

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
May 15, 2022



Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.

Hymn Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death

ELW 452

- 1 Awake, O sleeper, rise from death,
and Christ shall give you light;
so learn his love, its length and breadth,
its fullness, depth, and height.

- 5 For us Christ lived, for us he died,
and conquered in the strife.
Awake, arise, go forth in faith,
and Christ shall give you life.

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 Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: ACTS 11:1-18

In defense of his earlier baptism of non-Jewish believers, Peter demonstrates to the members of the Jerusalem church that God's intention to love Gentiles as well as Jews is revealed in Jesus' testimony. In this way the mission to the Gentiles is officially authorized.

¹Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ²So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵"I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. ⁶As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and

eat.’⁸ But I replied, ‘By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’⁹ But a second time the voice answered from heaven, ‘What God has made clean, you must not call profane.’¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven.¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were.¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house.¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.’¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning.¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?’¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, “Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: REVELATION 21:1-6

John’s vision shows us that in the resurrection the new age has dawned; God dwells with us already. Yet we wait for the time when the tears that cloud our vision will be wiped away. Then we will see the new heaven, new earth, and new Jerusalem.

¹I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

“See, the home of God is among mortals.

He will dwell with them;

they will be his peoples,

and God himself will be with them;

⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes.

Death will be no more;

mourning and crying and pain will be no more,

for the first things have passed away.”

⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.”⁶ Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: JOHN 13:31-35

The Holy Gospel according to John

Glory to you, O Lord

After washing the disciples' feet, predicting his betrayal, and then revealing his betrayer, Jesus speaks of his glorification on the cross. This deep complicated love of Jesus, even to death on the cross, will be the distinctive mark of Jesus' community.

³¹When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. ³²If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. ³³Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' ³⁴I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. ³⁵By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

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

God, the Author of life,
Christ, the living Cornerstone,
and the life-giving Spirit of adoption,
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

- 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

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

David N. Johnson

ALTAR FLOWERS are given in memory of Harold by Betty Kauffman and family.

SANCTUARY CANDLE is given in memory of Josie Reitz by the congregation,.

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

CIRCLE OF PRAYER - Hunter Leisey, John Frantz, Nancy Kulp, Sue Schultz, Janice Kelly, David Metzger, Ed Miller, Margaret Elser, Charles Hoppman, Larry Knauer, Melissa Gress Swift, Jodi Showalter, John Wesner, John Bergman, Beaty & Edgar Gress, Nettie Kriener, family of Josie Reitz, Edgar Gress.

MOST CURRENT INFORMATION – Be sure and check our website regularly for updates and schedules of ongoing activities of the church. www.swamplutheran.org. 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

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
 Lauren Kelly (fiancée of Lindsey Sauder)
 Melissa Swift (daughter of Bea & Edgar Gress)
 Nettie Kriener (sister of John Franz)
 Nancy Leffler
 Edgar Gress

Janice Ballenger (friend of Connie Taylor)
 Sue Schultz
 Hunter Leisey
 Jean Wolf
 John Bergman
 John Frantz
 Joan Long
 Margaret Elser
 Beaty & Edgar Gress
 Larry Knauer
 Bill Sweigart (neighbor of Sue Kreitz)
 Jodi Showalter
 Lisa Buckles (friend of Sue Ellen Knauer)
 Michael Wargo
 Justin Rittenour
 Family of Josie Reitz



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.

OFFERING ENVELOPES – If you give via the online option, let us know by email (secretary@swamplutheran.org) 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.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED – Property committee needs volunteers for May 16 at 5PM. Mulching is the need. Please come prepared to work with gloves in hand and rake if possible.

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.

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.

GERANIUMS - Orders will be taken for 4½ inch potted geraniums in celebration of Pentecost on Sunday, June 5. Deadline for orders is May 22. Cost of each plant is \$3.00. Please contact Jodi Showalter at (717) 413-7149.

NAME _____ PHONE NO. _____

HOW MANY _____

In Honor of _____

In Memory of _____

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.

SLY GAME NIGHT -Youth from 6th grade to 12th grade are invited to a game night tonight, May 15 from 5PM-8PM. A walking taco bar dinner, a pinata and games are all included. Mark your calendar and invite a friend!



This Week in the Parish (May 16 – May 22)

Monday, May 16	5:00PM 7:30PM	Mulching Handbell Choir
Wednesday, May 18	7:00PM 7:00pm	Choir Church Council
Saturday, May 21	1100AM-2:00PM	Spring Fling
Sunday, May 22	8:00AM 9:00AM 10:15AM 4:00PM	Worship Worship Sunday School Pastor Scott's Installation Light Dinner following

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 26	7:00PM	ASCENSION SERVICE The Rev. Peter Schwabe-Fry at Swamp Lutheran Church
May 29	8:30AM	Begin Summer Schedule – One Service No Sunday School

DAILY READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

<i>Monday, May 16</i>	Psalm 133; 1 Samuel 20:1-23, 35-42; Acts 11:19-26
<i>Tuesday, May 17</i>	Psalm 133; 2 Samuel 1:4-27; Acts 11:27-30
<i>Wednesday, May 18</i>	Psalm 133; Leviticus 19:9-18; Luke 10:25-28
<i>Thursday, May 19</i>	Psalm 67; Proverbs 2:1-5; Acts 15:36-41
<i>Friday, May 20</i>	Psalm 67; Proverbs 2:6-8; Acts 16:1-8
<i>Saturday, May 21</i>	Psalm 67; Proverbs 2:9-15; Luke 19:1-10

UPCOMING SUNDAY READINGS

Sunday, Sixth Sunday of Easter
Acts 16:9-15; Psalm 67; Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5; John 14:23-29 *or* John 5:1-9

GOSPEL MESSAGE

May 15, 2022

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

We Are Found

As Jesus in today's gospel prepares the disciples for his imminent departure, he tells them that they will look for him but won't be able to join him where he is going. It will not be long before the women are at the tomb in the early morning, only to find it empty.

We also look for Jesus, but perhaps we don't know that we are engaged in the search. We are constantly seeking purpose and answers, turning to self-help books, inspirational videos, exercise programs, and new ways of organizing our stuff. Billboards and magazine covers highlight our flaws while offering the next best solution to make us happy and well.

These opportunities can be compelling, and some of them will prove successful in managing some aspects of life. But these solutions don't turn up what we're really looking for: to be truly loved and known, secure and whole. We find this security only in the love of God. Yet, in this Easter season we are reminded that we do not need to seek Jesus; rather, Jesus seeks out and finds us. We cannot go where Jesus goes, leading the way through death to new life, but Jesus ultimately finds us wherever we are, even when we are most lost. The women found an empty tomb, but Jesus is not gone. The resurrected Jesus finds them!

In finding us, Jesus also directs our searching by giving us a commandment: "Love one another" (John 13:34). In seeking to love one another, we are reminded again and again that the great love of God has already found us.

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
275 Swamp Church Road
Reinholds, PA 17569