

*NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST
OCTOBER 4, 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 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

In today's gospel reading, Jesus tells a vineyard parable, which serves as an image of Israel, the prophets' mission, and Christ's death. For Christians, the vineyard also speaks of God's love poured out in the blood of Christ, given to us for the forgiveness of sin. Grafted onto Christ the vine at baptism, we are nourished with wine and bread so that we may share Christ's sufferings and know the power of his resurrection.

PRELUDE

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 ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

WHEN I SURVEY THE WONDROUS CROSS

ELW 803

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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

SHOUT TO THE LORD

ELW 821



Shout to the Lord, all the earth; let us sing pow-er and maj - es - ty, praise
to the King. Moun-tains bow down and the seas will roar at the
sound of your name. I sing for joy at the work of your hands;
for - ev - er I'll love you, for - ev - er I'll stand.
Noth - ing com - pares to the prom - ise I have in you.

Text: Darlene Zschech, b. 1965

Music: SHOUT TO THE LORD, Darlene Zschech

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sit

ANTHEM

COME AND SING!

ROBERT LAU

Children leave for Children's Church

WORD

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

Psalm 80:7-15 *(read responsively)*

⁷ Restore us, O **l** God of hosts;
let your face shine upon us, and we **l** shall be saved.

⁸ **You have brought a vine l out of Egypt;**
you cast out the nations and l planted it.

⁹ You cleared the **l** ground for it;
it took root and **l** filled the land.

¹⁰ **The mountains were covered l by its shadow**
and the towering cedar trees l by its boughs.

¹¹ You stretched out its tendrils **l** to the sea
and its branches **l** to the river.

¹² **Why have you broken l down its wall,**
so that all who pass by pluck l off its grapes?

¹³ The wild boar of the forest has **l** ravaged it,
and the beasts of the field have **l** grazed upon it.

¹⁴ **Turn now, O l God of hosts,**
look l down from heaven;

¹⁵ behold and **l** tend this vine;
preserve what your right **l** hand has planted.

Reading: Philippians 3:4b-14

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ's resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

[Paul writes:] ^{4b} If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

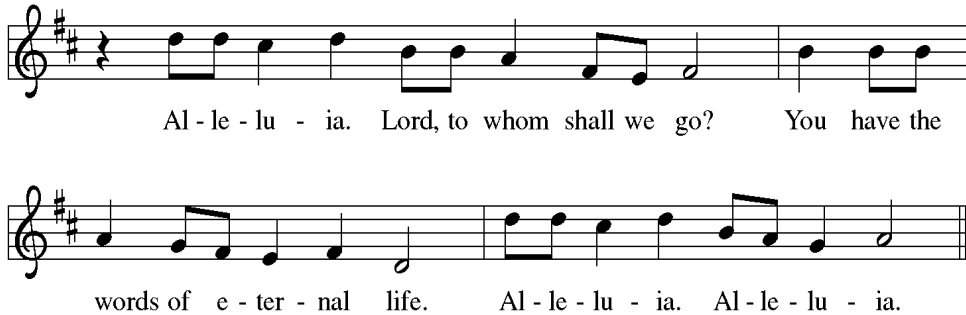
¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal, but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL: **Matthew 21:33-46**

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

Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.

[Jesus said:] ³³“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. ³⁴When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. ³⁵But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. ³⁶Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. ³⁷Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ ³⁸But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ ³⁹So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. ⁴⁰Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” ⁴¹They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

⁴²Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:
‘The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone;
this was the Lord’s doing,
and it is amazing in our eyes’?

⁴³ “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. ⁴⁴ The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

⁴⁵ When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. ⁴⁶ They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

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:

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

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

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.*

OFFERING

WE ARE AN OFFERING

ELW 692

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, WE ARE AN OFFERING.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always. 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.**

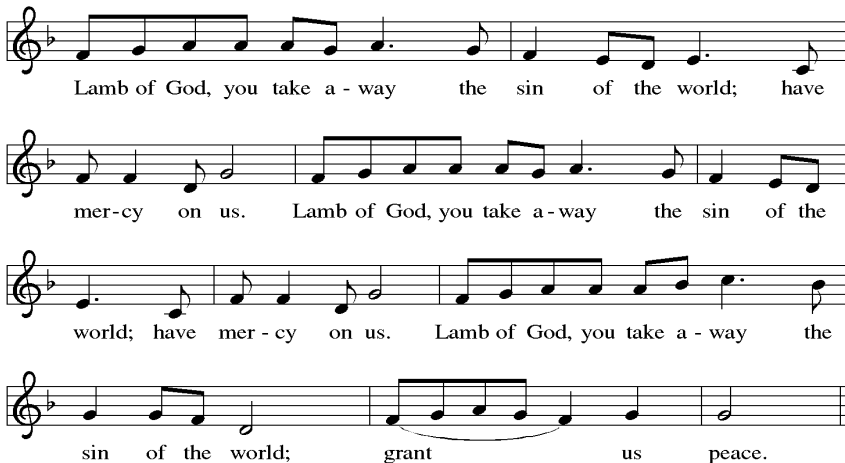
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites you to this table.

