SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST SEPTEMBER 28, 2025 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." (<u>Small 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

Consideration of and care for those in need (especially those "at our gate," visible to us, of whom we are aware) is an essential component of good stewardship. It is in the sharing of wealth that we avoid the snare of wealth. It is the one whom death could not hold—who comes to us risen from the dead—who can free us from the death grip of greed.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Prelude Gather Us In Mark Hayes

congregational responses are in **bold type**.

Stand

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the \pm Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN EVERY AGE ELW 729

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.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE LORD, I LIFT YOUR NAME ON HIGH



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sit

Children leave for Children's Church

WORD

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

Psalm 146

¹ Hal- [|] lelujah!

Praise the LORD, I O my soul!

- ²I will praise the LORD as long | as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.
- ³ Put not your | trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there | is no help.
- ⁴ When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth, and in that day | their thoughts perish.
- ⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob [|] for their help, whose hope is in the [|] LORD their God;
- ⁶ who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them; who keeps promis- | es forever;

⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to ¹ those who hunger.

The LORD sets the | captive free.

⁸ The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who | are bowed down;

the LORD | loves the righteous.

- ⁹ The LORD cares [|] for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way [|] of the wicked.
 - ¹⁰The LORD shall [|] reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. [|] Hallelujah!

READING: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.

⁶ Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, ⁸ but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹ But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction.

¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹ But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶ It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷ As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 16:19-31

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is "lifted up" and the rich one is "sent away empty." Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets.

[Jesus said:] 19 "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.' ²⁵ But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' 27 He said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house 28 for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' 29 Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.'

³⁰ He said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' ³¹ He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "

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

Sit

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

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERTORY LORD, WHOSE LOVE IN HUMBLE SERVICE MARILYN RINEHART

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 benefit the CROP Walk fundraiser.

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

OFFERING WE ARE AN OFFERING

WE LIFT OUR VOICES, WE LIFT OUR HANDS, WE LIFT OUR LIVES UP TO YOU, WE ARE AN OFFERING. LORD, USE OUR VOICES, LORD USE OUR HANDS, LORD, USE OUR LIVES, THEY ARE YOURS, WE ARE AN OFFERING.

OFFERING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest,
we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
but on you, who richly provides for us.
Multiply what we have gathered
to bless all who are suffering and in need,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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

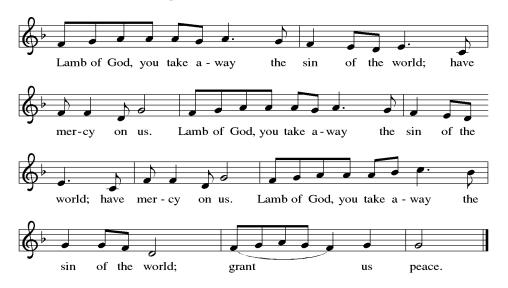
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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 Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

Thanks be to God.

LAMB OF GOD remain standing



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.

O God,

through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

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

BLESSING

The God of righteousness, who gives justice to the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry, who sets the prisoners free,

→ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN CANTICLE OF THE TURNING ELW 723

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart B.Schmidt

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 Gelsinger, 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, Karen Laudenslager, Susan Levan, Larry Eberly, Janet Bingaman, Dwayne Dimitris, Gladys Eckenroad, Bonnie Koehle-Koon, Ross Houck, Chris Zander, Kathleen Troutman, Sally Bergman, Keith Reimert, Pam Heisey, Connie Malafarina, Ted Heisey, Regina Reinecker, Karen Klingensmith, Debbie Leed, Sue Van Zant, Alex Merionfeld, Susan Kreitz, Helen Werner, Sandy Clouser, Cody Leisey, Lou Smith, and the family of Karen Krater.

ALTAR FLOWERS are given to commemorate the fourth anniversary of being called as Pastor of Swamp by Pastor Scott and Jen Brubaker.

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

FLOWERS: November 9th is available to sponsor. If you would like to sponsor a Sunday for the flowers or candle, please contact Sue Kreitz at 717-283-9444 or John Frantz at 717-606-8994.

Food Bank – Needs of the food bank are ongoing and need replenished monthly. There is a need for canned chicken, tuna, soup, paper towels and toilet paper. Please check for a current expiration date. Thank you for helping as you are able. We distribute on the 2nd Wednesday each month.

Salem-Kissel Hill & Bergstrasse congregations invites you, the congregations of the North Lancaster and Lancaster conferences, to participate in our first annual "Weave Together" Community Service Project & Retreat! "Weave Together Retreat" happening on Saturday October 4, 8:30 am - 4:00 pm when we will 'weave together' the gathered squares into blankets that will then be distributed to the Lancaster County unhoused populations between Thanksgiving and Christmas. The retreat includes a bible study, lunch, snacks and a wealth of yet to be determined learnings from each other weaving our love and life experience into each blanket. For those who don't crochet or knit --- there will be plenty of work to be done sorting, gathering, cooking, etc.! Watch for dates and times when we'll present our gifts to our unhoused neighbors.

Questions? Salem-Kissel Hill 717-627-0048 or Bergstrasse 717-733-7808.



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.

