

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church 2903 STH 155 PO Box 130 Sayner, WI 54560 (715) 542-3701 www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org

September 17, 2023

# **Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church**

2903 State Hwy 155 · Sayner, Wisconsin 54560 · 715-542-3701 Website: www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org

# MINSTERS: THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH

715-617-6477
715-892-4488
612-889-1250
612-716-6008
715-542-4049
630-450-2247
715-479-9336
715-542-2797
715-542-4375



# Church Services are held on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. and Wednesday evenings at 6 pm.

#### 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 the chalice or individual portions as you prefer. We offer grape juice as an alternative to wine. Gluten-free wafers are also available at your request from communion servers when you partake.

#### **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.

#### **Recorded Services**:

All Sunday services at Shepherd of the Lakes are recorded and put on You Tube. Go to the Church website at www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org and look for the symbol. Click on this symbol to take you to the Church's YouTube site. For those of you worshipping with us at home – You can mail your donations to: Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church 2903 State HWY 155 PO Box 130 Sayner, WI 54560 Or on the church website – <u>www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org</u> You can donate through our PayPal account. "Thank you for your continued support of our ministry together."

### **Readings for September 24, 2023:**

First Reading	Jonah 3: 10-4:11
Psalm	145: 1 - 8
Second Reading	Philippians 1: 21 - 30
Holy Gospel	Matthew 20: 1 - 16

# **Discomfort: Sign of Grace?**

Poor Jonah. The guy never could get comfortable. He was uncomfortable with his Godgiven 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?

# **FINANCIAL NOTES:**

	Attendance on 9/10: 95		
General Fund			
TOTAL:			

# **NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:**

September 24<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 a.m.

# **FELLOWSHIP BRUNCH:**

Please join us for coffee and fellowship each Sunday after worship. The second Sunday of each month will be our regular fellowship brunch. Bring a dish to pass as you wish.

# **CHURCH SERVICES:**

Regular Sunday morning services at 9:00 am. and regular Wednesday evening services at 6 pm. Both services offer Holy Communion at every service. All are welcome. The Sunday service will be live-streamed and recorded and available for viewing on YouTube later on Sundays.

# **CARITAS URGENT DONATION PLEA:**

Caritas-Minocqua, serves Vilas and Oneida counties by distributing funds to those in urgent and immediate need of assistance. They are currently experiencing a very high level of need and are in urgent need of donations to continue their work in assisting our community members that are desperate for help. They have two anonymous donors that have offered to match donations, each matching up to \$5,000. Donate now and have your gift matched dollar for dollar! There are pink envelopes available in the Narthex for your donations.

# **FOOD PANTRY:**

There are a lot of people in our area who depend on the food pantry. Please pick up an extra can or two as you shop and place in the brown basket in the coat room. Thank you!

# SOTL BLOOD DRIVE:

Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> from Noon to 4 pm. For more information, call (715) 542-4049

# **CHURCH SCHOOL:**

Church School will begin on September 13 at 3:45 pm for ages 4 – Grade 7. For more information, please call (715) 542-4049.

# **FLU SHOTS**

Vilas County Health Department will be here on Thursday, October 12, to administer Flu Shots from 9 am to 10 am in the Meeting Room on the North end of the church.

# PASTOR TIM SWENSON

Pastor Tim will be here this weekend to give us information about the Augsburg Lutheran Church Synod. To welcome Pastor Tim, we will be having brunch again this Sunday!! This one you do not have to cook for, as we will be bringing the meal in from Trigs. We are planning on ham and turkey sandwiches, salads, fruit and vegetables.



# **PRAYER REQUESTS**

(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)

# Pray for those dealing with current issues:

Graham, Phyllis, Bob, Beth, Craig, David, Marcia, and Elaine.

# Pray for those with ongoing health issues:

Gus, Larry, Mary Lou, Brian, Melody.

# Pray for those serving in the Armed Forces:

Brian, Adam & Brittany, Brooks, Will, Sgt. Keara, Alex, Jared, Noah.

# Pray for those in nursing homes or homebound:

Elisabeth.

# Pray for the families of those who have passed:

Please email Bill Wendorf at pastor@SOTLsayner.com or text to 715-617-6477 or email Jean Maines at <u>secretary@SOTLsayner.com</u> if you would like to be included on the prayer chain list. Prayer requests are sent out via email.

# **Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church**

Sayner, Wisconsin

# **Season of Pentecost**

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

# **Greeting & Announcements**

**Invocation** (*Please remain seated.*)

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

# **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart, and confess our sins unto God our Father, urgently and fervently asking him, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to grant us forgiveness.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of  $\ddagger$  Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.



(Please stand as you are comfortable)

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt. Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional; arr. John Roberts, 1807–1876

# **Dialog for Pentecost**

"Be strong and full of courage: for God is with you wherever you go."

The Spirit of God strengthens my hand: you make us bolder in our work together.

For in us all is the breath of life: you give true life to the people of God.

Come, Holy Spirit, as the mighty wind: as on the face of the waters at creation.

# Greeting

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

And also with you.

# Hymn of Praise





# **Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you.

#### And also with you.

Let us pray.....