All who are thirsty, all who are hungry, come!

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.

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.

HYMN DURING COMMUNION

JESUS LOVES ME!

ELW 595

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.

Sustaining God,
with this bread and cup,
you nourish us with mercy and abundant life.
By your Spirit, send us from this table to serve a needy world.
Make us living signs of your liberation, healing, and love,
following the way of Jesus, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

BLESSING

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

THINE THE AMEN

ELW 826

DISMISSAL

Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

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, Larry 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, Susan Levan, Gladys Eckenroad, Bonnie Koehle-Koon, Kathleen Troutman, Sally Bergman, Kevin Reimert, Pam Heisey, Connie Malafarina, Ted Heisey, Karen Klingensmith, Helen Werner, Cody Leisey, Michelle Moyer, Dianna Becker (Gockley's neighbor), Laurie Sauder, Sue Templin, Clyde Showalter, Ashley Milosek (friend of Cody and Aubrey Leisey), Pat Miller, Lucille Lorah, Leah Showalter (Louetta Franck's great niece), Mark Stoner, Robert Reaser, Laney Garrison, Sam Reimert, Llew Smith, Bob Shank, Sammy Hanna (friend of Ruth & Gaile), Pat Grove & Daphne, Aaron Gasparich (friend of Jenny Weitzel) and Tina Krall (friend of Larry and Sally Hagy) Greg and Jenn Rhodes (Connie Taylor's neighbor), Wanda Maxey, Chris Zander, Allison Kenawell, Margaret Kroh, Jason Stricker, Mike Sawyer (friend of Lee and Jodi Showalter), Linda and Dennis Mohn, Jen Sikie (sister of Terri Renninger), Keith Weinhold, (nephew of Linda and Shorty Ream and cousin of Beth Garrison), Melody Eckenroth (sister of Sue Kreitz's neighbor), Frank Sheets (friend of Connie and Jenner Taylor), and Steve and Karen Laudenslager, Lori Hartranft (cousin of Sue Kreitz's neighbor), Nettie Kreiner (John Frantz's sister) and Lori Page (Aubrey Leisey's Mom), Karen McCoy and Bindi Chojnacki (friends of Mark and Roslyn Bansner), Gene Ferrari, Hanna Shank (daughter of Liz Shank and granddaughter of Wanda Maxey), Ken Olson (Alan and Kathy Worley's brother in law), Ali Bender (friend of Josh and Beth Garrison), Sandra Haws, Bob Fry (neighbor of Randy and Pam Leisey), Lois Class, Joelle Perlic (Jonathan Gyorke's sister) and the family of Janie Malafarina West (sister of Tony Malafarina).

ALTAR FLOWERS are given in memory of her brothers, Elmer and Bobby by Linda and Glenn Beard.

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

Other Readings for this Sunday

Isaiah 5:1-7

¹ I will sing for my beloved
my love song concerning his vineyard:
My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

² He dug it and cleared it of stones
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded rotten grapes.

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield rotten grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

⁶ I will make it a wasteland;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷ For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his cherished garden;
he expected justice
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness
but heard a cry!

GOSPEL MESSAGE

October 4, 2026

LECTIONARY 27

One Word: *Jesus*

The tennis team had a word for the season: *rally*. That one word centered everything: “Extend each rally.” “Rally when you’re down.” “Rally back after a rough week.” Each practice began with the word “Rally” at the top of the chalkboard above the conditioning drills. The huddle before each meet was broken with the shout “Rally!” And it wasn’t just on the team. At night, when the coach’s family sat down to dinner, they all shared what they’d done that day to “rally” in their lives. Everything and everyone was centered, gathered around that one word. In our lives of faith, that one word is *Jesus*.

Jesus reminds his hearers that he is the cornerstone of faith: for the Pharisees, for the rest of the crowd gathered at the temple that day, and for us, the church here and now. The grace we find in Jesus’ love—the love that goes to the cross, to the empty tomb, and even beyond for us and our salvation—is the bedrock of our faith as we live out the life to which we are called in baptism. *Jesus* is the one word—indeed, Jesus is the Word—that gathers us together, that centers our lives.

United to Jesus, the cornerstone of our lives, in baptism, we are also united with one another. Today’s parable certainly showcases what human division can be and do at its worst, but in Jesus, we are not divided. Where division causes hurt and suffering, unity in Jesus brings hope, healing, and restoration. Where hope seems lost, Jesus rekindles that flame. Centered and united around Jesus’ baptismal grace, we are empowered and emboldened to proclaim the good news of Jesus, the cornerstone of our faith.

