

# Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in America

2903 State Hwy. 155, Sayner, WI 54560 715-542-3701  
Website: [www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org](http://www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org)

**"The Lord is**

*slow to anger  
and rich  
in love."*

Ps 145:8

**He asks us:**

*"Have you  
any right  
to be angry?"*

Jonah 4:4

7/1/20

## MINSTERS: THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

LLM: William Wendorf 715-617-6477  
Council President: Sharon Geist 715-892-7486

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### WELCOME GUESTS

We invite you to sign our guest book and/or complete a visitor card to help us remember you. Please let us know if we can serve you in any way. Everyone is welcome to Holy Communion at Shepherd of the Lakes. Come forward as ushers direct, receive the wafer in your hand and move to the wine which is served in individual portions. We offer grape juice as an alternative to wine. Gluten-free wafers are also available at your request from communion servers when you partake.

### Worship services:

**Saturday at 5:30 p.m.**  
**Sunday at 9:00 a.m.**

**Outdoor Service: Sunday September 20, 2020**

**9:00 (Weather Permitting)**

Don't forget your lawn chairs!

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

Empowered by the power of the Holy Spirit and rooted in the Good News of Jesus Christ, we are a loving community that follows Jesus & seeks to hear the Word of God and practice it in our daily lives.

**16th Sunday After Pentecost**  
**Saturday September 19, 2020**  
**Sunday September 20, 2020**



(Please note: "Current issue" listings remain in the bulletin for three weeks and then are removed unless instructions are received to move that listing to the "ongoing health issues" list.)

## PRAYER REQUESTS

Giving Report	Attendance
General Funds	
	Judy on Vacation
<b>Total</b>	

**Next Council Meeting:** Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2020 6 PM

**Children's bulletins** are available in the narthex. These have been designed to assist children in worship. Each page is based on the Gospel lesson.

**Flu Shots:**

Flu shots will be available here at church on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 from 9:00 am and 10:00 am.

**Flowers:**

The flowers on the altar are courtesy of Beth Von Ende in thanks.

**Pray for those dealing with current issues:**

**Continue to pray** for those in the world affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Pray for our world leaders, church leaders, and Shepherd of the Lakes leaders so that they may help to meet the needs of those they serve as we move forward in these everchanging times.

**Pray for those with ongoing health issues:**

Kent & Carolyn (friends of Elaine Kuhlmann), Jim & Teresa Luebke, Brian, Larry & Joannie Stephenson, and Tom & Carol Miles.

**Pray for those serving in the Armed Forces:**

Jeff Hammer, Brian Kriek, Adam & Brittany Recob, Brooks Maines, Will Schmidt, Sgt. Keara Kangas, Alex Bauer, Jared Mann, Noah Storaasli, and Zachary Raatz.


**Pray for those in nursing homes or homebound:**

Ramona Schaeffel, Mel & Barb Harvey, and Elisabeth Jacobsen.

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Please email Bill Wendorf at pastor@SOTLsayner.com or Jean Maines at secretary@SOTLsayner.com if you would like to be included on the prayer chain list. Prayer requests are sent out via email.

*If anyone is interested in being the contact person for the prayer chain, please contact Bill Wendorf or Sharon Geist*

**Recorded Services:** All Saturday services at Shepherd of the Lakes are recorded and put on YouTube, usually by 9 AM Sunday morning.  
 Go to the Church website at [shepherdofthelakeschurch.org](http://shepherdofthelakeschurch.org) and look for the  symbol. Click on this symbol to take you to the Church's YouTube site.

## Sunday, September 20, 2020

### 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost

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#### **Discomfort: Sign of Grace?**

Poor Jonah. The guy never could get comfortable. He was uncomfortable with his God-given call to preach to Nineveh; he was uncomfortable in the arms of the sailors as they hoisted him over the boat's edge and tossed him into the sea; he was uncomfortable as the ocean's raging waves flung him about like flotsam; he was—undoubtedly—uncomfortable in the fish's belly; and he was uncomfortable and downright angry with God's mercy on the people of Nineveh. Jonah had a hard time getting comfortable with himself, and, even more so, Jonah was uneasy embracing the wideness of God's grace.

The same can be said about the laborers in Jesus' parable here in Matthew 20. The laborers who came in the early morning hours grumbled against the landowner because they were paid the same as others who started later and worked fewer hours. These laborers are ill-at-ease with the landowner's choice "to give to this last the same as I give to you." Like Jonah, they are uncomfortable with the unchecked mercy offered by the landowner/God. God doesn't play by our rules, and that can be very discomforting for us all.

Our discomfort with grace manifests itself in all sorts of ways. It can be discomforting for us to engage the poor and the outcast of our society. It can be discomforting for us to welcome immigrants into our communities. It can be discomforting to address the pervasive racism that still surrounds us. And it can be very discomforting for us to open our lives to the transforming power of the cross of Christ, whereby "the last will be first, and the first will be last" (Matt. 20:16).

Could it be that the more uncomfortable we become with the reckless love of God, the closer we are to understanding the meaning of grace?

#### **Readings for September 26 & 27, 2020**

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32  
Psalm 25:1-9  
Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-13  
Gospel: Matthew 21:23-32