

“How can I serve Jesus today?”



Matthew 25:40

November 26, 2023

Shepherd of the Pines Lutheran Church

1950 125th Street NW

Rice, MN 56367

Pastor Dave Strohschein

Office Phone: 320-393-4295

E-mail: office@sotpministries.com

Church Website: sotpministries.com

Welcome to Shepherd of the Pines!

About Our Worship Service

We're glad that you're here. Our order of service is in this bulletin and the lyrics to the songs will be on the screen. Our service is semi-casual and easy to follow along.

What About My Kids?

We encourage children to sit with their parents in the church service since the parents model worship and faith to their children (Deuteronomy 6:7). However, small children can get a little restless, so we have a nursery that is in the back of the Fellowship Hall. Ask an usher or greeter to help you find the nursery and they will gladly show you around.

Do I Have to Give an Offering?

If you're visiting with us, we don't want you to feel obligated. We are glad that you are here. You are welcome to give financially if you wish.

Can I Take Communion?

Along with the historic church, our church teaches that not only is bread and wine present in communion, but also it is the true body and blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins (Matthew 26:26-28; 1 Corinthians 10:16; 11:29).

If you believe that communion is the true body and blood of Christ and you are repentant of your sins, we welcome you to our table.

Thank you for visiting with us. Please sign our guest book. You are welcome to take a visitor guide also.

November 26, 2023

Today is First Communion Sunday

9am Worship Service

10am Fellowship

No Sunday School

10:30 Bible Study

Lyric Videos, Musician

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Announcements

Opening Song "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Invocation (Taken from Psalm 95)

Pastor: "Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord;

Congregation: Let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Pastor: Let us come before Him with thanksgiving and extol Him with music and song.

Congregation: Come, let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord our Maker, for He is our God and we are the people of His pasture, the flock under His care."

Confession and Forgiveness

(Based on Hebrews 4:12-13)

Pastor: We come before our holy God with all honesty, confessing our sin and seeking forgiveness in the name of Christ, our Lord. To that end, we speak these words from Hebrews 4:12-13. "For the Word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing the soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart."

Congregation: Nothing in all creation is hidden from God's sight. Everything is uncovered and laid bare before the eyes of Him to whom we must give account." Gracious God, my sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide and too deep to undo. Your Word of truth convicts me. I have gone my own way instead of walking in Your ways. For the sake of Jesus' innocent suffering and death, I ask Your forgiveness. Set me free from a past I cannot change; open me to a future in which I grow in Your grace through Jesus Christ my Lord. Amen.

Pastor: These are also words from Hebrews 4. "For we do not have a high priest, who is unable to sympathized with our weaknesses, but we have one who has been tempted in every way, just as we are – yet was without sin." Jesus then laid down His perfect life on the cross, that we "may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need." (Hebrews 4:15-16). This then is true. In and through Jesus you are forgiven of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation: Amen.

Prayer of the Day and Lighting of Advent Candle

Pastor: God of hope and promise,

Congregation: Be with us throughout this Advent season and draw us ever closer as we journey together toward the stable and the birth of Your Son, our Savior. Amen.

Children's Message

Scripture Readings

Old Testament – Psalm 95:1-7 (Page 591)

Epistle – 1 Corinthians 15:20-28 (Page 1139)

Gospel – Matthew 25:31-46 (Page 984)

Sermon

Pastor Dave Strohschein

“How can I serve Jesus today?”

Matthew 25:40

Notes:

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and Apostolic Church, I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offering Announcement

Offering Song

“Build My Life”

Prayer (Family this week: Joni Hoeft

Children: Kiaya, Lexi, & Rylie)

The 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

The Words of our Lord

Those Receiving First Communion Today

Isabelle Lindeman

Holy Communion

(Grape juice is available for those who prefer not to take wine. Gluten free wafers are also available)

Communion Songs

“Good, Good Father & O Come to the Altar”

Communion Dismissal

The Benediction

Closing Song

“Blessed Assurance”

Next Week’s Readings: Isaiah 64:1-9
 1 Corinthians 1:3-9
 Mark 13:24-37



We are glad to have you with us today!
Please sign our guest book, and join us
for fellowship after Service.

Online Giving



Available Now, Go to SOTP website:
sotpministries.com or call the office at 320-393-4295
for help setting this up.



Congratulations to First Communion Class of 2023

May the Holy Spirit continually pour His love, comfort, and guidance into the lives of those who are taking Communion for the first time.

