



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

July 12, 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 19, 2026 Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

First Reading	Isaiah 44: 6-8
Psalm	86: 11-17
Second Reading	Romans 8: 12-25
Holy Gospel	Matthew 13: 24-30, 36-43

Judgment and Mercy

Matthew's gospel knows little compromise: sheep or goats, wheat or weeds, good or evil. Finding the good news of God's love for all people, for all creation, can be a challenge in this book. Today's gospel is no exception. Jesus interprets a parable for the disciples; he announces that all evildoers will be thrown into the furnace of fire, while the righteous will shine like the sun. The "Son of Man" will judge the world. Matthew's phrase "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to . . ." occurs here for the first time in this gospel (Matt. 13:24). Jesus' parable is a genuine metaphor—it is best viewed as a whole with no point-by-point comparison. The kingdom of believers has the same potential as those of the world to do good and to do evil. Jesus' allegorical interpretation encourages believers to strive for righteousness and emphasizes God as judge.

However, in his letter to the church at Rome, Paul focuses on God as merciful judge. He proclaims that all creation will be freed from decay and receive redemption. Paul reminds us that our hope lies with God, our parent through a spirit of adoption. This dichotomous picture of God as judge and giver of mercy began with last Sunday's texts and evidences itself in readings from Romans and Matthew across the next four Sundays. In some cases the God of mercy is highlighted in Paul's letter, at other times in the gospel. This good news, however, is always present!

The exercise of judgment and mercy reflects God's emphasis on justice over fairness. A fair God condemns those who do evil. A just God moves beyond fairness to justice, peace, and reconciliation. As evil-doers, sinners, one and all, we are grateful for God's justice towards us and all people.

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.

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!

COMMUNITY PICNIC

This community outreach event is to be held on Saturday, August 1. Please consider helping with this event! It takes many people, both with contributing dishes and pies and also for helping the day of the picnic. We'd love to see you there! Contact Barb Steinhilber for more information.

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



PRAYER REQUESTS

Pray for those dealing with current issues:

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

(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, 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:

Family of Alyce (Behn) Bailey

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
Wednesday, July 1: 6
Sunday, July 5: 41

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!



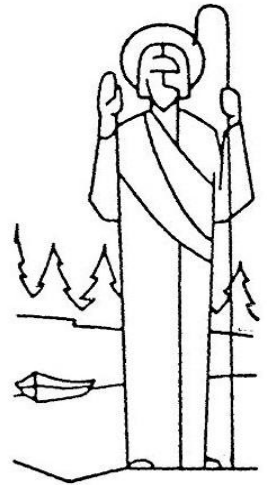
Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church

A Member Congregation of The North American Lutheran Church (NALC)
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Seventh Sunday After Pentecost, July 12, 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

“Praise & Thanksgiving” ELW 689

(Please stand as you are comfortable)

Praise and Thanksgiving

1 Praise and thanks-giv-ing, God, we would of-fer for all things
2 God, bless the la-bor we bring to serve you, that with our
3 Fa-ther, pro-vid-ing food for your chil-dren, by Wis-dom's
4 Then will your bless-ing reach ev-ry peo-ple, free-ly con-

liv-ing, you have made good: har-vest of sown fields, fruits of the
neigh-bor we may be fed. Sow-ing or till-ing, we would work
guid-ing teach us to share one with an-oth-er, so that, re-
fess-ing your gra-cious hand. Where you are reign-ing, no one will

or-chard, hay from the mown fields, blos-som and wood.
with you, har-vest-ing, mill-ing for dai-ly bread.
joic-ing with us, all oth-ers may know your care.
hun-ger; your love sus-tain-ing show-ers the land.

Text: Albert F. Bayly, 1901–1984, alt.

Music: BUNESSAN, Gaelic tune; arr. hymnal version

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Arr. © 2006 Augsburg Fortress.

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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....

Almighty God,

We thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading

Isaiah 55: 10-13

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 65: [1-8] 9-13

[¹ You are to be praised, O God, in Zion;
to you shall vows be fulfilled.

² To you, the one who answers prayer, to you all flesh shall come.

