

Annual Easter Egg Hunt

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

10:00 A.M.

FOR KIDS OF ALL AGES!

EGG HUNT

MUSIC

STORIES

CRAFTS

PRIZES



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

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 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 *Prelude* J. S. Bach

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.

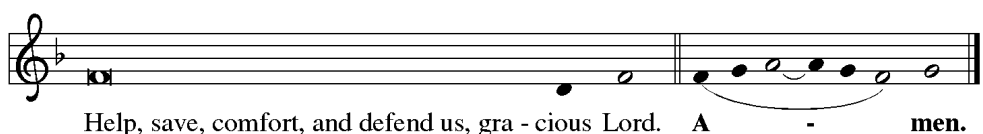
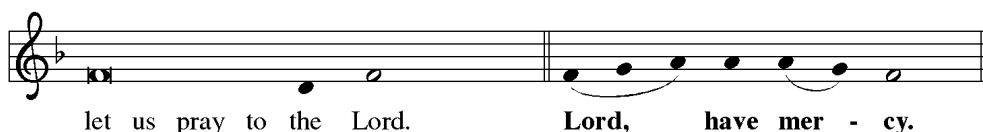
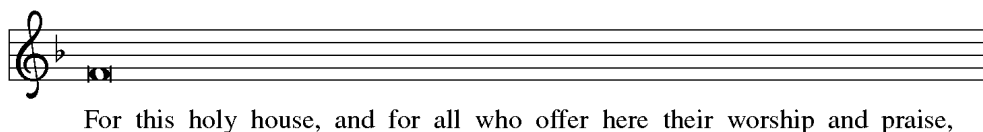
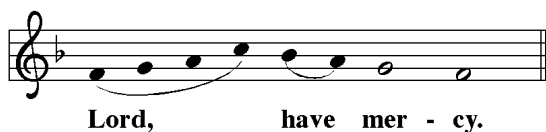
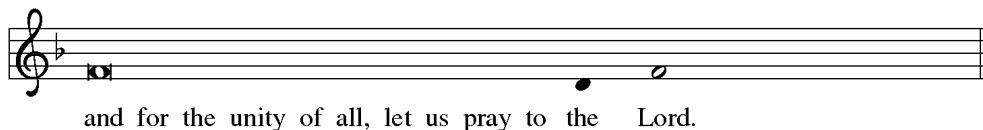
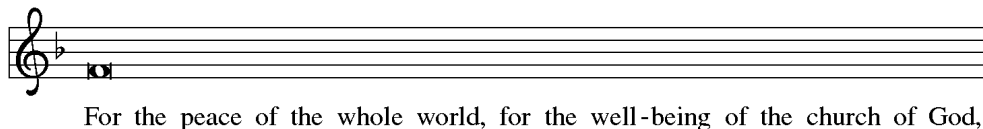
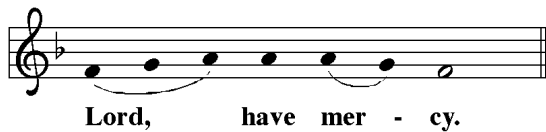
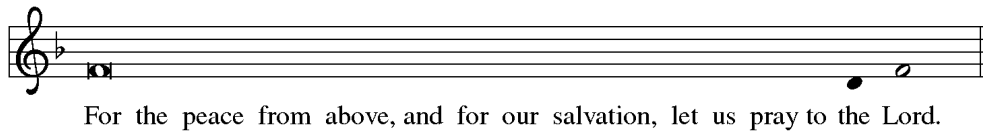
GATHERING HYMN #618 *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer*

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



Lenten Soup

Supper

6 P.M.

April 9



**PLEASE JOIN US
FOR A SIMPLE SOUP SUPPER
BEFORE OUR LENTEN SERVICE.
FOOD WILL BE PROVIDED.
A FREE WILL OFFERING WILL BE TAKEN.
PLEASE HELP US PLAN BY TEXTING
610-780-9825 WITH YOUR NAME AND THE
NUMBER ATTENDING....OR CALL THE
CHURCH OFFICE
AT 610-779-3480**

LENTEN SELF-DENIAL CAMPAIGN

Midweek Lenten Services

Wednesdays — March 19, 26, April 2, 9 — 7:00 p.m.

