

*SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER*

*+APRIL 7, 2024+*

*8:30 AM*



Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Reinholds, Pennsylvania

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT SWAMP LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Visitors** are welcome and invited to make themselves at home. If you're interested in learning more about Swamp Lutheran, have questions, or are looking for a church home, speak with Pastor Scott or church members. Please complete a visitor card and place it in an offering drop box or sign guest register in narthex.

**Restrooms** are located off the narthex (lobby) by the coat rack.

The worship service is printed in this bulletin. **Hymns** are found in the red hymnal Evangelical Lutheran Worship. **Children's** active presence is welcomed in our worship. There are special kids bulletins available in the narthex and at the side entrance.

**Offering plates** are passed. Additionally, there is an offering drop box in the narthex. Online giving via cell phone is easy and secure. Just use this QR code from your phone's camera app.



**Our worship** is rooted in the ancient pattern of the church—gathering, word, meal, sending. The shape of this liturgy and much of the actual words/prayers come directly from scripture. Though we make seasonal shifts, the constancy of our worship reflects God's constant love and promises through forgiveness, scripture, and the sacraments of baptism and communion. Following this liturgical pattern, as well as the Revised Common Lectionary, a three-year cycle of scripture readings, connects us through our worship with Christians around the world and throughout time.

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive **Holy Communion**. We believe "Holy Communion is the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ given with bread and wine, instituted by Christ himself for us to eat and drink." (Small Catechism, Martin Luther) Children who do not yet receive Holy Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

**Website** – Be sure and check our website [www.swamplutheran.org](http://www.swamplutheran.org) regularly for updates and schedules of ongoing activities of the church. Full prayer list is in the newsletter each month.

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## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

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The Easter season is a week of weeks, seven Sundays when we play in the mystery of Christ's presence, mostly through the glorious Gospel of John. Today we gather with the disciples on the first Easter, and Jesus breathes the Spirit on us. With Thomas we ask for a sign, and Jesus offers us his wounded self in the broken bread. From frightened individuals we are transformed into a community of open doors, peace, forgiveness, and material sharing such that no one among us is in need.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE      ELIJAH ROCK      MOSES HOGAN

*congregational responses are in bold type.*

*stand*

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of God, who makes a way in the wilderness, walks with us, and guides us in our pilgrimage. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are welcomed, restored, and supported as citizens of the new creation.

Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

Holy God,  
holy and merciful,  
holy and mighty,  
you are the river of life,  
you are the everlasting wellspring.

In mercy and might you have freed us from death  
and raised us with Jesus, the firstborn of the dead.  
In baptismal waters our old life is washed away,  
and in them we are born anew.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes,  
for rivers and streams.  
Honor to you for waters that wash us clean,  
quench our thirst, and nurture both crops and creatures.  
Praise to you for the life-giving water of baptism,  
the outpouring of the Spirit of the new creation.

**Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you.  
Empower our witness to your resurrection.  
Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all.**

**Satisfy the world's need through this living water.  
Where drought dries the earth, bring refreshment.  
Where despair prevails, grant hope.  
Where chaos reigns, bring peace.  
We ask this through Christ,  
who with you and the Spirit reigns forever. Amen.**

# GATHERING HYMN

## Thine Is the Glory

1 Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring Son; end - less is the  
2 Lo, Je - sus meets thee, ris - en from the tomb! Lov - ing - ly he  
3 No more we doubt thee, glo - rious Prince of life; life is naught with-

vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won! An - gels in bright rai - ment  
greet thee, scat - ters fear and gloom; let his church with glad - ness  
out thee; aid us in our strife; make us more than con-qu'rors,

rolled the stone a - way, kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
hymns of tri - umph sing; for the Lord now liv - eth;  
through thy death - less love; bring us safe through Jor - dan

*Refrain*  
where thy bod - y lay.  
death hath lost its sting! Thine is the glo - ry, ris - en, con-qu'ring  
to thy home a - bove.

Son; end - less is the vic - t'ry thou o'er death hast won!

