



Schwarzwald Lutheran Church

Serving and Loving Christ since 1737

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

19TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST OCTOBER 19, 2025 10:45 A.M.

HYMNS ON THE CARILLON

CALL TO WORSHIP—RINGING THE BELLS

PRELUDE *Unchanging* Tomlin

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

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 #413 *Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty*

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE The Rev. David Blich

FIRST READING Genesis 32:22-31

²² The same night [Jacob] got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. ²³ He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴ Jacob was left alone, and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵ When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶ Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷ So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸ Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans and have prevailed." ²⁹ Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰ So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, yet my life is preserved." ³¹ The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 121 *read responsively*

¹ I lift up my eyes to the hills—

from where will my help come?

² **My help comes from the Lord,
who made heaven and earth.**

³ He will not let your foot be moved;
he who keeps you will not slumber.

⁴ **He who keeps Israel
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

⁵ The Lord is your keeper;
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

⁶ **The sun shall not strike you by day
nor the moon by night.**

⁷ The Lord will keep you from all evil;
he will keep your life.

⁸ **The Lord will keep
your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.**

SECOND READING 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1}In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you:

²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

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 Holy Gospel according to Luke.

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

HOLY GOSPEL Luke 18:1-8

¹Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' ⁴For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.' " ⁶And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God grant justice to his

chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸ I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

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

Please be seated.

SERMON The Rev. David Blitch

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY
#818 O Master, Let Me Walk with You

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 Renewed in God's everlasting grace, let us pray for the church, the world, and all creation.

A brief silence.

A We pray for the church universal. O God, who unites the church across the globe, bring unity and peace to a world divided by hatred and opposition. Turn our hearts toward the gospel of Jesus Christ. Sustain the ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and Bishops Yehiel and Christopher and for all our local ministries that we may all witness to your abundant love.

God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for creation. O God, who made heaven and earth, draw us to the beauty of the whole creation. Turn us toward a right relationship with the entire cosmos. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for all nations, states, cities, and towns. O God, you rule over all the earth. Grant our elected officials humility in their decision-making for the sake of the entire world. We continue to pray for the people of the Middle East, Ukraine and Russia that they may be protected against the violence of war and find everlasting peace. We also pray for the churches, the schools, and the communities in America that we may find your peace and end the devastation of gun violence in our communities.

God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit. O God, who heals and strengthens, our help comes from you in times of need. Support, comfort, and heal those who suffer especially:

Ken Bryant	Bob & Cindy Fliegel	Barbara Hafer
Connie Harman	Barry & Ruth Hoover	Larry & Priscilla Houpp
Jane Hurchalla	Gwen Kauwell	Larry Ney
Mary Phillips	Zoe Schmaldinst	Walt & Janice Smithson
Pastor & Barb Bardo	Sarah Blatt	Debra Hoerner
Jayne Phillips	Jackie Rohrbach	Tracy Rohrbach
Betty Scollick	Audrey Seltzer	Jim & Lauri Walker

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

Silent prayers.

God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A O God, who guides this congregation, encourage us to share the good news of Jesus Christ. Nurture our relationships with the community, that we serve and advocate for those who come to us in need. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We offer thanksgiving for the faithful departed. O God, whose promises never end, we thank you for all the saints who have shown us the way of your Son, Jesus Christ. God of grace,
C receive our prayer.

P We offer our prayers, O God, trusting in your everlasting grace and mercy, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
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 We Are One, Lord Pethel
Sr. Choir

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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P The Lord be with you.

C 
And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

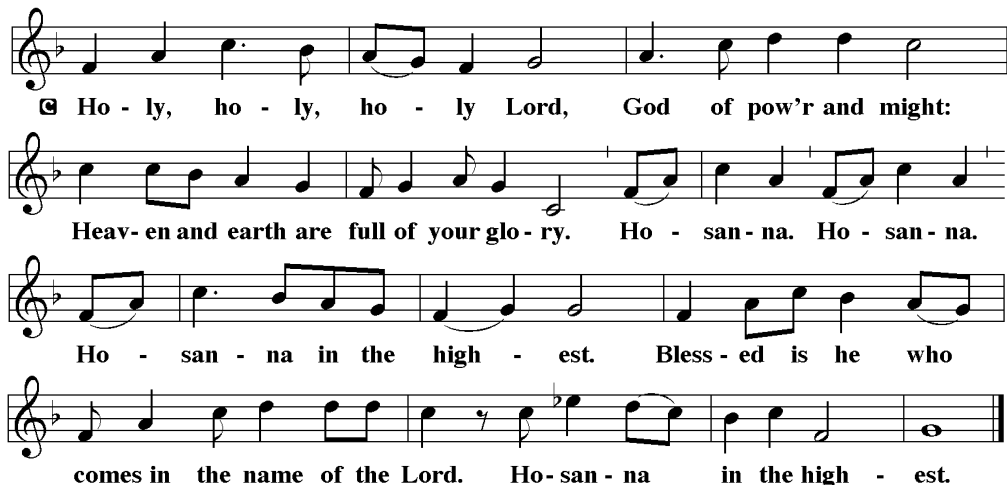
C 
We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C 
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. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. 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.

