

**ASH WEDNESDAY — March 5**

2:00 — 3:00 p.m. “Drive-thru” Imposition of Ashes  
Front driveway near the office — Pastor Jim Farnsworth

7:00 p.m. Worship Service in our Sanctuary with Holy Communion  
and the Imposition of Ashes — Pastor Donald Simmons

**Midweek Lenten Services**

Wednesdays — March 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9 — 7:00 p.m.  
We will be using the *Holden Evening Prayer Service*

**LITTLE FREE PANTRY**

Thank you for your continued support of the **Little Free Pantry**. Due to your generosity, the pantry box has been filled throughout our cold winter days. The collection box for food may be found in the Narthex. Suitable cold-weather items include:

**Boxes of cereal (very welcomed), Ramen Noodles, Pasta,  
Dried Beans, Rice, Crackers, Dried fruit, Nuts,  
Ready-to-make meals, Mac and Cheese, Packets of Oatmeal**

**The ideal temperature for storing canned food is between 50°F and 70°F.**  
However, if donated, these items will be saved for future use.

**GODS WORK, OUR HANDS.**



# Schwarzwald Lutheran Church

Serving and Loving Christ since 1737

The people of Schwarzwald - Ministers  
The Rev. Jim Farnsworth, Designated Pastor  
Mrs. Kathy Snyder - Director of Music  
Ms. Diane V. Hafer - Office Administrator  
Mrs. Crystal Jordan - Christian Ed. Director  
Mrs. Melissa Kerber—Sexton

**SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY FEBRUARY 16, 2025**

**HYMNS ON THE CARILLON**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**



**WELCOME** Leader: This is the day that the LORD has made!  
**Congregation: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**PRELUDE** *Peaceful Prelude* . . . . . Bullack

**CALL TO WORSHIP—RINGING THE BELLS**

*Please stand.*

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

**P** 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.

**C Amen.**

**P** Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

**P** Merciful God,

**C** **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.**

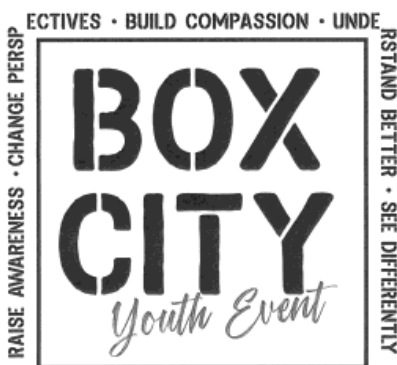
**C Amen.**

**P** 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.

**C Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN #817 You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore**

## Event Registration Open



March 22 - 23, 2025

A SEPA multi-congregation Event Hosted at  
New Hanover Lutheran Church • Gilbertsville, PA  
For Youth Grades 6-12 • Friends Welcome!

Starts Saturday 4PM • \$30 per attendee

Camp • Learn • Raise \$ • Play Games • Worship



Details on Website [bit.ly/boxcity25](https://bit.ly/boxcity25)

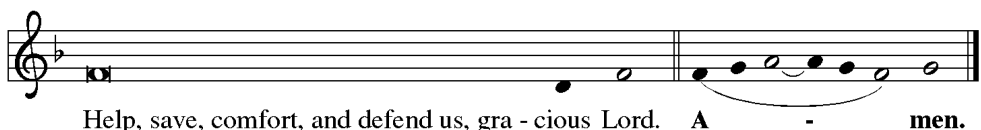
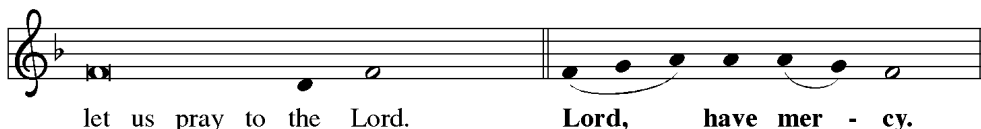
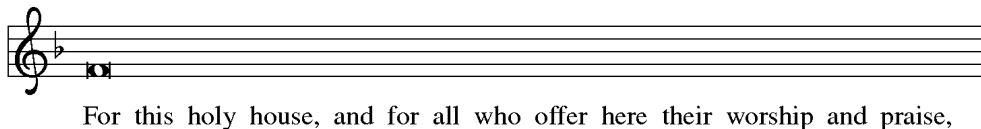
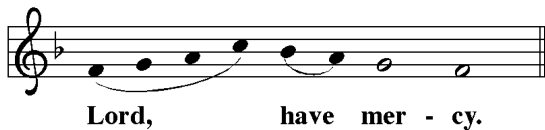
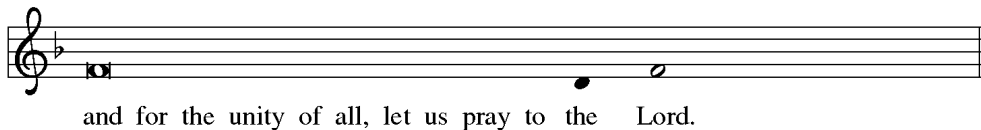
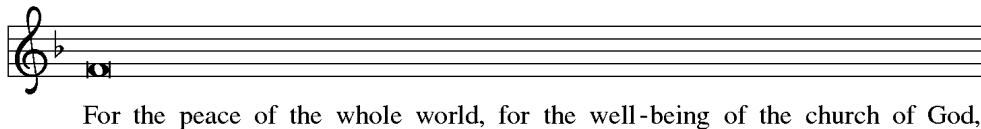
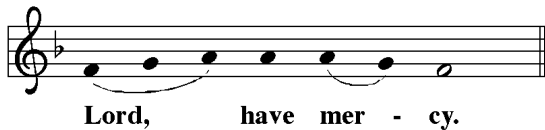
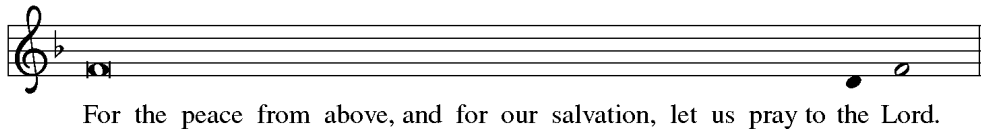
Deadline to register: March 1

