

*NATIVITY OF OUR LORD*  
*CHRISTMAS EVE*  
*DECEMBER 24, 2025*  
*7:00 PM*



Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Reinholds, Pennsylvania

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT SWAMP LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Guests** 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 the offering plate 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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In winter's deepest night, we welcome the light of the Christ child. Isaiah declares that the light of the long-promised king will illumine the world and bring endless peace and justice. Paul reminds us that the grace of God through Jesus Christ brings salvation to all people. The angels declare that Jesus' birth is good and joyful news for everyone, including lowly shepherds. Filled with the light that shines in our lives, we go forth to share the light of Christ with the whole world.

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

|                |                                 |                      |
|----------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>PRELUDE</b> | THE BIRTHDAY OF A KING          | ARR. SMITH & HUSTAD  |
|                | WHAT CHILD IS THIS              | ARR. ROBERT LAU      |
|                | THE FIRST NOEL                  | ARR. G.L. POLLOCK    |
|                | CAROL OF THE BELLS FANTASY      | ARR. R. VANDALL      |
|                | FUM, FUM, FUM                   | ARR. MARK HAYES      |
|                | SILENT NIGHT                    | ARR. SANDRA EITHUM   |
|                | STILL, STILL, STILL             | ARR. CATHY MOKLEBUST |
|                | IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR | ARR. SANDRA EITHUN   |

*congregational responses are in bold type.*

*Stand*

#### RESPONSIVE READING

Those walking in darkness, a new light has dawned.

**Christ is our light and the source of everlasting hope.**

For those living in fear and dread, a new light has dawned.

**Christ is our light and the source of everlasting peace.**

For those living in hopelessness and despair a new light has dawned.

**Christ is our light and the source of everlasting joy.**

For those living in loneliness, a new light has dawned.

**Christ is our light and the source of everlasting love.**

Tonight, we light all the candles on the Advent wreath as we celebrate the birth of Christ. The candles of hope, peace, love, and joy all remind us that Christ is our light and the source of eternal hope, everlasting peace, boundless love, and endless joy. The Christ candle reminds us that God's perfect gift was sent to us that we might have life abundant and everlasting. Joy to the world and peace on earth. Let us worship Christ, the newborn King.

**GATHERING HYMN**     HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING     ELW 270

## 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.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE**      O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

ELW 283

1 O come, all ye faithful,  
joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
come and behold him,  
born the king of angels:

*Refrain*

O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord!

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Sit*

**ANTHEM**      ANGEL SONG      P. MOCK & J. PAIGE

*Children leave for Children's Church*

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## WORD

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

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FIRST READING: **Isaiah 9:2-7**

*This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah's king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God's passion for the people: The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!*

<sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup> You have multiplied exultation;  
you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
as with joy at the harvest,  
as people exult when dividing plunder.

<sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden  
and the bar across their shoulders,  
the rod of their oppressor,  
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

<sup>5</sup> For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
and all the garments rolled in blood  
shall be burned as fuel for the fire.

<sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders,  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> Great will be his authority,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.  
He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.  
The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 96**

<sup>1</sup> Sing to the LORD | a new song;  
sing to the LORD, | all the earth.

<sup>2</sup> **Sing to the LORD, bless the name | of the LORD;**  
**proclaim God's salvation from | day to day.**

<sup>3</sup> Declare God's glory a- | mong the nations  
and God's wonders a- | mong all peoples.

