

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

**Sunday, January 26, 2020**

Lunch will be served immediately following the worship service.  
The congregational meeting will be held after lunch.



# Schwarzwald Lutheran Church

Serving and Loving Christ since 1737  
*Join our family, share God's love.*

The Rev. Dr. Steven H. Shussett - Pastor  
The people of Schwarzwald - Ministers  
Mr. Benjamin D'Annibale - Director of Music  
Ms. Diane V. Hafer - Office Administrator  
Mrs. Crystal Jordan - Christian Ed. Director  
Mrs. Rochelle Chelius - Youth Minister Leader  
Mrs. Melissa Kerber - Sexton

**CASH FOR CAUSES**—The Giant gift cards will be available for purchase in the Narthex after worship today. Please see Diane Hafer.

**ACOLYTE FOR 1/5**—Samantha Kerber

**NEEDED! Bulletin sponsors** (\$14) and **altar flower sponsors** (\$21) are needed for all of January. Please use the sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

Schwarzwald's **Breakfast Bunch** will gather at Effie's Charcoal Chef Restaurant on Thursday, January 9th, at 9:00 AM. Join us for conversation and fellowship.

**DECEMBER 29, 2019 through JANUARY 5, 2020**

Sun 12/29	8:00 PM AA meeting
Mon 12/30	4:30 PM Fellowship Hall in use 5:00 PM Sanctuary in use 5:30 PM Exercise class 8:00 PM AA meeting
Tue 12/31	6:00 PM Prayer Group
Wed 1/1	HAPPY NEW YEAR! Church Office closed 6:00 PM Weight Watchers meeting
Thu 1/2	6:00 PM Girl Scout troop #1909 6:30 PM Handbell Choir rehearsal 7:30 PM Sr. Choir rehearsal
Sat 1/4	8:00 AM Exercise class
Sun 1/5	9:15 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship Service 8:00 PM AA meeting

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Emergency 610-914-8257

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 2019**



**WELCOME!**

**In the name of our Savior Jesus Christ,  
welcome to worship this morning!**

**If you are a visitor**, a special welcome to you, and if you are without a church home, we invite you to join our fellowship. Please fill out the guest card in the pew rack and pick up a welcome packet from the stand in the foyer. If you do not have a Bible at home, please take one from the welcome table.

**For your assistance, comfort and safety**, we have ushers on duty before, during and after worship today. Should you need any help, please look for any of the men and women with an "usher" badge. There will be at least one in the lobby during worship. Our ushers are also instructed to offer help to anyone who appears in distress. Restrooms can be found through the door on the left at the front of the church; either proceed downstairs or to the left into the Fellowship Hall.

**Large print bulletins and hearing receivers** are available in the Narthex and front entrance. Please see an usher for assistance. Please be sure to turn off the hearing receivers after the worship service.

**For parents with small children**: We are blessed to have so many children in our congregation. Our church family knows that teaching children to worship is simply one of our most important ministries. If there is a need, please take advantage of our nursery room available during worship with a changing table, plenty of toys and audio of our service. Please ask any usher in the foyer to help you find the nursery room.

**Children's bulletins** for readers and pre-readers are provided each week. They can be found on clipboards in the marked milk crates in the narthex and vestibule. Storybooks are also provided there for children to enjoy.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** (\* = Please stand as you are able.)

**PRELUDE** *Prelude from Partita No. 1 in B-flat, BMV 825 . . . . .* J. S. Bach

**CALL TO WORSHIP—RINGING THE BELLS**

**\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP** (L = Leader, P = People)

L The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**P The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

L Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

**P We have beheld Christ’s glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**

L To us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

**P In Him was life, and the life was the light of all people.**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

A Let us pray: O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C Amen**

**FIRST LESSON Genesis 3:8-15** . . . . .Reader: Amanda Oswald  
*God announces in the Garden of Eden that the seed of the woman shall bruise the serpent’s head.*

<sup>8</sup>They heard the sound of the Lord GOD walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord GOD among the trees of the garden. <sup>9</sup>But the Lord GOD called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" <sup>10</sup>He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." <sup>11</sup>He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" <sup>12</sup>The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." <sup>13</sup>Then the Lord GOD said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." <sup>14</sup>The Lord GOD said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. <sup>15</sup>I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

**\*CAROL** *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* #254

**SECOND LESSON Genesis 22:15-18** . . . . .Reader: Aimee Oswald  
*God promises to faithful Abraham that in his seed shall the nations of the earth be blessed.*

<sup>15</sup>The angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven, <sup>16</sup>and said, "By myself I have sworn, says the LORD: Because you have done this, and have not withheld your son, your only son, <sup>17</sup>I will indeed bless you, and I will make your offspring as numerous as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of their enemies, <sup>18</sup>and by

not know him. <sup>11</sup>He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. <sup>12</sup>But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, <sup>13</sup>who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. <sup>14</sup>And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

**\*CAROL** *Of the Father’s Love Begotten* #295 verses 1, 5

**\*DISMISSAL**

P Glory to God in the highest!

