



Second Sunday After Epiphany

January 15, 2023

Today's gospel opens with further reflection on Jesus' baptism. He is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world and the one anointed by the Spirit. In the liturgy we come and see Christ revealed among us in word and meal. We go forth to invite others to come and worship the Holy One and to receive the gifts of grace and peace made known among us.

GATHERING HYMN

HAIL TO THE LORD'S ANOINTED

ELW 311

- 1 Hail to the Lord's anointed,
great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
your reign on earth begun!
You come to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
to take away transgression
and rule in equity.

- 4 Kings shall fall down before you,
and gold and incense bring;
all nations shall adore you,
your praise all people sing.
To you shall prayer unceasing
and daily vows ascend;
your kingdom still increasing,
a kingdom without end.

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:

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING **Isaiah 49:1-7**

Here the servant, identified as Israel, speaks for herself and describes her honored mission. Called before her birth like Jeremiah and John the Baptist, the servant is not only to restore Israel. The servant's ultimate assignment is to bring news of God's victory to the ends of the earth. God in faithfulness has chosen Israel for this task.

¹Listen to me, O coastlands,
 pay attention, you peoples from far away!
 The LORD called me before I was born,
 while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

²He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
 in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
 he made me a polished arrow,
 in his quiver he hid me away.

³And he said to me, "You are my servant,
 Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain,
 I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
 yet surely my cause is with the LORD,
 and my reward with my God."

⁵And now the LORD says,
 who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
 to bring Jacob back to him,
 and that Israel might be gathered to him,
 for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,
 and my God has become my strength—

⁶he says,
 "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
 to raise up the tribes of Jacob
 and to restore the survivors of Israel;
 I will give you as a light to the nations,
 that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

⁷Thus says the LORD,
 the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
 to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
 the slave of rulers,
 "Kings shall see and stand up,
 princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
 because of the LORD, who is faithful,
 the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING **1 Corinthians 1:1-9**

Though God's church in Corinth is a fractious congregation beset with many conflicts, Paul opens this letter by spotlighting the multiple ways God has enriched and sustained its life as part of the divine call into the fellowship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,
²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: John 1:29-42

The Holy Gospel according to John

Glory to you, O Lord

John the Baptist's witness to Jesus initiates a chain of testimony as his disciples begin to share with others what they have found.

²⁹[John the Baptist] saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel."³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

Sermon

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.**

BLESSING

The God who faithfully brings forth justice
and breaks the oppressor's rod
✠ bless, strengthen, and uphold you,
today and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN **ARISE YOUR LIGHT HAS COME**

ELW 314

- 1 Arise, your light has come!
The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today.

- 4 Arise, your light has come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God's pow'r will make us strong.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Follow the way of Jesus.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

O MORNING STAR, HOW FAIR AND BRIGHT

MICHAEL BURKHARDT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CIRCLE OF PRAYER - Hunter Leisey, John Frantz, Nancy Kulp, Ed Miller, Charles Hoppman, Melissa Gress Swift, John Wesner, John Bergman, Michael Wargo, Nancy Leffler, Jan Lorah, Sandi Clemens, Nettie Kriener, Clair Sweigart, Larry Knauer, Faith Moyer, Michael A. Crowther, Eileen Leid, Reba Ranck, Grace Ranck, Dennis Goshert, Ray Fox, Deb Lorah, Jean

Wolf, Karen Gardner, Kent Weinhold, Gabe Leed, Amber and Damien, Muffy Reinecker, Tess Shank, Gene Miller, Kelly Martin, Pastor Jim Miller, Melody Ulrich.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given in honor of their wedding anniversary by Tom and Jane Leshner.

SANCTUARY CANDLE is given in memory of Anna Mae Moyer by Charles Moyer.

TAKE NOTE – Please contact Joyce Stoner (717) 336-7077 or mark Flower Calendar in Narthex if you would like flowers or the candle to be given in honor or memory of someone. Upcoming Sundays open.

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
Clyde Showalter
Charles Moyer
Leona Showalter

Clarice Haws
Mary Anne Weitzel
Ella Shirk
Charles Hoppman

Shirley Achey – (neighbor of Sue Kreitz)
Susan Levan
Joan Long
Mary Kring (aunt of Linda Ream)
Lisa Buckles (friend of Sue Ellen Knauer)

Katie Houck
Clair Sweigart



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 – Needs of the EASS food bank supported by the church are ongoing and need replenished monthly. Currently, there is a shortage of paper towels, toilet paper, tomato soup, pasta, spaghetti sauces, ketchup, mustard and canned chicken and spam. Thank you for helping as you are able. We distribute on the 2nd Wednesday each month.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE shares God's hope, healing and renewal with people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. When the dust settles and the headlines change, we stay to provide ongoing assistance to those in need. As IAN devastated parts of Puerto Rico, Florida and the East Coast these areas are added to the many other areas including the Kentucky rebuilding, and the devastating situation in Ukraine and surrounding countries. Please write your check to Swamp Lutheran and place it in the Disaster Response box in the Narthex. Thank you for giving generously.



