

*Matthew 3:2*

"I was wrong...you were right."

December 4, 2022

**Shepherd of the Pines Lutheran Church**

**1950 125<sup>th</sup> Street NW**

**Rice, MN 56367**

**Pastor Dave Strohschein**

**Office Phone:** 320-393-4295

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**Church Website:** [sotpministries.com](http://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 located 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.

December 4, 2022

9am Worship Service

10am Fellowship

10:20 Sunday School

10:30 Bible Study

Heather, Musician

Welcome

Opening Prayer

Announcements

Opening Song

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Invocation

Pastor: "May the God of Hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in Him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:13)

**Congregation: Amen.**

Pastor: We begin our worship in the name of the God who gives us this hope which is nothing less than the certain promise not only to forgive our sins but also to bring us to heaven to forever live with Him there.

**Congregation: We worship in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor: A strong and central theme in this season of Advent is that of repentance. We will certainly hear that in today's Gospel lesson. We each need to take to heart the message of John the Baptist: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is near." (Matthew 3:2)

**Congregation: "Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love; according to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions. Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin. For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned and**

**done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are proved right when You speak and justified when You judge. Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. Hide Your face from my sins and blot out all my iniquity. Create in me a pure heart, O God, and renew a steadfast Spirit within me. Restore to me the joy of Your salvation and grant me a willing spirit to sustain me. (Psalm 51:1-5, 9,10, 12)**

Pastor: We turn now to the One John the Baptist pointed to...Jesus, the Christ. "Behold the Lamb of God Who takes away the sins of the world" (John 1:29). Jesus did that by living a perfect life in our stead and then dying on the cross to pay for our sins. "In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace." (Ephesians 1:7) You are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation: Amen!**

## Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Heavenly Father, we ask not only for Your encouragement but also that You would bless us with a spirit of unity as we seek to follow our Lord Jesus Christ.

**Congregation: We seek this so that with one heart and mouth we may glorify and bring praise to You as we witness to our community about our Savior, that others may believe and have eternal life in His name. Amen.**

## Children's Message

### Scripture Readings

Old Testament – Isaiah 11:1-10 (Page 686)

Epistle – Romans 15:4-13 (Page 1125)

Gospel – Matthew 3:1-12 (Page 957)

## Sermon Song

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Sermon  
Pastor Dave Strohschein  
"I was wrong...you were right."  
Matthew 3:2

Notes:

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### Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### Offering Announcement

Offering Song

"Emmanuel"

Prayers (Family this week: Don & Gail Diehl)

# 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.

## Benediction

## Closing Song

“Joy To The World”

Next Week's Readings:      Isaiah 35:1-10  
   James 5:7-11  
   Matthew 11:2-15



We are glad to have you with us today! Please sign our guest book. Fellowship will be after church service.

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## Online Giving

Available Now

Go to SOTP website:

[www.sotpministries.com/give](http://www.sotpministries.com/give)

or call the office at

320-393-4295 for help setting this up!



## Congratulations First Communion Class of 2022

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

Wyatt Alstrup  
Koriana Hackett  
Teegan Sauer

Brielle Elyea  
Awbrilynne Manea

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

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## Keep Eyes open for upcoming events!

- TODAY!!! December 4<sup>th</sup> Youth Group To Country Manor
  - Quilting Tuesday & Thursday
  - Bible Studies, Wednesday morning 9:30am
  - Confirmation, Wednesday at 6:00pm
  - Join us Wednesday for Advent Service @ 6:30pm with supper served before, from 5-6:15pm December 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, & 21<sup>st</sup>
  - Choir Practice 7pm after Advent Service
  - December 11<sup>th</sup> Noisy Offering for Giving Tree
  - December 16<sup>th</sup> Movie Night
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2023 God's Creation Calendars will be for sale this year and proceeds will be going to the VBS fund. Calendars cost only \$7 each and we have limited supplies. These calendars will make great Christmas gifts! Thank you for your support!