The musical score is written in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. It features a treble and bass clef staff. The melody is primarily in the treble clef, with a supporting bass line. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some lines starting with a measure rest. The score includes a 'Refrain' section. The piece concludes with a double bar line.

## 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.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Sit*

**ANTHEM**

PIE JESU

ARR. MARY LYNN LIGHTFOOT

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## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

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### FIRST READING: Acts 4:32-35

*While the apostles testified to others about the resurrection of Jesus, the early Christian community shared what they owned or sold their possessions to help their fellow believers who were in need.*

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm: Psalm 133** *Read responsively.*

<sup>1</sup>How good and how pleas-<sup>1</sup>ant it is,  
when kindred live togeth-<sup>1</sup>er in unity!

<sup>2</sup>**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down up-<sup>1</sup>on the beard,  
upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar<sup>1</sup> of his robe.**

<sup>3</sup>It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the<sup>1</sup> hills of Zion.  
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life for-<sup>1</sup>evermore.

**SECOND READING: 1 John 1:1--2:2**

*The opening of this letter serves as a reality check. The reality of God is light, but our confessed reality has been sin. God cleanses us from our sinful reality through Christ's death so that we live in fellowship with Christ and walk in God's light.*

<sup>1</sup>We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—<sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>2:1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup>and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

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

**HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 20:19-31**

The Holy Gospel according to John  
**Glory to you, O Lord**

*The story of Easter continues as the risen Jesus appears to his disciples. His words to Thomas offer a blessing to all who entrust themselves in faith to the risen Lord.*

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

<sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

<sup>26</sup>A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup>Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side.



Do not doubt but believe.”<sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”<sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

<sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book.<sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ**

*Sit*

SERMON

CHILDREN’S SERMON

ANTHEM

ALLELUIA

ELAINE HAGENBURG

*stand*

CREED

We confess the faith of the church, the faith into which we were baptized:

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.\*  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

*After each petition:*

Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*You may share the peace safely. A simple nod to those next to you, with the words  
“peace be with you” exchanged is always sufficient.*

*Sit*

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## **MEAL**

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ*

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OFFERTORY

EASTER DAWN

J.R. SMITH

OFFERING     *In addition to the plate, online giving via cell phone is safe and  
secure. See QR code on the inside cover of this bulletin.*

*As the offering is brought to the table, the congregation stands and sings.*



1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,  
dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;  
for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,  
stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.

OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,  
**you call us to believe and bear fruit.**  
**May the gifts that we offer here**  
**be signs of your abiding love.**  
**Form us to be your witnesses in the world,**  
**through Jesus Christ, our true vine.**  
**Amen.**

THE 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.**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,  
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You call your people to cleanse their hearts  
and prepare with joy for the paschal feast,  
that, renewed in the gift of baptism,  
we may come to the fullness of your grace.

Blessed are you, O God of the universe.  
Your mercy is everlasting  
and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

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.

With this bread and cup  
we remember our Lord's passover from death to life  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come and know Christ,  
broken and poured out for you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

LAMB OF GOD *remain standing*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

*Sit*

## THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Following the direction of the ushers, approach by the center aisle and return to your pew by the side aisles. Please get a cup from the stack by the first pew before receiving bread. Grape juice and gluten free options are available – tell the usher.*

COMMUNION HYMNS (CONGREGATION ENCOURAGED TO SING)

## I Come with Joy



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and  
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are  
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion  
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er  
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in  
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in  
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and  
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -  
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.  
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.  
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.  
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.  
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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## WE WALK BY FAITH



1 We walk by faith and not by sight; with  
2 We may not touch your hands and side, nor  
3 Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; and  
4 That, when our life of faith is done, in



gra - cious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as  
fol - low where you trod; but in your prom - ise  
may our faith a - bound to call on you when  
realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you



none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here."  
we re - joice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"  
you are near and seek where you are found:  
as you are, with full and end - less sight.



## Now the Green Blade Rises



1 Now the green blade ris - es from the bur - ied grain,  
2 In the grave they laid him, love by ha - tred slain,  
3 Forth he came at Eas - ter like the ris - en grain,  
4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
think - ing that he would nev - er wake a - gain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
your touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been;  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen;  
raised from the dead, my liv - ing Lord is seen;  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;



love is come a - gain like wheat a - ris - ing green.

