

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD EASTER SUNDAY APRIL 17, 2022

"The last enemy to be destroyed is death," Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Hymn Jesus Christ is Risen Today

ELW 365

- 1 Jesus Christ is ris'n today, Alleluia! our triumphant holy day, Alleluia! who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
- 4 Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! praise eternal as his love; Alleluia! praise him, all you heav'nly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!

The Apostolic Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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.

Let us pray:

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading: ACTS 10:34-43

Peter's sermon, delivered at the home of Cornelius, a Roman army officer, is a summary of the essential message of Christianity: Everyone who believes in Jesus, whose life, death, and resurrection fulfilled the words of the prophets, receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he

went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 1 CORINTHIANS 15:19-26

Paul describes the consequences of the resurrection, including the promise of new life in Christ to a world that has been in bondage to death. He celebrates the destruction of evil and the establishment of God's victorious rule over all.

¹⁹If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. ²¹For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; ²²for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: LUKE 24:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to Luke Glory to you, O Lord

Evidently expecting to find Jesus' corpse, some of the women among his followers go to the tomb with embalming spices. After a perplexing encounter with the empty tomb and angelic visitors, the women become the first to proclaim the amazing news of resurrection.

¹On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." ⁸Then they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹But these words seemed to them an idle tale,

and they did not believe them. ¹²But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

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

Sermon The Rev. Scott V. Brubaker, Pastor

Prayers of Intercession

Each petition ends "Lord, in your mercy," and the response is "Hear our prayer."

Lord's Prayer

Let us pray together

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done,

on earth as is 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.

Benediction and Blessing

You are children of God, anointed with the oil of gladness and strengthened for the journey. Almighty God, motherly, majestic, and mighty, + bless you this day and always.

Amen

Hymn Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds

ELW 367

1 Now all the vault of heav'n resounds in praise of love that still abounds: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Sing, choirs of angels, loud and clear! Repeat their song of glory here: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!" Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4 Adoring praises now we bring and with the heav'nly blessed sing: "Christ has triumphed! Alleluia!" Be to the Father, and our Lord, to Spirit blest, most holy God, all the glory, never ending! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Tell what God has done.

Thanks be to God

POSTLUDE The Strife Is O'er, The Battle Done

David N. Johnson

ALTAR FLOWERS are given in memory of Tim O'Neal Lorah by his family.

SANCTUARY CANDLE is given in memory of his aunt, Doreen Tobalski by Eric Long.

NOTE – Please contact Joyce Stoner if you want to sponsor the Sanctuary Candle or Altar Flowers – 717 336-7077. Many Sundays available. Due to increasing gas prices the cost of altar flowers will be \$45.00 starting May 1, 2022.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOST CURRENT INFORMATION – Be sure and check our website regularly for updates and schedules of ongoing activities of the church. <u>www.swamplutheran.org</u>. Church office is open from 8:30AM-12PM daily.

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



Michael A. Crowther Margaret Elser Clyde Showalter Mary Ann Weitzel Ella Shirk Leona Showalter Alverta Showalter Clarice Haws Betty Hornberger Charles Moyer Josie Reitz Katie Houck

Shirley Achey – (neighbor of Sue Kreitz)

Ed Miller Susan Levan

Nancy Kulp

Mary Kring (aunt of Linda Ream)

Clair Sweigart

Janice Moyer Kelly

Josie Reitz

Erika Eberly(friend of Jennifer Taylor)

Charles Hoppman

David Metzger (friend of Sue Kreitz)

Cindy Hornberger Stahl

Melissa Swift (Bea & Edgar Gress'daughter)

Janice Ballenger (friend of Connie Taylor)

Sue Schultz
Hunter Leisey
Jean Wolf
Randy Gockley
John Frantz
Joan Long
Margaret Elser

Family of Dottie Smith

Larry Knauer

Bill Sweigart (neighbor of Sue Kreitz)

Jodi Showalter

When someone is put on the prayer list, we will keep them on for four weeks. After that time, they will be taken off unless you make another request to have them put back on.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER - Hunter Leisey, John Frantz, Nancy Kulp, Sue Schultz, Janice Kelly, David Metzger, Ed Miller, Margaret Elser, Charles Hoppman, Randy Gockley, Larry Knauer, Melissa Swift, Judy Habecker, Jodi Showalter.

OFFERING ENVELOPES – If you give via the online option, let us know by email (<u>secretary@swamplutheran.org</u>) or by phone to the office so that you will no longer receive offering envelopes for 2022.

FOOD BANK current needs are ketchup, mustard, snacks and canned tuna. Our ministry to the community continues in strength. Thank you for your faithfulness.



