



**SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
OCTOBER 2, 2022**

A little faith goes a long way is Jesus' point in the gospel. A mustard seed's-worth of faith has miraculous potential. The patience, tenacity, and endurance required for the life of faith are the blessings received in holy baptism, holy communion, and the word read and proclaimed in this assembly. Anticipate them. Receive them with thanksgiving.

**Hymn**      God's Work, Our Hands

- 1      God's work, our hands: working together,  
building a future, repairing the world,  
raising up homes, planting new gardens,  
feeding the hungry and shelt'ring the cold.  
Bless, God, our hands as we work in your name,  
sharing the good news of your gospel.
- 4      God is at work in and around us:  
seedlings are sprouting and bread's on the rise!  
Washed and set free, humbled and honored,  
gifted by grace, we respond in God's love.  
Bless, God, our lives as we answer your call,  
sharing the good news of your gospel.

**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:**

Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**FIRST READING Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4**

*Injustice and violence in the time leading up to the Babylonian exile move this prophet to lament: How can a good and all-powerful God see evil in the world and seemingly remain indifferent? God answers by proclaiming that the righteous will live by faith.*

<sup>1</sup>The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw.

<sup>2</sup>O LORD, how long shall I cry for help,  
and you will not listen?  
Or cry to you "Violence!"  
and you will not save?

<sup>3</sup>Why do you make me see wrongdoing  
and look at trouble?  
Destruction and violence are before me;  
strife and contention arise.  
<sup>4</sup>So the law becomes slack  
and justice never prevails.  
The wicked surround the righteous—  
therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

<sup>2:1</sup>I will stand at my watchpost,  
and station myself on the rampart;  
I will keep watch to see what he will say to me,  
and what he will answer concerning my complaint.  
<sup>2</sup>Then the LORD answered me and said:  
Write the vision;  
make it plain on tablets,  
so that a runner may read it.  
<sup>3</sup>For there is still a vision for the appointed time;  
it speaks of the end, and does not lie.  
If it seems to tarry, wait for it;  
it will surely come, it will not delay.  
<sup>4</sup>Look at the proud!  
Their spirit is not right in them,  
but the righteous live by their faith.

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

## SECOND READING 2 Timothy 1:1-14

*This letter written to Timothy is a personal message of encouragement. In the face of hardship and persecution, Timothy is reminded that his faith is a gift of God. He is encouraged to exercise that faith with the help of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

<sup>2</sup>To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

<sup>3</sup>I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. <sup>4</sup>Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. <sup>5</sup>I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. <sup>6</sup>For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; <sup>7</sup>for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

<sup>8</sup>Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, <sup>9</sup>who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, <sup>10</sup>but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to

light through the gospel. <sup>11</sup>For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, <sup>12</sup>and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. <sup>13</sup>Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>14</sup>Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

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

## **GOSPEL: LUKE 17:5-10**

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

*On the way to Jerusalem, Jesus instructs his followers about the power of faith and the duties of discipleship. He calls his disciples to adopt the attitude of servants whose actions are responses to their identity rather than works seeking reward.*

<sup>5</sup>The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!” <sup>6</sup>The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

<sup>7</sup>“Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, ‘Come here at once and take your place at the table’? <sup>8</sup>Would you not rather say to him, ‘Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink’? <sup>9</sup>Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? <sup>10</sup>So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, ‘We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!’”

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, who gives life to all things  
and frees us from despair,  
bless you with truth and peace.  
And may the holy Trinity, † one God,  
guide you always in faith, hope, and love.  
**Amen.**

**Sending Hymn**      Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing      ELW 545

- 1 Lord, dismiss us with your blessing,  
fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
let us each, your love possessing,  
triumph in redeeming grace.  
Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us,  
trav'ling through this wilderness.
  
- 3 Savior, when your love shall call us  
from our struggling pilgrim way,  
let no fear of death appall us,  
glad your summons to obey.  
May we ever, may we ever  
reign with you in endless day.

