

(Red) #770

Rev. John Shipman

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

(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.

(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.