³ Our sins are stronger than we are, but you blot out our transgressions.

⁴ Happy are they whom you choose and draw to your courts to dwell there! They will be satisfied by the beauty of your house, by the holiness of your temple.

⁵ Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness, O God of our salvation, O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the oceans far away.

**⁶ You make firm the mountains by your power;
you are girded about with might.**

⁷ You still the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.

⁸ Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your marvelous signs; you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.]

⁹ You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is full of water.

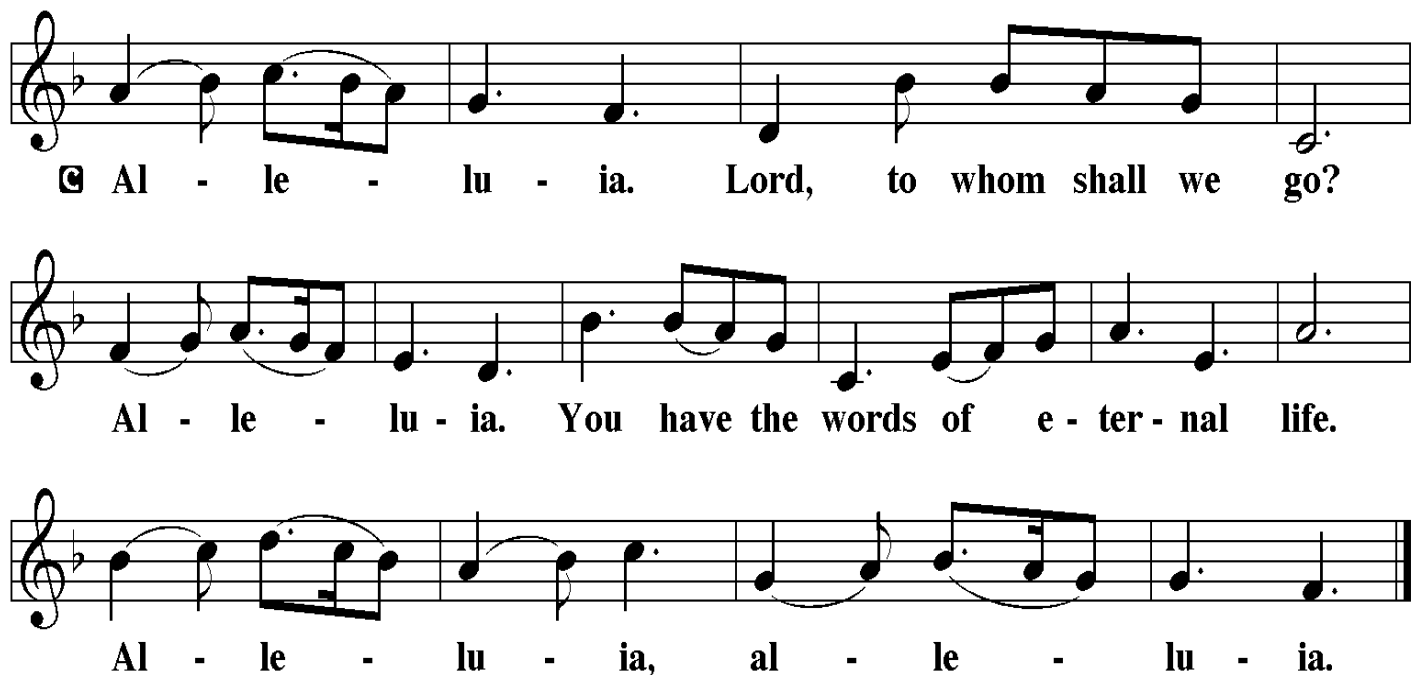
You prepare the grain, for so you provide for the earth.