Text: John MacLeod Campbell Crum, 1872–1958

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

Text from *Oxford Book of Carols*, © Oxford University Press 1928. All rights reserved.

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*After all have communed, stand*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

Let us pray.

Gracious God,  
in you we live and move and have our being.  
With your word and this meal of grace,  
you have nourished our life together.  
Strengthen us to show your love  
and serve the world in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

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## **SENDING**

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

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BLESSING

The God of all,  
who raised † Jesus from the dead,  
bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit  
to live in the new creation. **Amen.**

# SENDING HYMN

## I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light



1 I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to  
2 I want to see . . . the bright-ness of God. I want to  
3 I'm look - ing for . . . the com - ing of Christ. I want to



fol - low Je - sus. God set the stars to give  
look at Je - sus. Clear Sun of righ - teous-ness,  
be with Je - sus. When we have run . . . with



light to the world. The star of my life is Je - sus.  
shine on my path, and show me the way to the Fa - ther.  
pa - tience the race, we shall know the joy of Je - sus.

### *Refrain*



In him there is no dark-ness at all. The night and the



day are both a - like. The Lamb is the light of the



cit - y of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson  
Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

**Thanks be to God.**

*please be seated for the postlude*

POSTLUDE

SISI NI MOJA

JACOB NARVERUD

*Please join us for breakfast in the social hall after the service.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CIRCLE OF PRAYER** - Hunter Leisey, John Frantz, Ed Miller, John Wesner, Michael Wargo, Jan Lorah, Sandi Clemens, Nettie Kriener, Clair Sweigart, Faith Moyer, Michael A. Crowther, Reba Ranck, Grace Ranck, Ray Fox, Gene Miller, Kelly Martin, Jean Wolf, Bruce Wagner, Honey Notobartolo, Charles Moyer, Anna Habecker, Bobby Hershey, Anna Hershey, Marilyn Gelsinger, Edith Snyder, Jackson Sensenig, Sharon Levan, JJ Johnson, Robert Bachman, Teresa Sweigart, Mel and Troy Ulrich, Earl Myers, Elizabeth Sherman, Katie Krater, Judy Habecker, Anna Rose Schannauer, Betty Kramer, Tyler Leed, Henry, Dennis Troutman, Larry Knauer, Robyn Reihner, David Metzger, Ray Weitzel Linda Mohn, Pauline Wassmer.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are in memory of his parents, Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Chmielewski by Mr. & Mrs. John Chmielewski.

**SANCTUARY CANDLE** is given in memory of loved ones by the congregation.

**ALTAR FLOWERS** – A 2024 altar flower calendar is in the Narthex. Flower & Candle costs remain at \$40.00 & \$5.00, respectively. Standing orders remain on the calendar from year to year. Please support the church by signing up for the weeks that do not have sponsors. Sue Kreitz, 717-283-9444 and John Frantz, 717-606-8994 are now taking care of the flower and candle sign-up if you have questions or want to schedule. Several opportunities for candles are available.

**THANK YOU** to the Cocalico High School *Choralaires* under the directorship of Kristen Diehl and the Cocalico Middle School *Select Singers* under the directorship of Daniel Behler for their beautiful contribution to today's service. God has gifted these young folks with the glory of music and we appreciate their sharing that gift with us. Please join us for breakfast after the service.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** – If you give via the online option, let us know by email ([secretary@swamlutheran.org](mailto:secretary@swamlutheran.org)) or by phone to the office so that you will no longer receive offering envelopes for 2023.



To our **knitters and crocheters**, please focus on prayer shawls. When you finish, please bring it to church and leave it in the library. *THANK YOU for supporting this church ministry.*

**FOOD BANK** – Needs of the food bank are ongoing and need replenished monthly. There is an urgent need for cereal and condiments and there is always a need for canned vegetables, canned fruit, canned soup, canned meat and tuna, pasta, rice and mac & cheese. Thank you for helping as you are able. We distribute on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday each month. Please check for a current expiration date.

