

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

August 31, 2025

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

A Member congregation of the North American Lutheran Church (NALC)

Augsburg Lutheran Churches (ALC)

Website: www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org

Church Phone # (715) 542- 3701

Ministers: The people of the Parish

Council:	
President: Mike Pockat	715-892-4488
Vice President: Sharon Rice	715-891-0259
Tracey Ahlborn	612-716-6008
Jim Luebke	262-689-5456
Ken Beier	715-891-2705
Jeanne Kroll	715-542-2797

Church Service Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

WELCOME GUESTS

We invite you to sign our guest book and/or complete a visitor card to help us remember you. Here at Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church we celebrate Holy Communion whenever we gather, and we would like to invite you to join us, as **all** are welcome to the Lord's table here. Thank you for joining us.

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 and 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 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 – www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org You can donate through our PayPal account. "Thank you for your continued support of our ministry together."

Readings for September 7, 2025 13th Sunday After Pentecost

First Reading Deuteronomy 30: 15-20

Psalm

Second Reading Philemon 1-21 **Holy Gospel** Luke 14: 25-33

Freed—From and For

Freedom flows through all the readings this day. Moses reminds the people of Israel they have the freedom to choose between life and prosperity or death and adversity. Ironically, this freedom to choose life comes through the freedom to choose obedience to the commands of God. In other words, Moses tells the people, they are free to choose bondage to God and life or bondage to sin and death. Either way they will be bound to something.

In the second reading Paul reminds Philemon that he—Paul—is not free but is a "prisoner of Christ Jesus." This is Paul's linguistic wordplay to help convince Philemon to free his slave Onesimus. Paul reminds Philemon that he has the freedom to hold on to his slave Onesimus and the freedom to grant Onesimus freedom as his brother in Christ.

In the gospel Jesus speaks a challenging word, which resonates in ways that might make modern people a tad uncomfortable. You might phrase it: Do you own your stuff or does your stuff own you? Jesus seems to suggest that our stuff, our possessions, could make it difficult to follow faithfully. It is easy to dismiss this suggestion with a wave of the hand, "Oh, that certainly is not me"—until you start to consider just how much stuff is stored up in our homes and attics and garages (some of the latter with no room for cars).

In Christ, freedom comes from letting go. Freedom comes through giving away and trusting Jesus. In Christ we are free people. Free to choose life, free to choose faithfulness, and free to open our arms wide and receive the free grace of God. This is the God who chooses to never stop loving us.

Welcome to Reverend Glenn S. Sokolowski, from Ladysmith, WI who is leading our service today.

ALTAR FLOWERS

Flowers today are provided by Shawn & Karin McCormick in honor of their 30th Wedding Anniversary.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 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. Join us for coffee and fellowship in the Community Room after church service. Fellowship Brunch is held every second Sunday, and you are welcome to bring a dish to share.

QUILTING

Please join the quilting group at 9 a.m. on the third Wednesday of each month. You don't need to know how to quilt or sew – if you can tie knots, they can use your help!

ALTAR FLOWERS - INFORMATION ON HOW TO SIGN UP

Contact Person - Jo Ann Kehl Cell 715-892-0413

The Sign-Up Sheets are located in the Narthex on the shelf under the Lutheran Rose.

STEP ONE:

Sign up for the date you wish to provide the set of two altar bouquets **STEP TWO:**

You can provide flowers in two ways:

- 1. You may purchase your own flowers and bring them to church.
- 2. You may contact Jo Ann Kehl and she will order them for you. Just let her know what flowers you would like and how much you would like to spend. You can then write a check to Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church for that amount and designate it as *Altar Flower Donation*.

ANY QUESTIONS? Contact Jo Ann

CALL COMMITTEE

Here are the Call Committee members. Please feel free to contact them if you have any questions.

Lloyd Andersen 715-892-3513

Karen Carter 715-542-4049 or 715-525-1733

Ginger Eade 608-317-9563 Shawn McCormick 715-605-2552 Joanne Pierce 414-477-5804

Charlie Rice - Chairman 715-617-1398 or 715-479-9336

CHURCH SCHOOL

Northland Pines school year begins on September 3rd, right after Labor Day, but **church school at Shepherd of the Lakes won't start until October 15th**. We would love to see your children – or grandchildren! – join us. The bus will drop them off right here at Church. For more information, please contact Karen Carter.

