

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

### **Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church**

2903 State Hwy 155 · Sayner, Wisconsin 54560 · 715-542-3701

Website: www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org A member congregation of the Augsburg Lutheran Churches

MINSTERS:	THE PEOPLE OF	THE PARISH
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Pastor William Wendorf 715-617-6477

Council:	
President: Mike Pockat	715-892-4488
Vice President: Jack Carlson	612-889-1250
Tracey Ahlborn	612-716-6008
Eric Eade	
Jackie Jungemann	630-450-2247
Sharon Rice	715-479-9336
Jeanne Kroll	715-542-2797
Bill Sima	715-542-4375



Church Service Sundays at 9:00 a.m. & Wednesday at 6 p.m.

#### 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 – <a href="https://www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org">www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org</a>

You can donate through our PayPal account.

"Thank you for your continued support of our ministry together."

#### Readings for March 17, 2024:

First Reading Jeremiah 31: 31-34

**Psalm** 51: 1-12

**Second Reading** Hebrews 5: 5-10 **Holy Gospel** John 12: 20-33

### The Attraction of the Repellant Cross

Two themes vie for attention in the readings: divine forgiveness (with attention paid to the human sinfulness that makes it necessary!) and the cross's mysterious power.

Jeremiah prophesies of God's desire and ability to wipe the slate clean and to come even closer than before, in the form of a "new covenant" with God's people. But how is this possible? God and God's people were already as close as husband and wife—one flesh! Even so, God promises to forgive the divorce and forge an even more profound unity and intimacy with God's people.

The composers of both psalm alternatives (51 and 119) sing of the relief and joy of being forgiven and then taught, sustained, and sanctified by God's Spirit. Both psalmists testify that relief and joy more than balance the agony of confessing their unworthiness and brokenness and their own culpability for both.

In the gospel, Jesus plants the image of the (dead) seed coming to life and bearing fruit, as a metaphor for his own crucifixion and being "lifted up" on our behalf. The Greeks ask to see Jesus. We might paraphrase Jesus' oblique response this way: "If you want to see me, first look down into the dirt; then look up to the cross."

The connection point for the two themes is deep (even intimate) service to the other. Jeremiah tells us that God will come closer to us than a husband to a wife—directly into our hearts! Deep in this mystery we will be known—truly known even beyond our fear of being known—and forgiven and loved. Jesus then promises that through his life in us, we will be drawn into a similar emptying of selves as we enter richly into the lives of others so that they too will know the joy and relief of being known and loved. In this way, confession leads finally to mission.

#### **NEXT COUNCIL MEETING:**

March 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 am

#### **CHURCH SERVICES:**

Regular Sunday morning services at 9:00 a.m. Holy Communion is offered at every service. All are welcome. The Sunday service will be live-streamed and recorded and available for viewing on YouTube later on Sundays.

#### **CHURCH SCHOOL**

Church School every Wednesday begins at 3:45 pm for ages 4 – Grade 7 (unless Northland Pines School District is out). For more information, please call (715) 542-4049.

#### TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday Bible Study will be every other Tuesday at 3 p.m. at Shepherd of the Lakes. We will have two studies each month, on the second and fourth Tuesdays at 3 pm, unless they occur during a holiday. This Bible Study will be based on "*The Chosen*" video series.

#### **ROCK MINISTRIES**

From Jack Carlson:

As Treasurer of Northwoods Share in Eagle River, I work at community dinners at The Rock ministry in Eagle River every 1st and 3rd Tuesday evening at 4:30. SOTL members are welcome to volunteer and attend as we support this mission as part of our benevolence funding at SOTL.

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING SERVICES

All mid-week Lenten services will begin with a Soup Supper at 5:15 pm and then join us for the Lenten Service at 6 pm. After Easter, Wednesday evening services will continue to be held at 6 pm until Thanksgiving Eve. Communion is offered at all Wednesday services. We look forward to seeing you there!

### HELP NEEDED REQUEST FROM JEAN MAINES

We are in need of help in several places.

Pastor Bill has talked about the need for a leader in Altar Guild. Training is available and a good support staff already.

We also need **a counter** who can be there several weeks a month and run deposits to the bank. Good staff established. Need someone with the time, detail oriented, and organized. I try to take the deposits in now, but it usually takes several days to get it there with my work schedule.

We also are in need of someone to review bank statements each month to keep me in check.

You only need to be able to look for checks that need supporting documents and to track transfers from one account to another. Ask lots of questions!

We need to put together an **audit committee** to review the books and ask lots of questions. Let Pastor or me know if you can help with any of these. Most of these positions I cannot do as I am already treasurer.

