

THE HOLY TRINITY

MAY 26, 2024

8:30 AM



Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church
Reinholds, Pennsylvania

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT SWAMP LUTHERAN CHURCH

Visitors 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 regularly for updates and schedules of ongoing activities of the church. Full prayer list is in the newsletter each month

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

WE ALL BELIEVE IN ONE TRUE GOD

J. WAYNE KERR

congregational responses are in bold type.

stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
the God of manna,
the God of miracles,
the God of mercy.

Amen.

Drawn to Christ and seeking God's abundance,
let us confess our sin.

God, our provider,

help us.

It is hard to believe there is enough to share.

**We question your ways when they differ from the ways
of the world in which we live.**

**We turn to our own understanding
rather than trusting in you.**

We take offense at your teachings and your ways.

Turn us again to you.

Where else can we turn?

**Share with us the words of eternal life
and feed us for life in the world.
Amen.**

Beloved people of God:
in Jesus, the manna from heaven,
you are fed and nourished.
By Jesus, the worker of miracles,
there is always more than enough.
Through Jesus, † the bread of life,
you are shown God's mercy:
you are forgiven and loved into abundant life.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, LORD GOD ALMIGHTY ELW 413

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

Sit

WORD

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

FIRST READING: **Isaiah 6:1-8**

This reading narrates Isaiah's vision of the Lord surrounded by angels. They sing "Holy, holy, holy," a song the church sings at the beginning of the great thanksgiving. This liturgical text invites the church and all creation to sing in praise of God's glory. That glory is God's mercy toward sinners.

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory."

⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Psalm 29 *read responsively*

¹Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.

²**Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.**

³The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders;
the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.

⁴**The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.**

⁵The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;

⁶**the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**

⁷The voice | of the LORD
bursts forth in | lightning flashes.

⁸**The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.**

⁹The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the | forests bare.
And in the temple of the LORD all are | crying, “Glory!”

¹⁰**The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.**

¹¹O LORD, give strength | to your people;
give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of peace.

SECOND READING: **Romans 8:12-17**

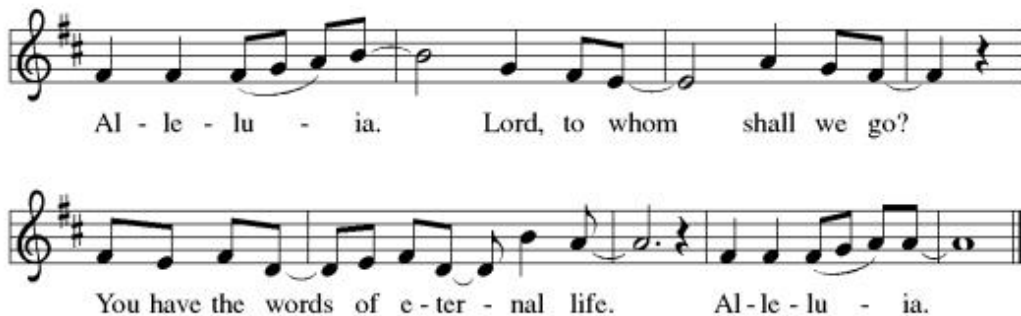
In describing the new life of faith, Paul refers to all three persons of the Trinity: the Spirit leads us to recognize that we are children of God the Father and joint heirs with Christ the Son.

¹²Brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—
¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death
the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are
children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you
have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit
bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs,
heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may
also be glorified with him.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL: **John 3:1-17**

The Holy Gospel according to John.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus' miracles prompt Nicodemus to visit him in secrecy. Jesus tells him about being born of the Spirit and about the Son who has been sent by God to save.

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

¹¹"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted

up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

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

Sit

SERMON

Stand

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, died, and was buried;

he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic* church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**that is, the true, universal Christian church of all times and places*

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERTORY COME, JOIN THE DANCE OF TRINITY JACOB B. WEBER

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.*

Last Sunday of the month special offering. The plate will be passed a second time to collect funds to help cover the cost to send Swamp Youth and Advisors to the 2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans, LA in July.

As the offering is brought to the table, the congregation stands and sings.



1 Now we join in cel - e - bra - tion at our Sav - ior's in - vi - ta - tion,
dressed no more in spir - it som - ber, clothed in - stead in joy and won - der;
for the Lord of all ex - is - tence, put - ting off di - vine tran - scen - dence,
stoops a - gain in love to meet us, with his ver - y life to feed us.

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, Bread of life,
**you have set this table with your very self,
and called us to the feast of plenty.
Gather what has been sown among us,
and strengthen us in this meal.
Make us to be what we receive here,
your body for the life of the world.
Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

Holy, mighty, and merciful Father, 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 you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, 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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.

Come!

Thanks be to God.

sit

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 available—tell the usher.