**ATTENTION THRIVENT FINANCIAL MEMBERS.** The Thrivent “Action Teams” program is an opportunity for Thrivent members to lead projects that provide service and outreach to the community. Thrivent Financial will provide funds of \$250 for each project to get started and pay for associated expenses. You may request two grants per year. Swamp Lutheran has many needs that qualify under this program. If you wish to direct your grant request to help with Swamp Lutheran’s activities, please reach out to Lori Gockley who will assist you with the process. Email: [lgockley2@gmail.com](mailto:lgockley2@gmail.com) or call 717-203-8551



**Gently Used Sneakers Needed.** Cub Pack 95 is collecting sneakers as a fundraiser. Used sneakers (pairs only; athletic shoes only) may be deposited in the bins located in the Narthex and the social hall lobby. The Cubs are **not** able to accept any non-athletic footwear including but not limited to dress shoes, heels, rain boots, sandals, slip-ons, water socks, wedges, and work boots of any kind. Questions may be addressed to Cubmaster Travis Leed at 717-381-1608 or email at [pack95reinholds@gmail.com](mailto:pack95reinholds@gmail.com)

**PACK 95** is looking for more **Cubs** and a **Cubmaster** and **Treasurer**. To learn more, talk to Pastor Scott or Cubmaster Travis Leed: 717-381-1608 or email at [pack95reinholds@gmail.com](mailto:pack95reinholds@gmail.com)

## **LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF PERSONAL CARE KIT PROJECT**

We are currently accepting donations for the LWR Personal Care Kit Project. We will be collecting items through the end of April. Donations may be given to **Jane Leshner, Denise Null, Connie Taylor and Debbie Carvell**. Questions to Debbie at 717-336-5638.

We appreciate everyone following the guidelines below, as Lutheran World Relief will not send anything that does not adhere to their specified guidelines. Each kit will contain:

- One bath-size towel (approximately 52" x 27") dark color recommended.
- Two bath-size (4 or 5 oz) of soap, in it's original wrapping.
- One adult-size toothbrush in it's original packaging.
- One sturdy comb, (wide tooth preferred), remove packaging.
- One metal nail clipper, remove packaging.

Wrap all items in the towel and tie with ribbon or yarn. Please do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.

**If you don't feel comfortable wrapping an entire kit, we will accept donations of any of the items, and gladly assemble the kits! *Hint: Last year we bought these exact towels at Big Lots for \$4.00 each!***

**As always, thank you for making this project a success!**

**ACTION FUND** – Donations are sought for Swamp Action Fund to help the needy in our community. Write “Action Fund” in the comment line of your check payable to Swamp Lutheran Church.

### **Week in the Parish (April 8 – April 14)**

April 8	7:00PM	Handbell Choir
April 9	6:00PM	Zoom Bible Study
April 10	1-4PM	EASS Food Distribution
	7:00PM	Choir
April 11	6:30PM	Learning Committee
April 14	8:00AM & 9AM	Worship
	10:15AM	Sunday School

## UPCOMING EVENTS

April 21	5PM-8PM	SLY First Responder Baskets
May 9	7PM	Ascension Day
May 11	2:00PM	Handbell Concert-Reinholds Chapel

## DAILY READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

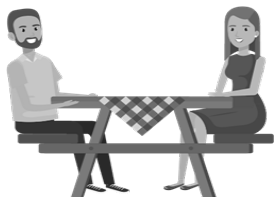
<i>April 8 Monday</i>	Psalm 135 Daniel 3:1-30 1 John 2:3-11
<i>April 9 Tuesday</i>	Psalm 135 Daniel 6:1-28 1 John 2:12-17
<i>April 10 Wednesday</i>	Psalm 135 Isaiah 26:1-15 Mark 12:18-27
<i>April 11 Thursday</i>	Psalm 4 Daniel 9:1-19 1 John 2:18-25
<i>April 12 Friday</i>	Psalm 4 Daniel 10:2-19 1 John 2:26-28
<i>April 13 Saturday</i>	Psalm 4 Acts 3:1-10 Luke 22:24-30