#### **BUTTERFLIES NEEDED**

The church will again be decorating the sanctuary with paper butterflies for Easter. Please help yourself to the traced butterflies in the Narthex and decorate them however you wish. Please indicate on them if you wish them to be in memory or in honor of someone.

### **Holy Week Services**

Wednesday, March 27th

Community Healing Service 6 pm

Thursday, March 28th

Maundy Thursday Service 6 pm

Friday, March 29th

Good Friday Service 6 pm

Saturday, March 30th

Easter Vigil 5:30 pm

Sunday, March 31st

Easter Breakfast 7:30 am Easter Worship Service 9 am Fellowship to follow

#### **CHOIR PRACTICE**

Are you interested in joining the church choir? Practice will be held on Sundays at 10:30, after the church service. Everyone is welcome!

#### BETSY TARKOWSKI CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Message from Pastor Bill:

Doug and family are planning a celebration of life for our dear friend Betsy at SOTL on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>. A time for family and friends to gather, mourn, remember, and celebrate her life in Christ. Visitation will begin at 10:00 AM., service to begin at 11:00 AM, with more fellowship to follow the service in the community room.



(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:

Deb, Brian, Jim & Wendy, Tom & Nancy, Ruth, Judy & Bob, Brooks

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

Larry, Mary Lou, Brian, Melody, Bob B., Graham, Ericka, and Shelle.

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

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

#### 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>treasurer@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**

A member congregation of the Augsburg Lutheran Churches

### March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Fourth Sunday of Lent

### **Greeting & Announcements**

#### **Invocation**

(Please Remain Seated)

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

Amen.



In these forty days, let us be honest, confess our sin, and receive God's promise of mercy.

Gracious God,

Our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open us to a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world.

(Book of Common Worship)

Amen.

### **Words of Forgiveness**

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are  $\pm$  forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

Amen.



### Gathering Song "Jesus, Keep Me Near The Cross" ELW 335 vs. 1,2,4.

(Please stand as you are comfortable)

### Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross



Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1820–1915 Music: NEAR THE CROSS, William H. Doane, 1832–1915

### **Apostolic 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.

### **Invitation to Repentance**

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love; according to your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions.

Wash us thoroughly from our iniquities, and cleanse us from our sins. For we know our transgressions, and our sins are ever before us.

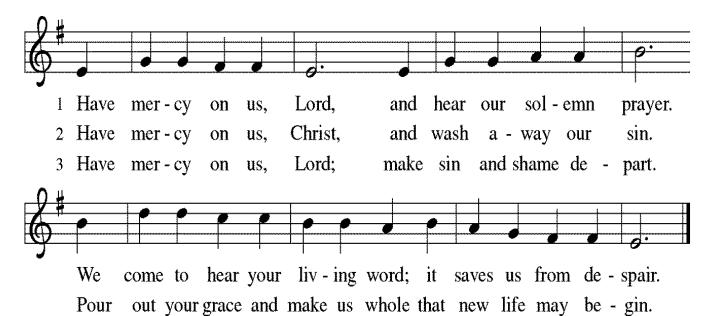
Against you, you alone, have we sinned, and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless when you pass judgment.

Indeed, we were born guilty, sinners when our mothers conceived us. You desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach us wisdom in our secret hearts.

Purge us with hyssop, and we shall be clean; wash us, and we shall be whiter than snow.

Let us hear joy and gladness; let the bones that you have crushed rejoice. Hide your face from our sins, and blot out all our iniquities.

### **Kyrie** (sung by all)



us new hearts!

in

Re - new us with your sav-ing pow'r; cre - ate

### **Prayer of the Day**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

God of all mercy,

by your power to heal and to forgive, graciously cleanse us from all sin and make us strong; through your son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

### First Reading Numbers 21:4-9

<sup>4</sup>From Mount Hor [the Israelites] set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. <sup>5</sup>The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." <sup>6</sup>Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. <sup>7</sup>The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. <sup>8</sup>And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." <sup>9</sup>So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

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

#### Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

<sup>1</sup>Give thanks to the LORD, for the LORD is good, for God's mercy endures forever.

# <sup>2</sup>Let the redeemed of the LORD proclaim that God redeemed them from the hand of the foe,

<sup>3</sup>gathering them in from the lands;

from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

<sup>17</sup>Some were fools and took rebellious paths; through their sins they were afflicted.

<sup>18</sup>They loathed all manner of food and drew near to death's door.

<sup>19</sup>Then in their trouble they cried to the LORD and you delivered them from their distress.

<sup>20</sup>You sent forth your word and healed them and rescued them from the grave.

- <sup>21</sup>Let them give thanks to you, LORD, for your steadfast love and your wonderful works for all people.
- <sup>22</sup>Let them offer sacrifices of thanksgiving and tell of your deeds with shouts of joy.