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.

Jesus, Bread of life,
we have received from your table
more than we could ever ask.
As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world with your own life.
In your name we pray.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

BLESSING

The blessing of God,
who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us,
✠ be upon you now and forever.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad.

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ARR. JOHN LEAVITT

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY WE WELCOME - Rev. Henry Herbener to lead us in worship while Pastor Brubaker is away this weekend. Rev. Herbener is the retired pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran in Ephrata. Rev. Herbener and his wife Lillian reside at Luther Acres in Lititz.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER - Hunter Leisey, John Frantz, Ed Miller, John Wesner, Michael Wargo, Jan Lorah, Sandi Clemens, Nettie Kriener, Clair Sweigart, Faith Moyer, Michael A. Crowther, Reba Ranck, Grace Ranck, Ray Fox, Gene Miller, Kelly Martin, Jean Wolf, Bruce Wagner, Honey Notobartolo, Charles Moyer, Bobby Hershey, Marilyn Gelsing, Edith Snyder, Sharon Levan, JJ Johnson, Robert Bachman, Teresa Sweigart, Mel and Troy Ulrich, Earl Myers, Elizabeth Sherman, Judy Habecker, Anna Rose Schannauer, Betty Kramer, Tyler Leed, Henry, Dennis Troutman, Larry Knauer, Robyn Reihner, David Metzger, Linda Mohn, Pauline Wassmer, Jerry Landis, Bob Shank, Rachel Craven, Laney Garrison, Karen Nye, Alicia Andrews, the family of Anna Hershey.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given in honor of their wedding anniversary by Randy and Lori Gockley.

SANCTUARY CANDLE is given in memory of loved ones by Linda and Howard Ream.

ALTAR FLOWERS – A 2024 altar flower calendar is in the Narthex. Flower & Candle costs remain at \$40.00 & \$5.00, respectively. Standing orders remain on the calendar from year to year. Please support the church by signing up for the weeks that do not have sponsors. Sue Kreitz, 717-283-9444 and John Frantz, 717-606-8994 are now taking care of the flower and candle sign-up if you have questions or want to schedule. Several opportunities for candles are available.

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 2023.



To our **knitters and crocheters**, please focus on prayer shawls. When you finish, please bring it to church and leave it in the library. *THANK YOU for supporting this church ministry.*

FOOD BANK – Needs of the food bank are ongoing and need replenished monthly. There is an urgent need for paper towels, toilet paper and there is always a need for canned vegetables (except corn) canned fruit, canned soup, spaghetti, pasta and rice. Thank you for helping as you are able. We distribute on the 2nd Wednesday each month. Please check for a current expiration date.

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



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 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

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.

Week in the Parish (May 27- June 2)

May 23-26		Homes of Hope Strawberry Shortcake Stand Adamstown Community Days
May 27	Memorial Day	Office CLOSED.
May 28	7:00PM	Homes of Hope
June 2	8:30AM	Worship

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 7-11	6:30PM-8:30PM	Reinholds Community VBS
July 26	2:30PM	Philadelphia Phillies Bus Trip
August 25	10:30AM	Church Picnic

DAILY READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

<i>Monday May 27</i>	Psalm 20 Numbers 9:15-23 Revelation 4:1-8
<i>Tuesday May 28</i>	Psalm 20 Exodus 25:1-22 1 Corinthians 2:1-10
<i>Wednesday May 29</i>	Psalm 20 Numbers 6:22-27 Mark 4:21-25
<i>Thursday May 30</i>	Psalm 81:1-10 Exodus 31:12-18 Acts 25:1-12
<i>Friday May 31</i>	Psalm 81:1-10 Leviticus 23:1-8 Romans 8:31-39
<i>Saturday June 1</i>	Psalm 81:1-10 Leviticus 24:5-9 John 7:19-24

UPCOMING SUNDAY READINGS

Sunday June 2 Deuteronomy 5:12-15 Psalm 81:1-10 2 Corinthians 4:5-12 Mark 2:23—3:6

Worship Assistants needed. We need lay readers, altar guild (set-up and clean-up), communion assistants. We will not be robing this summer and many roles will not require sitting in the chancel. Please let Connie Taylor or Pastor Scott know if you are interested or want to learn more.



**Lancaster
County**

The Project

The **Service Committee** would like to sponsor the following local service opportunity over the summer. This is being organized by Love Inc.

How does The Project work?

It all begins when churches want to do a “missions trip” in their community. Talented and handy people are willing to serve neighbors who cannot afford repairs and are experiencing financial hardships due to fixed income constraints.

Swamp is seeking those who are good with simple carpentry, electric, plumbing, painting, outdoor yard work, or cleaning (just to name a few). Please prayerfully consider helping by completing the below and returning to Jodi Showalter, 717-413-7149. The exact project and timing will be determined based on the helpers who sign up.

Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

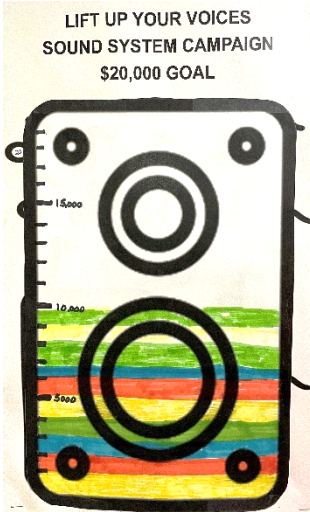
Outside Projects

Inside Projects

<input type="checkbox"/>	Painting	<input type="checkbox"/>	Stripping wallpaper
<input type="checkbox"/>	Basic carpentry	<input type="checkbox"/>	Painting
<input type="checkbox"/>	Caulking	<input type="checkbox"/>	Spackling/wall repair
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trim bushes and trees	<input type="checkbox"/>	Repair/replace leaky faucets, toilets, sinks
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mulch	<input type="checkbox"/>	Repair/replace broken lights and fixtures
<input type="checkbox"/>	Fix screens/replace screen doors	<input type="checkbox"/>	House cleaning/carpet cleaning
<input type="checkbox"/>	Remove trash/clean out debris	<input type="checkbox"/>	Fix cabinets/doors; replace locks/hardware
<input type="checkbox"/>	Power washing	<input type="checkbox"/>	Caulking/weatherstripping/replace trim

LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD DISASTER RESPONSE CREW would like to thank you for supporting their efforts to rebuild in the Ft. Myers area following Hurricane Ian. On Sunday June 9th at 7:00 PM at Luther Acres Community Room, join them to hear stories and see pictures from the response crew.

SANCTUARY SOUND SYSTEM UPGRADE



LIFT UP YOUR VOICES PLEDGE

We continue to stretch towards our goal of \$20,000. Pledge Cards are available at each entrance to the Sanctuary. A one-time gift or a weekly, monthly, quarterly pledge is welcome. Feel free to call or email the office if you want a pledge card mailed to you.

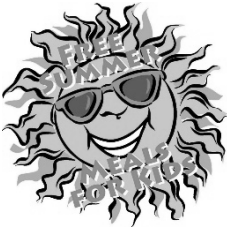
Give via QR code now



LIVESTREAM TECHNICIAN

We need volunteers to learn and share in the livestreaming and sound control for Sunday worship. We need additional helpers so that we can create a rotation schedule. If interested or to learn more, contact Pastor Scott.

PACK 95 is looking for more **Cubs** and a **Cubmaster** and **Treasurer**. To learn more, talk to Pastor Scott or Cubmaster Travis Leed: 717-381-1608 or email at pack95reinholds@gmail.com



COCALICO MINISTERIUM'S ACTS OF LOVE SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM Swamp will be preparing and delivering on July 3. Persons interested in helping should contact Denise Kidwell. 717-725-8795.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

May 26, 2024

THE HOLY TRINITY

How Can These Things Be?

Given the many heated encounters between Jesus and Pharisees, the term *Pharisee* has become, for some, another word for “enemy of truth” or “opponent of God’s promises for the world.” In communities where divisions over what is true and false, good and bad, have become iron-clad, often rankling relationships, it may seem familiar—even honorable—to hiss at Pharisees. But that wasn’t Jesus’ way.

Think first about people like the Samaritan woman at the well, or a centurion in Rome’s brutal occupying army, or a scandalous prostitute, or an executioner driving nails into Jesus’ flesh—people that might have been easily discarded. Yet Jesus related to them in compassion and mercy, not exclusion.

Then think of Nicodemus, meeting Jesus at night, calling him “a teacher who has come from God.” Nicodemus is a Pharisee but he is hardly an enemy of truth opposing God’s way in the world. Moreover, with one word, “we,” he includes other Pharisees like himself who wish to accompany Jesus in God’s kingdom.

The perplexing nighttime conversation that leaves Nicodemus in a state of wonderment—”How can these things be?”—leads to Jesus’ climactic revelation: “God so loved the world . . .” In the gospel’s original Greek, “world” (*kosmos*) indicates that literally every bit of the universe receives God’s mercy and compassion, saving us all from perishing into iron-clad division between who is in and who it out.

How can these things be? On this Sunday that celebrates the wonder of the Trinity, the answer comes from God the Creator, saying that creation is good; from God the Redeemer, teaching us to love the world as God loves it; and from God the Spirit, continuing to draw us into wonderment. That’s how this can be.

Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

Terri Renninger, Church Secretary – 717-336-2849

Jonathan Gyorke, Sexton – 717-435-3091

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

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

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