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## 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 a group to switch with. Each group is to bring in treats, serve, and clean up. Thank You!



**December 4<sup>th</sup> B. Jasmer & A. Ostendorf**

**December 11<sup>th</sup> J. Elliott, K. Maleska, K. Huhne/J.Popp**

**December 18<sup>th</sup> J. Amundson, M. Popp, B. Statz**

**December 25<sup>th</sup> No Fellowship**

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## Are you interested in Choir??

SOTP Choir will meet on Wednesdays after Advent service in the choir room. They will decide what day will work best for meeting once Advent is over. We invite anyone to join choir. Any questions please reach out to Heather Statz.

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# 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.

Thirdly, 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	393-3342
David Perleberg V.P.	360-5147	Colleen Woods	685-4389
Bev Gerads Secretary	761-1894	Deb Erdmann	249-4804
Ron McKeever Treas.	492-5043	Garry Loidolt	393-2097

Keith Peterson - Church Properties

## Executive Ministry Team

Open Position(s) - Service Team Leader

Brenda Hackett - Education & Colleen Woods Small Group Leader

Keith Hackett - Worship Team Leader

**November Altar Guild:** Roxanne Peterson, Juli Popp, & Joanny Ramey

**November Counters:** Ron McKeever & Wayne Anderson





# Shepherd of the Pines

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### 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 prayer requests on the prayer list so they can be included in the worship prayer time.

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Please keep our baptized children in your prayers...

#### Child's Name

Blakelyn Rose Gangl  
Mädchen Cate Smallfield  
Emily May Moulzolf  
Bridger Allen Dumonceaux  
Griffin Dale Maass

#### Date of Baptism

March 27, 2022  
April 3, 2022  
June 19, 2022  
July 24, 2022  
October 17, 2022

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There will be a Christmas Giving Tree in the month of December. There are several items on the tree that are needed for families in need in our community. Please consider choosing an item or making a monetary donation to the giving tree. Items need to be at SOTP church office by **December 19<sup>th</sup>**.



## December NOISY OFFERING!

We will be taking up our noisy offering on **Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**, for the **Giving Tree**. We are a week earlier this month in order to have time to pick up items that need to be purchased. Thank you for your support and your generous donations!

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## Open Position Event Team

We are looking for a group of people to be on the service team. This group would help plan and organize events at SOTP. Please speak to a board member if this is something that you would be interested in, or if you would like more information. Our next event will be Daddy/Daughter Dance in February.

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## AA at SOTP

AA will start meeting back at SOTP on Thursday, December 1<sup>st</sup> at 7PM. They will be meeting weekly. If you have any questions or would like more information, reach out to Dan Cairns. 320-293-9213

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## Advent Services: 6:30pm

### “From the Beginning: A Closer look at Infancy Narratives of Jesus”

### Holiday Worship Schedule

Advent Services –December 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, & 21<sup>st</sup> 6:30pm

Children’s Sunday Service- December 18<sup>th</sup> 9:00am

Christmas Eve Services – December 24<sup>th</sup> at 3:00pm and 5:00pm

Christmas Day Service - Sunday December 25<sup>th</sup> 9am

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Looking for a group/individuals to sign up for Advent Supper on December 21<sup>st</sup>. Supper will be served from 5pm to 6:15pm. Service will be at 6:30pm

December 7<sup>th</sup>

Quilter/Bible Study  
(Hotdish night)

December 14<sup>th</sup> Youth

December 21<sup>st</sup> OPEN

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### Advent Soup Supper

Join us November 30<sup>th</sup>, December 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, & 21<sup>st</sup> for Advent Soup Suppers.

Supper will be served from 5-6:15pm before 6:30 Advent Service.

Freewill Offering will be given to the ministry of the server’s choice.