### **Second Reading** Ephesians 2:1-10

<sup>1</sup>You were dead through the trespasses and sins <sup>2</sup>in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup>All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us <sup>5</sup>even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—<sup>6</sup>and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not the result of works, so that no one may boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

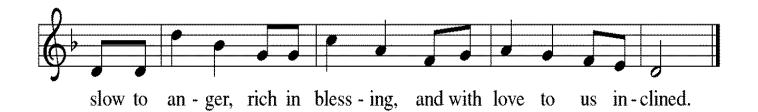
The Word of the Lord....Thanks be to God.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

(Please stand as you are comfortable)



We are turn - ing, Lord, to hear you; you are mer - ci - ful and kind -



The Holy Gospel According to....

Glory to you, O Lord.

#### John 3:14-21

[Jesus said:] <sup>14</sup>"Just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, <sup>15</sup>that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

<sup>16</sup>"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

<sup>17</sup>"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. <sup>18</sup>Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. <sup>19</sup>And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. <sup>20</sup>For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. <sup>21</sup>But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

(Please be seated)

#### Sermon

### Hymn of the Day

### "Lift High The Cross" ELW 660 vs. 1-3

(Please stand as you are comfortable)

### Lift High the Cross



Text: George W. Kitchin, 1827–1912; rev. Michael R. Newbolt, 1874–1956 Music: CRUCIFER, Sydney H. Nicholson, 1875–1947 Text and music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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### **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.

Δ	men	
$\rightarrow$		

### **Prayers of the Church**

#### The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.....And also with you.

(Please greet your neighbor as you and your neighbor are comfortable)

**Offering** (As we receive our offering and the Lord's table is prepared, please join in singing)

#### Bread of Life from Heaven



Text: Susan R. Briehl, b. 1952
Music: ARGENTINE SANTO | BREAK NOW THE BREAD, Argentine traditional, refrain; Marty Haugen, b. 1950, stanzas
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### **Prayer**

God of mercy and grace,

the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord.

Amen.

### **Holy Communion**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

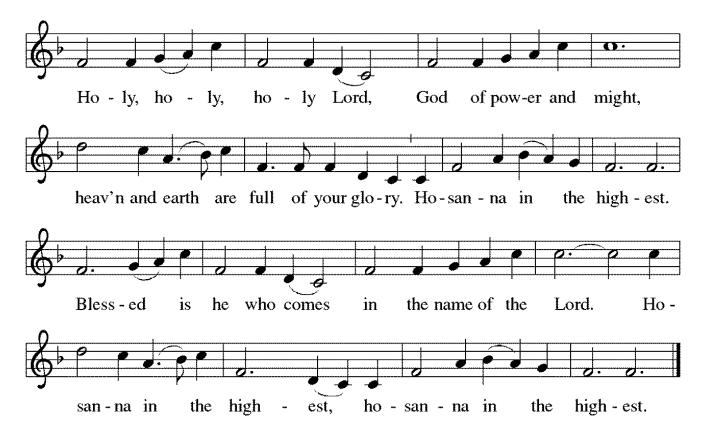
Lift up your hearts.

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:



#### **Words of Institution**

### 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

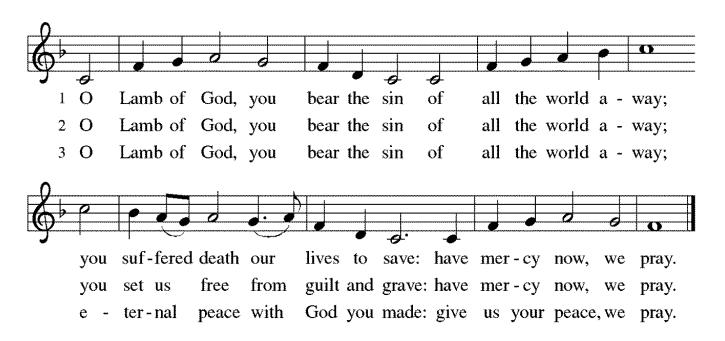
As often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. All is ready, all are welcome, our Lord and Savior invites us.

