

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.

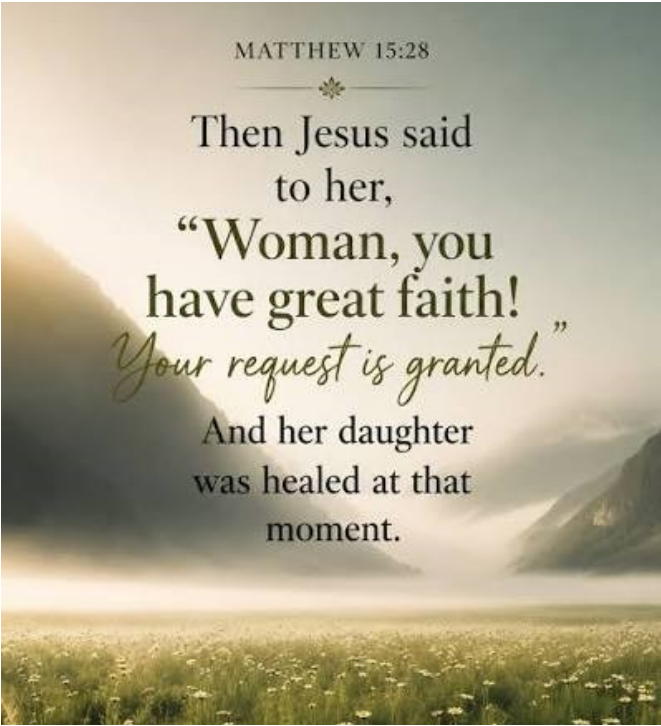
There are **restrooms** located in the basement of this building and on the ground floor of the hallway leading to our fellowship hall and on each floor of the educational building.

PARTICIPANTS		
MINISTERS		The People of God
ORGANIST		Marvis McNeil
CHOIR DIRECTOR		Marty Cantleberry
ASSISTING MINISTER	5:30 p.m.	Iris Arthur
	9:00 a.m.	Shirley Jones
LECTOR	5:30 p.m.	Sue Keyes
	9:00 a.m.	Shirley Jones
FELLOWSHIP VOLUNTEERS	5:30 p.m.	Patti Byce, Myra Gapske
	9:00 a.m.	Carla Steinke
HEAD USHER		Roy Wekwert
USHERS & GREETERS	5:30 p.m.	Tim and Barb Smith
	9:00 a.m.	Tim Moggie, Owen Werth
		Jeff Ciupka, Richard Miller
CHILDREN’S CHURCH LEADERS	Kathy Burton, Cathy Kieliszewski, Bonnie Duby	
LITTLES’ WORSHIP CENTER LEADERS	Paused for Summer	
ALTAR CARE	Patti Byce 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:
Personnel Committee



August 15, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.
August 16, 2026 - 9:00 a.m.

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE OF GOD
The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
August 15, 2026 - 5:30 p.m.
August 16, 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, whose compassion endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ’s name we pray, Amen.

Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” In the name of God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God’s love. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN “All Are Welcome” (Red) #641

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.

Mark Your Calendars! The next ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY MDOT clean-up will be on Sunday, August 16th. We will meet at the church at 12:00 p.m. to view a video before venturing out for the clean-up. Come, join us!

The Scouting America Troop 92 Breakfast Fundraiser scheduled for August 23rd has been cancelled.

The Altar Care ministry could use additional people serving. If you are interested, you can contact Carol Kindt at 989-356-9642. Thank you.

The August Service Activity is Besser Elementary School. Items needed: Expo markers, pencils, crayons, colored pencils, markers, notebooks, glue, water bottles, Kleenex, Clorox wipes, headphones, Post-it notes, colored popsicle sticks, manilla folders, Ziploc bags, red pens, pencil cap erasers, brown or white lunch paper bags, stickers, Dum Dums suckers, snacks, Playdough, paper towels, sponges, ice packs, band aids, coffee filters (to hold snacks), Dollar Tree gift cards, socks, underwear (all sizes) hair ties, sweat pants (smaller sizes) and plastic folders with three prongs in the center. Please leave your donations on the altar.

If you would like to make further donations to the Cancer Center, for patients undergoing treatment we are needing packaged nuts, crackers with peanut butter or cheese, rice crispy treats, candy bars, Jolly Rancher hard candies, oatmeal packets, pudding snacks. Please drop them off at Miss Linda’s office.

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.

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

WEEK AT A GLANCE: <i>AUGUST 16–23, 2026</i>	
<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.; Adopt a Highway Clean-Up – 12:00 p.m.
<u>MON.</u>	Alpena Peace Community – 1:00 p.m.; Line Dancing - 2:00 p.m.; E.T.A. Group - 5:30 p.m.; Trust Meeting – 4:30 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 p.m.
<u>WED.</u>	Breakfast Belles – 7:30 a.m.; Stephen Ministry Training – 3:30 p.m.
<u>THURS.</u>	3M Men’s Breakfast - 7:00 a.m.; Open Line Dance – 1:00 p.m.
<u>FRI.</u>	Line Dancing – 11:00 a.m.
<u>SAT.</u>	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 Ch./C.I.A. - 10:30

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

<u>WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS:</u>		
Garrett Chrzan – surgery	Tina Chrzan - surgery	
Kathy Prevo – medical issues	Adam Schmidt – health issues	Cindy DeRosia – health
Alan Courtney – health issues	David McNeil–health issues	Mary Boomer-Scott – health
Eleanor Coddington – health issues	Lee Szczesniak–medical issues	Jesse O’Neil – health issues
Dorothy Carr – health issues	Ann Martin – medical issues	Yvonne McQuarrie – health
Mollie Skiba – health issue	John Wegmeyer– health issues	Chad Hamill – health issues
Dixie Crevier – health issues	Lisa Dziesinski-health issue	Dena Stevens – health issues
Kevin Reiser – health issues	Joel Foster – health issues	Billie Jo Foster – health issues
Phyllis Robb-unspecified need	Nancy St. Onge – health issues	

(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. Thanks.)