Annalyse Dubbin Brayden Dubbin Joselynn Dubbin
Cecilia Kiraly Isabelle Lindeman Ella Salzburn
Skylar Sauer Peter Seppelt

Galatians 5:22-23 ²²But the fruit **of the Spirit** is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Keep Eyes open for upcoming events!

- Sunday Bible Study from 10:30-11am
 - Quilters meet Tuesday 9am and Thursday 9am
 - Wednesday morning Bible study 9:30am
 - Al-Anon meets Tuesday at 6pm & AA meets Thursday at 7pm
 - Special Voters meeting December 10th
-

We will have a voting congregational meeting on December 10th after church at 10:20.

Pastor Russell Kampfer

Mosinee WI

Go to St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church Wausau WI Facebook page to review some Pastor Sermon notes

We will have an introduction meeting on **Tuesday, December 5th at 6:30**. We encourage you to check out the information on Pastor Kampfer, and prayerfully consider how he might fit into God's plan for our church.

If you want to see the PIFs and SETs please contact Julie in the office to set up a time to look at them. These items cannot leave SOTP.

Call Committee Members

Scott Manea 320-267-5409

Lloyd Walburn 763-458-1236

Janet Maleska 320-249-4467

Jeff Ramey 320-260-5869

Colleen Woods 320-685-4389

Peg Herman 320-267-1863

Bruce Resch 320-360-4562

John Alstrup 612-839-9490

Julie Kiraly 320-223-0880

*If you have any questions for Pastor Dave Strohschein, this is his contact information as well. 320-241-5806

Shepherd of the Pines Mission Statement: Connecting People to God...To Others...and To Service

The purpose of this congregation is mandated for us by our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, as found in the words of the Great Commission (Matthew 28), namely first of all to Go; to leave our walls of refuge, going into all the world, comprised of our families and neighbors. We plan to achieve our purpose by identifying persons with whom we are particularly well-equipped to serve and reach with the challenge of becoming Disciples of Christ.

Second, to Make Disciples or in the words of St Paul, "To equip the saints" (Ephesians 4:12). This is to be understood as helping people to live the Christian life here on earth, preparing and encouraging young and old alike to find and to use their God given gifts and abilities for the extension of His Kingdom, and to grow in fervent love for God and for others.

Third, to Baptize as commanded by Jesus Himself. As God reaches down to mankind with His means of grace, He would have us baptize His people, bringing them into His family and Kingdom, granting them life, forgiveness of sins, and eternal salvation.

And lastly, to continue steadfast in His Word, Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you. A continued zeal for the study of His Word, the Bible, is necessary for the growth of any Christian congregation. Thus, the Word of God will be taught and studied in full measure and His Word shall be the rule and norm of this congregation's faith and life.

To that end, our every effort and energy will be used in motivating, training, and putting to use our time, and talents and treasures to Make Disciples.

Board of Lay Ministry/Elders

Kyle Hackett, Pres.	266-1700	Joan Ramey	217-4431
David Perleberg V.P.	360-5147	Colleen Woods	685-4389
Bev Gerads Secretary	761-1894	Deb Erdmann	249-4804
Ron McKeever Treas.	492-5043	Paul Tschida	360-5241

Keith Peterson - Church Properties

Executive Ministry Team

Jami Kreifels - Activity Team Leader

Brenda Hackett - Education & Colleen Woods Small Group Leader

Keith Hackett - Worship Team Leader

November Altar Guild: Julie Clasen, Charyl Walberg, & Brenda Pressnall

November Counters: Barb McKeever & Juli Popp



Shepherd of the Pines

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Worship Shepherd has a clipboard for prayer requests. You will find the clipboard in the narthex before you enter the church sanctuary. Prayer requests are important, and we encourage you to get your requests on the prayer list so they can be included in the worship prayer time.



Please keep our baptized children in your prayers...

Child's Name

Bryce Nathan Leyk
Maverick Lee Wolff
Coen Maxwell Line
Cal Nicholas Cervenka
Barrett James Eggert
Amelia Rose Wentland
Joel Richard Page IV
Rosalynn Grace Hall
Barrett Charles Cole

Date of Baptism

December 18, 2022
January 8, 2023
January 8, 2023
January 29, 2023
February 5, 2023
February 26, 2023
May 14, 2023
May 21, 2023
October 8, 2023

SOTP Drop Site for Toys for Tots



Please consider a donation! All toys and monetary donations will stay in the St. Cloud area. If you have any questions please call the United Way at 800-543-7709. Please have donations here by December 7th!