We will be using the *Holden Evening Prayer Service*

Dinner will be held at 6:00 p.m. on **April 9**.

So, what is Lent? Lent is the season of preparation leading up to Easter. It commemorates the forty days that Jesus spent in the wilderness being tempted by Satan. We use these forty days to contemplate our relationship with Christ and the call that He has for each of us.

People celebrate Lent with different practices: fasting, prayer, self-denial, and almsgiving. Self-denial could include giving up certain activities or luxuries, or maybe favorite hobbies for the season, And Almsgiving is all about living a generous life. But, be especially generous during Lent - maybe give to the church's **LENTEN SELF-DENIAL campaign**. You will find special **Lenten Self-Denial Envelopes** in the Narthex. Please use these envelopes to add a special and additional offering to your normal weekly or monthly offerings. This year, the Lenten Self-Denial Offering will go to support the Veteran's Stand Down in Pottstown which supports homeless veterans and veterans in need in the Pottstown area. Veterans receive hot food and can participate in a special clothing closet and food pantry just for Vets. They also can talk to providers for services and benefits and spend some fellowship time with fellow vets.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

YOUTH CHORUS ANTHEM *The Wise Man and the Foolish Man* . . . anon.

CHILDREN'S CIRCLEThe Rev. Richard Bardo

FIRST READING Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

¹After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 27 *read responsively*

¹The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

²**When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh —
my adversaries and foes —
they shall stumble and fall.**

³Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

⁴**One thing I asked of the LORD,
that will I seek after:
to live in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD,
and to inquire in his temple.**

⁵For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will set me high on a rock.

⁶**Now my head is lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.**

⁷Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud,
be gracious to me and answer me!

⁸**"Come," my heart says, "seek his face!"
Your face, LORD, do I seek.**

⁹Do not hide your face from me.
Do not turn your servant away in anger,
you who have been my help.
Do not cast me off, do not forsake me,
O God of my salvation!

¹⁰**If my father and mother forsake me,
the LORD will take me up.**

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD,
and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies.

¹²**Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they are breathing out violence.**

¹³I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living.

¹⁴**Wait for the LORD;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the LORD!**

SECOND READING Philippians 3:17—4:1

¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to



The New Journey Soup Kitchen ministry has been part of our outreach for years. The need is greater than ever. So in an effort to increase the amount of soup we donate, we are modifying our on-call team and extending an invitation to everyone in the congregation. A list of everyone who is willing to make soup at least one month during the year will be compiled. Every month the recipe for that month's soup will be sent to the on-call team and to all the people on the new list, and they can choose whether or not to participate that month. (The existing teams will still prepare their recipes as always. If you want to participate more than that one month, have your name added to the new list.) If you participate, you will need to let Carol Gunzelmann or the soup team captain know your intention and have your labelled soup in the kitchen upright freezer by the middle of the month. 3-4 quart containers are available in the kitchen or can be purchased at the dollar store. Complete the form below to have your name added to the list. Contact Carol Gunzelmann 610-401-5731 or carolgunzelmann@gmail.com with questions.

----- CUT -----

I am willing to prepare soup for the New Journey soup kitchen at least one month of my choice.

NAME _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____



Please place completed
form in the offering
plate or drop off at the
church office.
Thank you!

CALENDER FOR LENT / HOLY WEEK / EASTER

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Wednesdays — March 19, 26, April 2, 9 — 7:00 p.m.

We will be using the *Holden Evening Prayer* Service

Dinner will be held at 6:00 p.m. on **April 9**.

PALM SUNDAY

April 13

10:30 AM Worship with Holy Communion

Reading of the Passion

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 17

7:30 PM Holy Communion Service

Stripping of the Altar

GOOD FRIDAY

April 18

7:30 PM Worship Service

EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 19

10:00 AM

EASTER SUNDAY

April 20

8:00 AM Early Service with Holy Communion

9:00 AM Breakfast in Fellowship Hall

10:30 AM Festival Worship with Holy Communion

himself. ^{4:1} Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

LENTEN VERSE



P The Gospel according to Luke.