## UPCOMING SUNDAY READINGS

*Third Sunday of Easter* Acts 3:12-19 Psalm 4 1 John 3:1-7 Luke 24:36b-48

## CHACE SMITH EAGLE SCOUT PROJECT

**Your help is Needed!** Lifetime Swamp member Chace Smith is pursuing his Eagle Scout award as a Scout with BSA Reamstown Troop 60. To accomplish this goal, an Eagle project benefiting a local nonprofit is required. Chace thought of his church. Consequently, the Church Council has approved Chace's proposal to build six 8-foot picnic tables and four 4-foot benches placed near the ball field



to replace those in disrepair there now.

Chace will lead a team of Scouts, friends, and family to complete this project that will improve the area, providing tables for church events such as picnics or youth activities, as well as giving families and spectators of baseball games a place to safely sit and relax while watching the games.

Chace expects to begin the project soon. Although he has asked area businesses to donate supplies, **Chace needs monetary support to help cover the estimated cost of \$3,000. Monetary donations can be given to Swamp Lutheran Church, memo: C. Smith Eagle Project.** Let's all pitch in to help Chace help us.



## The Project

The **Service Committee** would like to sponsor the following local service opportunity over the summer. This is being organized by Love Inc.

### How does The Project work?

It all begins when churches want to do a “missions trip” in their community. Talented and handy people are willing to serve neighbors who cannot afford repairs and are experiencing financial hardships due to fixed income constraints.

A church gathers those who are good with simple carpentry, electric, plumbing, painting, outdoor yard work, or cleaning (just to name a few). This Summer, as suits your church team’s schedule, Christ-followers go build relationships and help their neighbors. Whether individuals have a knack for being handy or just a heart to serve, your church family can make a kingdom impact with the gifts God has given you!

If you are interested in helping with this new service project, please let a committee member know or Jodi Showalter, Chair, at 717-413-7149.

**Geraniums.** Orders are being taken for **red geraniums for Pentecost**, Sunday May 19th, 2024. Price is not yet known and the deadline for ordering is Sunday April 21st. Please give the following information to the church office or to Jodi Showalter (717) 413-7149.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Red Geraniums \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_



**LS SWO WOMEN OF THE ELCA  
DAY OF RENEWAL REGISTRATION FORM**

**Date:** Saturday, April 20, 2024

**Registration: 8:30-9:15 a.m.**  
(refreshments upon arrival)

**Time:** 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



**Place: St. Paul Lutheran Church  
200 W Orange St, Lititz, PA**

**Cost:** \$30.00 (Includes program and lunch)

**Theme:** "Footprints...Encounters with Jesus"

**Special Offering: Lititz Warwick Community Chest**  
(Shelf Stable Foods, toilet paper, paper towels)

**Contact for Questions:** Sandy Bingaman  
Phone: 717-665-5265  
Email: [sandyi.bingaman@gmail.com](mailto:sandyi.bingaman@gmail.com)

**Sponsored by,**  
The Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Lower Susquehanna, Synodical Women's Organization

**Church is handicap accessible**

Following the presentation, CD's will be available in the narthex for purchase. Also, the W/ELCA, LS SWO craft table will be available.

**About the speaker:**

Heartsongs Ministries, Inc. presents **Karen Knight** who is an inspirational speaker, concert artist, and actress. The Mission Statement for "Heartsongs Ministries, Inc. is dedicated to glorifying God by presenting the truth of the gospel of His Son, Jesus Christ through music, worship and the spoken word."

Karen's concerts include inspirational, contemporary, gospel and well loved hymns.

She often includes moments of dramatic storytelling to bring even greater meaning to the music. Her style is warm, humorous and completely engaging. Karen has created inspiring presentations based on the lives of Biblical & Historical Women of Faith.

Karen is probably best known for one of her many lead roles at Sight and Sound's Millennium Theatre as Mrs. Noah in the renowned production, Noah, in Lancaster.