**¹⁰ You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.**

Second Reading Romans 8: 1-11

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation *(Please stand as you are comfortable)*



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

Al - le - lu - ia. You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Holy Gospel According to....
Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Reading Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

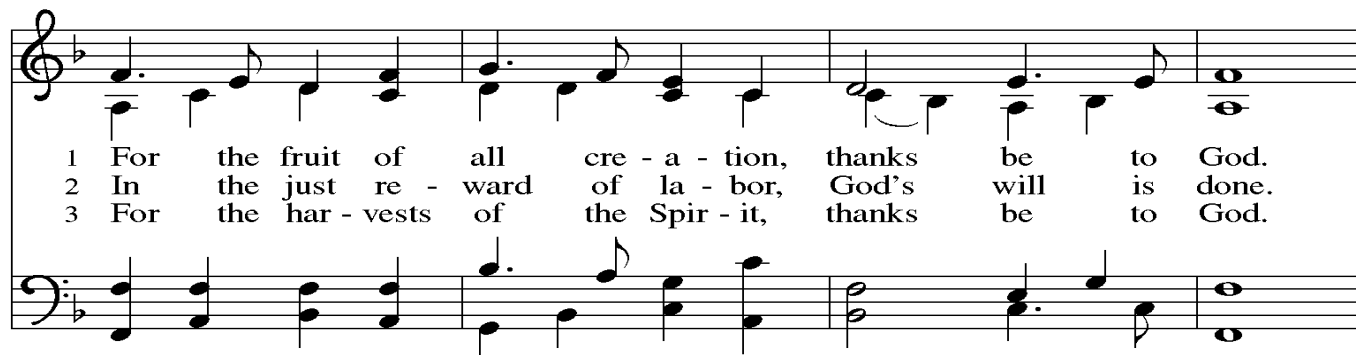
The Gospel of the Lord....
Glory to you, O Christ.

(Please be Seated)

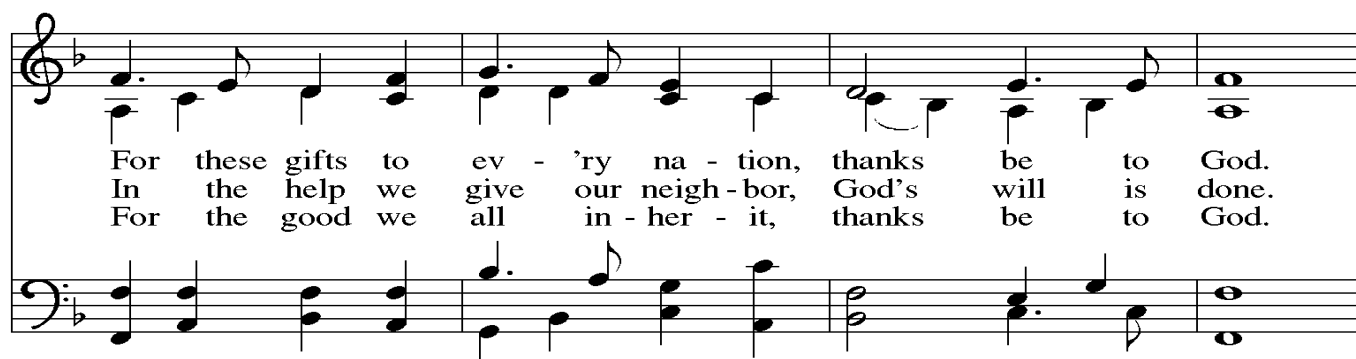
Sermon

(Please stand as you are comfortable)

For the Fruit of All Creation



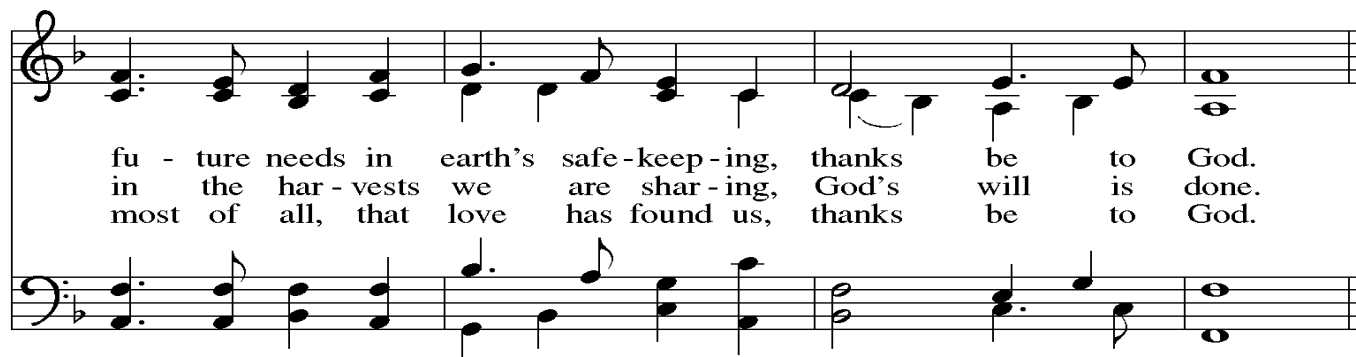
1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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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

