



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

June 28, 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  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 July 5, 2026 Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

First Reading	Zechariah 9:9-12
Psalm	145: 8-14
Second Reading	Romans 7: 15-25a
Holy Gospel	Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30

When a Yoke Means Freedom

Today's gospel reading contains iconic words from Jesus: "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light" (Matt. 11:28-30). Jesus offers a yoke to tired listeners and tells them that a yoke will give them rest. The yoke as a means to rest was a strange idea for the disciples, and it ought to sound strange to us as well. The early hearers of this biblical passage would have known a yoke to be a means of engaging the energy of oxen as heavy lifters in the enterprise of farming. Yokes are still employed in our world, and they are still a burden and a way of harnessing animals' hard work. The first ancient readers or hearers of Matthew also viewed a yoke as a symbol of obedience to God's law and wisdom. Generally, our instinct is to resist yokes and laws, or at least not immediately connect them with the idea of freedom. Through the image of the yoke, however, Jesus invites us to think of God's law and wisdom as a means to surrender, give way, and accept something graceful and positive—rest, ease, lightness. Jesus reframes the idea of a yoke by telling us that a yoke will help us grow as disciples. The gospel links humility to freedom.

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.

Please welcome Pastor Rich Little as our leader for today's service.

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!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Community Picnic to be held on August 1. If you would be interested in helping, please contact Barb Steinhilber “..... ***we need lots of helpers!***”

Fourth of July Popcorn Fundraiser – It's almost time for the Popcorn Event on the 4th of July. We are once again popping corn for the fireworks (not the parade). Jean Maines is in charge of this event. There are signup sheets on the table in the Narthex for soda donations and for volunteering to help with setting up, popping/serving, and cleaning up. Please try to have your soda donations to the church by Monday, July 1st so that it can be cooled before being put on ice. For those of you who have not participated in this event, please come and join the fun!



PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for those dealing with current issues:

Dick, Alyce, Teresa, Holli, Beth, Tracey, Bonnie, Marsha, Jessica, Deb, Tom, Lloyd, Kendy, Jim C., Sharon B., Ken B., Sue L., and Gordon S.

(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, Ron, 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:

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 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.



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

ATTENDANCE ON
Wednesday, June 17: 4
Sunday, June 21: 42

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 be starting 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!



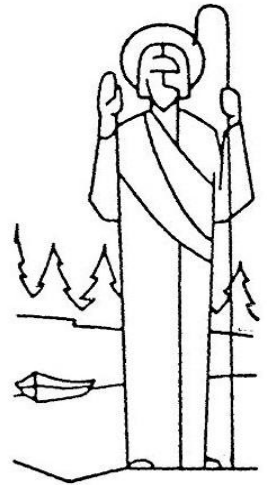
Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

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Fifth Sunday After Pentecost, June 28, 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.

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

Gathering Song

"All Are Welcome" ELW 641

(Please stand as you are comfortable)

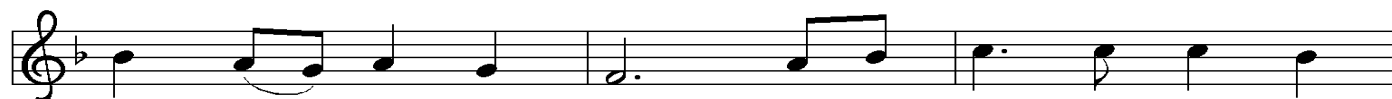
All Are Welcome



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and
4 Let us build a house where hands will reach be - yond the wood and
5 Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and vi - sions



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where
stone to heal and strength - en, serve and teach, and
heard and loved and trea - sured, taught and claimed as



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through
live the Word they've known. Here the out - cast and the
words with - in the Word. Built of tears and cries and



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in
strang - er bear the im - age of God's face; let us bring an
laugh - ter, prayers of faith and songs of grace, let this house pro -



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
claim the faith of Je - sus:
Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
end to fear and dan - ger:
claim from floor to raf - ter:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950

Music: TWO OAKS, 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)

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray....