## **Bible Studies have begun!**

### † **After service Sunday mornings**

A study of the Scriptures of the Day led by Pastor Dave Strohschein

### † **9:30 Wednesday mornings**

The Book of Matthew, led by Lois Perleberg - all are welcome!

"Mothers and Daughters of the Bible Speak" led by Marlene Popp

### † **7 pm Wednesday evenings**

"Get Out of Your Head" led by Emily Wunderlich

### † **ON OUR RADAR:**

Sunday mornings during Sunday School

A study for parents led by Michael Weinand



**I encourage everyone to join a Small Group** this winter! Whether it be connecting with two others to form a **Triad** to pray for each other, joining a **Bible Study**, starting a **Bible Study**, working on a **Mission project**, such as quilting, joining with others to serve a meal once a month at **Place of Hope**, gathering with others to **pray for children in public schools...**

**Talk to me about your ideas, interests, and concerns!**

320-685-4389 - Please leave a message if there is no answer.

Colleen Woods

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## **Youth Group News and information**

- Today December 4<sup>th</sup>, Country Manor - Assisted Living has invited the youth group to help put up Christmas decorations and get into the Christmas spirit with the residents.
- On Wednesday Dec 14<sup>th</sup>, the youth group will serve the Advent Soup Supper.



## Homework Hour

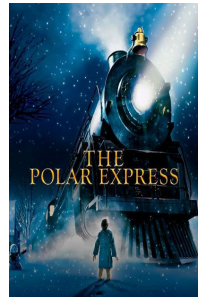
If you or your child is interested in a homework hour please reach out to the church office. This time will be for any student that has questions or needs help with their homework. We are looking at Wednesday from 5:30-6:30pm. We will have adults here to help you with questions or if you just want to study with another peer this is a great time and place to get that done. Currently we are going to do week by week if anyone is signed up.

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Movie Night @ SOTP! Join us on December 16<sup>th</sup> for dinner & double feature "The Star" & "The Polar Express". Registration will be required if you would like dinner. Come in Pjs, bring a blanket and snacks if you would like. Some snacks are available to share as well.

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## ALTAR GUILD TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED

We have openings for Altar Guild. This will introduce you to belonging to a group with minimal time commitment. We currently have 4 teams that each cover 3 months per year. We would like to have at least 4 individuals on each team. Please contact me, and we will go over what would be required....we are also responsible for decorating the church for all seasons which is really fun. See me at church or call me at 320 217 4431.

Joanny Ramey

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# This Week at Shepherd of the Pines

## **Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup> (Music- Heather Statz)**

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

## **Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup>**

7:30 PM Praise Team  
7:30 PM Bible Study – in homes

## **Tuesday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**

9:00 AM Quilters  
5:30 PM Quilters  
6:00 PM Al-Anon Meeting

## **Wednesday December 7<sup>th</sup>**

9:30 AM Bible Study: Book of Matthew  
9:30 AM Woman's Study: Mothers and Daughters  
5-6:15 PM Soup Supper  
6:00 PM Confirmation  
6:30 PM Advent Service

## **Thursday, December 8<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00 AM Pastor Dave in the Office**  
7:00 PM AA Meeting

## **Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup> (Music- Praise Team) NOISY OFFERING GIVING TREE**

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

SOTP Worship Team Serving, This Sunday  
December 4<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am Worship:**

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

**Worship Leader:** Brenda Hackett

**Worship Service Shepherd:** Garry Loidolt

**Fellowship** B. Jasmer, A. Ostendorf

SOTP Worship Team Serving, Next Sunday  
December 11<sup>th</sup>

**9:00am Worship:**

Greeters: Milt & Marlene Popp  
Projectionist: Denise Leahy  
Reader: Lois Perleberg  
Ushers: Keith & Roxanne Peterson

**Worship Leader:** Steve Ree

**Worship Service Shepherd:** Kyle Hackett

**Fellowship** J. Elliott, K. Maleska, K. Huhne/Popp