



Schwarzwald Lutheran Church
 250 Church Lane Road
 Reading, PA 19606
 Church Office Phone 610-779-3480
 Church Office Fax 610-779-2777
 Website www.schwarzwaldlutheran.org
 E-mail administrator@schwarzwaldlutheran.org
 Emergency 610-914-8257

NEXT SUNDAY!



Schwarzwald Lutheran Church

Serving and Loving Christ since 1737

The Rev. Dr. Steven H. Shussett, Pastor
 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

15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021



HYMNS ON THE CARILLON

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

James 2:8

You do well if you really fulfill
 the royal law according to the scripture,
 "You shall love your neighbor as yourself."

PRELUDE *We Give Thee but Thine Own* How/Mason/Webb

CALL TO WORSHIP—RINGING THE BELLS

Please stand.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
 whose teaching is life,
 whose presence is sure,
 and whose love is endless.

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sins
 to the one who welcomes us
 with an open heart.

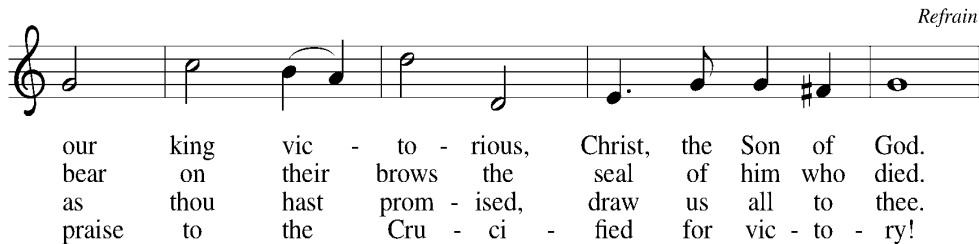
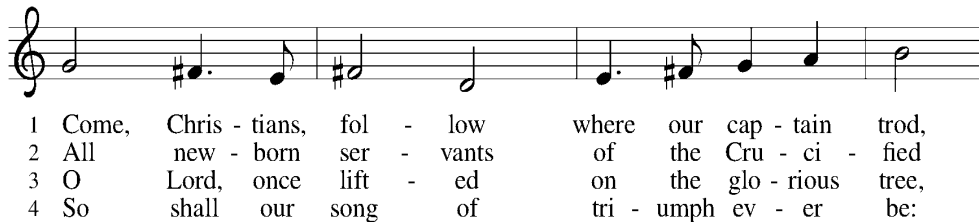
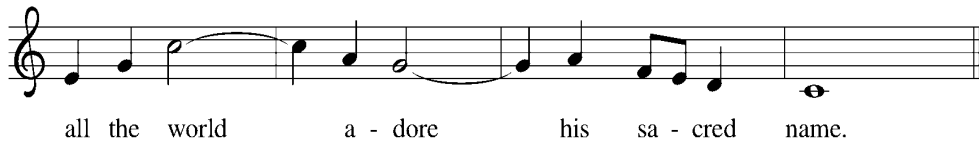
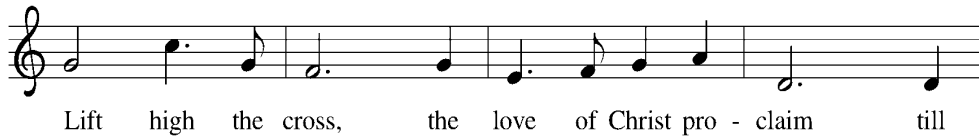
Silence is kept for reflection.

P God our comforter:

C like lost sheep,
we have gone astray.
We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.
We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.
We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.
Free us from our sin, gracious God.
Listen when we call out to you for help.
Lead us by your love
to love our neighbors as ourselves.
Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

GATHERING HYMN *Lift High the Cross*



STRONG

JOIN US FOR AN OPEN HOUSE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8
11:00am—6:00pm

615 Kenhorst Blvd.
Reading PA 19611

**Tour the newly renovated lower level
and talk to staff about the
STRONG program at
MARY'S SHELTER**

STRONG OPEN HOUSE

OCTOBER 8
10:00a—6:00p



God's work.
Our hands.

All **SLC choirs** will be returning this fall beginning **Thursday, September 9th**. The schedule is as follows:

Cherub Choir: 6:10 (ages 5-7 / Grades K-2)
Junior Choir: 6:30 (ages 8-11) / Grades 3-6
Handbell Choir: 6:55 (arrival/setup at 6:45) (open to teens and tweens, too!)
Senior Choir: 7:35-8:35

Please come out and help bring all of our ensembles back to full life! I look forward to seeing you all there. Anyone with questions should contact me at: music@schwarzwaldlutheran.org

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

TRUNK OR TREAT

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 17

More information in upcoming bulletins and the October newsletter.



GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
C **And also with you.**

KYRIE

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,
and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us
pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

P Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.



A - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

P Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth.



♩ Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and Fa - ther:



We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:



You take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on us.



