Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

A congregation of the North American Lutheran Church
& Augsburg Lutheran Churches
2903 State Hwy 155 PO Box 130 (715) 542-3701
Sayner, Wisconsin 54560

August 23, 2026

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

(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
Joanne Pierce	414-477-5804
Shawn McCormick	715-605-2552

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.

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 YouTube 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 August 30, 2026 14th Sunday After Pentecost

First Reading	Jeremiah 15: 15-21
Psalm	26: 1-8
Second Reading	Romans 12: 9-21
Holy Gospel	Matthew 16: 21-28

There Must Be Another Way

Peter may be the "rock" on which Christ will build the church (Matt. 16:18), but when Jesus reveals the suffering that will come first, Peter becomes a tempter and stumbling block. Assuming God must have a different way to save the world, Peter protests Jesus' suffering and death. Jesus explains to Peter and all his disciples that, in fact, this is the way to life—losing one's life in order to find it.

By tempting Jesus to an easier way than his journey through suffering to resurrection, Peter personifies a temptation common to all generations of Jesus' disciples: seeking a way to avoid "losing oneself" instead of surrendering all to and with the one we follow. Rather than losing our lives—our selves, possessions, and time—we hold on more tightly, afraid of what will happen to our comfort, success, and identity if we let go. Those things we hold onto then become, like Peter, stumbling blocks along the way of self-giving love.

But while "saving one's life" sounds sensible, those things also stand in the way of the new life into which Jesus beckons us to follow him. Perhaps Peter's problem is that he sees only the suffering and death, without grasping the new life that comes through it. In times when we too are tempted by worldly ways of comfort and success, convinced that *surely* God must have an easier way than the way of self-giving love, this gospel reminds us that resurrection and life await on the other side of suffering and death. *This* is the way of our God who becomes human in Jesus: emptying himself of power and dignity, losing his very own life for the sake of the world's life. Seen through the lens of resurrection just ahead on the journey, what other way could there be?

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.

SPECIAL MUSICAL SERMON

On Sunday, August 30th, in lieu of the sermon, we will be having a "Congregational Hymn Sermon". Congregants will be asked for their favorite hymns, and some or all of those hymns will replace the sermon for that day. Pink slips for choosing your hymns are on the table in the Narthex.

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

WEEKEND BACKPACK PROGRAM

Please consider making a donation for this very worthwhile program headed up by the Krieck family. Pink envelopes are located on the Narthex table for your use.

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!

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

Thank You to Pastor Richard Little for leading service today!

ATTENDANCE

Wednesday, August 19: 8

Sunday, August 16: 42

PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for those dealing with current issues:
Dick, Teresa, Tracey, Jessica, Deb, Tom A., Lloyd, Jim C., Sharon B., Sue L., Gordon S., Sharon G., Tom P, and Ken H.

(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, Holli, Ericka, Mike, Shelle, Bob B., Ron, Bonnie, Carolyn, Beth, Shirley, John, Kim, Barb, and Crystal L.

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:
Family of Barb Steinhilber
Family of Kendy, daughter of Dick and Lolly Kloepfer

Special Prayers

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

*Please or email Jean Maines at **jamaines2012@gmail.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.*

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**: treasurer@sotlsayner.com or jamaines2012@gmail.com**

Secretary – Sharon Brooker (715) 892-7049
Email: **secretary@sotlsayner.com or plclerk@gmail.com**
Office Hours on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons

Karen Carter, Lay Minister
kcarter@nnex.net
(715) 542-4049 or (715) 525-1733

BOOKSHELF REMINDER
Remember to check out the bookshelves in the south entryway! All books are there to be shared and you are also welcome to leave books if you wish.

CHOIR PRACTICE
Choir practice will continue to meet on Sunday after church (10:30 am). Please join us – we would love to have lots of new voices!! We look forward to seeing you there!

ENDOWMENT FUND BOARD
The endowment fund board is decreased to one person at this time. It should consist of 5 people. We are looking for four more members and hope you would consider taking a position on the Board.
The Board meets 4 times per year and reviews the brief financial statements and at the end of the year decides how to disburse the annual increase in the actual value of the fund.

So…if you would be available for a short meeting four times a year and want to help guide the benevolence giving of this fund, please contact Mitzi Pockat at 715-891-5977.