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.

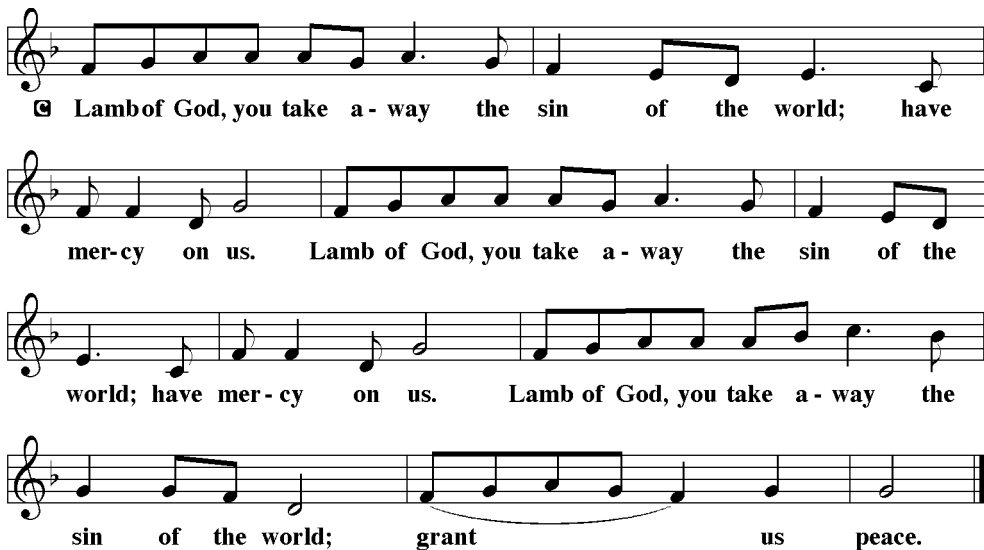
THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

Continuous Communion
Proceed by the way of the center aisle. If needed, grape juice is available at the top of the steps.
For gluten free wafers, please ask the Communion Assistant.
After receiving communion, please return to your seat by way of the side ramps.
If you are unable to come to the altar for communion, the Pastor will bring communion to you in your pew.

HYMN SUNG DURING COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

ELW #638 *Blessed Assurance*

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

A O God,
through this meal you have strengthened us
and appointed us to be your servants.
Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.
We ask this in Jesus’ name.
C Amen.

BLESSING

P The God of righteousness,
who gives justice to the oppressed,
who gives food to the hungry,
who sets the prisoners free,
✚ bless you now and forever.
C Amen.

SENDING HYMN #825 *You Servants of God*

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Do not lose heart.
C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE *Jigg in C* Edmund

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Join us for a night of family fun at

SCHWARZWALD LUTHERAN CHURCH

250 CHURCH LANE ROAD, JACKSONWALD



(RAIN OR SHINE)

TODAY!

4:30 PM-6:30 PM

(SET UP 3:30-4:30 PM)

-  COME IN COSTUME!  DECORATE YOUR TRUNK!
 CHILDREN UNDER 12 MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT.

CALL 610-779-3480 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

SERVING AT WORSHIP

Joshua Kerber	Assisting Minister
Jeff Schmehl	Usher Team Captain
Emma Dickerson	Acolyte
Joshua Keber Doris Jaeger, Terry Jenkins	Communion Assistants
Sally Kennedy, Judy Ney	Carillonneurs
Rochelle Chelius	Zoom Master

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 sponsored 1) by The Rutherford Family to the glory of God and all His blessings, and 2) by Stephanie Hafer Shaak and Family in celebration of the birthdays of her sisters, Heather and Jill.

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.

Altar flower sponsors (\$25) and **bulletin sponsors** (\$14) are needed for October 26 and all of November and December. Please use the sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

WEAR RED next Sunday for the Reformation worship service! Mount Laurel Brass will lead the music portion of the service!

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.

Schwarzwald Lutheran Church
250 Church Lane Road
Reading, PA 19606
Pastor Jim Farnsworth, Designated Pastor:
pastorjimsmc@gmail.com or 610-246-4278
Pastor David Blitch, Visitation Pastor:
upsygrad@msn.com
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

Penn State Extension webinar on food safety for volunteers

Penn State Extension is offering a webinar on food safety for volunteers on November 6th at 6:00 p.m.

For more details and information, please visit their website —
<https://www.psu.edu/news/agricultural-sciences>

<https://extension.psu.edu/cooking-for-crowds-webinar>

Volunteers who help prepare and serve food for their nonprofit organization are encouraged to attend.

