NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 21, 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." (<u>Small</u> <u>Catechism</u>, 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 <u>www.swamplutheran.org</u> 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

Mark's gospel makes clear how great is the press of the crowd, with its countless needs to be met, on Jesus and his disciples. Yet in today's gospel Jesus advises his disciples to get away and rest, to take care of themselves. Sometimes we think that when others are in great need we shouldn't think of ourselves at all; but Jesus also honors the caregivers' need. We are sent from Christ's table to care for others and for ourselves.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

GRADY DAUB

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 O CHRIST, YOUR HEART, COMPASSIONATE ELW 722

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.

O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Sit

WORD

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

READING: Ephesians 2:11-22

The author of this letter reminds his audience that originally they were not part of God's chosen people. Through Jesus' death, however, they are included in God's household of faith, whose cornerstone is Jesus Christ.

¹¹Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision"—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—¹²remember that you were at that time without Christ,

being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. ¹⁴For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile both aroups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸ for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone.²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

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

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

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

When Jesus sends his disciples out to teach and heal, they minister among large numbers of people. Their work is motivated by Christ's desire to be among those in need.

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

⁵³When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. ⁵⁴When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, ⁵⁵and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

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

Sit

SERMON

CHILDREN'S 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.

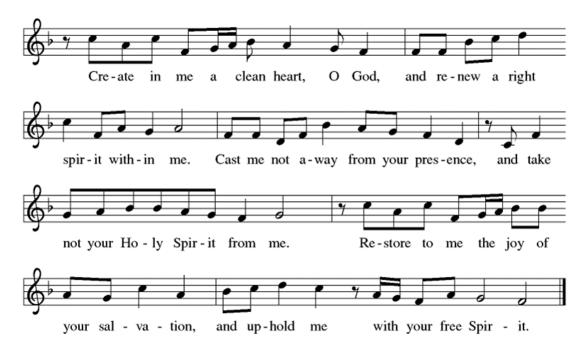
Sit

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERTORY GRADY DAUB

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.

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



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. WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, 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 whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. 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.

THE DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Following the direction of the ushers, form a circle to receive communion. The bread, cup, and wine will be brought to you. Grape juice and gluten free options are available—tell the usher. After being communed, please return to your seat.

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.

SENDING HYMN PRAISE THE ONE WHO BREAKS THE DARKNESS ELW 843

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ. Thanks be to God.

Postlude

GRADY DAUB

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY WE WELCOME the Rev. Jeff Pretz to lead us in worship while Pastor Scott is away at the ELCA Youth Gathering. Rev. Pretz is the retired pastor of Trinity Lutheran in New Holland. He and his wife, Jill, reside at Luther Acres in Lititz.

CIRCLE OF PRAYER - Hunter Leisey, John Frantz, Ed Miller, John Wesner, Michael Wargo, Jan Lorah, Jeff Kappenstein, 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 Gelsinger, 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, 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, Mary Beth Jenkins, the family of Elmer Gockley, the family of Dianne Crills, the family of Elwood Fasnacht, the family of Jean Wenrich Moyer (Dennis' wife), family of Brenna Abinnanti.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given in memory of Dad, by Jenny Weitzel.

SANCTUARY CANDLE is given in loving memory of Terry Bergman, by Sally, Jen and Marino.

ALTAR FLOWER/CANDLE UPDATE: The altar flowers that have been sponsored thus far have been beautiful and we thank all who donated to this ministry. Your continued support would be appreciated. The following dates are available to sponsor the Altar Flowers: September 1, September 29, October 20, November 3, December 29. There are many opportunities to sponsor the Sanctuary Candle. Flowers are \$40.00 and Candle is \$5.00. Contact Sue Kreitz at 717-283-9444 or John Frantz at 717-606-8994.

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 2023.