**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace, with Christ beside you.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**      Spirit, Open My Heart      arr. A. Fedak

**ALTAR FLOWERS** - Given in memory of loved ones by the congregation.

**ROSE BUD** given in memory of the best son and uncle, Phillip with love, Peter, Donna, Haylee, Lillie, and Ryelee.

**SANCTUARY CANDLE** is given in memory of memory of her brothers, Elmer and Bobby Kopp by Linda and Glenn Beard.

**NOTE** – Please contact Joyce Stoner if you want to sponsor the Sanctuary Candle or Altar Flowers – 717 336-7077. Many Sundays available. The cost of altar flowers is \$45.00 and the cost of the candle is \$3.00.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CIRCLE OF PRAYER** - Hunter Leisey, John Frantz, Nancy Kulp, Sue Schultz, David Metzger, Ed Miller, Charles Hoppman, Melissa Gress Swift, John Wesner, John Bergman, Beaty & Edgar Gress, Michael Wargo, Nancy Leffler, Jan Lorah, Luann Shuman, Nettie Kriener, Glenn Beard, Sr, Clair Sweigart, family of Dottie Good, Larry Knauer, Faith Moyer.

**MOST CURRENT INFORMATION** – Be sure and check our website regularly for updates and schedules of ongoing activities of the church. [www.swamplutheran.org](http://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  
Clyde Showalter  
Mary Ann Weitzel  
Ella Shirk  
Leona Showalter

Clarice Haws  
Betty Hornberger  
Charles Moyer

Shirley Achey – (neighbor of Sue Kreitz)  
Susan Levan  
Bill Sweigart (neighbor of Sue Kreitz)  
Mary Kring (aunt of Linda Ream)  
Nancy Leffler  
Lisa Buckles (friend of Sue Ellen Knauer)

Katie Houck  
Jean Wolf  
Clair Sweigart  
Joan Long



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](mailto:secretary@swamplutheran.org)) or by phone to the office so that you will no longer receive offering envelopes for 2022.

**FOOD BANK** – Needs of the food bank are ongoing and need replenished monthly. Currently, there is a shortage of canned carrots, mixed vegetables and peaches, tomato soup, rice and canned chicken and Spam. Thank you for helping as you are able.

**LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF** – Thank you to the congregation for your generous gift of school supplies. The Sunday School was able to pack 120 backpacks as the new Sunday School season began last week. We are grateful for the commitment of our loyal volunteers, Denise, Debbie, and Jane, who organized the project. What a great way for our children to learn about caring for others.



**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](mailto:pack95reinholds@gmail.com)



**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.

**KENTUCKY RELIEF** - Beginning on July 27, a line of severe storms dumped record amounts of rain on eastern Kentucky, overflowing rivers and creeks onto streets and neighborhoods. Rising waters are damaging infrastructure, including roads, bridges and power lines, which hinders rescue efforts. The flooding has destroyed hundreds of homes and other buildings and disrupted the lives of families. As the waters recede and the full scope of the damage is assessed, Lutheran Disaster Response will work with the Indiana-Kentucky Synod and local communities to focus on long-term needs. Please write your check to Swamp Lutheran and mark the memo with Kentucky Relief and put in the Disaster Offering plate in the Narthex.

**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.

**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.

**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.

**BLESSING OF THE PETS** – at 11:30AM under the Portico we will provide a service of blessing. Please bring your tame and leashed/caged pets or a picture to the rear of the church under the carport.

**GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS** - Today, October 2 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., we will meet at the Homes of Hope property at 108 E. Main in Adamstown, next to Bollman Hat Company, for our "God's Work. Our Hands." project. We will do cleaning, outside maintenance, organizing and other work.