**C Peace to God’s people on earth!**

P Go in peace. Share the gift of Jesus.

**C Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** *Sonata in C minor, Wq. 48/1, III. Presto . . . . .* C.P.E. Bach

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**SERVING AT WORSHIP**

Usher Team Captain . . . . .Denton Quick  
Acolyte . . . . . Jenna Russo  
Carillonneur . . . . . Judy Ney  
Greeter . . . . . Rochelle Chelius

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The **altar flowers** are presented to the glory of God and sponsored 1) Janice Smithson in honor of Walt’s 80th birthday, and 2) by Russ and Ginni Frey in honor of their 50th wedding anniversary.

The **Jan/Feb/Mar issue of *Christ In Our Home*** is available in the Narthex, Vestibule and Prayer Room. Please help yourself to these free daily devotional guides.

Elaine Lutz	Connie Marx	Joe Plank
Chloe Potthoff	Lucile Reynolds	Rosemary Roe
Brittany Schmehl	Bobbie Searle	Joan Sehl
Joseph Smith	Bobby Tadley	Gary Tice
Bertha White	David White	Barbara Wolfe

*The prayers conclude:*

**P** Into your gracious hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your steadfast mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen**

**\*THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**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**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**P** May Christ, who by his incarnation has filled us with grace and truth, give you peace this Christmas and always. Almighty God, Father, **+** Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever

**C Amen.**

**\*NINTH LESSON John 1:1-14.** . . . . .Reader: Pastor Shussett  
*John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation.*

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. <sup>6</sup>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup>He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup>He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup>He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did

your offspring shall all the nations of the earth gain blessing for themselves, because you have obeyed my voice."

**\*CAROL** *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* #257 verses 1, 2, 6, 7

**THIRD LESSON Isaiah 9:2, 6-7** . . . . .Reader: Hailee Oswald  
*Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by Isaiah.*

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. <sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

**\*CAROL** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* #283

**FOURTH LESSON Micah 5:2-4.** . . . . .Reader: Brody Oswald  
*The prophet Micah foretells the glory of little Bethlehem.*

<sup>2</sup>But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. <sup>3</sup>Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. <sup>4</sup>And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth;

**\*CAROL** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* #279

**FIFTH LESSON Luke 1:26-38** . . . . .Reader: Danielle Gillaspay  
*The angel Gabriel salutes the virgin Mary.*

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." <sup>29</sup>But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. <sup>33</sup>He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." <sup>34</sup>Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" <sup>35</sup>The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

\*CAROL *The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came* #265

**SIXTH LESSON Matthew 1:18-23** . . . . . Reader: Rochelle Chelius  
*Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus.*

<sup>18</sup>Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. <sup>19</sup>Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. <sup>20</sup>But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. <sup>21</sup>She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." <sup>22</sup>All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: <sup>23</sup>"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

*6 Bagatelles Op. 126, No. 1 Andante con moto.* . . . . . L. van Beethoven

**SEVENTH LESSON Luke 2:8-16** . . . . . Reader: Jenna Russo  
*The shepherds go to the manger.*

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>"Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" <sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger.

**\*SHARING THE PEACE**

P The peace of our Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

*Please greet one another with a gesture of peace, saying Peace be with you.*

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**OFFERING**

**SR. CHOIR ANTHEM** *Celtic Advent Carol* . . . . . Angerman/Barrett

\***OFFERTORY CAROL** *In the Bleak Mid-winter* #294

**EIGHTH LESSON Matthew 2:1-11** . . . . . Reader: Alicia Shussett  
*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.*

<sup>1</sup>In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup>asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." <sup>3</sup>When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; <sup>4</sup>and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. <sup>5</sup>They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: <sup>6</sup>"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" <sup>7</sup>Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage." <sup>9</sup>When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup>When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. <sup>11</sup>On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

\*CAROL *As With Gladness Men of Old* #302 verses 1-3

**\*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

P Gathered with all who seek the Christ child, let us pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

*After each petition of the prayers:*

P Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

**Members:**

Pat Arndt	Zena Burkert	June Collison
Delores Conrad	Tony D'Angelo	Diane Dinkelocker
Emmy Faber	Janet Griesemer	Megan Himmelreich
Marcia Holbrook	Larry Houpp	Priscilla Houpp
Andrew Kent	Stephanie Kohler	Cynthia Lott
Devon Messner	Greg Pomian	Joann Rosales
Katie Rosales	Noelle Rutherford	Jeremy Schaeffer
Shirley Schaeffer	Bob Schmehl	Ron Slepceki
Becky Thren	Geraldine Wagner	

**Family, friends and loved ones:**

Julianne Arnold	Jonathan Bortz	Donna Brown
Kathy Carri	Jeannie Crass	Caden Davis
Linda Dean	Jon Dillon	Larry Galloway
Pearl Garman	Barry Hecker	Wil Herb (cont'd.)