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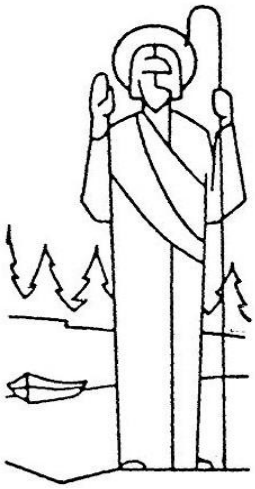
13th Sunday After Pentecost, August 23, 2026



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.

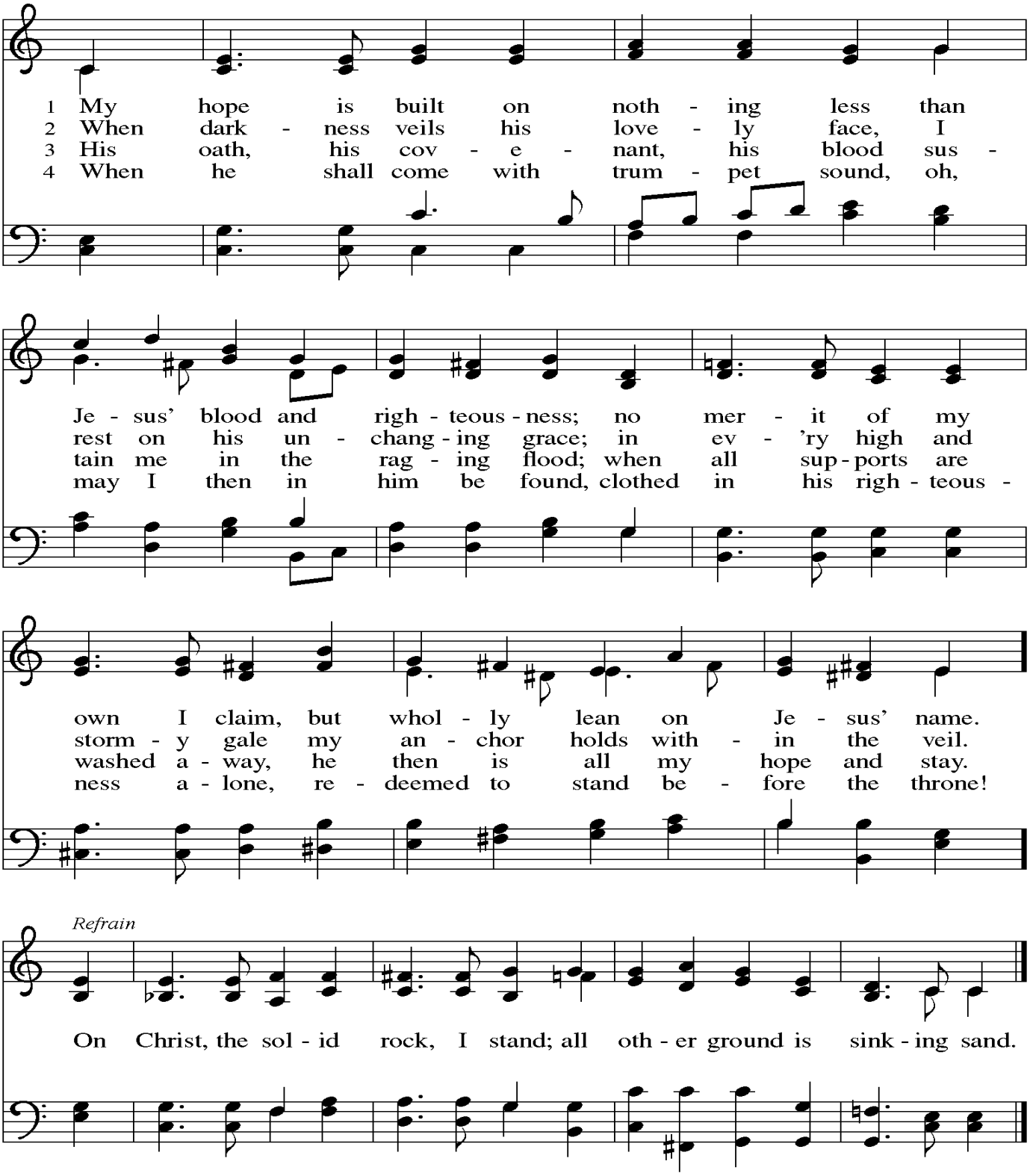
God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen

Gathering Song ***"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" ELW 597***

(Please stand as you are comfortable)

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.
Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

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 *(Philippians 4:4-6)*

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.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray….

