

*DAY OF PENTECOST*  
*MAY 24, 2026*  
*8:30 AM*



Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Reinholds, Pennsylvania

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT SWAMP LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Guests** 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](http://www.swamplutheran.org) regularly for updates and schedules of ongoing activities of the church. Full prayer list is in the newsletter each month.

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## GATHERING

### *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

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Pentecost derives its name from the Jewish festival celebrating the harvest and the giving of the law on Mount Sinai fifty days after Passover. Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the Holy Spirit as God's presence within and among us. In Acts the Spirit arrives in rushing wind and flame, bringing God's presence to all people. Paul reminds us that though we each have different capacities, we are unified in the Spirit that equips us with these gifts. Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on his disciples, empowering them to forgive sin. We celebrate that we too are given the breath of the Holy Spirit and sent out to proclaim God's redeeming love to all the world.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE**

COME DOWN, O LOVE DIVINE

J.WAYNE KERR

*congregational responses are in bold type.*

*Stand*

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne  
and to the Lamb! **Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness  
who accompanies us on our journeys.  
We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection.  
We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.  
Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.  
Break down barriers that divide us.  
Fill us with the breath of peace.  
Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism,  
and for making us a new creation.  
We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

GOD OF TEMPEST, GOD OF WHIRLWIND

ELW 400

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

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us  
your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right  
judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ,  
your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one  
God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

*Sit*

*Children leave for Children's Church*

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## WORD

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

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**Psalm 104:24-34, 35b** (*read responsively*)

<sup>24</sup> How manifold are your | works, O LORD!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full | of your creatures.

<sup>25</sup> **Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too man- | y to number,**

**living things both | small and great.**

<sup>26</sup> There go the ships | to and fro,

and Leviathan, which you made for the | sport of it.

<sup>27</sup> **All of them | look to you**

**to give them their food | in due season.**

<sup>28</sup> You give it to them; they | gather it;

you open your hand, and they are filled | with good things.

<sup>29</sup> **When you hide your face, | they are terrified;**

**when you take away their breath, they die and return | to their dust.**

<sup>30</sup> You send forth your Spirit, and they | are created;

and so you renew the face | of the earth.

<sup>31</sup> **May the glory of the LORD en- | dure forever;**

**O LORD, rejoice in | all your works.**

<sup>32</sup> You look at the earth | and it trembles;

you touch the mountains | and they smoke.

<sup>33</sup> **I will sing to the LORD as long | as I live;**

**I will praise my God while I | have my being.**

<sup>34</sup> May these words of | mine please God.

I will rejoice | in the LORD.

<sup>35b</sup> **Bless the LORD, | O my soul.**

**Hal- | lelujah!**

## Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

*Paul is helping the Corinthians understand the relationship between our God-given unity and Spirit-created diversity. The Spirit creates the unity of faith and gives all Christians diverse gifts for the common benefit of all. We need one another's diverse spiritual gifts because the same Spirit has given them to each person for the common good.*

<sup>3b</sup> No one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts but the same Spirit, <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of services but the same Lord, <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup> To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup> to another the working of powerful deeds, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup> All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



# GOSPEL PROCESSION (VS. 1)

## Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading



*Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji we - tu.*  
1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead - ing, fash - ion us all a - new.  
2 Come to teach us, come to nour - ish those who be - lieve in Christ.  
3 Guide our think - ing and our speak - ing done in your ho - ly name.



*Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi - ngu - ni, tu - we wa - tu wa - pya.*  
It's your lead - ing that we're need - ing, help us to fol - low you.  
Bless the faith - ful, may they flour - ish, strength - ened by grace un - priced.  
Mo - ti - vate all in their seek - ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.

### Refrain



*Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.*  
Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.



*Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.*  
Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

- 4 Not mere knowledge, but discernment,  
nor rootless liberty;  
turn disquiet to contentment,  
doubt into certainty. *Refrain*
- 5 Keep us fervent in our witness,  
unswayed by earth's allure.  
Ever grant us zealous fitness,  
which you alone assure. *Refrain*

Text: Wilson Niwagila; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922

Music: NJOOKWETU, ROHO MWEMA, Wilson Niwagila

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HOLY GOSPEL: **John 20:19-23**

The Holy Gospel according to John.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## GOSPEL RECESSION (VS. 2)

### Gracious Spirit, Heed Our Pleading



*Njo - o kwe - tu, Ro - ho mwe - ma, M - fa - ri - ji we - tu.*  
1 Gra - cious Spir - it, heed our plead - ing, fash - ion us all a - new.  
2 Come to teach us, come to nour - ish those who be - lieve in Christ.  
3 Guide our think - ing and our speak - ing done in your ho - ly name.