- <sup>4</sup> **For great is the LORD and greatly <sup>1</sup> to be praised,  
more to be feared <sup>1</sup> than all gods.**
- <sup>5</sup> As for all the gods of the nations, they <sup>1</sup> are but idols;  
but you, O LORD, have <sup>1</sup> made the heavens.
- <sup>6</sup> **Majesty and magnificence are <sup>1</sup> in your presence;  
power and splendor are in your <sup>1</sup> sanctuary.**
- <sup>7</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, you families <sup>1</sup> of the peoples,  
ascribe to the LORD hon- <sup>1</sup> or and power.
- <sup>8</sup> **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the <sup>1</sup> holy name;  
bring offerings and enter the courts <sup>1</sup> of the LORD.**
- <sup>9</sup> Worship the LORD in the beau- <sup>1</sup> ty of holiness;  
tremble before the LORD, <sup>1</sup> all the earth.
- <sup>10</sup> **Tell it out among the nations: “The <sup>1</sup> LORD is king!  
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved will judge  
the peo- <sup>1</sup> ples with equity.”**
- <sup>11</sup> Let the heavens rejoice, and let the <sup>1</sup> earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that <sup>1</sup> is  
therein.
- <sup>12</sup> **Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your com- <sup>1</sup> ing,  
O LORD,  
for you come to <sup>1</sup> judge the earth.**
- <sup>13</sup> You will judge the <sup>1</sup> world with righteousness  
and the peoples <sup>1</sup> with your truth.

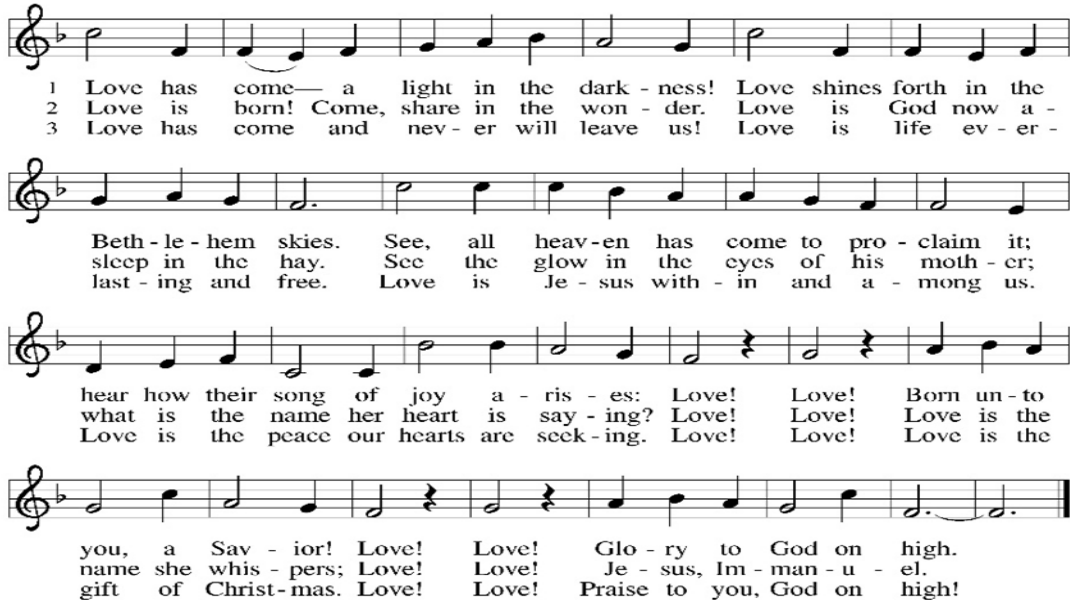
SECOND READING: **Titus 2:11-14**

*The appearance of God's grace in Jesus Christ brings salvation for all humanity. Consequently, in the present we live wisely and justly while also anticipating the hope of our Savior's final appearance.*

<sup>11</sup> The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup> training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup> while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup> He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the  
 2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -  
 3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -

Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;  
 sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;  
 last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.

hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to  
 what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the  
 Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the

you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
 name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.  
 gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

Text: Ken Bible, b. 1950

Music: UN FLAMBEAU, F. Seguin, *Recueil de Noël composés en langue provençale*, 1856

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## HOLY GOSPEL: **Luke 2:1-14 (15-20)**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*God's greatest gift comes as a baby in a manger. Angels announce the "good news of great joy" and proclaim God's blessing of peace.*

<sup>1</sup> In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup> Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup> He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

<sup>8</sup> Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them,

and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

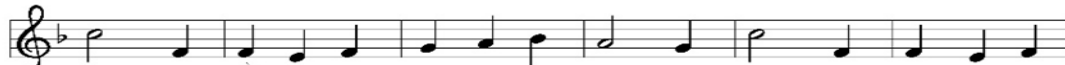
<sup>14</sup> "Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!"