### **POINSETTIAS and CYCLAMENS**



It is that time of the year again to consider your holiday orders for poinsettias and cyclamens. Jodi Showalter (717-413-7149) will be handling the orders. Pricing will not be known until sometime in October. Jodi or the church office should be contacted with questions. The following information needs to be provided.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Poinsettias RED \_\_\_\_\_ WHITE \_\_\_\_\_

Cyclamens RED \_\_\_\_\_ WHITE \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

**CARD SHOWER** – Assist Mary Anne Weitzel celebrate 91 years of life! Her birthday on October 4 will be celebrated with a card shower. Mary Anne Weitzel, Mennonite Home, Reed Run, 1520 Harrisburg Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601. Help her know she is remembered and loved!

### PIG STOMACH TAKEOUT

OCTOBER 22, 2022

1:00PM – 4:00PM



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

PIG STOMACH MEAL \$ 18.00 per meal  
(includes vegetable, pepper cabbage, dessert, and beverage)

COOKED PIG STOMACH ONLY \$24.00

**DEADLINE FOR ORDER: OCTOBER 14**

**CALL CHURCH TO RESERVE YOUR ORDER. PICKUP AT BACK OF CHURCH UNDER PORTICO.**

Proceeds donated for kitchen equipment maintenance and repair

#### **This Week in the Parish (October 3 – October 9)**

October 3	6:00PM	Cub Scouts Den Meeting
	7:00PM	Cub Committee Meeting

	7:00PM	Handbells
October 4	7:00PM	Welcome Committee
October 5	7:00PM	Choir

### UPCOMING EVENTS

October 22	Time 1:00PM – 4:00PM	Pig Stomach Take Out
October 29	7:00AM-10:00AM	All You Can Eat Buffet Lutheran Disaster Relief

### DAILY READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

<i>Monday, October 3</i>	Psalm 3; Habakkuk 1:5-17; James 1:2-11
<i>Tuesday, October 4</i>	Psalm 3; Habakkuk 2:5-11; 1 John 5:1-5, 13-21
<i>Wednesday, October 5</i>	Psalm 3; Habakkuk 2:12-20; Mark 11:12-14, 20-24
<i>Thursday, October 6</i>	Psalm 111; Leviticus 14:33-53; 2 Timothy 1:13-18
<i>Friday, October 7</i>	Psalm 111; Numbers 4:34—5:4; 2 Timothy 2:1-7
<i>Saturday, October 8</i>	Psalm 111; Numbers 12:1-15; Luke 5:12-16

### UPCOMING SUNDAY READINGS

<i>Sunday, October 9</i>	2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c; Psalm 111 2 Timothy 2:8-15; Luke 17:11-19
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**Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
 275 Swamp Church Road, Reinholds, PA 17569  
 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)

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 & 9:00AM  
 SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:15AM

## **GOSPEL MESSAGE**

**October 2, 2022**

**LECTIONARY 27**

**Less Is More**

“Increase our faith!” cry the disciples in today’s gospel (Luke 17:5). Maybe you have come to worship with the same hope. Our world and lives are full of challenges that constantly test our limits—the limits of our patience, our love, our hope, our capacity for justice and mercy. Wouldn’t it be nice to have as much of those things as possible? Wouldn’t that allow us to fix this broken world?

But Jesus’ response is exactly the opposite—when it comes to faith, he tells his disciples to think small—like the size of a minuscule mustard seed. While that may not sound like enough, it will be if we can let go of thinking we are in control. The power of faith, Jesus tells us, does not come from the quantity we possess; it comes from placing our trust in the one who possesses everything.

If our trust shifts from God to ourselves, no amount of faith will ever be enough. God did not make us to be masters, so when we place ourselves in that position, anxiety and overwhelm are sure to follow. Instead, Christ calls us to be servants of an abundance that we will never possess or control. This is the abundance of God’s kingdom—where faith, hope, and love exist without limit. Even the smallest amount of trust in this abundance is enough because it pins our hearts and hopes on the one who is truly in control.

The things this assembly of faith-seekers will offer one another today are small, but with just a mustard seed of faith they can be so much more. Here, simple human words can become the vessels of the divine Word, bringing healing and transformation to our lives. Here, drops of water can wash away sins and create heirs to God’s kingdom. Here, bread and wine can become the food that offers us life everlasting through Christ’s victory over death.