*Tu - fu - ndi - she ya mbi - ngu - ni, tu - we wa - tu wa - pya.*  
It's your lead - ing that we're need - ing, help us to fol - low you.  
Bless the faith - ful, may they flour - ish, strength - ened by grace un - priced.  
Mo - ti - vate all in their seek - ing, free - ing from guilt and shame.

#### Refrain



*Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.*  
Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.



*Njo - o, njo - o, njo - o, Ro - ho mwe - ma.*  
Come, come, come, Ho - ly Spir - it, come.

- 4 Not mere knowledge, but discernment,  
nor rootless liberty;  
turn disquiet to contentment,  
doubt into certainty. *Refrain*
- 5 Keep us fervent in our witness,  
unswayed by earth's allure.  
Ever grant us zealous fitness,  
which you alone assure. *Refrain*

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SERMON

*CHILDREN RETURN FROM CHILDREN'S CHURCH*

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*

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**MEAL**  
***God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ***

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**OFFERTORY**    HOLY SPIRIT, LIGHT DIVINE

J. WAYNE KERR

**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.*

**Create in Me a Clean Heart**  
*Offering Song*

The musical score is written in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your pres - ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up - hold me with your free Spir - it. Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right spir - it with - in me." The music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and sixteenth notes, with some rests and ties.

Music: *Liturgy of Joy*, James M. Capers, b. 1948  
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## OFFERING PRAYER

Merciful God,

**accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory.  
You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day  
when we will hunger and thirst no more.  
Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus,  
that goodness and mercy may follow us  
and bless the world you love.  
In the name of Jesus, 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. **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 new life.

Receive the risen Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

LAMB OF GOD *REMAIN STANDING*



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have  
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the  
world; grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

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.*

*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.**

Holy One,  
through this meal you have made your home among us  
and are making all things new.

Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,  
to love our enemies,  
and to bring your healing to the nations.

In the name of Jesus,

**Amen.**

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#### SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world*

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## BLESSING

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,

✠ bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

WE ARE ONE IN THE SPIRIT

*Unison*

1 We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord,  
 2 We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand,  
 3 We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side,  
 4 All praise to the Fa - ther, from whom all things come,

Go  
in

1 We are one in the Spir - it, we are one in the Lord,  
 2 We will walk with each oth - er, we will walk hand in hand,  
 3 We will work with each oth - er, we will work side by side,  
 4 And all praise to Christ Je - sus, His on - ly Son,

1. And we pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored:  
 2 And to - geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land:  
 3 And we'll guard each man's dig - ni - ty and save each man's pride:  
 4 And all praise to the Spir - it, who makes us one:

And they'll know we are Christ - ians by our love, by our love,

Yes, they'll know we are Christ - ians by our love.

peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!  
 Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

**Today we welcome the Reverend Glenn A. Beard, Jr.** to lead us in worship today while Pastor Scott is on vacation. Rev. Beard is Vice President for Church Relations & Spiritual Care at Luthercare.

**CIRCLE OF PRAYER** - Hunter Leisey, John Frantz, Ed Miller, John Wesner, Jeff Kappenstein, Nettie Kreiner, Clair Sweigart, Faith Moyer, Michael A. Crowther, Reba Ranck, Grace Ranck, Ray Fox, Gene Miller, Jean Wolf, Bobby Hershey, Marilyn Gelsing, Edith Snyder, Teresa Sweigart, Mel and Troy Ulrich, Earl Myers, Elizabeth Sherman, Judy Habecker, Anna Rose Schannauer, Jerry Landis, Mary Beth Jenkins, Evelyn Gehman, Joan Leed, Ron Adams, Kevin Williams, Susan Levan, Larry Eberly, Gladys Eckenroad, Bonnie Koehle-Koon, Kathleen Troutman, Sally Bergman, Kevin Reimert, Pam Heisey, Connie Malafarina, Ted Heisey, Regina Reinecker, Karen Klingensmith, Sue Van Zant, Alex Merionfeld, Helen Werner, Cody Leisey, Michelle Moyer, Scott Zook, Dianna Becker (Gockley's neighbor), Laurie Sauder, Sue Templin, Clyde Showalter, Ashley Milosek (friend of Cody and Aubrey Leisey), Dave Brown, Pat Miller, Brian Gress, Lucille Lorah, Leah Showalter (Louetta Franck's great niece), Mark Stoner, Robert Reaser, Laney Garrison, Sam Reimert, Lou Smith, Bob Shank, Sammy Hanna (friend of Ruth & Gaile), Pat Grove & Daphne, Cathy Stine, Aaron Gasparich (friend of Jenny Weitzel), Tina Krall (friend of Larry and Sally Hagy), Greg and Jenn Rhodes (Connie Taylor's neighbor), Larry Wolf, Jerry Flickinger (Deb Sweigert's Niece's Husband) the family of Janet Bingaman, the family of Clarice Haws, the family of Rev. Dr. Martha "Marty" Sheaffer and the family of Leonard Hoover.