**GREETING**

**A** 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**



**SERVING AT WORSHIP**

Christy D'Angelo . . . . . Assisting Minister  
Kevin Kennedy . . . . . Usher Team Captain  
Emma Dickerson . . . . . Acolyte  
Peg Gumpert, Christy D'Angelo, Judy McLain, Mark Hoover . . . Comm. Assist.  
Sally Kennedy, Judy Ney . . . . . Carillonneurs  
Rochelle Chelius . . . . . Zoom Master

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**We welcome The Rev. Susan Fox as our supply pastor 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. You are also encouraged to sign our guest register with your preferred contact information. If you do not have a Bible at home, please take one from the welcome table. Visitors who are communing members of other Christian congregations are cordially invited to receive the Sacrament with us. Welcome to the Lord's table where we are one with Christ!

The **altar flowers** are presented to the glory of God and sponsored 1) by the family of Janet Hafer in loving celebration of her 91st birthday, and 2) by Ellen Focht in honor of Charlie Gibney's birthday.

The **bulletins** are presented to the glory of God and sponsored 1) by Kevin and Sally Kennedy in honor of Janet Hafer's birthday, and 2) by Greg and JoAnn Lott.

**Large print bulletins and hearing receivers** are available in the Narthex. Please see an usher for assistance.

**Children's toys, games, puzzles and books** can be found in the Narthex.

**Church-time Nursery** is available downstairs in the "Parent and Me" room with plenty of toys and books for toddlers and youngsters.

**WE ARE IN NEED OF ALTAR FLOWER SPONSORS** (\$25) on March 2, 5, 9, 16 and 23. **WE ARE IN NEED OF BULLETIN SPONSORS** (\$14) on February 23 and all of March. Please use the sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

**Last Sunday's Current Envelopes Offering:**

Budgeted income \$4,038.00  
Actual income \$ 0.00 (Worship was canceled due to ice storm)

Schwarzwald Lutheran Church  
250 Church Lane Road  
Reading, PA 19606  
The Rev. Jim Farnsworth, Designated Pastor:  
pastorjimsmc@gmail.com / 610-246-4278  
Church Office Phone 610-779-3480  
Church Office Fax 610-779-2777  
Website www.schwarzwaldlutheran.org  
Office e-mail administrator@schwarzwaldlutheran.org  
Director of Music 484-794-1214 (text)  
Emergency 610-914-8257

**DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION**

Continuous Communion  
Grape juice is available at the top of the steps.  
For gluten free wafers, please ask the Communion Assistant.  
If you are unable to come to the altar for communion, the Pastor will bring communion to you in your pew.  
After receiving communion, please pick up a communion card at the bottom of the ramp. Please complete the card and place it in the basket in the Narthex or vestibule after worship.