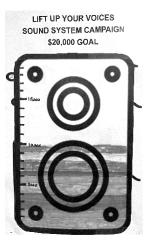
To our **knitters and crocheters**, please focus on prayer shawls. When you finish, please bring it to church and leave it in the library. *THANK YOU for supporting this church ministry.* **FOOD BANK** – Needs of the food bank are ongoing and need replenished monthly. There is a need for paper towels, pasta, canned fruit and soup. 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: <u>lgockley2@gmail.com</u> or call 717-203-8551

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.

THANK YOU to everyone who volunteered for the COCALICO MINISTERIUM'S ACTS OF LOVE SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM. We couldn't have done it without you!

A HUGE THANK YOU goes out to our incredible Kitchen Krew and volunteers who worked many hours to plan, prepare and package meals for the Acts of Love lunch program! Swamp made over 140 hot meals and served 140 cold lunches. I couldn't have done it without all the people who gave their talents and time. The people of our community are grateful! You all rock! Thank you, Denise Kidwell.



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





GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS. Sunday, September 8th, 2024. The Service Committee would like to have our congregation join this ELCA sponsored service opportunity. This is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as a congregation – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans- an act of service sharing God's grace freely given for all. How can

you be of service?

- Do you know of a local organization that could use a few hours of help?
- Do you know of a neighbor, friend, or fellow member of the congregation that could use a few hours of help around the house/yard area?
- Are you interested in signing up and joining in this fun faith filled service activity?
- If you have service ideas, please contact Pastor Brubaker or Jodi Showalter.
- If interested in helping, please sign up on the sign-up sheets at the front or back of the church.



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.



August 18, during the 8:30AM Service, we will give thanks and praise for our children and teachers and the fact that they will have all they need as they begin their school year with our Blessing of the Backpacks. As a manner of encouragement to the excited and comfort to the anxious, Pastor Scott will invite the teachers and children and their backpacks/work bags to the front for prayer. Bring your school bags on August 18!



Gently Used Sneakers Needed. SLY 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. SLY is **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 Pastor Scott Brubaker at 717-598-4663 or email pastor@swamplutheran.org



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.

LWR SCHOOL KITS - Last year, Swamp assembled and delivered 120 school kits to the LWR pick-up site. Many thanks to all who donated supplies and helped us reach this goal! This year we're aiming for a match or more!

We are presently accepting donations of items for this year's Lutheran World Relief School Kit Project through the end of September. Please help make this year's project a success.

Donations may be given to Jane Lesher, Denise Null and Connie Taylor.

Questions to Debbie Carvell 717-336-5638.

Items most needed: notebooks, pencils, erasers.

Items not needed: No backpacks (thanks to Jane).

We appreciate everyone following the guidelines listed below, as Lutheran World Relief will not send anything that doesn't adhere to these guidelines. Each backpack will contain:

- 70-80 sheet notebooks of wide or college ruled paper approximately 8"x10 1/2" 4 per backpack
- 30-centimeter ruler or a ruler with centimeters on one side and inches on the other side 1 per backpack
- Pencil sharpener 1 per backpack
- Blunt scissors (safety scissors). (They must say this on the packaging) 1 per backpack
- Unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers 5 per backpack
- Black or blue ink pens 5 per backpack
- Packs of 16 or 24 crayons 1 per backpack
- 2 1/2" erasers 1 per backpack



Questions? Please contact Jen Weitzel

Greeter Schedule- July

21 Jane Lesher28 Larry & Sally Hagy

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Greeter Schedule- Aug

4 David & Laraine Kramer 11 Lowell & Sandy Haws 18 Cody Leisey & Aubrey Page 25 Jen Brubaker

Week in the Parish (July 21-28)

July 22	6:00PM	Generosity Cmte
July 26	2:30PM	Philadelphia Phillies Bus Trip
July 28	8:30AM	Worship

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 6	7:00PM	Homes of Hope
August 13	11:00AM	Widow & Widowers Fox Creamery Ephrata
August 18	8:30AM	Blessing of the Backpacks during Service
August 25	10:00AM	Church Picnic
August 27	7:00PM	Homes of Hope
August 28	7:00PM Widows &	Widowers Historical Society of Cocalico's
	Program a	at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Ephrata.