Glorious God,

Your generosity waters the world with goodness, and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this food fill all the starving world; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading **Isaiah 51: 1-6**

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 138

[1] I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I will sing your praise.

[2] I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.

[3] When I called, you answered me;
you increased my strength within me.

[4] All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O Lord, when they have heard the words of your mouth.

[5] They will sing of the ways of the Lord,
that great is the glory of the Lord.

[6] The Lord is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.

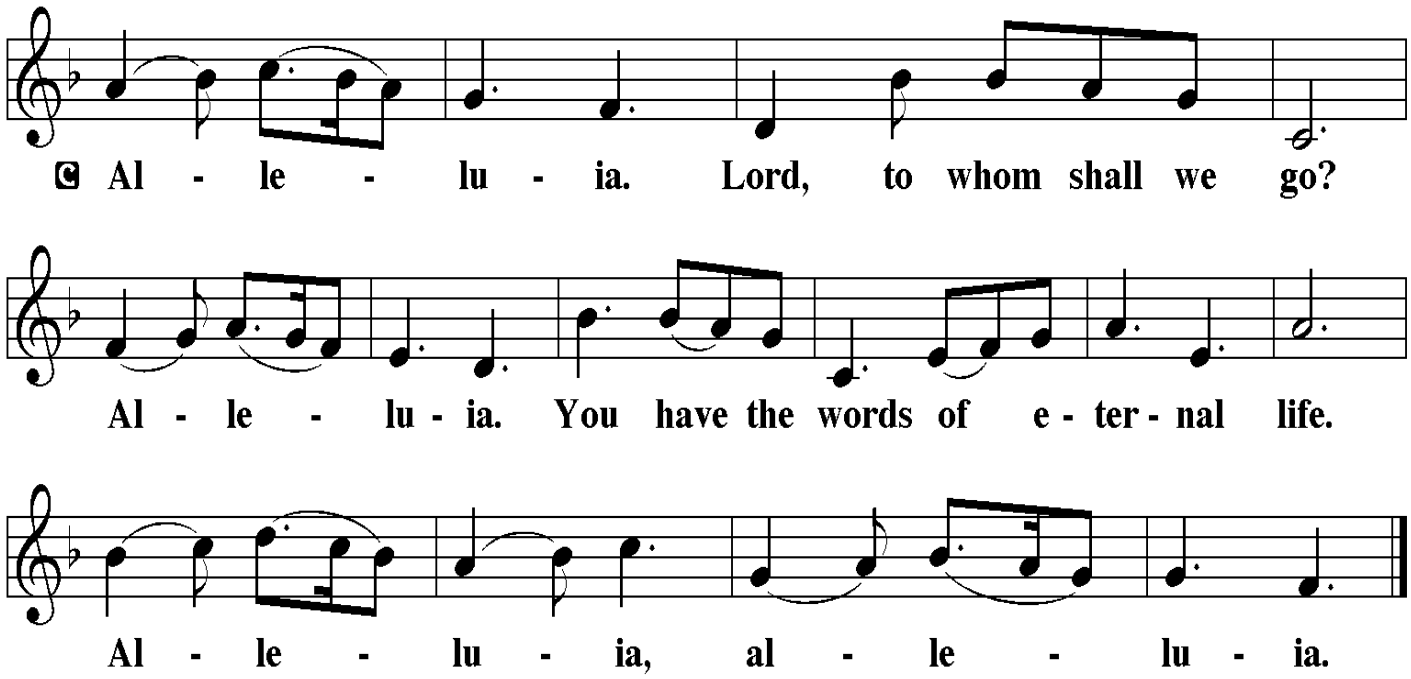
[7] Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies;
your right hand shall save me.

**[8] You will make good your purpose for me;
O Lord, your steadfast love endures forever;
do not abandon the works of your hands.**

Second Reading Romans 12: 1-8

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 **Matthew 16: 13-20**

The Gospel of the Lord….

Glory to you, O Christ.