Teach us, good Lord God,

To serve you as you deserve, to give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds, to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward, except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading

Jeremiah 28: 5-9

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

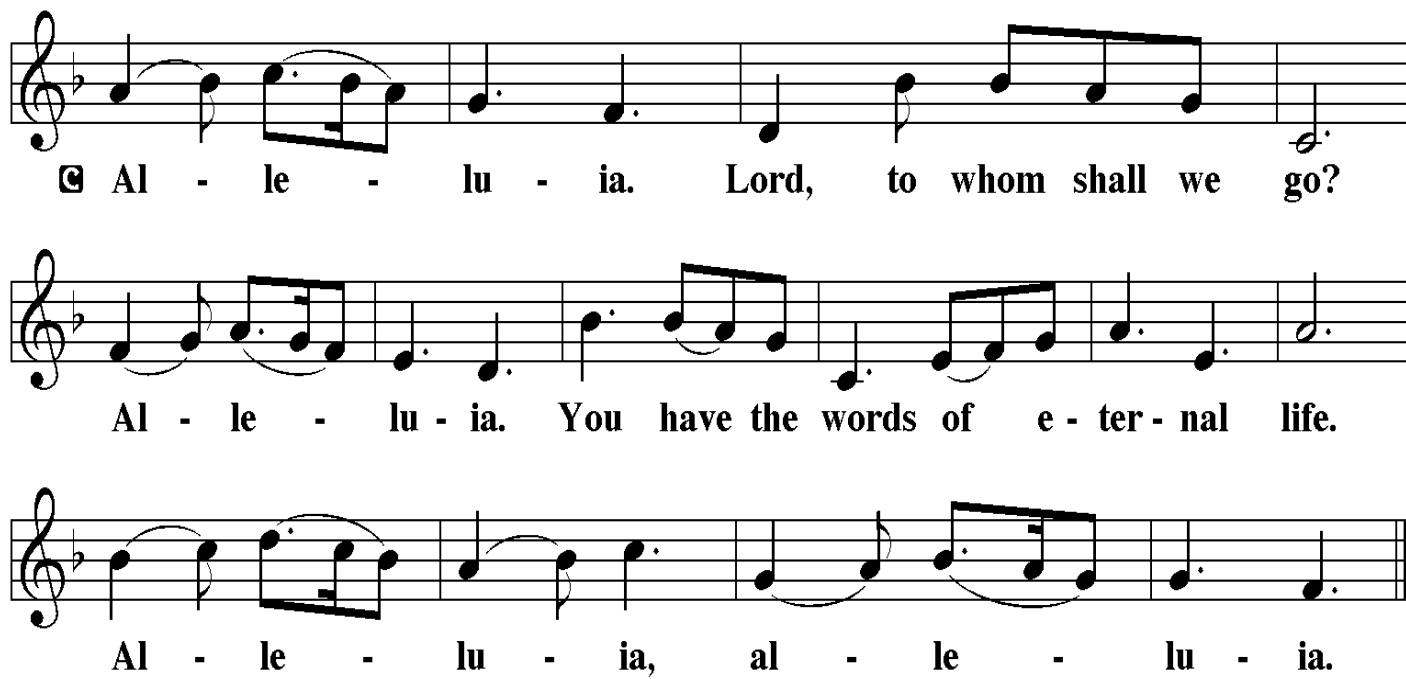
Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

- ¹ Your love, O Lord, forever will I sing;
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.
- ² **For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever;
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.**
- ³ “I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:
- ⁴ **‘I will establish your line forever,
and preserve your throne for all generations.’ ”**
- ¹⁵ Happy are the people who know the festal shout!
They walk, O Lord, in the light of your presence.
- ¹⁶ **They rejoice daily in your name;
they are jubilant in your righteousness.**
- ¹⁷ For you are the glory of their strength,
and by your favor our might is exalted.
- ¹⁸ **Truly, our shield belongs to the Lord;
our king to the Holy One of Israel.**

Second Reading Romans 6: 12-23

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 10: 40-42

The Gospel of the Lord....

Glory to you, O Christ.

(Please be Seated)

Sermon

Pastor Little

Hymn of the Day

“Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak” ELW 676

(Please stand as you are comfortable)

Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak

1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in
2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the
3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the
4 Oh, fill us with your full - ness, Lord, un -

liv - ing ech - oes of your tone; as you have sought, so
wan-d'ring and the wa - v'ring feet; oh, feed us, Lord, that
pre - cious truths which you im - part; and wing our words, that
til our ver - y hearts o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and

let us seek your stray - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.
we may feed your hun - g'ring ones with man - na sweet.
they may reach the hid - den depths of man - y a heart.
glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
Music: CANONBURY, Robert Schumann, 1810–1856

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.**

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)

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.

Communion Hymns

"Will You Let Me Be Your Servant" ELW 659

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

1 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as
2 We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, we are trav - 'lers
3 I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night - time
4 I will weep when you are weep - ing; when you laugh I'll
5 Will you let me be your ser - vant, let me be as

Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to
on the road; we are here to help each oth - er
of your fear; I will hold my hand out to you,
laugh with you. I will share your joy and sor - row
Christ to you? Pray that I may have the grace to

let you be my ser - vant, too.
walk the mile and bear the load.
speak the peace you long to hear.
till we've seen this jour - ney through.
let you be my ser - vant, too.