You are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE

The sole purpose of the Special Congregational Meeting is to approve a second amendment to the T-Mobile lease, which will provide T-Mobile an additional approximately 120 sq. ft. of ground space to install a backup generator for their equipment and to approve the construction drawings associated with the installation of the proposed backup generator.

LAY EUCHARISTIC VISITOR TRAINING

Through Lutheran Congregational Services

Would you be interested in becoming a Eucharistic Visitor for SLC? This would enable you to provide home communion to our sick and shut-ins. The one-day event is from 9:30a to 4:00p and there are three different dates/sites to choose from on the list — 9/25, 10/23 or 11/6. If you are interested, please call the church office at 610-779-3480.

ACOLYTES WE ARE BACK

STARTING SEPTEMBER 12 AT 10:30 A.M.

If you are interested in serving God and your Church, being an acolyte ages 9 to 15 is a great way to participate as a leader in Worshiping God.

Please complete the lower half and drop it in the collection plate in the Narthex or the office.

Acolytes

Name-----

Phone No _____

E-Mail-----





Are you ready for it?

We are returning to in-person
Sunday School!

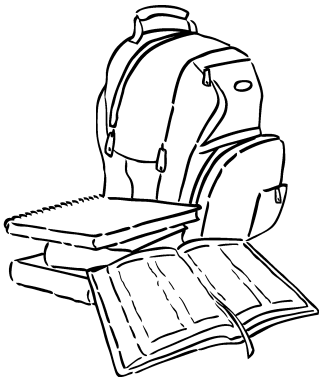
Our official kick-off will be
Rally Day on

September 12

9:15—10:15 a.m.

We hope you can join us for everything!

Our theme this year is...drumroll...a "faith and fun" carnival! All of our children will get to experience games, snacks, a special guest, a fun photo station, crafts, prizes, and more. All of this will be faith-based and so much fun. We are beyond thrilled to welcome our youth back for this mega Sunday School kick-off event!



**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER
RECOGNITION AND**

**BACK PACK BLESSING
DURING WORSHIP!**

**KIDS—BRING YOUR BACK
PACKS TO CHURCH!**

CHURCH PICNIC IN THE PAVILION AT 11:45 A.M.

(see back page for more details)

FIRST READING Isaiah 35:4-7a

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ^{7a}the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 146 *read responsively*

¹Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

²**I will praise the LORD as long as I live;**

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

³Do not put your trust in princes,

in mortals, in whom there is no help.

⁴**When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.**

⁵Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God,

⁶**who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;**

⁷who executes justice for the oppressed;

who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

⁸**the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are
bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

⁹The LORD watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

¹⁰**The LORD will reign forever, your God,**

O Zion, for all generations. Praise the LORD!

SECOND READING James 2:1-17

¹My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favoritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? ²For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, ³and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or, "Sit at my feet," ⁴have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? ⁵Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? ⁶But you have dishonored the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? ⁷Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

⁸You do well if you really fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ⁹But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. ¹⁰For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it. ¹¹For the one who said,

“You shall not commit adultery,” also said, “You shall not murder.” Now if you do not commit adultery but if you murder, you have become a transgressor of the law. ¹²So speak and so act as those who are to be judged by the law of liberty. ¹³For judgment will be without mercy to anyone who has shown no mercy; mercy triumphs over judgment.

¹⁴What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? ¹⁵If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, ¹⁶and one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill,” and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? ¹⁷So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

P The Gospel according to Mark.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

HOLY GOSPEL Mark 7:24-37

²⁴[Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, ²⁵but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. ²⁶Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. ²⁷He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” ²⁸But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.” ²⁹Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.” ³⁰So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

³¹Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³²They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

The **September Pulpit and Pew** is available for pick-up in the Narthex.

NEEDED — ALTAR FLOWER AND BULLETIN SPONSORS—2 sponsors per week. If you would like to sponsor the altar flowers (\$25) or bulletins (\$14), please fill out your information on the sign-up sheets in the Narthex. **Sponsors are needed for all of September.** You no longer need to purchase your own flowers.

CARDS ARE AVAILABLE IN THE NARTHEX for a note of “thinking of you,” “cheer,” “wishing you well,” etc. Please pick a card and send it to someone on the church prayer list or on your personal prayer list to help keep their spirits up!

TUESDAY MORNING GROUP - The Tuesday morning Bible Study / Work Group meets every Tuesday, 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall. Please join us!

Pastor Steve’s Office Hours through 9/10 are as follows:

Monday and Wednesday, 1-4pm. Tuesday 11am-2pm.

Please remember that planned and unplanned events can come up, so you may want to call ahead of time, AND other times to meet can be arranged.

BREAKFAST BUNCH

Thursday, September 9, at 9:00 a.m. at Effie’s Charcoal Chef Restaurant.

All are welcome!

RALLY DAY — SEPTEMBER 12

Pre-wrapped candy donations to be used for a candy scramble would be much appreciated! There’s a box for candy donations in the Narthex.