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

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 13:31-35

³¹ At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to [Jesus,] “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³² He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work.’ ³³ Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴ Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵ See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON The Rev. Richard Bardo

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

#322 *Oh, Love, How Deep*

Baptism

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 Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, you long to gather your church under your wings. Bless the churches of Jerusalem, and all persecuted churches, that your people may take heart and stand firm as they witness and minister in your name. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Holy God, you give shelter to living things as numerous as the stars. Strengthen the voice of prophets who call humanity to faithful care for the planet, that they would not be silenced but heeded as your messengers. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Holy God, you raised up leaders like Abram, Sarai, and Paul to show your people what it means to rely on your promises. Guide today's leaders to work for justice and safeguard the world for future generations. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

THE CONGREGATION IS CORDIALLY INVITED

to the baptism of Emily Elizabeth Miller,
daughter of David and Meghan Miller,
granddaughter of Pastors John and Amy Miller.

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, AT 11:00 A.M.

here at Schwarzwald Lutheran Church.

There will be a luncheon following the baptism.

If you would like to stay for the luncheon,
please RSVP to the Church Office by March 31.

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.

thrivent *Thrivent Choice Dollars*—Thank you to those who have Thrivent products and have designated Schwarzwald Lutheran Church as a recipient of funds. Continue to check on your accounts! You can access your account on the computer at Thrivent.com/choicedollars or call a representative at 800-847-4836 and say “Thrivent Choice” at the prompt. **March 31 is the deadline to designate 2024 Choice Dollars.**

SERVING AT WORSHIP

Judy McLain Assisting Minister
Fred Mohr. Usher Captain
Michael Jordan, Kailey Batzel, A. J. Batzel, John Gibson Youth Ushers
John Gibson Acolyte
Sally Kennedy, Judy Ney, Ian Carr Carillonneurs

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome The Rev. Richard Bardo 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.

The **altar flowers** are presented to the glory of God and sponsored by The Gibson Family in memory of Kenny Swartzentruber.

The **bulletins** are presented to the glory of God and sponsored by The Batzel Family for blessings on the Exeter Senior High School Musical, *The Little Mermaid*.

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

Children's toys, games, puzzles and books are available 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 for April 6, 20 and 27. Please use the sign-up sheets in the Narthex

WE ARE IN NEED OF BULLETIN SPONSORS for the remainder of March and all of April. Please use the sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

Last Sunday's Current Envelopes Offering:

Budgeted income \$ 4,038.00
Actual income \$ 4,087.00

Holy God, you are the stronghold of our life. Care tenderly for those who are ill in body or mind, and for people living in fear or need especially,

Cindy Fliegel	Barbara Hafer
Janice Smithson	Tom Bowersox
Jayne Phillips	Tracy Rohrbach
Suzanne Trigg	Jim and Lauri Walker

We pray for all those concerns and people we quietly name in our hearts.

(Silent prayers)

May all know they are not alone. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Holy God, you offer us citizenship in heaven. Unite communities of faith who are divided over earthly things, that following the way of your Son, they may set aside grudges and serve their neighbors with generosity and love. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

Holy God, you are our light and our salvation. We give thanks for the saints who have gone before us. Help us to trust in you as they did and to live according to their example. God, in your mercy,
receive our prayer.

P Receive the prayers of your people and draw all things together in your love, in the name of Jesus, who leads us from death to life.
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 *Cornerstone* Larson
Sr. Choir

Please stand.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re-new a right spir -
it with-in me. Cast me not a-way from your pres-ence, and take
not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re-store to me the
joy of your sal-va - tion, and up-hold me with your free Spir - it.

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

P God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever.
C Amen.

SENDING HYMN #536 *God Be With You Till We Meet Again*

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Verse* 17th c. anon

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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.

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