Next Financial Report will be early in August (They will now be monthly reports)
August 24, 2025 Attendance: 38

LÔÔ KING FOR VOLUNTEERS

At the Council meeting held on August 24th, there was discussion on some of the areas that we need volunteers to help. Please let one of the council members know if you would be interested in the following:

- Budget Committee four volunteers to help put the budget together
- Financial Secretary Needed immediately! It's usually about 120 hours per year, 2-3 hours a week. This is not an accounting position, it is basically entering weekly offerings into a spreadsheet.

Thank you for considering these requests!

CONTACT INFO

In addition to the listed office hours, we are also available anytime by phone!

Treasurer – Jean Maines (715) 542-4213 or (715) 891-3344 Email: <u>treasurer@sotlsayner.com</u> or <u>jamaines2012@gmail.com</u> Office Hours on Monday and Friday, 10 am – 2 pm

Secretary – Sharon Brooker (715) 892-7049 (call or text)
Email: secretary@sotlsayner.com or plclerk@gmail.com
Office Hours on Tuesday from 3 pm – 6:00 pm
Wednesday from Noon - 4 pm
Thursday from Noon – 4 pm

In case of Pastoral Emergency, please contact Council President Mike Pockat at (715) 892-4488 or Vice-President Sharon Rice at (715) 891-0259



Pray for those dealing with current issues:

Doug, Graham, Jim C, Dick K., Mike, and Mary (mother of Ahlborn Equipment employee).

(Please let us know if/when names should be removed from this "current issues" list or moved to "ongoing list")

Pray for those with ongoing health issues:

Larry, Mary Lou, Ericka, Mike, Shelle, Sharon G., Brian, and Ron

Pray for those serving in the Armed Forces:

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

Pray for those in nursing homes or homebound:

Elisabeth

Pray for peace and consoling comfort for the families of those who have passed:

Family of Tom, friend of Tracey

Special Prayers

Please keep our Church Council, the Call Committee and every member of this congregation in your prayers as we begin our search for a new Shepherd.

Please email Jean Maines at <u>jamaines2012@gmail.com</u> or text her at 715-891-3344 or contact Sharon at <u>plclerk@gmail.com</u> or text her at 715-892-7049 if you would like to be included on the prayer chain list.

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

A Member Congregation of The North American Lutheran Church (NALC) and

The Augsburg Lutheran Churches (ALC) 12th Sunday After Pentecost August 31, 2025

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.

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.

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

Gather Us In



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen
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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.

Opening Dialog

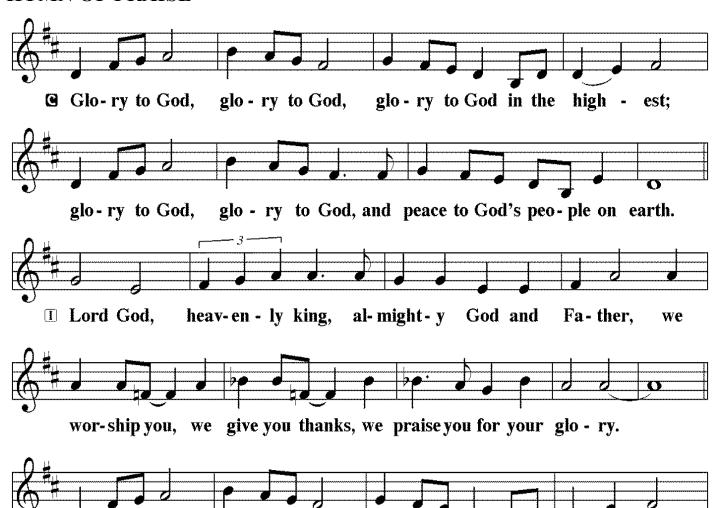
Rejoice in the Lord always. Say it again: Rejoice! Let gentleness be evident to all, for the Lord is near.

Let us not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition with thanksgiving, present our requests to God.

Rejoice in the Lord always. Say it again: Rejoice!

Let gentleness be evident to all, for the Lord is near. (Philippians 4:4-6)

HYMN OF PRAISE







Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you

And also with you.

Let us pray....

Almighty and Everlasting God,

You are always more ready to hear than we are to pray, and to give more than we deserve. Pour upon us the abundance of your mercy, forgiving us those things of which our conscience is afraid, and giving us those good things for which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merit of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Please share the peace as you are comfortable, then please be seated.