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

(Service of Distribution)

(These elements have been consecrated by Pastor Rich Little)

As we gather before these **consecrated** elements of bread and wine for the celebration of Holy Communion, we hear again the story of God's mighty acts and of the love shown us in the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. With thanksgiving we remembered that "in the night in which he was betrayed, he 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."

We are given assurance of our Lord's presence through the gift of his Holy Spirit. As we prepare to receive this bread of life and this cup of blessing, we pray that we may be strengthened through our participation in the body of Christ.

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)

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

"I Love to Tell the Story" ELW 661

I Love to Tell the Story

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry: how pleas - ant to re - peat
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet!
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else would do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
 I'll sing the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; 'twill be my theme in glo - ry

to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

"Christ, Be Our Light" ELW 715
Christ, Be Our Light



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
 2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
 3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
 4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
 5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
 hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
 wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
 warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
 hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
 has pow'r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
 bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
 shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
 to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Refrain
 Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

Text: Bernadette Farrell, b. 1957

Music: CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT, Bernadette Farrell

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“What Feast of Love” ELW 487

What Feast of Love



- 1 What feast of love is of - fered here, what ban-quet come from heav - en?
- 2 What light of truth is of - fered here, what cov - e - nant from heav - en?
- 3 What wine of love is of - fered here, what crim-son drink from heav - en?



What food of ev - er - last-ing life, what gra - cious gift is giv - en?
What hope of ev - er - last-ing life, what won-drous word is giv - en?
What stream of ev - er - last-ing life, what pre - cious blood is giv - en?



This, this is Christ the king, the bread come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sun come down from heav - en.
This, this is Christ the king, the sweet-est wine of heav - en.



Oh, taste and see and sing! How sweet the man - na giv - en!
Oh, see and hear and sing! The Word of God is giv - en!
Oh, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is giv - en!

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

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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

“Sent Forth By God’s Blessing” ELW 547
Please stand as you are comfortable

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con-fess-ing,
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing to God ev-er-liv-ing,

the peo-ple of our God from this dwell-ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face—

The sup-per is end-ed. Oh, now be-ex-tend-ed
our faith ev-er shar-ing, in love ev-er car-ing,

the fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
em-brac-ing God's chil-dren, the whole hu-man race.

The seed of Christ's teach-ing, re-cep-tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now

reach-ing, shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
lead us; u-nite us as one in this life that we share.

Your grace shall in-cite us, your love shall u-nite us
Then may all the liv-ing with praise and thanks-giv-ing

to work for your king-dom and an-swer your call.
give hon-or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Text: Omer Westendorf, 1916–1997, alt.
Music: THE ASH GROVE, Welsh folk tune
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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 July 13 to July 19, 2026

Wednesday	July 15, 2026	Quilting	9:00 a.m.
Wednesday	July 15, 2026	Mid-Week Service	5:30 p.m.
Thursday	July 16, 2026	Text Study	9:00 a.m.
Saturday	July 18, 2026	Private - Family Reunion	3 – 8 pm
Sunday	July 19, 2026	Worship Service & Brunch	9:00 a.m.
Sunday	July 19, 2026	Choir Practice	10:30 a.m.

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Next Council Meeting:

July 26, 2026 10:30 a.m.

Upcoming Events:

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



**Augsburg Lutheran Churches
(ALC)**
augsburglutheranchurches.org



**North American Lutheran Church
(NALC)**
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