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, <sup>19</sup> and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.]

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

GOSPEL RECESSIONAL      LOVE HAS COME      VERSE 2      ELW 292



1 Love has come— a light in the dark - ness! Love shines forth in the  
2 Love is born! Come, share in the won - der. Love is God now a -  
3 Love has come and nev - er will leave us! Love is life ev - er -



Beth - le - hem skies. See, all heav - en has come to pro - claim it;  
sleep in the hay. See the glow in the eyes of his moth - er;  
last - ing and free. Love is Je - sus with - in and a - mong us.



hear how their song of joy a - ris - es: Love! Love! Born un - to  
what is the name her heart is say - ing? Love! Love! Love is the  
Love is the peace our hearts are seek - ing. Love! Love! Love is the



you, a Sav - ior! Love! Love! Glo - ry to God on high.  
name she whis - pers; Love! Love! Je - sus, Im - man - u - el.  
gift of Christ - mas. Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

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*Sit*

SERMON

*CHILDREN RETURN FROM CHILDREN'S CHURCH*

CHILDREN'S SERMON

*Stand*

NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father;  
through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary  
and became truly human.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.**

**We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. 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.**

*Please share the peace.*

*Sit*

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**MEAL**

***God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ***

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**OFFERTORY** HE IS BORN      ARR. ROBERT LAU      ORGAN/PIANO DUET

**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.*

# WHAT FEAST OF LOVE (VERSE 1 & 3) ELW 487



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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## OFFERING PRAYER

God of glory,  
**great are your wonders among us**  
**and many are the blessings you bestow.**  
**Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world,**  
**that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace,**  
**through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
 In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,  
 who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,  
 who preached good news to the poor,

and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension,  
we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord,  
and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food,  
the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord;  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,  
be all honor and glory, now and forever.

**Amen.**

#### 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

God is now in flesh appearing.

Come to the feast of joy!

**Thanks be to God.**

LAMB OF GOD *REMAIN STANDING*



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.*

**COMMUNION HYMNS**

*CONGREGATION ENCOURAGED TO SING*

|                              |         |
|------------------------------|---------|
| LO, HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING | ELW 272 |
| ANGELS WE HAVE HEARD ON HIGH | ELW 289 |
| INFANT HOLY, INFANT LOWLY    | ELW 276 |
| AWAY IN A MANGER             | ELW 277 |
| O LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM   | ELW 279 |

*After all have communed, stand*

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

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

Let us pray.

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table.

May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts  
the mystery of your presence.

Move us to discover the wonders of your love  
in the everyday moments of our lives,  
through Christ born in us. **Amen.**

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### SENDING

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

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LIGHTING OF CANDLES *The pastor lights a candle from the Christ candle of the Advent wreath symbolizing our connection to Christ, the light of the world. As you pass the light of Christ hold your lit candle upright*

**HYMN**

**SILENT NIGHT**

**ELW 281**

- 1 Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace,  
sleep in heavenly peace.
- 2 Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heav'nly hosts sing, alleluia!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!  
Christ, the Savior, is born!
- 3 Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from your holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

**BLESSING**

The triune God,  
glorious Mystery,  
holy Incarnate One,  
abiding Comforter,  
✠ bless you with endless grace, peace, and joy.  
**Amen.**

**SENDING HYMN**                      JOY TO THE WORLD                      ELW 267  
(ACCOMPANIED BY THE HANDBELLS)

Glory to God in the highest!  
**And peace to God's people on earth!**  
Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**                      GO TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN                      ARR. R. VANDALL  
PIANO DUET

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given in memory of Charles and Bruce Weitzel by the Weitzel family.