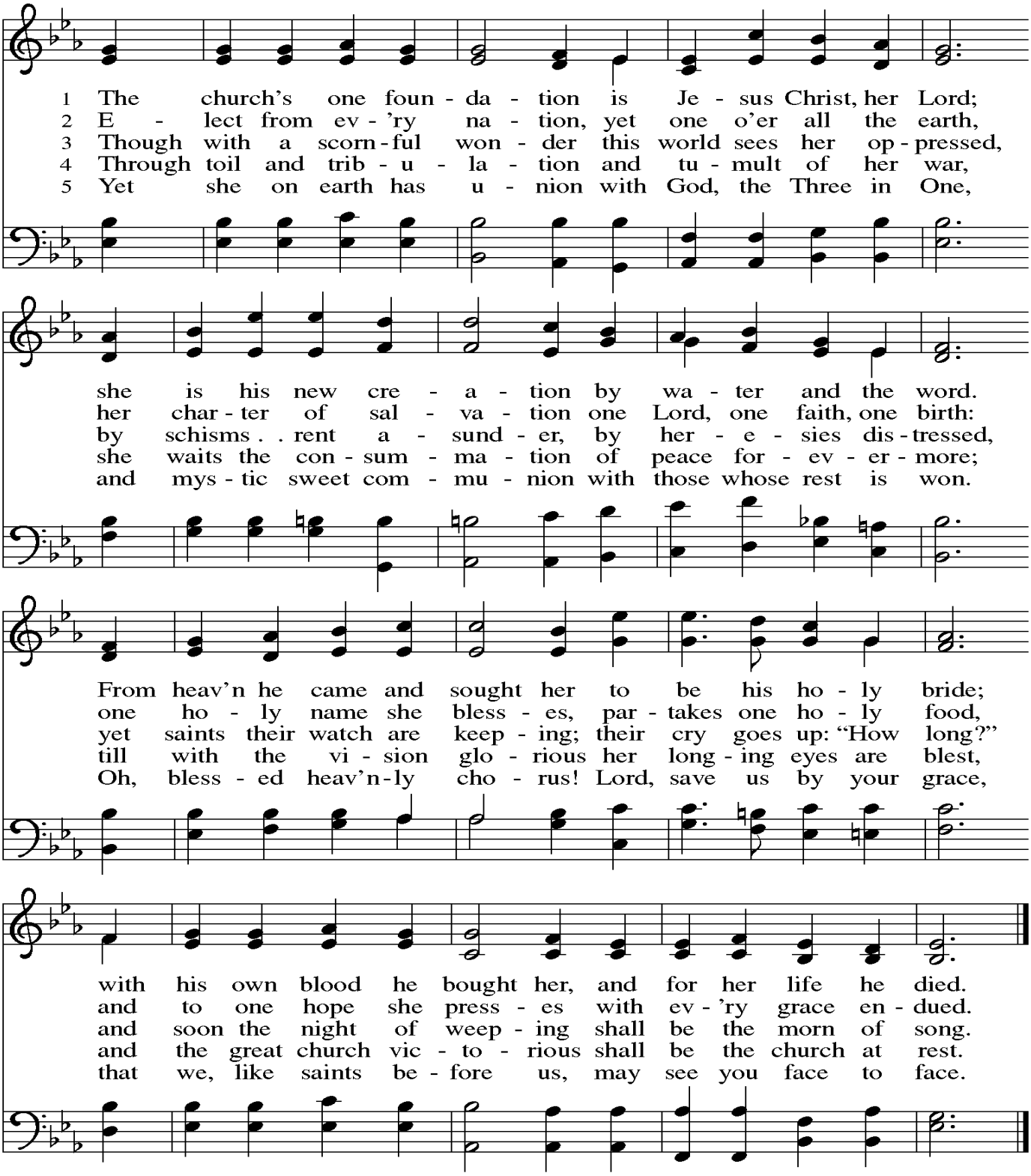
(Please be Seated)

Sermon **Pastor Richard Little**

Hymn of the Day ***"The Church's One Foundation"*** *ELW* ***654***

(Please stand as you are comfortable)

The Church's One Foundation



Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900
Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

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

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)

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

Offertory Prayer

Loving God,

We offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.
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.

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.

I invite you to join with me and let us pray with confidence the words that our Savior gave us.

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

Distribution *(Please be seated)*

(These elements were consecrated by Pastor Rich Little)