*Please stand.*

**POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**C Amen.**

**POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink.  
Strengthen us for service,  
and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world.  
In the name of Christ we pray,

**C Amen.**

**BLESSING**

**SENDING HYMN #696 *Jesus Calls Us; o'er the Tumult***

**DISMISSAL**

A Go in peace. Live in hope.  
**C Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE *Magnificat Verse* . . . . . Speth**

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.  
**Please be advised** that all of our worship services are broadcast live via Zoom to anyone who possesses the meeting passcode as well as recorded for subsequent distribution via email to members of the congregation and posted on the church's Facebook page.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P Let us pray. Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**C Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**YOUTH CHOIR CHIMES** . . . . . *Amazing Grace*

**CHILDREN'S CIRCLE** . . . . . The Rev. Susan Fox

**FIRST READING Jeremiah 17:5-10**

<sup>5</sup>Thus says the Lord:  
Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals  
and make mere flesh their strength,  
whose hearts turn away from the Lord.  
<sup>6</sup>They shall be like a shrub in the desert,  
and shall not see when relief comes.  
They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness,  
in an uninhabited salt land.  
<sup>7</sup>Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,  
whose trust is the Lord.  
<sup>8</sup>They shall be like a tree planted by water,  
sending out its roots by the stream.  
It shall not fear when heat comes,  
and its leaves shall stay green;  
in the year of drought it is not anxious,  
and it does not cease to bear fruit.  
<sup>9</sup>The heart is devious above all else;  
it is perverse—  
who can understand it?  
<sup>10</sup>I the Lord test the mind  
and search the heart,  
to give to all according to their ways,  
according to the fruit of their doings.

A The word of the Lord.  
**C Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 1 *read responsively***

<sup>1</sup>Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked,  
or take the path that sinners tread,  
or sit in the seat of scoffers;  
<sup>2</sup>**but their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and on his law they meditate day and night.**  
<sup>3</sup>They are like trees planted by streams of water,  
which yield their fruit in its season,

and their leaves do not wither.  
In all that they do, they prosper.

**4The wicked are not so,  
but are like chaff that the wind drives away.**

**5Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
nor sinners in the congregation of the righteous;**

**6for the LORD watches over the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked will perish.**

## SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

<sup>12</sup>Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? <sup>13</sup>If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; <sup>14</sup>and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. <sup>15</sup>We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. <sup>16</sup>For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. <sup>17</sup>If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. <sup>18</sup>Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. <sup>19</sup>If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

<sup>20</sup>But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

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 Luke.

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

## HOLY GOSPEL Luke 6:17-26

<sup>17</sup>[Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>18</sup>They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. <sup>19</sup>And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P 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.

## 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.**

## LAMB OF GOD

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.

*Please be seated.*

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

☩ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho - san-na.  
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

<sup>20</sup> Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,  
for yours is the kingdom of God.

<sup>21</sup> “Blessed are you who are hungry now,  
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,  
for you will laugh.

<sup>22</sup> “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. <sup>23</sup> Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

<sup>24</sup> “But woe to you who are rich,  
for you have received your consolation.

<sup>25</sup> “Woe to you who are full now,  
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,  
for you will mourn and weep.

<sup>26</sup> “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**SERMON** . . . . . The Rev. Susan Fox

*Please stand.*

**HYMN OF THE DAY** #798 *Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons)*

## 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

**P** With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

*A brief silence.*

**A** Blessed is your church transformed by your Spirit. Give us courage to proclaim to all people the promises made true in the death and resurrection of Christ. God of grace,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Blessed is creation. As earth experiences destruction from harmful practices and climate change, give us courage to help bring about its restoration. Encourage those who work in forestry to be a voice for the hidden places of creation and provide skills for its conservation. God of grace,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Blessed are the nations. We pray for presidents, prime ministers, and leaders of nations. Grant that their courage will not run dry in the face of challenge, but that they will delight in the fountain of your righteousness. God of grace,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Blessed are those in need. Give to all facing illness wise and caring doctors, nurses, and therapists. Draw close to those who feel far from you or who are suffering in any way especially,

Joan Garipoli	Barbara Hafer
Bob Pendi	Janice Smithson
Alice Specht	Tom Bowersox
Brett Montag	Jayne Phillips
Tracy Rohrbach	Suzanne Trigg
Jim and Lauri Walker	

We pray for all those concerns and people we quietly name. *(Silent prayers)*  
Provide an extra measure of your grace and love. God of grace,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Blessed is this congregation. Like a tree planted by streams of water, we are nourished by faith in you. Provide courage in times that feel dry, trusting that you sustain us in many ways. God of grace,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**

**A** Blessed are those saints who now rest in your peace. Through lives of both sorrow and joy, challenge and triumph, they provide witness of faith in all times. May their lives be a witness to the living. God of grace,  
**C** **hear our prayer.**

**P** We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

**C** **Amen.**

## SHARING THE PEACE

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

**C** **And also with you.**

*Share the peace with one another.*

*Please be seated.*

## OFFERING

**ANTHEM** *God's Hand Is There . . . . .* anonymous  
Patty Schmeer, soloist

*Please stand.*

## OFFERTORY RESPONSE



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.