**SANCTUARY CANDLE** is given in memory of her husband, Ron by Joyce Stoner.

**CIRCLE OF PRAYER** - Hunter Leisey, John Frantz, Ed Miller, John Wesner, Jeff Kappenstein, Nettie Kreiner, Clair Sweigart, Faith Moyer, Michael A. Crowther, Reba Ranck, Grace Ranck, Ray Fox, Gene Miller, Jean Wolf, Bobby Hershey, Marilyn Gelsinger, Edith Snyder, Teresa Sweigart, Mel and Troy Ulrich, Earl Myers, Elizabeth Sherman, Judy Habecker, Anna Rose Schannauer, Jerry Landis, Mary Beth Jenkins, Evelyn Gehman, Joan Leed, Ron Adams, Kevin Williams, Susan Levan, Larry Eberly, Janet Bingaman, Dwayne Dimitris, Gladys Eckenroad, Bonnie Koehle-Koon, Chris Zander, Kathleen Troutman, Sally Bergman, Keith Reimert, Pam Heisey, Connie Malafarina, Ted Heisey, Regina Reinecker, Karen Klingensmith, Debbie Leed, Sue Van Zant, Alex Merionfeld, Susan Kreitz, Helen Werner, Cody Leisey, Lowell Haws, Anson Kauffman, Randy Krater, Michelle Moyer, Janet Craley, Scott Zook, Clarice Haws, Lisa Evans (Co-worker of Katie Krater), and Dianna Becker (Gockley's neighbor), the

family of Maggie Kiralfy (Jen Brubaker's mother), Laurie Sauder, Sue Templin, Glenn Beard Sr, Ray Weitzel, Clyde Showalter and Michael Hagy.

## **GOSPEL MESSAGE**

**December 24, 2025**

**NATIVITY OF OUR LORD, CHRISTMAS EVE**

**What Really Matters**

“All the world should be registered” (Luke 2:1). This announcement from the emperor was an order for all people to stand up and be counted, to prove their worth by stating their name, their lineage, and the details of their existence, like the stats on the back of a trading card.

But an angel made a different sort of announcement: “This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger” (Luke 2:12). The shepherds would need to look for a baby just lying there, doing nothing but existing in all his God-given glory.

This baby is such good news in a world that tells us every day, in every possible way, that we need to prove our worth, that we need to convince the world and everyone around us that we matter. In what ways do you repeatedly try to prove your worth to the world? To your friends and family and colleagues? To yourself? To God?

What would it feel like—in your body, in your heart, in your gut—to just exist in all your God-given glory? To remember that the Savior of the world came to us as a baby who couldn't do a single thing besides lie in the straw? And what would it be like for you—for all of us—to live each day in response to this wild grace?

Each of us matters to God, who sent Jesus into the world for us and all creation. God loves us, claims us in baptism, and continues to sustain us in holy communion. This indeed is good news of great joy for all people. Glory to God!

**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 – 717-283-9444

Grady Daub, Assistant Organist – 717-917-2430

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

Lori Gockley, Council President – 717-733-1095

SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:30AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45AM

**You are Welcome Here!**

At Swamp Lutheran Church, *Grace is Spoken Here!* We welcome with full participation and inclusion all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to addictions, imprisonment, physical or mental health, socio-economic circumstances or anything that too often divides us. Together as one in the Spirit, our unity is in Jesus Christ.

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## **SWAMP ANNOUNCEMENTS**    *DECEMBER 24, 2025*

WWW.SWAMPLUTHERAN.ORG    SECRETARY@SWAMPLUTHERAN.ORG    717-336-2849  
REV. SCOTT BRUBAKER, PASTOR    PASTOR@SWAMPLUTHERAN.ORG    CELL:717-598-4663

### **Week in the Parish (December 21 - 28)**

|             |                 |                        |
|-------------|-----------------|------------------------|
| December 24 | 4:00PM & 7:00PM | Christmas Eve Services |
| December 25 | CHRISTMAS       | OFFICE CLOSED          |
| December 26 | OFFICE CLOSED   |                        |
| December 28 | 8:30AM          | Worship                |
| December 28 | 9:45AM          | Sunday School          |