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 – 717-283-9444

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

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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SWAMP ANNOUNCEMENTS *OCTOBER 4, 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 (October 4 - 11)

TODAY	11:00AM	Gods Work our hands
October 5	7:00PM	Bell Choir
October 6	7:00PM	Welcome Cmte
October 7	7:00PM	Choir

UPCOMING EVENTS

October 11	8:30AM	Worship
October 11	9:45AM	Sunday School
October 11	11:00AM	Blessing of the Pets
October 14	1-4:00PM	EASS Food Distribution
October 14	7:00PM	Choir
October 17	9:00AM	Widow & Widowers Hike
October 18	8:30AM	Worship
October 18	9:45AM	Sunday School
October 18	11:00AM	Crop Walk

FLOWERS: If you would like to sponsor a Sunday for the flowers or candle in 2026, 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 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.

Disaster Trip. A group from the area will be returning to Asheville, NC to continue to help with disaster clean up. This trip will take place from November 15-21. The group has already been assembled, however there are other ways in which to help. Anyone wishing to help can give gift cards to Lowe's, Home Depot or Walmart. Or if you wish, you could write a check payable to LDR Carolinas. This will be the groups 27th trip and the third trip to Asheville. See Missy Ragan, Nancy McQuate, or Denise Kidwell with any questions! Thank you for your support!

Greeter Schedule for Oct

04 Pam Leisey
 11 Bob & Linda Preston
 18 Deb Kohl
 25 Sue Ellen Knauer

Greeter Schedule for Nov

1 Jan Risser
 8 Deb Sweigert
 15 Jane Leshner
 22 Densie Kidwell
 29 Larry & Sally Hagy

Sound Schedule for Oct

04 Steve Laudenslager
 11 Steve Laudenslager
 18 Steve Laudenslager
 25 Steve Laudenslager

Sound Schedule for Nov

1 Steve Laudenslager
 8 Steve Laudenslager
 15 Steve Laudenslager
 22 Steve Laudenslager
 29 Steve Laudenslager

Coffee Schedule for Oct

04 Denise Kidwell
 11 Deb Sweigert
 18 Randy Gockley
 25 Pam Leisey

Coffee Schedule for Nov

1 Denise Kidwell
 8 Deb Sweigert
 15 John Frantz
 22 Randy Gockley
 29 Pam Leisey

Video Schedule for Oct

04 Josh Garrison
 11 Alan Worley
 18 John Frantz
 25 Josh Garrison

Video Schedule for Nov

1 Alan Worley
 8 John Frantz
 15 Josh Garrison
 22 Alan Worley
 29 John Frantz

DAILY READINGS FOR THE COMING WEEK

Mon Oct 5 Psalm 144 Ezekiel 19:10-14 1 Peter 2:4-10
Tues Oct 6 Psalm 144 Isaiah 27:1-6 2 Corinthians 5:17-21
Wed Oct 7 Psalm 144 Song of Solomon 8:5-14 John 11:45-57
Thurs Oct 8 Psalm 23 Isaiah 22:1-8a 1 Peter 5:1-5, 12-14
Fri Oct 9 Psalm 23 Isaiah 22:8b-14 James 4:4-10
Sat Oct 10 Psalm 23 Isaiah 24:17-23 Mark 2:18-22

UPCOMING SUNDAY READINGS

Sun Oct 11 Isaiah 25:1-9 Psalm 23 Philippians 4:1-9 Matthew 22:1-14

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.

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.

GOD’S WORK OUR HANDS TODAY

Service committee would like to have our congregation join the 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?

- 1. Do you know of a local organization that could use a few hours of help?
 - 2. 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?
 - 3. 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.

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. Jodi or the church office should be contacted with questions. The following information needs to be provided. Deadline for ordering is November 29th.

NAME _____ Phone Number _____

Poinsettias RED _____ WHITE _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____



Swamp Lutheran Church 2026 BLESSING OF THE PETS October 11, 2026

11 AM

Under the Carport

Bring your leashed and well-behaved pets
for a blessing by Pastor Scott

In honor of the Feast Day of St. Francis of Assisi and
in remembrance of his love for all creatures,
Swamp's Blessing of the Pets is rooted in the belief
that all creatures, including animals, are part of
God's creation and deserve blessings.



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.



Wreaths Across America Honor deceased US veterans on December 19th at Noon. Ceremony at Swamp Christian Fellowship followed by wreath laying at Swamp Cemetery. Sponsor a wreath for \$17. Fundraiser for SLY – see SLY table in Narthex. Checks payable to Swamp Lutheran Youth Group.

Questions to Laraine Kramer 717-405-4047 or Kristin Gockley (SLY) 717-330-0628.

Widow & Widowers Hike Sat. Oct 17th at 9:00am meet at Weavers parking lot to carpool to French Creek State Park in Berks Co. We are hiking the mostly level, 2.2 miles around the Lake. Lunch at 12:30pm at Stampede Barbecue, Mohnton. You are welcome to meet us for lunch. Please RSVP by Oct 12th to bmiz13@hotmail.com or church office at 717-336-2849.