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

**SANCTUARY CANDLE** is given in memory of loved ones by the congregation.

### **PENTECOST FLOWERS**

In memory of:

- Anna Hershey by Robert Hershey
- Dale Sweigert by Deb Sweigert
- our mothers, Etta and Maggie, by Pastor Scott and Jen Brubaker
- Michael Wargo by Connie Taylor
- his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Edmund Chmielewski, by John and Carol Chmielewski
- her father, Mr. Kenneth Mummah, by John and Carol Chmielewski
- his sister, Joanne Subach, by John and Carol Chmielewski
- Don Risser by Jan Risser

- Henry and Jeannette Bitler, parents of Don and Jan Risser, by Jan Risser
- Robert and Irene Risser, parents of Don and Jan Risser, by Jan Risser
- Jaxon, great grandson of Don and Jan Risser, by Jan Risser
- Nancy Kulp by Doug Kulp
- their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Kauffman, by Debbie, Peggy, and Gary
- their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Linton D. Myers, by Debbie, Peggy, and Gary
- Dwayne Dimitris by Earl Myers family
- their favorite MeMa, Irene Myers, by Earl Myers family
- loved ones by Randy, Maggie, Janet, and Katie
- parents and grandparents, Ralph and Dottie Good, by the Leisey family
- Mahlon and Lucy Sweigart by the family
- parents, Russell and Mary Derr, by Jane and Tom Leshner
- parents, Charles and Carolyn Leshner, by Tom and Jane Leshner
- James and Nancy Frantz by John and Jerry
- Musser and Miriam Landis by John and Jerry
- Jeffrey Landis by John and Jerry
- Denver M. Richardson by Connie Talor
- parents, Richard and Kathryn Hilerman, by Connie Taylor
- parents and grandparents, Gil and Joann Gockley, by Lee, Jodi, Matthew, and Eric Showalter
- parents and grandparents, Vernon and Edith Showalter, by Lee, Jodi Matthew, and Eric Showalter

In honor of:

- grandchildren, Chase and Molli, by Connie Taylor
- her mother, Mrs. Ruth Mummah, by John and Carol Chmielewski
- Courtney, Taylor, Justin, Dominic, and Anthony, grandchildren of Don and Jan Risser, by Jan Risser
- Sonya, Jasper, Ember, Iris, great grandchildren of Don and Jan Risser, by Jan Risser
- children, Debbie, 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 grandchildren, Avery Ann and Olivia Nicole Posegay, by Earl Myers
- family by John and Jerry
- our church family by John and Jerry
- our children, Matthew and Kiersten and Eric and Lindsay, by Lee and Jodi Showalter
- our granddaughter, Emily Joann, by Lee and Jodi Showalter
- our grandson, Noah Lee, by Lee and Jodi Showalter

## Other Readings for this Sunday

### Acts 2:1-21

*Pentecost was a Jewish harvest festival that marked the fiftieth day after Passover. Luke portrays the Holy Spirit being poured out upon the disciples before the gathered and astonished people assembled in Jerusalem for the festival. Filled with the Spirit, the disciples were able to witness to the power of Christ's resurrection.*

<sup>1</sup> When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" <sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." <sup>12</sup> All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" <sup>13</sup> But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> 'In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup> Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my Spirit,  
and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup> And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

<sup>20</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,

before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

<sup>21</sup> Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

## GOSPEL MESSAGE

May 24, 2026

DAY OF PENTECOST

Deep Breath

In the world of the Bible, the word *breath* is synonymous with “life.” Breath is necessary for a creature to be considered alive; where there isn’t breath, there isn’t life. Breath from God animates—brings to life—the creature formed from dust, the first human. When Jesus dies on the cross, three of the four gospels describe the moment using the phrase “breathed his last.”