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

|             |                |                        |
|-------------|----------------|------------------------|
| December 31 | NEW YEAR'S EVE |                        |
| January 1   | NEW YEAR'S DAY | OFFICE CLOSED          |
| January 2   | OFFICE CLOSED  |                        |
| January 4   | 8:30AM         | Worship                |
| January 4   | 9:45AM         | Sunday School          |
| January 5   | 7:00PM         | Bell Choir             |
| January 6   | 6:00PM         | Zoom Bible Study       |
| January 6   | 7:00PM         | Welcome Cmte           |
| January 7   | 7:00PM         | Choir                  |
| January 8   | 6:30PM         | Learning Cmte          |
| January 11  | 8:30AM         | Worship                |
| January 11  | 9:45AM         | Sunday School          |
| January 13  | 6:00PM         | Zoom Bible Study       |
| January 14  | 1-4:00PM       | EASS Food Distribution |
| January 14  | 7:00PM         | Choir                  |

**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.

### **Greeter Schedule December**

28 Lee & Jodi Showalter

### **Greeter Schedule for January**

04 Deb Sweigert

11 John Frantz

18 Brian & Katie Koehle

25 David & Laraine Kramer

### **Coffee Schedule for December**

28 John Frantz

### **Coffee Schedule for January**

04 Deb Sweigert

11 Ray Weitzel

18 Pam Leisey

25 Randy Gockley

## Sound System Schedule for January

04 Steve Laudenslager  
11 Steve Laudenslager  
18 Steve Laudenslager  
25 Steve Laudenslager

## Video Stream Schedule January

04 Josh Garrison  
11 Alan Worley  
18 John Frantz  
25 Josh Garrison

## DAILY READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

*Thurs December 25* Isaiah 62:6-12 Psalm 97 Titus 3:4-7 Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20

*Thurs December 25* Isaiah 52:7-10 Psalm 98 Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12] John 1:1-14

*Fri December 26* Psalm 148 Wisdom 4:7-15 Acts 7:59—8:8

*Sat December 27* Psalm 148 Proverbs 8:22-31 1 John 5:1-12

## UPCOMING SUNDAY READINGS

*Sun December 28* Isaiah 63:7-9, Psalm 148, Hebrews 2:10-18, Matthew 2:13-23

**FLOWERS:** Altar flowers are needed for January 11, 2026.

If you would like to sponsor a Sunday for the flowers or candle in 2026, please contact Sue Kreitz at 717-283-9444 or John Frantz at 717-606-8994.

**Grumbine's Flowers** is looking to relocate and will not guarantee fresh altar flower arrangements beyond February 2026. In the event that Grumbine's discontinues service, the flower committee will be discussing options and/or alternatives. In the meantime, please continue to sign up for flower sponsorships via Sue, John, or the flower calendar. Candle sponsorships will not be changing.

**FOOD BANK** – Needs of the food bank are ongoing and need replenished monthly. There is a need for canned chicken, tuna, soup, paper towels and toilet paper. Please check for a current expiration date. Thank you for helping as you are able. We distribute on the 2nd Wednesday each month.3



**Knitters and Crocheters:** We have been asked to provide baby blankets for Veteran Families. Please use SOFT yarn with not too loose of a pattern and no more than 32" X 32," but not less than 27" square or rectangular. There are some copies of baby blanket patterns in the library at church where the shawls/blankets are being collected. We need more boy colors than girl colors.

**Swamp Needs Your Help!**  
***Tell Pastor Scott if you can help or want to learn more***  
**Most pressing needs include:**

**Communion Extender:** We need helpers to take communion to our homebound members. Training provided.

**Choir:** We welcome singers for Swamp's Chancel Choir.

**Bell Choir:** Ringers needed for this music ministry.

**Learning Committee:** We could use new committee members interested in fostering the faith of our disciples, both young and old.