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 sneakers will be purchased from the Cubs by an organization that resells or recycles them, saving

landfill space and natural resources while helping the Scouts raise money to fund their activities. Time to clean out your closets! 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

LAP ROBES – Thank you to those who are knitting and/or crocheting lap robes for the ongoing need of the VA Hospital. Please be aware that the church has received a donation of yarn that is available for your use. Please contact Brenda in the office.

UKRAINIAN RELIEF -Lutheran Disaster Response is supporting Ukraine through the Lutheran World Federation. Donations are used for items such as bedding, hygiene items, food and pastoral care through a group of local Eastern Europe Lutheran churches. You may support this effort by writing a check to Swamp Lutheran with the memo marked Ukraine. We have a Disaster offering plate in Narthex. The church will then send one check to Lutheran Disaster who in turn will donate 100% of the donation to assist those impacted by the war in Ukraine.

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 or call 717-203-8551.

US FLAGS - When a US flag becomes worn, faded, torn or soiled, it should be retired and replaced with a new flag. For those of you interested in retiring your worn US flags, please bring them to the church. We will collect them in the church library and deliver them to the Reinholds VFW who will arrange for them to be retired in proper fashion. Thank you for your consideration.

This Week in the Parish (April 18 – April 24)

Wednesday, April 20	7:00PM 7:00PM	Choir Church Council
Sunday, April 24	8:00AM	Worship
	9:00AM	Worship
	10:15AM	Sunday School

UPCOMING EVENTS

May 7	2:00PM	Handbell Choir Reinholds Chapel
May 21	11:00AM-2:00PM	Spring Fling
May 22	4:00PM	Pastor Scott's Installation Light Dinner following

DAILY READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday, April 18	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Joshua 10:16-27; 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8
Tuesday, April 19	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Judges 4:17-23; 5:24-31a;
Wednesday, April 20	Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; 2 Samuel 6:1-15; Luke 24:1-12
Thursday, April 21	Psalm 150; 1 Samuel 17:1-23; Acts 5:12-16
Friday, April 22	Psalm 150; 1 Samuel 17:19-32; Acts 5:17-26
Saturday, April 23	Psalm 150; 1 Samuel 17:32-51; Luke 24:36-40

UPCOMING SUNDAY READINGS

Sunday, Second Sunday of Easter

Acts 5:27-32; Psalm 118:14-29 or Psalm 150; Revelation 1:4-8; John 20:19-31

7PM

MAY 26 (ASCENSION) RETURNING WITH JOY LUKE 24:44-53
The Rev. Peter Schwabe-Fry at Swamp Lutheran Church
275 Swamp Church Rd, Reinholds

GOSPEL MESSAGE

April 17, 2022 RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD, EASTER DAY

A Happy Beginning

There's a way of talking about Easter that makes it sound a bit like a surprise happy ending that brings a scary and suspenseful storyline to its resolution. On one level that's true: Today is a day of joy! Death is defeated! This is the feast of victory of our God.

But if we think of today only as the final chapter in God's story of salvation, we may leave Easter Sunday worship the same way we leave a movie theater after a satisfying film: we take a deep breath, we let out a sigh perhaps, we say, "Well, that was great," and then we go back to our everyday lives. We go back to our grief. We go back to our fear about the future. We go back to a world where evil still seems to win.

Today is something different entirely. Easter is not a momentary interruption in the general order of things, a temporary reprieve from the heaviness of death. Far from wrapping things up or simply undoing the pain of Good Friday, the resurrection of Jesus Christ opens up a whole new way of living. It is not a "sigh" but an earthquake!

"But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them," Luke writes (24:11). It takes time for the full magnitude of the empty tomb to settle in. Like the apostles upon hearing the women's news, we can scarcely imagine what it means for us that God's love is stronger than death, and that every aspect of our life together—indeed, the entire cosmos!—is changed by this good news. That's why the church gives us fifty days to unpack this mystery, not just a single morning.

But one thing is for sure: Easter is not a happy ending so much as it is a new beginning. We who are baptized into Jesus Christ are free to live with death in the rearview mirror, no longer afraid of its power. Alleluia!

Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church

275 Swamp Church Road, Reinholds, PA 17569 717-336-2849

> www.swamplutheran.org 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

Brenda Johnston, Church Secretary – 717-336-2849 Sue Kreitz, Organist/Choir Director – 717-336-3272 Doug Kulp, Bell Choir Director – 717-336-7798 John Frantz, Sexton – 717-606-8994 Lori Gockley, Council President – 717-733-1095

SUNDAY WORSHIP 8:00AM and 9:00AM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM

SWAMPLUTHERAN CHURCH Reinholds, PA 17569