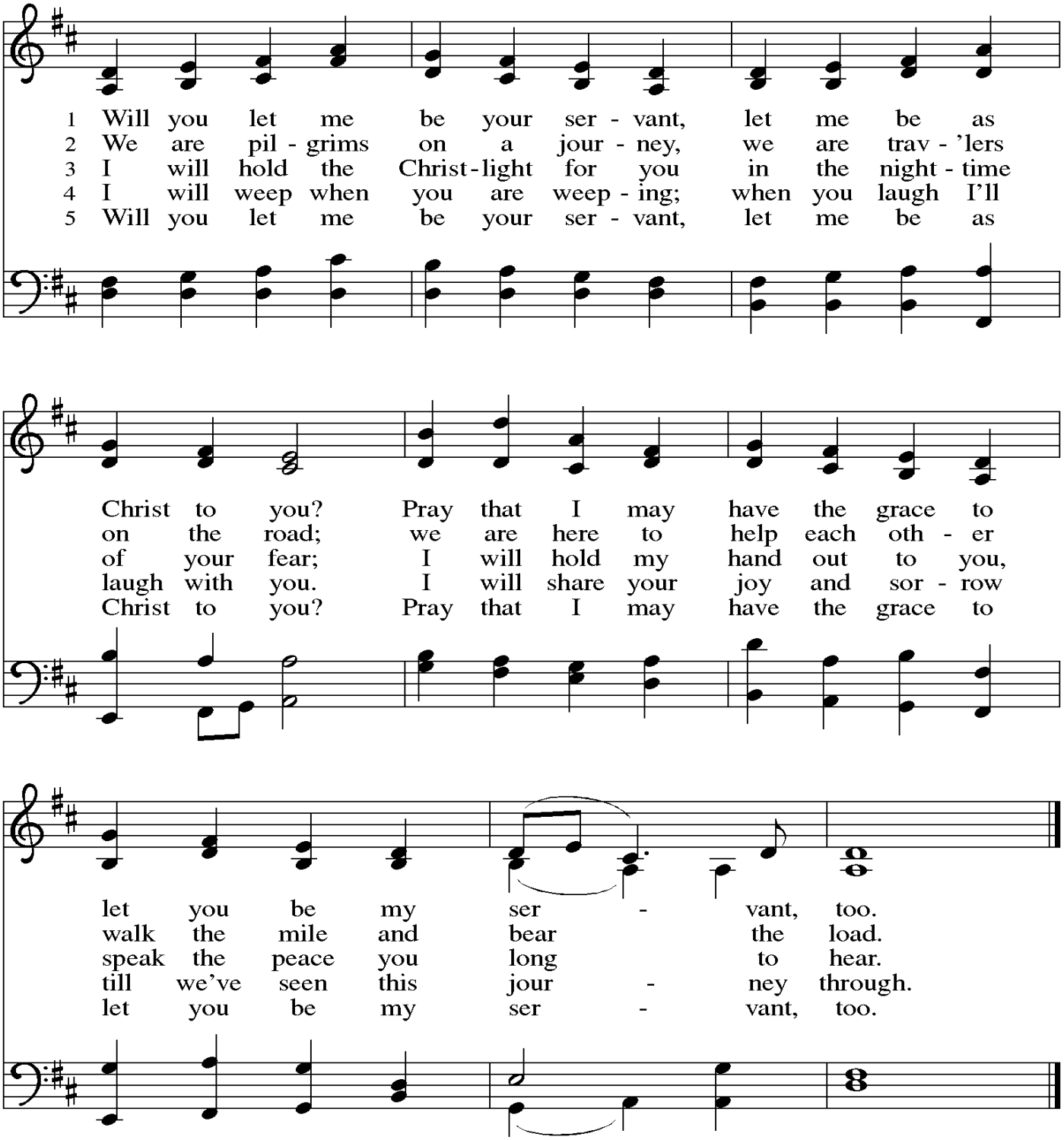
As often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. All is ready, all are welcome, our Lord and Savior invites us to come.

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.

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant



Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953
Music: THE SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkingham, b. 1928
Text and music © 1977 Scripture In Song, c/o Integrity's Hosanna Music (ASCAP),
c/o Integrity Media, Inc., 1000 Cody Road, Mobile, AL 36695.

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"There is a Balm in Gilead" ELW 614

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Refrain

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged and think my work's in vain,
2 If you can - not preach like Pe - ter, if you can - not pray like Paul,
3 Don't ev - er be dis - cour - aged, for Je - sus is your friend;

Refrain

but then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
you can tell the love of Je - sus and say, "He died for all."
and if you lack for know1-edge, he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BALM IN GILEAD, African American spiritual

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

Compassionate God,

Through the gifts of bread and wine, our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

Amen.