In today’s gospel reading, Jesus appears to the disciples after the resurrection and offers his body to them for inspection. His scarred hands and side reveal that he is, in fact, Jesus, who was crucified. He is not an impostor. The disciples rejoice at the recognition. Next, Jesus breathes on them, a clear physical and symbolic assurance that he is not just a body but a *living* body. The breath that was once spent and gone has returned. He is not reanimated; he is *resurrected*. He has life in him again!

When Jesus breathes on his disciples, he also invites them to receive the Holy Spirit. This moment is extraordinary. Jesus animates the disciples in the same way God animated Adam: by bestowing divine breath, which brings not only physical life but spiritual life as well. Moreover, Jesus reveals that the Holy Spirit he promised to the disciples is, in fact, his own animating Spirit.

The earth-shaking wind of the Spirit at Pentecost is also an intimate breath of life. Through this divine exhale, there is the gift of life—body *and* spirit—and the enduring promise of resurrection.

Spend a few moments today doing some deep breathing as you give thanks for God’s gift of breath and for the Holy Spirit.

**Swamp Evangelical Lutheran Church**

717-336-2849

[www.swamplutheran.org](http://www.swamplutheran.org)

[secretary@swamplutheran.org](mailto:secretary@swamplutheran.org)

Office Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30AM – 12:00 noon

The Rev. Scott V. Brubaker, Pastor

Cell: 717-598-4663 Email: [pastor@swamplutheran.org](mailto:pastor@swamplutheran.org)

Terri Renninger, Church Secretary – 717-336-2849

Jonathan Gyorke, Sexton – 717-435-3091

Sue Kreitz, Organist/Choir Director – 717-283-9444

Grady Daub, Assistant Organist – 717-917-2430

Doug Kulp, Bell Choir Director – 717-336-7798

Cody Leisey, Council President – 717-984-0248

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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**SWAMP ANNOUNCEMENTS    MAY 24, 2026**

WWW.SWAMPLUTHERAN.ORG    SECRETARY@SWAMPLUTHERAN.ORG    717-336-2849  
REV. SCOTT BRUBAKER, PASTOR    PASTOR@SWAMPLUTHERAN.ORG    CELL:717-598-4663

**Week in the Parish (May 25 - 31)**

May 25            MEMORIAL DAY/OFFICE CLOSED  
May 28-31       Builders of Hope Strawberry Shortcake  
                      at Adamstown Community Days in the Grove  
May 31            8:30AM        Worship

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

June 1            6:00PM        Spring Clean-up and Mulching  
June 2            7:00PM        Welcome Cmte  
June 5            2:15PM        Phillies Bus Trip/meet at Swamp Church  
June 7            8:30AM        Worship  
June 10           1-4:00PM      EASS Food Distribution  
June 11           6:30AM        Learning Cmte  
June 14           8:30AM        Worship  
June 17           7:00PM        Church Council  
June 18           12:00PM      Widow & Widowers Lunch at Udder Choice  
June 21            FATHER'S DAY  
June 21           8:30AM        Worship  
June 23           7:00PM        Cocalico Builders of Hope



**Swamp Spring Clean-up  
and Mulching  
Monday, June 1 @ 6pm**

Come in work clothes and bring gloves, trimmers, rakes, blowers, wheelbarrows, etc.

We will clean-up the beds, trim trees, and mulch

**Greeter Schedule for May**

24 Larry & Sally Hagy  
31 Deb Sweigert

**Greeter Schedule for June**

07 Danielle Kauffman, Addy & Anson  
14 Missy Ragan  
21 Gene & Heather Ferrari  
28 Donna Glover & Girls

**Sound Schedule for May**

24 Steve Laudenslager  
31 Steve Laudenslager

**Sound Schedule for June**

07 Steve Laudenslager  
14 Steve Laudenslager  
21 Steve Laudenslager  
28 Steve Laudenslager

**Coffee Schedule for May**

24 John Frantz  
31 Deb Sweigert

**No Coffee June July August****Video Schedule for May**

24 John Frantz  
31 Josh Garrison

**Video Schedule for June**

07 Alan Worley  
14 John Frantz  
21 Josh Garrison  
28 Alan Worley

**DAILY READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK**

*Mon May 25* Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Joel 2:18-29 Romans 8:18-24  
*Tues May 26* Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Ezekiel 39:7-8, 21-29 Romans 8:26-27  
*Wed May 27* Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Numbers 11:24-30 John 7:37-39  
*Thurs May 28* Psalm 8 Job 38:1-11 2 Timothy 1:8-12a  
*Fri May 29* Psalm 8 Job 38:12-21 2 Timothy 1:12b-14  
*Sat May 30* Psalm 8 Job 38:22-38 John 14:15-17