First Reading Proverbs 25: 6-7

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 112

- ¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord and have great delight in God's commandments!
 - ² Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.
 - ³ Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.
 - ⁴Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.
 - ⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.
 - ⁶ For they will never be shaken;

the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

- ⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.
- ⁸ Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.
- ⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.
- ¹⁰ The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.

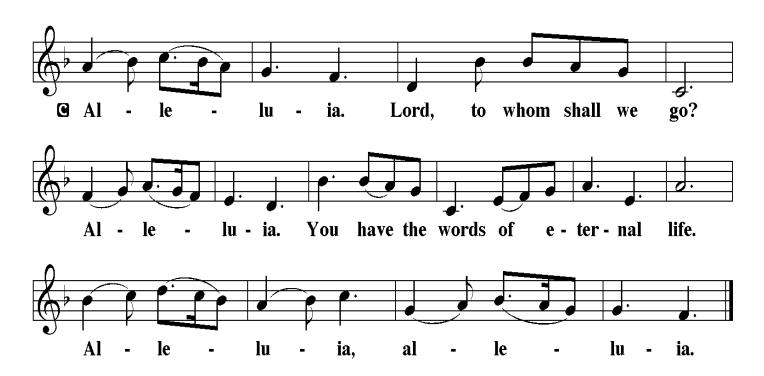
Second Reading Hebrews 13: 1-8, 15-16

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

(Please stand as you are comfortable)



The Holy Gospel According to....

Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading Luke 14: 1, 7-14

The Gospel of the Lord....

Glory to you, O Christ.

(Please be Seated)

Sermon

Please remain seated for the hymn of the day.

Hymn of the Day

"As We Gather at Your Table" ELW 522

As We Gather at Your Table



- 1 As we gath-er at your ta-ble, as we lis-ten to your word,
- 2 Turn our wor-ship in to wit-ness in the sac ra ment of life;
- 3 Gra-cious Spir-it, help us sum-mon oth-er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres-ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred. send us forth to love and serve you, bring-ing peace where there is strife. where tri - um-phant Love will wel-come those who had been last and least.



Nour-ish us with sa-cred sto-ry till we claim it as our own; Give us, Christ, your great com-pas-sion to for - give as you for - gave; There no more will en - vy blind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho-ly ban-quet how to make Love's vic - t'ry known. may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save. as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound-ing joy.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944

Music: IN BABILONE, Oude en Nieuwe Hollantse Boerenlities en Contradansen, 1710

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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.

Amen

Prayers of the People

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."

Presentation Of Gifts

(Please stand as you are comfortable and join in the offertory hymn)



Offertory Prayer

Merciful God,

You open wide your hand and satisfy the need of every living thing. You have set this feast before us. Open our hands to receive it. Open our hearts to embrace it. Open our lives to live it.

We pray this through Christ our Lord...... Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

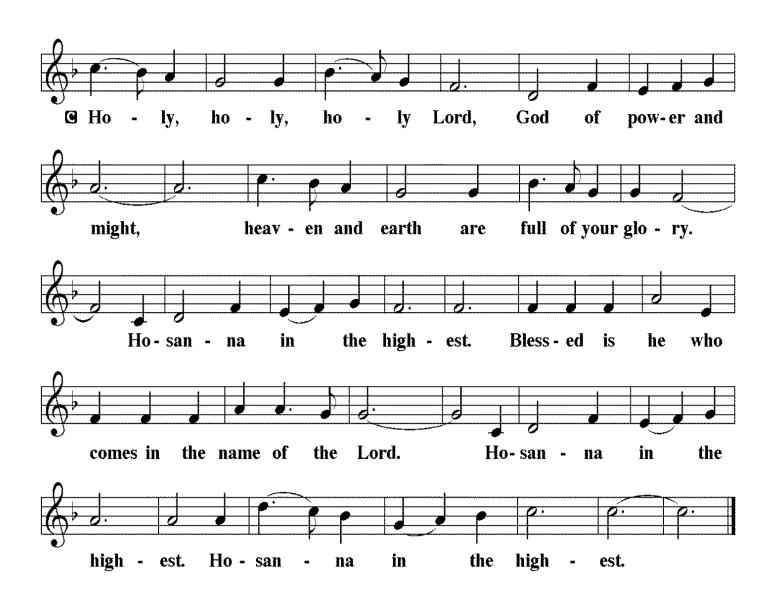
Lift up your hearts.

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:



Words of Institution

Lords 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.

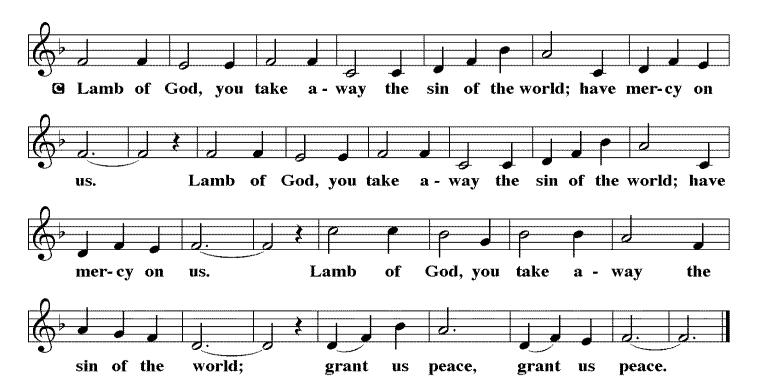
Amen

Invitation

Everyone 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 by dipping the host into the wine (chalice). Grape juice is also offered as an alternative to the wine in the clear chalice. 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.

Distribution

(Please be seated)



This Is My Father's World



Text: Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858–1901 Music: TERRA PATRIS, Franklin L. Sheppard, 1852–1930, adapt.

My Lord of Light



Text: Christopher Idle, b. 1938

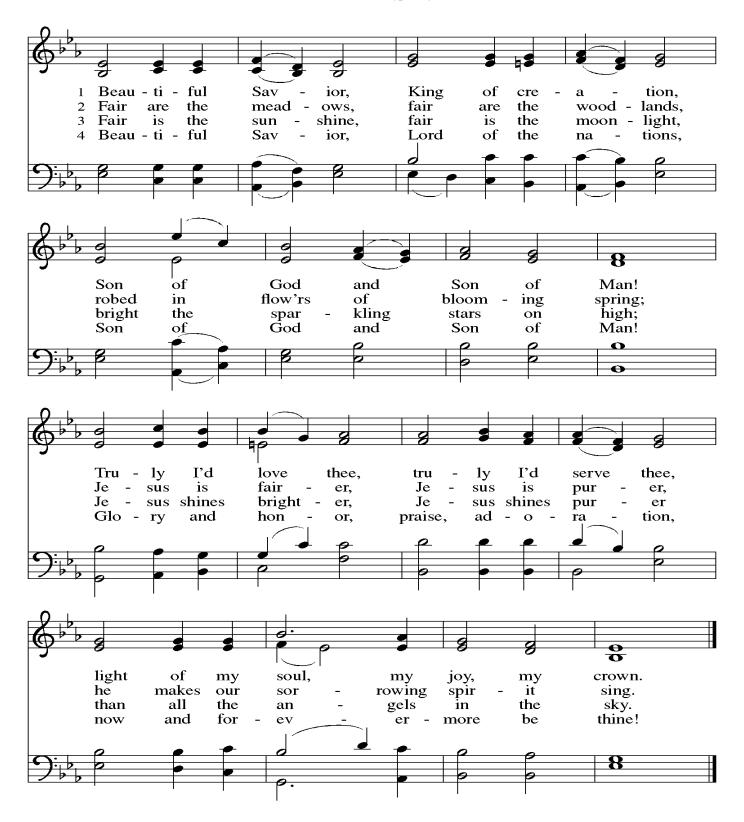
Music: BARBARA ALLEN, English folk tune; arr. Alice Parker, b. 1925

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Arr. © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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Beautiful Savior



Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

Communion Blessing

(Please stand as you are comfortable)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen

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/Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

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

Amen

Here I Am, Lord



Text: Daniel L. Schutte, b. 1946

Music: Banket E. Gaman, 1976
Music: HERE I AM, LORD, Daniel L. Schutte
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Dismissal

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Calendar for Week of September 1 to September 7, 2025

Thursday	September 4, 2025	Text Study	9:00 a.m.
Sunday	September 7, 2025	Worship	9:00 a.m.

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Next Council Meeting:

September 28, 2025, at 10:30 a.m.

Upcoming Events:

Church School Starts October 15th!

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

Augsburg Lutheran Churches (ALC) augsburglutheranchurches.org

North American Lutheran Church (NALC) thenalc.org