Blessing/Benediction

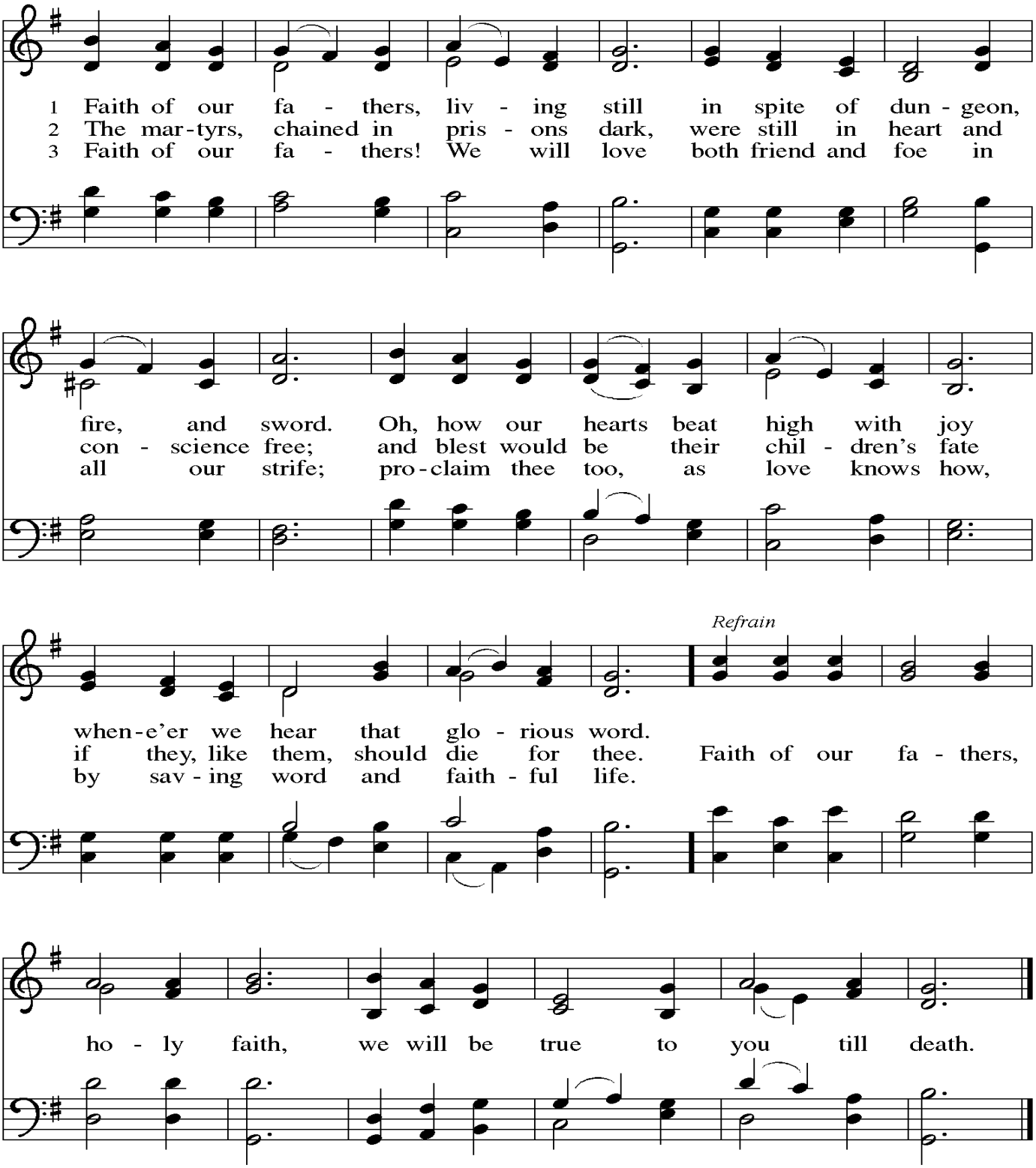
Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ☩ one God,
bless, heal, and hold you, today and always.

Amen

Sending Hymn ***"Faith of Our Fathers" ELW 812***

Please stand as you are comfortable

Faith of Our Fathers



Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.
Music: ST. CATHERINE, Henri F. Hemy, 1818–1888; James G. Walton, 1821–1905, refrain

Dismissal

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
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 August 24 to August 30, 2026

Wednesday	August 26, 2026	Mid-Week Service	5:30 p.m.
Thursday	August 27, 2026	Text Study	9:00 a.m.
Sunday	August 30, 2026	**Worship Service: "Singing Sermon"**	9:00 a.m.
Sunday	August 30, 2026	Choir Practice	10:30 a.m.

*** Music copied and used under our One License Arrangement***

Next Council Meeting: September 20, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.

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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augsburglutheranchurches .org

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thenalc.org