

Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

A Congregation of the Evangelical
Lutheran Church in America

2903 State Hwy. 155, Sayner, WI 54560 715-542-3701

Website: www.shepherdofthelakeschurch.org

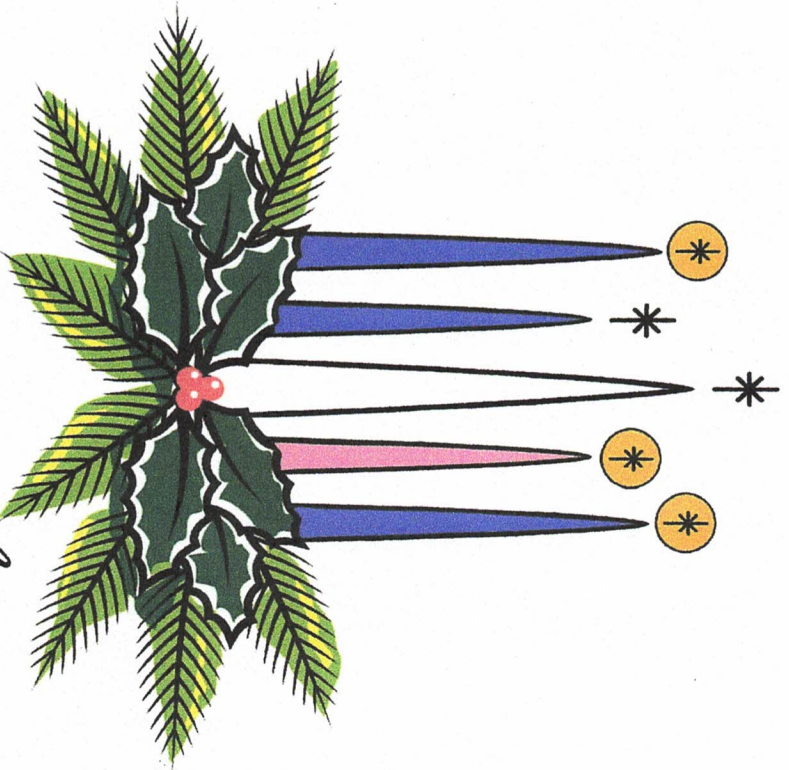
MINISTERS: **THE PEOPLE OF THE PARISH**
LLM: William Wendorf 715-617-6477
Council President: Sharon Geist 715-892-7486

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Church Services are held on Sundays at 9:00 am.
Services will be recorded and available for viewing on
YouTube later on Sundays.

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



3rd SUNDAY OF *Advent*

December 13, 2020

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.

Pastor's Discretionary Holiday Fund:

We are once again taking donations for the holiday gift card and supporting organizations donations. Please note either on your envelope or in the memo section on your check Pastor's Holiday Fund.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service:

The Christmas Eve service has been scheduled for 4:00 pm on December 24, 2020.

South Entrance Addition:

Great progress has been made. The south entrance is now enclosed and work is continuing on the interior.

Mitten Tree:

The Mitten Tree is nearly empty! Thank you, thank you to all! The last day to put your Walmart gift cards into the box is next Sunday, December 20th.

Current Week Hymn Numbers:

Christ, Be Our Light EL W 715 Verses 1, 4, 5
Hark! A Thrilling Voice EL W 246 Verses 1 – 3
People, Look East EL W248 Verses 1, 3, 4

Current Week Readings:

First Reading: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11
Psalm 126
Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
Gospel Reading: John 1:6-8, 19-28

Recorded Services: All Sunday services at

Shepherd of the Lakes are recorded and put on
You Tube, later on Sunday.

Go to the Church website at
shepherdofthelakeschurch.org

and look for the  symbol. Click on this
symbol to take you to the Church's YouTube site.

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:

Continue to pray for those in the world affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Pray for our world leaders, church leaders, and Shepherd of the Lakes leaders so that they may help to meet the needs of those they serve as we move forward in these everchanging times.

Pray for those with ongoing health issues:

Larry & Joannie Stephenson, Arlene Dreyfus, Rich Kysiak, Julie Smith, Gus Tarre, Carolyn Brink, Elaine's son-in-law Rodney, Ramona Schaeffel, and Tom & Carol Miles.

Pray for those serving in the Armed Forces:

Jeff Hammer, Brian Kriek, Adam & Brittany Recob, Brooks Maines, Will Schmidt, Sgt. Keara Kangas, Alex Bauer, Jared Mann, Noah Storastli, and Zachary Raatz.

Pray for those in nursing homes or homebound:

Ramona Schaeffel, Mel & Barb Harvey, and Elisabeth Jacobsen.

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Please email Bill Wendorf at pastor@SOTLsayner.com or Jean Maines at secretary@SOTLsayner.com if you would like to be included on the prayer chain list. Prayer requests are sent out via email.

If anyone is interested in being the contact person for the prayer chain, please contact Bill Wendorf or Sharon Geist

Sunday, December 13, 2020

3rd Sunday of Advent

Give Witness and Rejoice

The third Sunday of Advent—also known as *Gaudete (rejoice)*—is one in which the church has rejoiced as the advent of the Messiah draws nearer. Whether or not you mark this Sunday with a pink candle on the wreath, the texts for the day echo this rejoicing, this “we’re almost there” excitement, in a multitude of ways. Isaiah couples images of a people restored with images of weddings and springtime and oak trees. The psalmist offers up images of a harvest festival, and Paul urges us to rejoice “always.”

John the Baptist, in his own way, calls for rejoicing by his acknowledgment that he is *not* what we are waiting for. John, like us, has a mission to bear witness, but when he says “I am not,” we hear a clear contrast to all the ways Jesus will identify himself with the Father: “I am the bread of life.” “I am the resurrection.” “I am the good shepherd.” All these things Jesus will be for God’s people, but John’s job is simply to bear witness to the light.

How do we bear witness, while still waiting? Or can joy in the midst of waiting be that very witness? In Advent we are not called to act as though we do not know how this story ends, as though Jesus’ birth and life, death and resurrection,

are still before us. But we *do* know that sense of longing for God’s salvation to be fulfilled, and the temptation to imagine that we have to save ourselves, instead of waiting for God’s purposes to be worked out in God’s time. John reminds us that there can be joy in taking our proper place, pointing to Jesus without needing to *be* Jesus.

Readings for December 20, 2020

First Reading: 2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16
In Place of Psalm: Luke 1:46b-55
Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27
Gospel: Luke 1:26-38