RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD EASTER DAWN +April 20, 2025+ 6:00 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 <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

"The last enemy to be destroyed is death," Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The service begins in darkness, before dawn. The lighting of a new fire takes place outside the church building.

PRELUDE GRADY DAUB

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.

Sisters and brothers in Christ, on this most holy night when our Savior Jesus Christ passed from death to life, we gather with the church throughout the world in vigil and prayer. This is the passover of Jesus Christ. Through light and the word, through water and oil, bread and wine, we proclaim Christ's death and resurrection, share Christ's triumph over sin and death, and await Christ's coming again in glory.

BLESSING OF THE FIRE

Let us pray.

Eternal God, in Jesus Christ you have given the light of life to all the world. Bless this new fire, and increase in us a desire to shine forth with the brightness of Christ's rising, until we feast at the banquet of eternal light; through the Sun of righteousness, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

TRACING THE INSCRIPTION ON THE PASCHAL CANDLE

Christ, yesterday and today,	+
the beginning	Α
and the ending.	Ω
To Christ belongs all time	2
and all the ages;	0
to Christ belongs glory and dominion	2
now and forever. Amen	5

LIGHTING OF THE PASCHAL CANDLE

The light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds.

PROCESSION –Congregation silently enters church. Congregation lights their candle and proceeds to their pew. The Pastor and Worship Assistants will follow. Remain Standing.

The light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

The light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

The light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

GREETING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Congregation extinguishes their candle.

GATHERING HYMN JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY ELW 365

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

AFFIRMATION OF BAPTISM WITH ASPERSION

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God? I renounce them.

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God? I renounce them.

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God? I renounce them.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

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.

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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.

AFFIRMATION BY THE ASSEMBLY

You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in holy baptism:

to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth?

I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for one another in your life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

ASPERSION

Let us pray.

We give thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give us new birth, cleanse us from sin, and raise us to eternal life. Stir up in your people the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit for wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever. **Amen**

Sit

Children leave for Children's Church

WORD

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

FIRST READING Acts 10:34-43

Peter crosses the immense religious and social boundary that separates Jews from Gentiles in order to proclaim the good news of Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, so that God's forgiveness in Jesus' name would reach out to all people.

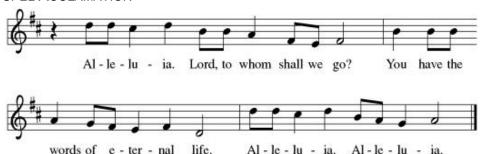
³⁴Peter began to speak to [the people]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: 38how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴²He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL Luke 24:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord

Evidently expecting to find Jesus' corpse, some of the women among his followers go to the tomb with embalming spices. After a perplexing encounter with the empty tomb and angelic visitors, the women become the first to proclaim the amazing news of resurrection.

¹ On the first day of the week, at early dawn, [the women] came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ² They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³ but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴ While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵ The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶ Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ¹ that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." ⁶ Then they remembered his words, ⁶ and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. ¹⁰ Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. ¹¹ But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them.

¹² But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what happened.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

Sit

SFRMON

CHILDREN RETURN FROM CHILDREN'S CHURCH

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Stand

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.

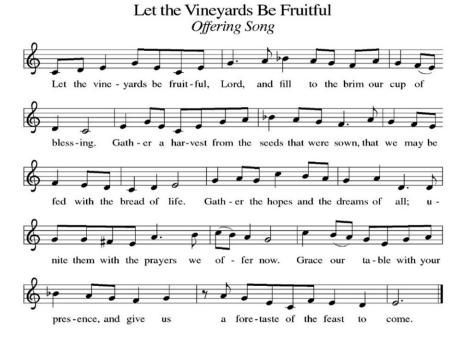
Sit

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERTORY **GRADY DAUB**

In addition to the plate, online giving via cell phone is safe OFFERING 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.



Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980 Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923 Text and music © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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OFFERING PRAYER

Risen One,

you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring.
Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world. Amen.

Words of Institution

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.

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.

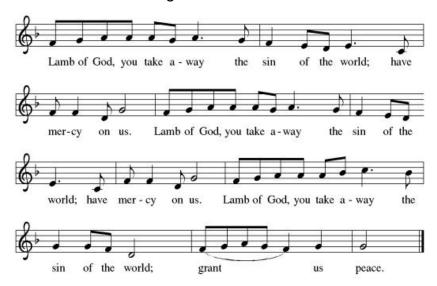
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD remain standing



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 are available – tell the usher.

After all have communed, stand

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

Let us pray.

Living One,

in this feast you have made yourself known to us.

Send us now to tell of your wonders,

sing of your glory,

and proclaim your risen life

to a wounded and weary world. Amen.