**SLY:** We need additional leaders on our team to guide this ministry.

**Sunday School teachers:** Helpers and teachers needed.

**Worship Committee:** We can always use fresh perspectives on worship.

**Generosity Committee:** We need additional disciples to help promote generosity to God's work at Swamp.

**Property Committee:** We need help attending to the property needs of Swamp. Consider adopting a flower bed to maintain or giving of a skill (electrician, plumbing, carpentry, painting, etc.).

***Poinsettias are given in Memory of***

Their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kauffman, by Debbie, Dwayne, Peggy, and Gary

Their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Linton D. Myers, by Debbie, Dwayne, Peggy, and Gary

Their favorite Mema, Irene Myers, by the Earl Myers family

Tom Wenzel by Pat Wenzel

Polly Knauer by Bill Knauer

His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Chmielewski, by John and Carol Chmielewski

Her father, Mr. Kenneth Mummah, by John and Carol Chmielewski

Parents and grandparents, Charlie and Anna Mae Moyer, by Todd Moyer family

Parents and grandparents, Richard and Evelyn Chronister, by Todd Moyer family

John Mizdail by Barbara Mizdail

Mahlon and Lucy Sweigart by the family

Russell and Mary Derr by Tom and Jane Leshner

Charles and Carolyn Leshner by Tom and Jane Leshner

Harry "Ducky" Lorah by Lucille Lorah

Tim O'Neal Lorah by Lucille Lorah

Parents, grandparents, Bob Christy, Irene Myers, Alverta Showalter, and Joan Long by Randy and Lori Gockley and family

Dale Sweigert by Deb Sweigert  
Grandparents, Vernon and Edith Showalter, and Ed and Faye Harting, by the Rineer family  
Anna Hershey by Robert Hershey Jr.  
Pastor Scott's parents, Etta and Vincent, by Pastor Scott and Jen Brubaker  
Jen's mother, Maggie Kiralfy, by Pastor Scott and Jen Brubaker  
Nancy Kulp by Doug Kulp  
Glory of God, Denver Richardson and Charles Wolfe by Connie Taylor  
Glory of God and parents and grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard Hileman, by Connie Taylor  
Family by John and Jerry  
Parents and grandparents, Gil and Joann Gockley, by Lee, Jodi, Matthew, and Eric Showalter  
Parents and grandparents, Vernon and Edith Showalter, by Lee, Jodi, Matthew, and Eric Showalter

***Poinsettias are given in Honor of***

Children, Debbie, Dwayne, Peggy, and Gary, by Earl Myers  
His favorite grandson, P. Casey Coble, by Earl Myers  
His favorite granddaughter, Stevie Nicole and Erik Posegay, by Earl Myers  
His great granddaughters, Avery Ann and Olivia Nicole, by Earl Myers  
Pastor Scott and family by Eric and Diane Hammaker  
Jen's father, Jay Kiralfy, by Pastor Scott and Jen Brubaker  
Of my Lord, my family, and my friends by Judy Habecker  
Her mother, Mrs. Ruth Mummah, by John and Carol Chmielewski  
Birthday of Emily Wagner by Tom and Jane Leshner  
Friends Sherry, John, Jerry, Denny, Bonnie, Scott, and Jen by Randy and Lori Gockley and family  
Glory of God and Jenner, Chace, and Molli by Connie Taylor  
Geoffrey, Mary Grace, John, Jan, Joshua, Justis, Colleen, and Jasa Lorah by Lucille Lorah  
Our parents, Tom Showalter, Bonnie Showalter, and Bob and Donna Rineer by the Rineer family  
Our children, Kenzie, Maren, and Quinton by Zach and Abbey Rineer  
Lori and Randy Gockley by Laura and Kristin  
Our families by John and Jerry  
Our children, Matthew and Kiersten and Eric and Lindsay, by Lee and Jodi Showalter  
Our granddaughter, Emily Joann, by Lee and Jodi Showalter  
Our grandson, Noah Lee, by Lee and Jodi Showalter