Text: Richard Gillard, b. 1953

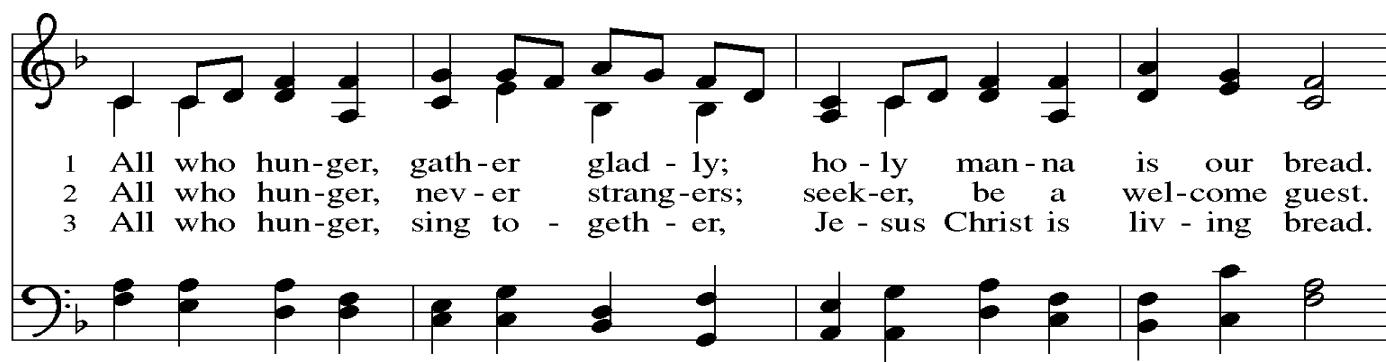
Music: THE SERVANT SONG, Richard Gillard; arr. Betty Pulkingham, b. 1928

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"All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly" ELW 461
All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly



1 All who hun-ger, gath-er glad - ly; ho - ly man - na is our bread.
 2 All who hun-ger, nev - er strang-ers; seek-er, be a wel-come guest.
 3 All who hun-ger, sing to - geth - er, Je - sus Christ is liv - ing bread.



Come from wil-der - ness and wan - d'ring. Here in truth we will be fed.
 Come from rest-less - ness and roam-ing. Here in joy we keep the feast.
 Come from lone - li - ness and long - ing. Here in peace we have been fed.



You that yearn for days of full-ness, all a - round us is our food.
 We that once were lost and scat-tered in com - mu - nion's love have stood.
 Blest are those who from this ta - ble live their days in grat-i - tude.



Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.
 Taste and see the grace e - ter - nal. Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825; arr. hymnal version

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“Let Us Break Bread Together” ELW 471

Let Us Break Bread Together

1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;

The first system of the song features three vocal parts (1, 2, and 3) and a piano accompaniment. The melody is in B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: 1 Let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees; 2 Let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees; 3 Let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees;.

let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: let us break bread to - geth - er on our knees. let us drink wine to - geth - er on our knees. let us praise God to - geth - er on our knees.

Refrain

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing

The third system is the beginning of the refrain. The lyrics are: When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing.

sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

The fourth system concludes the refrain. The lyrics are: sun, O Lord, have mer - cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, 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

“Just As I Am, Without One Plea” ELW 592

Please stand as you are comfortable

Just As I Am, without One Plea

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of music. The first system contains four verses of lyrics. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system concludes with the phrase 'O Lamb of God, I come, I come.' The music features various chordal textures and melodic lines, with some parts marked with repeat signs and first/second endings. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves.

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea, but that thy blood was
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a con - flict,
3 Just as I am, thou wilt re - ceive, wilt wel - come, par - don,
4 Just as I am; thy love un - known has bro - ken ev - 'ry

shed for me, and that thou bidd'st me come to thee,
man - y a doubt, fight - ings and fears with - in, with - out,
cleanse, re - lieve; be - cause thy prom - ise I be - lieve,
bar - rier down; now to be thine, yea, thine a - lone,

O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789–1871

Music: WOODWORTH, William B. Bradbury, 1816–1868

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 June 29 to July 5, 2026

Wednesday	July 1, 2026	Mid-Week Service	5:30 p.m.
Thursday	July 2, 2026	Text Study	9:00 a.m.
Saturday	July 4, 2026	Free Popcorn at Fireworks	
Sunday	July 5, 2026	Worship Service	9:00 a.m.
Sunday	July 5, 2026	Choir Practice	10:30 a.m.

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

Next Council Meeting:

Today, June 28, 2026 10:30 a.m.

Upcoming Events:

Popcorn - evening of July 4th

Summer Community Picnic – Saturday, Aug. 1, 2026 11 am – 2 pm

*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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(ALC)**
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