DAILY READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Monday July 22	Psalm 100 Jeremiah 50:1-7 Hebrews 13:17-25
Tuesday July 23	Psalm 100 Zechariah 9:14—10:2 Acts 20:17-38
Wednesday July 24	Psalm 100 2 Samuel 5:1-12 Luke 15:1-7
Thursday July 25	Psalm 145:10-18 1 Kings 19:19-21 Colossians 1:9-14
Friday July 26	Psalm 145:10-18 2 Kings 3:4-20 Colossians 3:12-17
Saturday July 27	Psalm 145:10-18 2 Kings 4:38-41 John 4:31-38

UPCOMING SUNDAY READINGS

Sun July 28 2 Kings 4:42-44 Psalm 145:10-18 Ephesians 3:14-21 John 6:1-21

Other Readings for this Sunday

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Jeremiah prophesied before the exile in 587 BCE. In this passage, he uses the metaphor of a shepherd to describe the bad kings who have scattered the "flock" of Israel. God promises to gather the flock and to raise up a new king from David's line to save Israel and Judah.

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not be in want. (Ps. 23:1)

¹The LORD | is my shepherd;

I shall not [|] be in want.

²The LORD makes me lie down [|] in green pastures and leads me be- [|] side still waters.

³You restore my | soul, O LORD,

and guide me along right pathways | for your name's sake.

⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall [|] fear no evil;

for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they | comfort me.

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence [|] of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is [|] running over.

⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days | of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the | LORD forever.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

July 21, 2024 LECTIONARY 16 Sacred Rest

The action-packed book of Mark may serve as an important reminder that faith is an embodied reality, shaping how we live, move, and interact in this world. An active faith looks like an unapologetic pursuit of justice, mercy, and healing for all in need. There was and still is no shortage of work to be done in the name of Christ. So, what do we make of Jesus' invitation to "come away . . . and rest awhile"?

In a society that values hustle and productivity above all else, true rest is profoundly countercultural. And yet, rest as a discipline has much to teach us about faith and life. Perhaps most importantly, rest reminds us that we are not God. It requires faith that God is still making all things new even while we step back for our own healing and nourishment. Rest reminds us that we do not bear the salvation of the world on our shoulders. This is good news!

Additionally, taking time to rest has the potential to restore us to community, by reminding us of our rightful place in the body of Christ. We are but one part among many, which allows us to approach our work with more freedom and joy than we ever could alone. We are called to do the work of ministry in community: we all alternate rest, work, and play so that, collectively, we can move toward liberation for all God's beloved creation.

We may find this sacred rest in many places, but perhaps one such instance is in worship. Here, we come away to be with our God and each other. We feast together. We celebrate, contemplate, and praise. We remember who we are and whose we are. And then, rested and nourished, we are sent back out—to go in peace, to share the good news, and to continue to serve our neighbors in Christ's name.

Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church 717-336-2849 <u>www.swamplutheran.org</u> <u>secretary@swamplutheran.org</u> Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30AM – 12:00 noon

The Rev. Scott V. Brubaker, Pastor Cell: 717-598-4663 Email: <u>pastor@swamplutheran.org</u>

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

You are Welcome Here!

At Swamp Lutheran Church, *Grace is Spoken Here!* We welcome with full participation and inclusion all who are seeking God's love and grace. We welcome all because God welcomes all, regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, or relationship status. We welcome all without regard to addictions, imprisonment, physical or mental health, socio-economic circumstances or anything that too often divides us. Together as one in the Spirit, our unity is in Jesus Christ.

Notice Regarding Audio/Video Recording and/or Photography of Services/Events:

Persons participating in events or worship services sponsored by Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church are subject to being recorded by photographic, video, and/or audio devices. Your photo/recording may be used without your written permission. By attending a Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church service or event, you release our employees and officers and all persons involved from any liability connected with the taking, recording, digitizing, and/or publication of photographs, computer images, video and/or sound recordings.

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