Penn State extension educators and faculty serve as instructors and are certified by the National Restaurant Association. All have received training on the most current food safety research.

Participants receive a certificate of completion after attending the program.

NEXT SUNDAY

OCTOBER 26TH — WE WELCOME NEW MEMBERS TO
OUR CONGREGATION

**PLEASE GREET THEM IN THE PARLOR COFFEE CAFÉ
BETWEEN 10:15-10:45 THAT MORNING**

If you are interested in becoming a member,
please call the church office 610-779-3480.



LOOKING AHEAD

REMINDER FOR YOUR CALENDAR!

Daylight Savings time ends at 2:00 a.m. on
Sunday, November 2.

Set your clocks **BACK** one hour at bedtime
on Saturday night, **November 1.**



COME, GATHER, PREPARE *Advent* FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

(following worship)

11:45 AM-1:45 PM in FELLOWSHIP HALL



11:45 —12:15 Light lunch — pizza , veggies

12:15 — 1:15 Crafts and activities

1:15 — 1:45 Lighting of the outside Advent wreath,
gather for crafts and dessert

PIZZA LUNCH

MUSIC

CRAFTS FOR CHILDREN, FAMILIES AND ADULTS

**+ A SPECIAL "PREPARE & SHARE" TABLE FOR OLDER KIDS AND
ADULTS TO MAKE DECORATIONS FOR SHUT-INS**

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST OUTDOOR ADVENT CANDLE

Invite your friends and come for an afternoon of fellowship as we prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of the Christ Child!

10th Annual Toy Give
for the Children of the Exeter Area Food Pantry
December 12, 2025
Distribution will take place at Schwarzwald Lutheran Church

We are so thankful to all the individuals and organizations that helped to make last year's event a great success. Over **440 children** ranging in age from birth to 18 years received gifts to make Christmas morning memorable. Too many local families are still struggling to make ends meet. We are expecting a very large number of them to be registering for toys again this year.

It takes a village to make this event a success!

THERE ARE SO MANY WAYS THAT YOU CAN HELP!

Please consider purchasing a toy or toys for children aged **BIRTH THROUGH 13 YEARS OLD**. This can include toys, games, puzzles, dolls, cars, trucks, building sets, art supplies, Barbies, Legos, etc.

FOR THE TEENAGERS 14-18

Please note that we **ARE NOT** asking for filled shoeboxes this year.

Instead, we would appreciate the purchase of gift sets: Make-up sets, Nail Care Sets, Shaving Sets, Cologne Sets, Perfume Sets, Hand Cream and Body Wash Sets, Adult Art Sets, (Fine tip markers, graphic pencils, colored pencils) etc.

The Amazon Wish List below will include examples of these sets. They are available in many stores during the Christmas season. Teenagers will also receive a gift card to purchase something they would like from our generous partner, Hack Away at Hunger.

Donations of hats, socks, gloves and scarves for **ALL AGES** are also appreciated.

Donations of gently read **CHILDREN's** and **TEEN's** books that you no longer need are welcomed.
New books are also appreciated.

All of these items can be placed in the collection box or you can deliver them to Schwarzwald Lutheran Church. There will be two collection boxes in the breezeway near the church office. The box is emptied daily.

For those who prefer a monetary contribution, please send a check made payable to Schwarzwald Lutheran Church (marked "Toy Give") and send it to 250 Church Lane Road, Reading, PA 19606

Below you will find a link to an Amazon Wish List with suggested items you may purchase for the children in case you are looking for a little help choosing. Any item purchased from this list will be shipped directly to Schwarzwald. You can copy and paste the link in your browser or email me to have a link sent to you. You can also search for the list named Exeter Toy Give 2025 under accounts and lists, search for a list on the Amazon home page.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/305TZ4QONCJV3?ref=wl_share

If you prefer to shop online at any other store website, the items can be shipped directly to Schwarzwald Lutheran Church, 250 Church Lane Road, Reading Pa 19606

If you have questions, please contact Doris Jaeger at 610-780-9825 or bdj43077@msn.com.
You may also call the Schwarzwald Lutheran Church office at 610-779-3480.

NYC BUS TRIP

WITH ST. MARK'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH



**Free Time
in the city!**

Benefits: St. Mark's
Youth Mission Trip

Saturday, December 6th, 2025

Depart from St. Mark's @ 7:30AM

Free time in NYC from

10:30AM to 8PM

Depart from NYC @ 8:00PM

\$75/person

Per Klein's - must be at least 4 yrs old

Due by Oct 31st



SHOP! • SEE A SHOW! • BE A FOODIE! • SIGHTSEE!

Name(s): _____

of Seats: _____

Total Due: \$ _____

Deadline to register
is October 31!