During her time with Sight and Sound, Karen performed to audiences of over 6,000 on a daily basis, but her heart's desire is to reach out to people on a more personal basis with the hope and peace found in Jesus Christ.

Her inspirational speaking combined with singing and storytelling has taken her all over the United States, Italy, Germany, South America, Asia and Israel.

(Please complete and mail this section of the form **postmarked by Wednesday, April 10, 2024**)

Make check payable to **LS SWO, WOMEN OF THE ELCA** and mail to:

**Peggi Norman, 328 Carolle St., Greencastle , PA 17225**  
**Questions: 717-658-7432 or email: [peggi2@yahoo.com](mailto:peggi2@yahoo.com)**

**Acting Treasurer, Chris Todd, is unavailable to receive registration forms for this event, so mail your check to Peggi Norman for this event only. Thanks!**

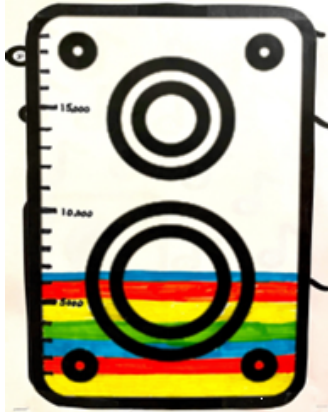
**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Email address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Home Church** \_\_\_\_\_ **City** \_\_\_\_\_



**Sandwiches  
Variety of Salads  
Variety of Desserts**



LIFT UP YOUR VOICES  
SOUND SYSTEM CAMPAIGN  
\$20,000 GOAL



## SANCTUARY SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADE

### *LIFT UP YOUR VOICES PLEDGE*

We continue to stretch towards our goal of \$20,000. Pledge Cards are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary. A one-time gift or a weekly, monthly, quarterly pledge is welcome. Feel free to call or email the office if you want a pledge card mailed to you.

Give via QR code now



## SLY First Responder Basket Making



April 21, 2024

5 – 8 PM

Ages: 6<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> grade

Swamp Lutheran Church  
275 Swamp Church Rd., Reinholds

Dinner | Baking Cookies | Chocolate Pretzels

Basket- Packing | Devotion

Swamp Lutheran Youth (SLY) invites you to join us in making gift baskets for local first responders. Dinner will be provided. We will be making cookies and chocolate covered pretzels (and eating some!). Devotional time too.

We are asking kids to bring a box of single-serving, individually packaged snack items (e.g., Goldfish, crackers, nuts, fruit snacks) to include in the baskets.

*Bring a Friend!*

**RSVP: Kristin Gockley 717-330-0628 or**  
kgock261@live.kutztown.edu

The background of the poster is a light cream color, scattered with small, colorful confetti pieces in shades of teal, orange, and yellow. Interspersed among the confetti are stylized handbell icons in teal and orange. A large, solid orange square is centered on the page, serving as a backdrop for the text. The text is arranged in a clean, modern layout within this square.

SWAMP LUTHERAN'S  
HANDBELL CHOIR

*Spring Concert*

**SATURDAY MAY 11**

2:00 PM

REINHOLDS CHAPEL

114 E MAIN ST, REINHOLDS, PA 17569



# **SPRING FEST**

**FREE COMMUNITY EVENT FOR ALL AGES**

**May 19 @ 11AM**

Swamp Lutheran Church  
275 Swamp Church Road, Reinholds, PA 17569

**The Swing Fever Band, Free Food, Games  
for Kids & Auction Benefiting Reinholds  
VFW Stocking for Soldiers Program**

**FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION  
CONTACT THE CHURCH AT 717.336.2849**

# Why Camp?

## A place for Christ-centered community

Daniel comes from a family that is all about baseball. Their vacations and their summer plans all revolve around coaching, playing, and refereeing games and visiting famous ballparks and baseball history museums. But every summer, Daniel makes sure that he has one week set aside to go to camp – even if it means missing a game or two.



“A week at camp is like nothing else I do,” Daniel says. “It’s different than being on a team playing a game. Our cabin group – and the whole camp community – is like a family. The counselors are fun, and you can tell they really care about us, and nobody has to be the best at anything – we just have fun together! And I like talking about God with the staff and other people my age.”