SOTP will be the Church of the Month for Terebinth Refuge

Check out the table in the narthex for items in need, which include:

- Gift Cards to Walmart or Kwik Trip in amounts of \$10 or \$20
- Grocery Gift Certificates or cards in amounts of \$10 or \$20
- Toilet Paper
- Napkins
- Desk Lamps
- Radio Alarm Clocks
- 2024-2025 Day/Monthly planners
- Cute 3 ring binders
- Picture Frames 5x7 or 8x10

Items can be brought to the church office all month long. We will also have a Noisy offering on November 19th for Terebinth Refuge.



UPDATE TO FELLOWSHIP!!

Here is the schedule for fellowship. We ask that if you can't serve the Sunday that you are scheduled, please find someone to switch with. Each group is to bring in treats, serve, and clean

up. Thank You!

November 26th K. Kirchner, R. Brutcher, P. Tschida, G. Hendrickson

December 3rd Ke. Hackett, Ky. Hackett, J. Hackett, T. Hackett

December 10th R. McKeever, J. Nelson, L. Popp

December 17th P. Dahl, S. Wood, B. Novitzki

December 24th No Fellowship

December 31st Volunteers Needed

Holiday Worship Schedule

Advent Services –

December 6th, 13th, & 20th 6:30pm

Children's Sunday Service- December 17th

Christmas Eve Services with Holy Communion –

December 24th 9am and

Candlelight Service at 3:00pm and 5:00pm



ADVENT: A Time for Prayer

Advent services will begin on Wednesday, December 6th . We will also have a service on December 13th and 20th with each service beginning at 6:30 p.m. Our theme this year will focus on prayer as prayer is a great way to prepare for the celebration of our Savior's birth.

December 6 th – Praying when you feel overwhelmed

December 13 th – Praying for God's timing

December 20 th – Praying to walk faithfully

Supper will be served from 5pm to 6:15pm. The Service will be at 6:30pm.

December 6th Youth Group

December 13th Quilters

December 20th Event Team

This Week at Shepherd of the Pines

Sunday, November 26th (Music-Lyric Videos)

First Communion Sunday

8:00 AM	Prayer Time
9:00 AM	Worship with Holy Communion
10:00 AM	Fellowship
10:20 AM	Sunday School
10:30 AM	Bible Study

Monday, November 27th

7:30 PM	Bible Study – in homes
---------	------------------------

Tuesday, November 28th

9:00 AM	Quilters
6:00 PM	Al-Anon Meeting

Wednesday, November 29th

9:30 AM	Bible Study
6:30 PM	Confirmation

Thursday, November 30th

9:00-Noon	Pastor Dave Strohschein in the office
9:00 AM	Quilters
7:00 PM	AA meeting

Sunday, December 3rd (Music-Heather)

8:00 AM	Prayer Time
9:00 AM	Worship
10:00 AM	Fellowship
10:20 AM	Sunday School
10:30 AM	Bible Study

SOTP Worship Team Serving, This Sunday
November 26th

9:00am Worship:

Greeters: Scott & Peg Manea
Projectionist: Denise Leahy
Reader: Wyatt Alstrup
Ushers: Keith & Kathy Craft

Worship Leader: Dennis Arntson

Worship Service Shepherd: Deb Erdman

Fellowship K. Kirchner, R. Brutcher, P. Tschida, G. Hendrickson

SOTP Worship Team Serving, Next Sunday
December 3rd

9:00am Worship:

Greeters: Tom & Jen Ollman
Projectionist: Julie Kiraly
Reader: Janet Maleska
Ushers: Keith & Brenda Hackett

Worship Leader: Brenda Hackett

Worship Service Shepherd: Ron McKeever

Fellowship Ke. Hackett, Ky. Hackett, J. Hackett, T. Hackett



We will be placing our order for Poinsettias to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. If you are interested in purchasing one, please fill out the information below.

We ask that you leave your plant(s) at church for all the Christmas services, and take home only the plant with your name tag.

1. Family Name

2. Phone #

Plant given In Memory of or In Honor of:



Please fill out the price sheet form on the back side with your plant purchase. Plants will be purchased from Buds to Blossoms.

Checks should be made out to: Shepherd of the Pines with Christmas flowers on the memo line. Payment is required with your order.

The deadline for ordering is December 10th . Thank you!
If you have any questions please call Joan Ramey at (320) 217-4431

Holiday Floral Order

Plant	Price	Quantity	Total \$
6" Red Poinsettia	\$16.00	_____	\$ _____
		Total \$	_____