Oh God,

you declare your mighty powers chiefly in showing mercy and pity. Grant us the fullness of your grace, that, pursuing what you have promised, we may share your heavenly glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

(Please be seated)

# First Reading Genesis 50:15-21

<sup>15</sup>Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" <sup>16</sup>So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, <sup>17</sup>'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. <sup>18</sup>Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." <sup>19</sup>But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? <sup>20</sup>Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. <sup>21</sup>So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

# Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13

<sup>1</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name. <sup>2</sup>Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all God's benefits-<sup>3</sup>who forgives all your sins and heals all your diseases; <sup>4</sup>who redeems your life from the grave and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy; <sup>5</sup>who satisfies your desires with good things so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's. <sup>6</sup>O LORD, you provide vindication and justice for all who are oppressed. <sup>7</sup>You made known your ways to Moses and your works to the children of Israel. <sup>8</sup>LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love; <sup>9</sup>you will not always accuse us, nor will you keep your anger forever. <sup>10</sup>You have not dealt with us according to our sins, nor repaid us according to our iniquities. <sup>11</sup>For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you. <sup>12</sup>As far as the east is from the west, so far have you removed our transgressions from us. <sup>13</sup>As a father has compassion for his children,

so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

# **Second Reading**

# **Romans 14:1-12**

<sup>1</sup>Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. <sup>2</sup>Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. <sup>3</sup>Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. <sup>4</sup>Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

<sup>5</sup>Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. <sup>6</sup>Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God.

<sup>7</sup>We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. <sup>8</sup>If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. <sup>9</sup>For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

<sup>10</sup>Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. <sup>11</sup>For it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,

and every tongue shall give praise to God."

<sup>12</sup>So then, each of us will be accountable to God.





The Holy Gospel According to....

#### Glory to you, O Lord.

#### Matthew 18:21-35

<sup>21</sup>Peter came and said to [Jesus], "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" <sup>22</sup>Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup>"For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. <sup>24</sup>When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; <sup>25</sup> and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. <sup>26</sup>So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' <sup>27</sup>And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. <sup>28</sup>But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' <sup>29</sup>Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' <sup>30</sup>But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. <sup>31</sup>When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. <sup>32</sup>Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. <sup>33</sup>Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' <sup>34</sup>And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. <sup>35</sup>So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.** (*Please be seated*)

Sermon

"Rev. Timothy J. Swenson"

(Please stand as you are comfortable)

# O Christ, Our Hope



Text: Latin hymn, c. 8th cent.; tr. John Chandler, 1806–1876, adapt. Music: LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN, Nikolaus Herman, 1480–1561

#### **Apostles Creed**

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

#### **Prayers of the Church**

#### **The Peace**

The Peace of the lord be with you always.

#### And also with you.

(*I invite you to share the peace as you, and your neighbor, are comfortable.*)

#### **Offering** (We will receive our offering today in the traditional manner)

For those of you worshipping with us at home -You can mail your donations to: Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church 2903 State Hwy 155 PO Box 130 Sayner, WI 54560 Or on the church website - www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org You can donate through our PayPal account. "Thank you for your continued support of our ministry together."

As our offering is received and the Lord's table is prepared, Please join in singing "Christ Be Our Light" ELW 715 vs. 1,2,5.

# Christ, Be Our Light



Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957 Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell Text and music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell.Published by OCP Publications, 5536 NE Hassalo, Portland, OR 97213. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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# Prayer

Let us Pray:

Merciful Father,

We offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

# Great Thanksgiving The Lord be with you. And also 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.

It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy.... And join their unending hymn:



# **Table Prayer**

Blessed are you, Lord of heaven and earth. In mercy for our fallen world you gave your only Son, that all those who believe in him should not perish, but have eternal life. We give thanks to you for the salvation you have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Send now your Holy Spirit into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in his holy supper.

# Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

# **Words of Institution**

In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: this cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord Jesus, remember us in your Kingdom, and teach us to pray:

# Lord's Prayer

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.

# Invitation to the Table

All are welcome to the Lord's table here. Simply come forward as the ushers direct, receive the host, and then receive the wine by dipping the host into the chalice, or by individual glass. For those wishing an alternative to the wine, there is grape juice clearly marked and provided, in both the individual glasses and the **small** chamber of the chalice. Gluten free hosts are also provided by simply asking your server as you come forward.

(Children and others not wishing to commune are invited to come forward and receive a blessing.)

Distribution

(Please come forward as the ushers direct)

# Lamb Of God



# **Communion Songs**

Lord, Be Glorified



Text: Bob Kilpatrick, b. 1952 Music: BE GLORIFIED, Bob Kilpatrick Text and music © 1978 Bob Kilpatrick Music, assigned 1998 to The Lorenz Corporation. All rights reserved. Alleluia



\*may be sung in canon

**Communion Blessing** (*Please stand as you are comfortable*)

# Prayer

Almighty God, you gave your son both as a sacrifice for sin and a model of the godly life. Enable us to receive him always with Thanksgiving, and to conform our lives to his; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

# Blessing

Almighty God, Father, Son, † and Holy Spirit, bless you all, now and forever.

#### Amen.

**Sending Hymn** 

"Lead On, O King Eternal!" ELW 805

(Please stand as you are comfortable) Lead On, O King Eternal!



Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862–1917 Music: LANCASHIRE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

# Dismissal

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# Please join us for coffee and fellowship after the service. Second Sunday of each month join us for brunch after the service.

### Calendar for Week of September 11 – September 17, 2023

Wednesday	September 20, 2023	Quilting	9:00 a.m.
Wednesday	September 20, 2023	Church School	3:45 p.m.
Wednesday	September 20, 2023	Worship Service	6:00 p.m.
Thursday	September 21, 2023	Text Study	9:00 a.m.
Friday	September 22, 2023	Blood Drive	Noon-4 pm
Sunday	September 24, 2023	Worship Service	9:00 a.m.

### **Next Council Meeting:**

September 24, 2023, 10:30 a.m.

# **Upcoming Events:**

Blood Drive – Friday, September 22<sup>nd</sup> Noon to 4 PM

Check our calendar of events on the church website for times and dates of events and worship services.

Website: www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org FaceBook: Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church – Sayner, WI Instagram: sotlsayner