Camp provides daily opportunities for prayer, faithful conversation with other Christians, stewardship of God’s Creation, elements of service to God and others, and daily devotions. We hear and experience God’s Word, and have opportunities to put it immediately into practice. We live out our baptismal promises, reminded that we are named, claimed, and sent. It’s an immersion in a loving, grace-filled community of Christ that offers us the a glimpse of the promised Kingdom - a fully immersive experience of the loving presence of Jesus, thanks to the gift of the Holy Spirit - and, as Daniel reminds us, we also have a lot of fun.

Maybe it’s time we rethink the value we place on church camp. It really does reinforce everything we teach about being a beloved child of God and allows us to encounter the living Christ in powerful ways.



Register Now for Summer Camp at  
[LutheranCamping.org](http://LutheranCamping.org)



**The Lutheran Camping Corporation of  
Central Pennsylvania**  
Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, & The Wittel  
Farm [LutheranCamping.org](http://LutheranCamping.org)



## **Luthercare's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

### **Clay Classic**

May 24 | 8:30AM-2PM

Central Penn Sporting Clays, Wellsville, PA

Register: <https://www.luthercare.org/clay-classic/>



Cocalico Education Foundation

# **Yard Sale**

**Saturday, April 20, 2024**

7 a.m. – Noon

Denver Elementary Parking Lot

Support students of Cocalico School  
District by renting stand space today.

Food by Swamp Church's Kitchen Krew  
and Farm Show Milkshakes available!

Applications available in Cocalico  
school offices or at  
[www.cocalicoeducationfoundation.org](http://www.cocalicoeducationfoundation.org).

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## **GOSPEL MESSAGE**

**April 7, 2024**

**SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**Sharing Joy**

“Thank you for sharing our joy,” said the parents of the bride to the wedding guests. This simple message sums up the reason we gather with loved ones to celebrate the best moments of our lives. When we share our joy, it multiplies.

When the disciples were gathered in a locked room, the appearance of the risen Jesus transformed their fear into joy. On the evening of the resurrection, all the disciples except Thomas were together. They got to see Jesus standing among them, and they rejoiced! Immediately, Jesus gave them the gift of the Holy Spirit. He also sent them out to continue his work in the world, including the forgiveness of sins.

With that commissioning, Jesus channeled the disciples’ joy into a sense of belonging and purpose. Now they were no longer afraid or isolated. Jesus was alive. Everything had changed! Their risen Lord made them into a new community. But Thomas wasn’t there when Jesus first stood among them, and he couldn’t grasp the good news. He saw the joy radiating from the other disciples’ faces, but he didn’t share it.

As a gift of grace, Jesus appeared again and brought Thomas into the new community. He let the skeptical disciple see and touch the wounds on his body. By doing so, Jesus extended the joy and sense of belonging that the others had experienced to Thomas, who responded with joy, “My Lord and my God!”

As disciples of Jesus, we belong to the same resurrection community that our risen Lord created that first Easter evening. We get to share our joy in the promise of forgiveness of sins and eternal life with those around us. Our believing and sense of belonging fortify each other. As today’s reading from 1 John declares, when we celebrate Jesus’ resurrection and carry out God’s work in the world together, our joy is made complete.

**Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church**

717-336-2849

[www.swamplutheran.org](http://www.swamplutheran.org)

[secretary@swamplutheran.org](mailto:secretary@swamplutheran.org)

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30AM – 12:00 noon

The Rev. Scott V. Brubaker, Pastor

Cell: 717-598-4663 Email: [pastor@swamplutheran.org](mailto:pastor@swamplutheran.org)

Terri Renninger, Church Secretary – 717-336-2849

Jonathan Gyorke, Sexton – 717-435-3091

Sue Kreitz, Organist/Choir Director – 717-336-3272

Grady Daub, Assistant Organist – 717-917-2430

Doug Kulp, Bell Choir Director – 717-336-7798

Lori Gockley, Council President – 717-733-1095

SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:00AM & 9:00AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM

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