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



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 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.

**Lower Susquehanna Synod Lutheran Disaster Response Trip
Houston, TX
April 16-22, 2023**

Planning meeting is TODAY, January 15th at 2:00 p.m. in the Community Room at Luther Acres, 250 St. Luke Drive, Lititz.

Come Join Us!



HELP SLY tackle hunger in our community. From now until Super Bowl Sunday, February 12, bring a can or three of soup or other non-perishable food items to church and leave at the goal post collection point in the Narthex. Your donation benefits Swamp Lutheran’s Food Pantry and



Visioning Project for Swamp's Future Stories Matter!

Stories are how we make sense of our lives. Our personal and communal stories help us see how we are part of God's story. As living variations of scripture, together we will look at our future as Swamp Lutheran Church. This is a season for us to celebrate our sacred stories, especially as we look forward with hope toward the future.

We need *your* stories to be included in a two-part visioning workshop called *Story Matters*. Please plan to attend. Pastor Richard Jorgensen and Deacon Marsha Roscoe of our Synod staff will lead us in this project.

In part one, we will reflect on the stories of our lives and our congregation. In part two, we will name how we are part of God's story. We are inviting members of every age and stage, regardless of how long you have been a member here. What matters most is that God has a story to tell through you! In this highly interactive workshop series, you are invited to come with openness to notice how God is working through our lives. We are working to secure childcare for those who need it.

Part two will be on Saturday, March 4, 2023, from 9:00 am to noon followed by lunch.



This Week in the Parish (January 16-22)

January 16	9:00AM	COVID Task Force
	7:00PM	Handbells
January 17	6:00PM	Zoom Bible Study
January 18	7:00PM	Choir
	7:00PM	Council Meeting
January 19	11:00AM	Worship Committee
January 22	11:15AM	SLY Leaders Meeting

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 29	11:15 AM – 3:45PM	SLY Snow Tubing
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DAILY READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

<i>Monday, January 16</i>	Psalm 21; Isaiah 24:1-16a; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12
<i>Tuesday, January 17</i>	Psalm 21; Isaiah 41:14-20; Romans 15:14-21
<i>Wednesday, January 18</i>	Psalm 21; Genesis 15:1-18; Matthew 12:33-37
<i>Thursday, January 19</i>	Psalm 146:5-10; Ruth 1:6-18; 2 Peter 3:1-10
<i>Friday, January 20</i>	Psalm 146:5-10; Ruth 4:13-17; 2 Peter 3:11-18
<i>Saturday, January 21</i>	Psalm 146:5-10; 1 Samuel 2:1-8; Luke 3:1-18

UPCOMING SUNDAY READINGS

Sunday, January 22, Third Sunday after Epiphany
Isaiah 35:1-10
Psalm 146:5-10 or Luke 1:46b-55
James 5:7-10
Matthew 11:2-11

GOSPEL MESSAGE

January 15, 2023

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

See for Yourself

Sometimes you just have to experience something for yourself in order to understand its true impact. It's just not the same to listen to someone else describe the rich flavors of an extravagant meal or list reasons a choral piece was so moving to its listeners. Few words are adequate to describe a magnificent sunset. A sticky summer's day, the bitter chill of winter, the palpable excitement that builds inside a sports stadium—sometimes you just have to be there to really understand what it's like.

Perhaps to some extent this is true of our faith too. "Come and see," Jesus tells two of John's disciples (John 1:39). Come and see for yourself where Jesus resides. Take a risk. Jump in. These words echo across time and space, offering us an invitation as well.

Every week we are invited to come and see where God dwells. Not only that, but we are invited to taste, to hear, to touch. We are invited to feast on the bread of communion, to hear ancient words of promise, to splash in the waters of baptism. We are invited to raise our hands, hearts, and voices in praise. Perhaps we are invited to bear witness to the power of digital community that unites us across time and space. We are invited to follow Christ's call into worship with our bodies as well as our souls. We are invited to let ourselves be surprised by whom and what we encounter. Finally, we are invited to listen for Christ's voice as we leave the worship space and search out God's presence in the world.

Where is God inviting you to come and see? Where might Christ already be dwelling among you?

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

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

Grady Daub, Assistant Organist – 717 917-2430

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

SWAMPLUTHERAN CHURCH
275 Swamp Church Road
Reinholds, PA 17569