Greeter Schedule September	Greeter Schedule October
28 John & Carol Chmielewski	5 Deb Sweigert
	12 John & Sharon Levan
	19 Deb Kohl
	26 Denise Kidwell
Coffee Schedule for September	Coffee Schedule October
28 Pam Leisey	5 Randy Gockley
	12 Randy Gockley
	19 Randy Gockley
	26 Randy Gockley

Week in the Parish (Sept 28- Oct 5)

October 1	7:00PM	Choir
October 5	8:30AM	Worship
October 5	9:45AM	Sunday School
October 5	11:00AM	Blessing of the Pets

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 6	7:00PM	Bell Choir
October 7	6:00PM	Zoom Bible Study
October 7	7:00PM	Welcome Cmte
October 8	1-4:00PM	EASS Food Distribution
October 8	7:00PM	Choir
October 9	6:30PM	Learning Cmte
October 12	8:30AM	Worship
October 12	9:45AM	Sunday School
October 14	6:00PM	Zoom Bible Study
October 15	7:00PM	Choir
October 15	7:00PM	Church Council Mtg
October 16	Pig Stomach	n Pre Orders deadline
October 19	8:30AM	Worship
October 19	9:45AM	Sunday School
October 19	11:00AM	CROP Walk

DAILY READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Mon September 29 Psalm 62 Amos 6:8-14 Revelation 3:14-22 Tues September 30 Psalm 62 Hosea 10:9-15 James 5:1-6

Wed October 1 Psalm 62 Hosea 12:2-14 Matthew 19:16-22

Thur October 2 Psalm 37:1-9 2 Kings 18:1-8, 28-36 Revelation 2:8-11 Fri October 3 Psalm 37:1-9 2 Kings 19:8-20, 35-37 Revelation 2:12-29

Sat October 4 Psalm 37:1-9 Isaiah 7:1-9 Matthew 20:29-34

UPCOMING SUNDAY READINGS

Sun October 5 Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4 Psalm 37:1-9 2 Timothy 1:1-14 Luke 17:5-10



Swamp Needs Your Help!

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

Most pressing needs include:

Learning Committee: Connie Malafarina and Connie Taylor are stepping back and only pitching in when needed in a pinch. So, we could use new committee members interested in fostering the faith of our disciples, both young and old.

SLY: Connie Malafarina and Ryan Ranck have stepped back from their leadership roles with the youth group. We need additional leaders to guide this ministry.

Worship Committee: We can always use fresh perspectives on worship. New members on the Worship Committee are always welcome.

Sunday School teachers: We need another teacher for the prekindergarten to 3rd grade class and our high school class.

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.).

Choir: We need singers for Swamp's Chancel Choir to lead our singing in worship.

Bell Choir: Ringers needed for this music ministry.

POINSETTIAS -It is that time of the year again to consider your holiday orders for poinsettias. Jodi Showalter (717-413-7149) will be handling the orders. Pricing will not be known until sometime later in October. Jodi or the church office should be contacted with questions. The following information needs to be provided. Deadline for ordering is December 7th.

NAME	Phone Number
Poinsettias RED	WHITE
In Memory of	
In Honor of	



Sunday, October 19 @ 11 AM

Leave from and return to Swamp Lutheran Church 5k route

To participate, tell Jodi Showalter 717-413-7149

If we work together, we can end world hunger. That's why Swamp is participating in the CROP Hunger Walk to support Church World Services hunger ministry and help families who are struggling with hunger. Please join us with your steps and your donations. Together, we will provide more meals for the growing number of people in our community who need them and create greater food security in communities around the world. We will donate 50% of our raised donations to our local Swamp Food Pantry.



Join us for Swamp Lutheran Church's **Annual Pig Stomach Takeouts!**

Whole Cooked Stomach: \$38

Pre-orders must be placed by October 16th. Please call the church office at 717-336-2849 to place your preorder

All proceeds will go to benefit Swamp Lutheran's Food Bank and the new air conditioning system for the church.



Pet Blessing M BLESSING OF THE PETS - October 5, 11:00 on the Portico side of the church, Pastor Scott will give a blessing over your animals. All are welcome.

Other Readings for this Sunday

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes.

- ^{1a} Alas for those who are at ease in Zion, and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria,
- ⁴ Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory, and lounge on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock, and calves from the stall:
- ⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp, and like David improvise on instruments of music;
- ⁶ who drink wine from bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
- ⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

GOSPEL MESSAGE

September 28, 2025 LECTIONARY 26 A Tale of Two Worlds

The only thing the rich man and Lazarus have in common is that they both have died. Death, after all, doesn't respect income. We can imagine that Lazarus succumbed to his hunger and the rich man perhaps choked on his own abundance. But despite their differing statuses on earth, it is poor Lazarus who gets a first-class ticket to the loving embrace of father Abraham.

The rich man, stripped of his money, prestige, and influence, is flung down into the filth and rot he had long avoided in life. The rich man's failure was not that he had money, owned possessions, or enjoyed a good meal; it was that he was not attentive to the suffering at his doorstep. And when he did at last see Lazarus—finally acknowledging his existence—all he could think about was himself.

Through this provocative story, Jesus is teaching his disciples and us to pay attention to the needs of the people around us. He is urging us to look and see Lazarus in our own world.

Who is Lazarus among us? Who are the hungry people at our own doorstep? Who are the ones we can name but perhaps cannot see? They might be a person with no reliable shelter or food, someone of a different race or religion, or a neighbor alone and lonely. They may even be a rich individual with all the means in the world but no real substance. What would our world look like if we truly acknowledged and embraced them?

When we recognize and serve the Lazaruses of our world, we not only extend compassion; we also encounter Jesus. His healing presence is in the midst of human suffering. Once we start looking for Lazarus, we start finding Jesus too.

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, socioeconomic 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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