SENDING

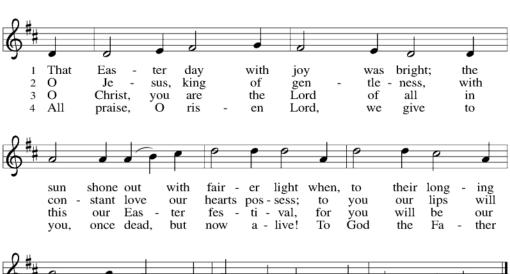
God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

BLESSING

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come, Sovereign, ⊕ Savior, and Spirit, light your way with resurrection dawn, now and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN THAT EASTER DAY WITH JOY WAS BRIGHT

ELW 384





DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE GRADY DAUB

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CIRCLE OF PRAYER - Hunter Leisey, John Frantz, Ed Miller, John Wesner, Michael Wargo, Jeff Kappenstein, Nettie Kriener, Clair Sweigart, Faith Moyer, Michael A. Crowther, Reba Ranck, Grace Ranck, Ray Fox, Gene Miller, Jean Wolf, Bobby Hershey, Marilyn Gelsinger, Edith Snyder, Teresa Sweigart, Mel and Troy Ulrich, Earl Myers, Elizabeth Sherman, Judy Habecker, Anna Rose Schannauer, Linda Mohn, Pauline Wassmer, Jerry Landis, Mary Beth Jenkins, Evelyn Gehman, Joan Leed, Ron Adams, Kevin Williams, Karen Laudenslager, Susan Levan, Larry Eberly, Anson Kauffman, Janet Bingaman, Dwayne Dimitris, Gladys Eckenroad, Bonnie Koehle-Koon, Ross Houck, Chris Zander, Kathleen Troutman, Sally Bergman, Keith Reimert, Larry Hagy, Pam Heisey, Cathy Stine, Connie Malafarina, family of Molly Weitzel.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given in honor of our children and grandchildren by David and Laraine Kramer.

SANCTUARY CANDLE is given in memory of loved ones by a friend.

ALTAR FLOWER/CANDLE UPDATE: Thank you to everyone who donated to the Altar Flower and Sanctuary Candle ministry. The 2025 Flower Calendar is posted in the Narthex. The Sanctuary Candle cost will remain at \$5.00 and the cost of the Altar Flowers remains at \$40.00 (subject to change).

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 2025.

FOOD BANK – Needs of the food bank are ongoing and need replenished monthly. There is a need for paper towels, toilet paper, canned tuna, chicken, vegetables 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.

SERVICE COMMITTEE LWR Personal Care Kits.

During the months of March and April we will be collecting items for personal care kits. The following items are included in each kit, you may donate a complete kit or individual items.

- 1 light-weight bath size towel (maximum 52"X27"), dark color recommended
- 2 bath size bars (4 or 5 oz) of soap in original wrapping
- 1 adult size toothbrush in its original packaging
- 1 sturdy comb, remove packaging
- 1 metal nail clippers, remove packaging

Do not add other items than those that are listed. All items should be new. All kits, soap, and quilts can be collected for LWR until Sunday, October 1st.

Thank you for your support of Lutheran World Relief's worldwide mission! Jane Lesher 717-471-2974.



Knitters and Crocheters: We have been asked to provide baby blankets for Veteran Families. Please use SOFT yarn with not too loose of a pattern and no more than 32" X 32," but not less than 27" square or rectangular. There are some copies of

baby blanket patterns in the library at church where the shawls/blankets are being collected. We need more boy colors than girl colors.

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.

Greeter Schedule April	Greeter Schedule for May
20 Delores D' Aiello	4 Ken & Sam Reimert
27 John Frantz	11 Deb Kohl
	18 Deb Sweigert
	25 Glenn & Linda Beard

Week in the Parish (April 20 – 27)

April 20	7:00AM	Breakfast	
April 20	8:30AM	Worship	
April 21	OFFICE CLOSED		
April 22	No Zoom Bible Study		
April 22	7:00PM	Cocalico Builders of Hope	
April 23	7:00PM	Choir	
April 27	8:30AM	Worship	
April 27	9:45AM	Sunday School	

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bell Choir
Zoom Bible Study
Choir
Worship
Sunday School

EASTER FLOWERS

In memory of:

- Loved ones by Glenn and Linda Beard
- Polly Knauer by Bill Knauer
- Tom Wenzel by Pat Wenzel
- His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Chmielewski, by Carol and John Chmielewski
- Her father, Mr. Kenneth Mummah, by Carol and John Chmielewski
- Nancy Kulp by Doug Kulp
- Their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kauffman, by Debbie, Dwayne, Peggy, and Gary
- Their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Linton D. Myers, by Debbie, Dwayne, Peggy, and Gary
- Their favorite Mema, Irene Myers, by Earl Myers family
- Parents, Russell and Mary Derr, by Jane and Tom Lesher
- Parents, Charles and Carolyn Lesher, by Tom and Jane Lesher
- Mahlon and Lucy Sweigart by the family
- Parents, Ralph and Dottie Good, by Pam Leisey
- Elaine Fair by the Fair family
- · Parents and grandparents by Sue Ellen and Larry Knauer
- Parents and grandparents, Charlie and Anna Mae Moyer, by the Moyer family
- Scott's mother, Etta, by Pastor Scott and Jen Brubaker
- Anna Hershey by Robert Hershey Jr.
- Helen Shank by Teresa Renninger
- Mabel Mertz by Teresa Renninger
- Parents, James and Nancy Frantz, by John and Jerry
- Parents, Musser and Miriam Landis, by John and Jerry
- Jeffrey Landis by John and Jerry
- Joan, Dale, and Muffy Reinecker by Mark and Roslyn Reinecker Bansner
- Our grandparents/great -grandparents by the Rineer family
- Parents and grandparents, Vernon and Edith Showalter, by Lee, Jodi, Matthew, and Eric Showalter
- parents and grandparents, Gil and Joann Gockley, by Lee, Jodi, Matthew, and Eric Showalter

In honor of:

- Children, Debbie, Dwayne, Peggy, and Gary, by Earl Myers
- His favorite grandson, P. Casey Coble, by Earl Myers
- His favorite granddaughter, Stevie Nicole and Erik Posegay, by Earl Myers
- His great granddaughters, Avery Ann and Olivia Nicole Posegay, by Earl Myers
- The Glory of God by Connie Taylor
- Molli, Chace, and Jennifer by Connie Taylor
- Her mother, Mrs. Ruth Mummah, by Carol and John Chmielewski
- Our loving family by Glenn and Linda Beard
- Grandchildren, Addyson and Anson Kauffman, by Sue Ellen and Larry Knauer
- Helping neighbors by Chris Zander
- God's beauty in nature by Chris Zander
- Our parents/grandparents, Tom Showalter, Bob and Donna Rineer, and Bonnie Showalter by the Rineer family
- Our children, Kenzie, Maren, and Quinton, by Zach and Abbey Rineer
- Children, Matthew and Kiersten and Eric and Lindsay, by Lee and Jodi Showalter
- Granddaughter, Emily Joann, by Lee and Jodi Showalter
- Grandson, Noah Lee, by Lee and Jodi Showalter

DAILY READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Sunday April 20 Resurrection of Our Lord—Easter Evening Isaiah 25:6-9 Psalm 114 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 Luke 24:13-49

Monday April 21 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Joshua 10:16-27 1 Corinthians 5:6b-8 Tuesday April 22 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 Judges 4:17-23; 5:24-31a Revelation 12:1-12

Wednesday April 23 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 2 Samuel 6:1-15 Luke 24:1-12

Thursday April 24 Psalm 150 1 Samuel 17:1-23 Acts 5:12-16
Friday April 25 Psalm 150 1 Samuel 17:19-32 Acts 5:17-26
Saturday April 26 Psalm 150 1 Samuel 17:32-51 Luke 24:36-40

UPCOMING SUNDAY READINGS

Sunday April 27 Acts 5:27-32 Psalm 118:14-29 or Psalm 150 Revelation 1:4-8 John 20:19-31



May 18 @ 11AM

Swamp Lutheran Church 275 Swamp Church Road, Reinholds, PA 17569

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT FOR ALL AGES

The Swing Fever Band, Free Food, Games for Kids. All proceeds go to Stockings for Soliders shipping costs and Wreaths Across America for the local Swamp Church Cemetery

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT THE CHURCH AT 717.336.2849

GOSPEL MESSAGE

April 20, 2025 RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD, EASTER DAY Memory and Hope

Of all the Sundays for Jesus to be absent from the gospel story! How can he be missing on Easter? Go figure.

Since Jesus is nowhere to be found, the women who go to the tomb have no evidence of the resurrection but only the testimony of two mysterious figures: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again" (Luke 24:5-7).

And they remembered.

The women's memory is more than simple recall. Their sudden recollection of Jesus' prophecy implies a deeper level of comprehension. And with new insight into the bewildering events they have witnessed comes a stirring of hope for what is to come.

The Akan people of Ghana in West Africa give us the wisdom of *sankofa*, the principle that by reaching back, we may move forward. The *sankofa* proverb teaches, "It is not taboo to go back and fetch what you forgot." We face the future by grasping the past.

That is a good way to describe Christians' confession of faith. We are all like the women at the tomb on Easter morning. We have no evidence of the resurrection, but only the testimony we have received from others, all the storytellers and saints throughout the generations. Recalling their witness, we proclaim the Easter promise again today. Memory and hope go hand in hand.

So remember, beloved. Remember: where even two or three of you are gathered, the living Christ will be there with you. Remember: blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Remember: if Christ has gone to prepare a place for you, he will come again and take you to himself, so that where he is, there you may be also.

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 SUNDAY SCHOOL 9:45AM

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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