#### **Communion Distribution**

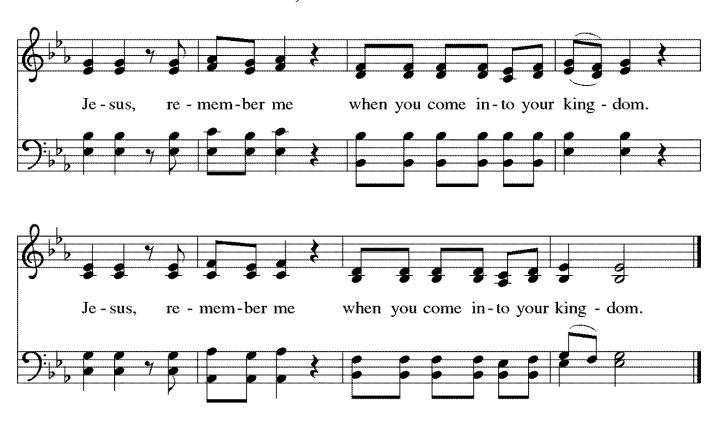
<u>Everyone</u> is welcome to the Lord's Table at Shepherd of the Lakes. Please come forward as the ushers direct, receive the bread in your hand and then receive the wine in individual glasses, or by dipping the host into the wine (chalice). The red liquid is wine, the clear liquid is grape juice. We also have gluten free wafers for those in need, simply ask for them when you come forward. Small children and others that wish not to commune may come forward for a blessing. ALL ARE WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE.

(Please be seated)

#### Lamb of God



### Jesus, Remember Me

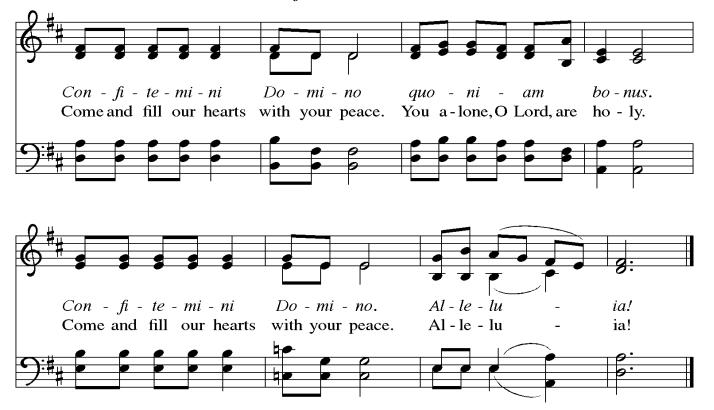


Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community

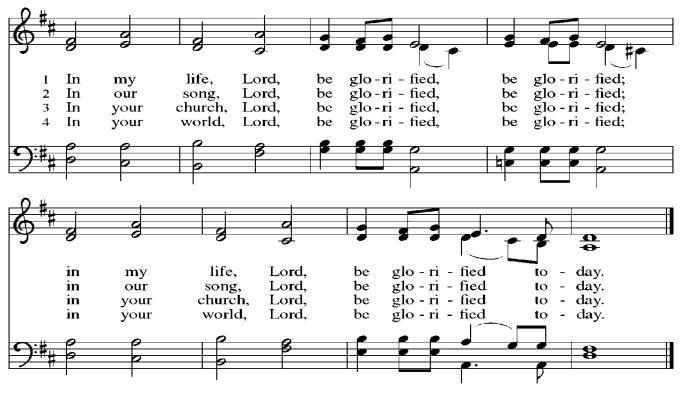
Music: REMEMBER ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
Text and music © 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

### Come and Fill Our Hearts

### Confitemini Domino



### Lord, Be Glorified



### O Lord, Hear My Prayer The Lord Is My Song



Text: Psalm 102:1–2; Taizé Community, adapt.
Music: HEAR MY PRAYER, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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### **Post Communion Blessing** (Please stand as you are comfortable)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, which you have now received, strengthen and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

### **Post Communion Prayer**

O God.

You made us from the dust of the earth. Now filled and nourished with the body and blood of your Son, raise us up and help us turn toward you with open hearts, beholding your glory, that by your grace we may receive everlasting life.

Amen.

### **Blessing**

May almighty God, Father, Son, † and Holy Spirit bless you all, now and forever. Amen

### **Sending Hymn** "Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer" ELW 618

## Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer



Text: William Williams, 1717–1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722–1796, alt. Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

#### **Dismissal**

Go in peace. 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 March 11 to March 17, 2024

Tuesday	March 12, 2024	Bible Study – "The Chosen"	3:00 p.m.
Wednesday	March 13, 2024	Church School	3:45 p.m.
Wednesday	March 13, 2024	Soup Supper	5:15 p.m.
Wednesday	March 13, 2024	Mid-Week Lenten Service	6:00 p.m.
Thursday	March 14, 2024	Text Study	9:00 a.m.
Sunday	March 17, 2024	Worship Service	9:00 a.m.
Sunday	March 17, 2024	Choir Practice	10:30 a.m.

#### **Next Council Meeting:**

March 17, 2024 10:30 p.m.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Holy Week Services Sat., April 6<sup>th</sup> Betsy Tarkowski Celebration of Life

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