**UPCOMING SUNDAY READINGS**

*Sun May 31 The Holy Trinity* Genesis 1:1—2:4a Psalm 8 2 Corinthians 13:11-13  
Matthew 28:16-20

**FLOWERS: Grumbine's Flowers** will now continue delivery of fresh altar flower arrangements through June 2026. **June 28 and July 5** is available to sponsor. If you would like to sponsor a Sunday for the flowers or candle in 2026, please sign up for flower sponsorships via Sue, John, or the flower calendar. Sue Kreitz 717-283-9444 or John Frantz 717-606-8994.

**FOOD BANK** – Needs of the food bank are ongoing and need replenished monthly. There is a need for rice, noodles, pasta, mac & cheese, canned chicken, tuna, spam, soup, toilet paper and paper towels. Please check for a current expiration date. Thank you for helping as you are able. We distribute on the 2nd Wed each month.

**Builders of Hope fundraiser** Strawberry Shortcake Stand at Adamstown Community Days, May 28-31 in the Grove. Featuring Boehringer's ice cream. Come out and enjoy a sweet treat!

**Widow & Widowers Lunch** Thurs. June 18, 12pm at Udder Choice in Ephrata. Program will be Husband & Wife artists sharing their artwork and story after retiring.



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.*

**Veteran Collection** The Welcome Committee is seeking donations to support our local Veterans in Lancaster County at the Coatesville VAMC. They currently need all sizes in T-Shirts, Shirts, Body Wash and Lots of Coffee (Ground Bagged or K-Cups). Place donations in designated location in the Narthex. Please help us in supporting our Veterans in May and June.

**Geraniums cost is \$3.50 each.** Please make checks payable to Swamp Lutheran with "geraniums" in the memo line and place in offering plate, mail to the office, or give to Jodi Showalter.



**Join us at Emerald Crossing VBS, July 12-16**, as we journey through Psalm 23. We are seeking crew leaders, craft helpers, snack helpers, game helpers, and Bible story tellers (more explanation below). VBS is help outside at Reinholds Carnival Grounds (weather permitting) from 6:30-8:30 and is a fun-filled, energy-packed week of sharing the Good News with 150+ kids in our community. Please use the link or QR code to sign-up! Any questions, see Pastor Scott or Abbey Rineer.

**Crew Leaders:** greet students as they arrive, lead students from station to station and dismiss students at the end of the night

**Craft Helpers:** help students complete crafts that are taught/lead by the craft leader

**Snack Helpers:** help distribute snacks/drinks

**Game Helpers:** help students work off their excess energy

**Bible Story Teller:** sign up for one night or more to share the Bible story for the night, usually includes some fun way to interact with the groups. Preschool story will be shared four times, other age groups will be shared three times.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0F4DAEAF2BA4F85-64139348-reinholds>



## Financial Statement

	Income	Expenses	Balance
Balance as of 12/31/25			\$28,149.21
January	\$32,105.86	\$45,416.20	\$14,838.87
February	\$27,800.67	\$27,375.03	\$15,264.51
March	\$44,304.71	\$39,259.82	\$20,309.40
April	\$35,521.70	\$30,088.85	\$25,742.25

### Swamp Needs Your Help!

*Tell Pastor Scott if you can help or want to learn more*

#### Most pressing needs include:

**Communion Extender:** We need helpers to take communion to our homebound members. Training provided.

**Choir:** We welcome singers for Swamp's Chancel Choir.

**Bell Choir:** Ringers needed for this music ministry.

**Learning Committee:** We could use new committee members interested in fostering the faith of our disciples, both young and old.

**SLY:** We need additional leaders on our team to guide this ministry.

**Sunday School teachers:** Helpers and teachers needed.

**Worship Committee:** We can always use fresh perspectives on worship.

**Generosity Committee:** We need additional disciples to help promote generosity to God's work at Swamp.

**Property Committee:** We need help attending to the property needs of Swamp.

Consider adopting a flower bed to maintain or giving of a skill (electrician, plumbing, carpentry, painting, etc.).

**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, like the monthly food pantry, events, etc. 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

**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.