FROM SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE

As part of Mary’s Shelter’s “Strong Program”, the **Giving Tree** in the Narthex has “bloomed” with cards listing items needed to complete the bedroom designed by Exeter’s Design Team. You may place your donations in the container near the tree. The deadline for delivering your items to church is Sunday, **September 12**. Please remember that all items are to be new. Thank you so much for helping with this project!!

The ongoing collections supported by the congregation through the Social Ministry Committee are:

PEANUT BUTTER AND JELLY - We continue to collect PB&J for the Exeter Area Food Pantry. Please place the items in the black bins at the Narthex entrance.

USED EYEGLASSES - We collect used eyeglasses and pass them along to the Exeter Township Lions Club. Please donate only eyeglasses, regular and tinted, no accessories such as cases. Please place the items in the black bins at the Narthex entrance.

ALUMINUM CAN TABS - We continue to collect aluminum can tabs from soda cans, soup cans, pet food cans, etc. The can tabs are passed along to the Exeter Township Lions Club. Please deposit the tabs in the specially marked container at the Narthex entrance.

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *Christ, Be Our Light* Farrell

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP, THERE WILL BE A RECEPTION FOR PASTOR STEVE AND ALICIA OUTSIDE THE NARTHEX. PLEASE JOIN US!

CCLI Streaming License #20780569

Copyrighted © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress under License #SB094228.

Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License #SAS025873.

OneLicense.net A-725571. All rights reserved.

CCLI License #11495603. All rights reserved.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Rev. Dr. Steven H. Shussett, Pastor
Ben D’Annibale, Music Director
Walt Smithson, Usher Team Captain
Barry Hoover, Assisting Minister
Sally Kennedy, Carillonneur
Frank Kerber, Zoom Master

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome Sirapat Jittapirom as our supply organist this morning.

The **altar flowers** are presented to the glory of God and sponsored by 1) Barry and Ruth Hoover in honor of Amy and Kyle’s first wedding anniversary, and 2) by Susan and David Johns in honor and in memory of Susan’s brothers, Peter and Albert.

The **bulletins** are presented to the glory of God and sponsored by Iris Ringler in loving memory of her husband, Thomas F. Ringler

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. If you do not have a Bible at home, please take one from the welcome table.

Large print bulletins and hearing receivers are available in the Narthex. Please see an usher for assistance. **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. Please return the clipboards. **The crayons are yours to take home!**

RETURN TO REGULAR WORSHIP TIME

We return to our regular schedule of 10:30 a.m. worship time beginning next Sunday, September 12.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY *Christ, Be Our Light*



1 Long - ing for light, we wait in dark - ness. Long - ing for
2 Long - ing for peace, our world is trou - bled. Long - ing for
3 Long - ing for food, man - y are hun - gry. Long - ing for
4 Long - ing for shel - ter, man - y are home - less. Long - ing for
5 Man - y the gifts, man - y the peo - ple, man - y the



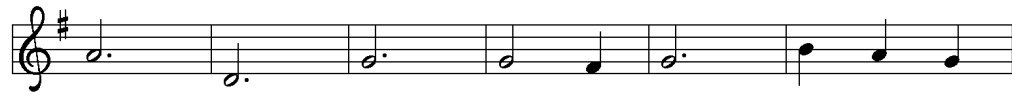
truth, we turn to you. Make us your own,
hope, man - y de - spair. Your word a - lone
wa - ter, man - y still thirst. Make us your bread,
warmth, man - y are cold. Make us your build - ing,
hearts that yearn to be - long. Let us be ser - vants



your ho - ly peo - ple, light for the world to see.
has pow’r to save us. Make us your liv - ing voice.
bro - ken for oth - ers, shared un - til all are fed.
shel - ter - ing oth - ers, walls made of liv - ing stone.
to one an - oth - er, signs of your king - dom come.



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the



dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your



church gath - ered to - day.

APOSTLES' CREED

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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Prayers for those with immediate concerns

Scot Griesemer	George Hughes	David Johns
Chuck Weiser	Jan Zabodyn	Fionn Flanagan
Ann Mohr	Nancy Mohr	Fred Mohr, Sr.
Scott Gumpert	Sarah	Peter Seoane
Jamie Slepecki		

After each petition of the prayers:

A Lord, in your mercy,
 C **hear our prayer.**

SHARING THE PEACE

P The peace of our Lord be with you always.
 C **And also with you.**

*Offer those with you in body or spirit a gesture of peace,
 saying **Peace be with you.***

Please be seated.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

A basket for your offering is available in the Narthex on entering.

SPECIAL MUSIC *Here I Am, Lord* Schutte

The offering is brought forward to the altar by an usher.

Please stand.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
 hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come,
 thy will be done,
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread;
 and forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those who trespass against us;
 and lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom,
 and the power,
 and the glory,
 forever and ever. Amen

BLESSING

SENDING HYMN *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee*



1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!