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

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

<u>WORSHIP ATTENDANCE</u>			<u>END OF JUNE</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
Saturday	08/08	5:30 a.m.	29	Income	30,413.77
Sunday	08/09	9:00 a.m.	47	G & M Loan	20,000.00
		10:30 a.m.	<u>25</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>17,187.95</u>
		Total	101	Difference	3,225.82
					(27,037.16)

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

The Call Committee would like to thank you for your feedback. Please encourage all to complete the questionnaire to ensure your voice is heard. You may fill out the one in the bulletin or use the QR code to do it online. We will be taking responses until August 29. *Thank you!*



"Instruct the wise and they will be wiser still; teach the righteous and they will add to their learning." - Proverbs 9:9. Please pray that this spirit of openness guides our council as they work to fill the open seat during this transition. If you are interested in serving or have nominations for a faithful leader, please bring those names directly to our church leadership.

The Soul Sisters are kayaking on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of every month this summer. In August they will meet next on August 26th at Sytek Park. Questions? Please call Sue Robb at 989-354-8673.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray. God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

¹Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed.

⁶And the foreigners who join themselves to the Lord, to minister to him, to love the name of the Lord, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant— ⁷ these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt-offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. ⁸ Thus says the Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

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

PSALM: Psalm 67 (Read Responsively)

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, **that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.** Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. **Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.** Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. **The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.** May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere him.

SECOND READING: Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 (Sunday 9:00 a.m. service)

¹I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ² God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. ²⁹ for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. ³⁰ Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, ³¹ so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. ³² For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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-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. Matthew. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 15:21-28

²¹ Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. ²² Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, ‘Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.’ ²³ But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, ‘Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.’ ²⁴ He answered, ‘I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.’ ²⁵ But she came and knelt before him, saying, ‘Lord, help me.’ ²⁶ He answered, ‘It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.’ ²⁷ She said, ‘Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.’ ²⁸ Then Jesus answered her, ‘Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.’ And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

Children’s Message “This Little Light of Mine”

DISMISSAL
Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

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“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 - jice 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: Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever. **Amen.**

MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN “Jesus Shall Reign” (Red) #434

This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine
I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine let it shine let it shine

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(Please be seated)
SERMON “Merciful to All” Pastor Rosie Gibson

(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 Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

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

(Please stand)
OFFERING PRAYER

Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever. **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 unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - does 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.

EU-

CHARISTIC 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.

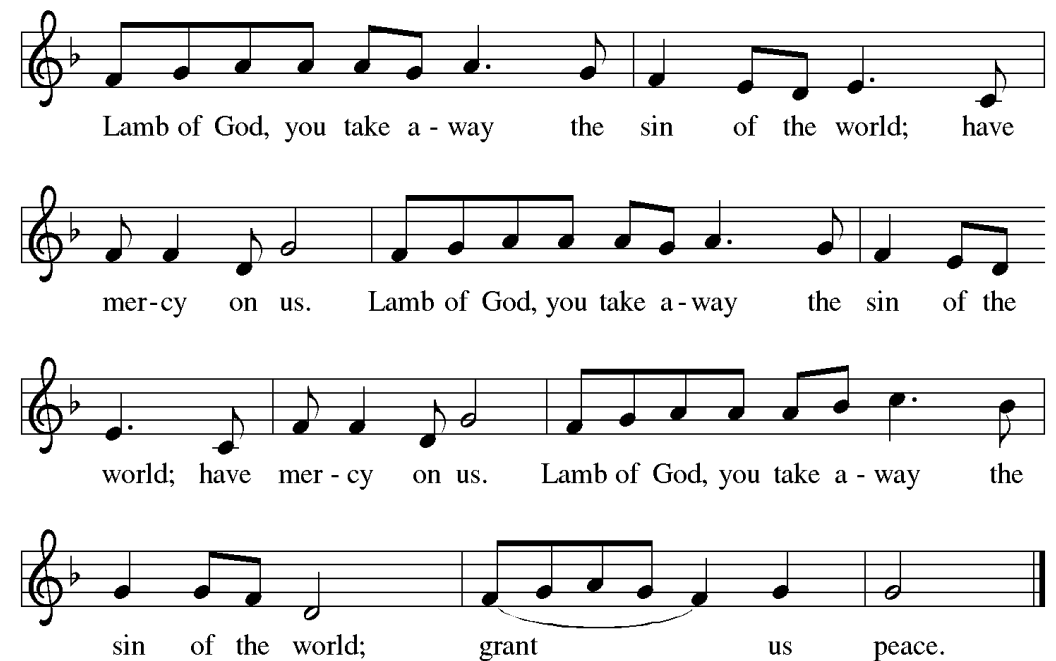
**Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

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

"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.**

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE