



Service of Lessons and Carols

December 28, 2025

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

2903 State Hwy 155 Sayner, Wisconsin 54560

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

And

Augsburg Lutheran Churches (ALC)

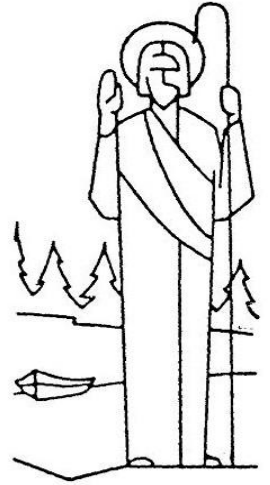
Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

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

and

Augsburg Lutheran Churches (ALC)

Website: www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org



Ministers: The people of the Parish

Council:	
President: Mike Pockat	715-892-4488
Vice President: Sharon Rice	715-479-9336
Tracey Ahlborn	612-716-6008
Jeanne Kroll	715-542-2797
Jim Luebke	262-689-5456
Ken Beier	715-891-2705

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 & 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 – www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org You can donate through our PayPal account.

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

Readings for January 4, 2026 Second Sunday of Christmas:

First Reading	Jeremiah 31: 7-14
Psalm	Psalm 147: 12-20
Second Reading	Ephesians 1: 3-14
Holy Gospel	John 1: [1-9] 10-18

Reflecting the Grace of God

In sharp contrast to the image of Jacob, who wrestles with an angel and prevails, in today's first reading the Lord redeems Jacob from hands too strong for him. Jacob does not always prevail. We too are reminded this day that it is not our own strength but God's power that blesses, strengthens, fills, gives, and grants peace. God has the power to bring together and to scatter. God creates family not because we are God's blood relatives but through adoption. In baptism we are claimed, redeemed, and forgiven. We receive wisdom and are lavished with grace. We are marked with the seal of the Holy Spirit. We receive an inheritance. Through God's powerful gift, we are gathered up, become children of God, and receive grace upon grace.

Receiving this gift of grace we are called to live as children of the light. In this holy calling we have John the Baptist as our guide. You can tell the story of Jesus leaving out all sorts of important details. In John's gospel the shepherds, angels, and manger are all absent. But the gospel writers agree, you cannot tell the story of Jesus without John the Baptist. You simply must have the one who comes solely to point others to Jesus. This is our calling as well. We who are forgiven and redeemed, we who are claimed and called, are the ones who point to Jesus. We do this with our lives; we do this with our words. We point to Jesus when we feed the hungry, when we invite those we know and love to know the gift of grace we see in Jesus. We point to Jesus when we allow the holy light of the season to shine through all we do and all are.

CONTACT INFO:

Treasurer – Jean Maines (715) 542-4213 or (715) 891-3344
Email: treasurer@sotlsayner.com or jamaines2012@gmail.com

Secretary – Sharon Brooker (715) 892-7049
Email: secretary@sotlsayner.com or plclerk@gmail.com

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.

TUESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday Bible Study will be held on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 10 a.m. The study is based on "The Chosen".

CHURCH SCHOOL

Church School will be offered every Wednesday (as long as school is in session) after school. The bus will drop the children off at approximately 3:45. Lessons/project time will last until 5 pm. We welcome you to get your children - or grandchildren - involved!

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



PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for those dealing with current issues:

Jim, Dick

(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, Graham, Ericka, Mike, Shelle, Sharon G., Bob B., Ron, Carolyn, Beth, Shirley, John, Kim, Dick

Pray for those serving in the Armed Forces:

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

Pray for those in nursing homes or homebound:

Elisabeth

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

Please email Jean Maines at treasurer@SOTLsayner.com or text her at 715-891-3344 or contact Sharon Brooker at plclerk@gmail.com or text her at 715-892-7049 if you would like to be included on the prayer chain list or if you are in need of prayers.

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

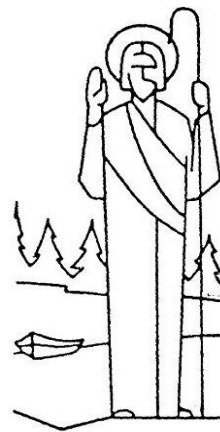
A Member Congregation of The North American Lutheran Church (NALC)
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“1st Sunday after Christmas, Dec. 28th, 2025”

Service of Lessons and Carols

*This is a Christmas version of the Lessons & Carols Worship Service,
using readings primarily from the Gospel.*



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

Let us come before God in confession of our sins known and unknown,
things said or left unsaid, things done or left undone.

Prayer of Confession

To you, O God,

We lift up our souls.

You know us through and through;

we confess our sins to you.

Remember not our sins;

remember us with your steadfast love.

Show us your ways; teach us your paths;

and lead us in peace and truth,

for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior.

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 ✠ 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

Opening Carol

“Once In Royal David’s City” vs.1-3 (ELW 269)

- 1 Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little child.
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and meek and lowly,
lived on earth our Savior holy.
- 3 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.

First Lesson *Micah 5: 2-5a*

Carol

“My Lord What A Morning” (ELW 438)

Refrain

My Lord, what a morning;
my Lord, what a morning;
oh, my Lord, what a morning,
when the stars begin to fall.

1 You will hear the trumpet sound,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

2 You will hear the sinner cry,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

3 You will hear the Christian shout,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

Second Lesson *Luke 1: 26-38*

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

**He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David,
as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,**

Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant,

**The oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us ⁷⁴that we,
being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear,
⁷⁵in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.**

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

**To give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their
sins.**

By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us,

**To give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace."**

Carol

"Away In The Manger" (ELW 277)

1 Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

2 The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

3 Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Fourth Lesson *Luke 2:1-20*

Carol

“Angels, From The Realms Of Glory” (ELW 275)

1 Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

2 Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

3 All creation, join in praising
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Fifth Lesson Matthew 2: 1-11

Carol

“The First Noel” (ELW 300)

1 The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel!
Born is the King of Israel.

2 They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. *Refrain*

3 Then entered in those wise men three,
full rev'rently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense. *Refrain*

Sixth Lesson Luke 2: 22-32

Carol

“Let All together Praise Our God” (ELW 287)

- 1 Let all together praise our God before the highest throne;
today God opens heav'n again and sends the only Son,
and sends the only Son.
- 2 O tender Child, you veil in flesh the splendor of your might;
a servant's garb now wraps the one who clothed the sky with light,
who clothed the sky with light.
- 3 A wonderful exchange you make: you take our flesh and blood,
and in return give us to share the shining realm of God,
the shining realm of God.

Seventh Lesson John 1:1-14

Carol

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” (ELW 288)

- 1 Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!
- 2 Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!
- 3 Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!
Christ was born to save!

Prayers of the church

Sharing of the Peace *(Please share the Peace as you and your neighbor are comfortable)*

As we receive our offering and the Lord's Table is prepared, please join in singing:

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" (ELW 270)

1 Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise;
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing,
"Glory to the newborn king!"

2 Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come,
offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel! *Refrain*

3 Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
Hail the Sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
born that we no more may die,
born to raise each child of earth,
born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

Holy Communion

(Please stand as you comfortable)

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.

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**

(Please be seated)

Invitation

All are welcome to receive the Lord's Body and Blood who are baptized and believe that Jesus Christ, crucified and risen, is truly present in, with, and under the forms of bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation. Small children and others that wish not to commune may come forward for a blessing.

ALL ARE WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE.

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.

Distribution

Please come forward as the ushers direct

Communion Hymns:

“What Child Is This” (ELW 296)

- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the king, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!
- 2 Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!
- 3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

“The Bells Of Christmas” (ELW 298)

- 1 The bells of Christmas chime once more;
the heav'nly guest is at the door.
He comes to earthly dwellings still
with new year gifts of peace, good will.
- 2 Oh, join with me, in gladness sing,
to keep our Christmas with our king,
until our song, from loving souls,
like rushing mighty water rolls!
- 3 Come, Jesus, glorious heav'nly guest,
and keep your Christmas in our breast;
then David's harpstrings, hushed so long,
shall swell our jubilee of song.

“O Come, All Ye Faithful” (ELW 283)

1 O come, all ye faithful,
joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
come and behold him,
born the king of angels:

Refrain

O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
Christ the Lord!

2 Sing, choirs of angels,
sing in exultation,
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God
in the highest: *Refrain*

3 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father,
now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

Communion Blessing *(Please stand as you comfortable)*

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

Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

God of light,
**with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this supper we have feasted
on your grace. Send us forth into the world to be your holy people, revealing
your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ our Lord.**
Amen

Benediction

Carol

“Go Tell It On The Mountain” (ELW 290)

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,
over the hills and ev'rywhere;
go tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching
o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens
there shone a holy light. *Refrain*

2 The shepherds feared and trembled
when, lo, above the earth
rang out the angel chorus
that hailed our Savior's birth. *Refrain*

3 Down in a lonely manger
the humble Christ was born;
and God sent us salvation
that blessed Christmas morn. *Refrain*

Sending

Go in the Love, Life, and Light of the newborn Christ, 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 December 29 – January 4, 2026

Wednesday	December 31, 2025	No Church School	Happy New Year!
Thursday	January 2, 2026	Text Study	9:00 a.m.
Sunday	January 4, 2026	Worship Service	9:00 a.m.

Next Council Meeting:

Upcoming Events:

*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



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