



Schwarzwald Lutheran Church

Serving and Loving Christ since 1737

The people of Schwarzwald - Ministers
The Rev. Jim Farnsworth, Designated Pastor
The Rev. David Blicht, Visitation 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 OF EASTER

SUNDAY, MAY 10, 2026

HYMNS ON THE CARILLON

CALL TO WORSHIP—RINGING THE BELLS

PRELUDE *God, Give Us Christian Homes* Berry



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 Most 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 #825 *You Servants of God*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through 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 *M-O-T-H-E-R* Snyder

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE The Rev. Jim Farnsworth

FIRST READING Acts 17:22-31

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said,

'For we, too, are his offspring.'

²⁹"Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 66:8-20 *read responsively*

⁸Bless our God, O peoples;
let the sound of his praise be heard,

⁹**who has kept us among the living
and has not let our feet slip.**

¹⁰For you, O God, have tested us;
you have tried us as silver is tried.

¹¹**You brought us into the net;
you laid burdens on our backs;**

¹²you let people ride over our heads;
we went through fire and through water;
yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

13 I will come into your house with burnt offerings;

I will pay you my vows,

¹⁴ those that my lips uttered

and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

**15 I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatted calves,
with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;**

I will make an offering of bulls and goats.

¹⁶ Come and hear, all you who fear God,
and I will tell what he has done for me.

**17 I cried aloud to him,
and he was extolled with my tongue.**

¹⁸ If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,
the Lord would not have listened.

**19 But truly God has listened;
he has heard the words of my prayer.**

²⁰ Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer
or removed his steadfast love from me.

SECOND READING 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³ Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴ But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵ but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you, ¹⁶ yet do it with gentleness and respect. Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water. ²¹ And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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 St. John.

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

HOLY GOSPEL John 14:15-21

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Please be seated.

SERMON Seminarian Tina Andrews

Please stand.

HYMN #840 Now Thank We All Our God

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 Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

A God of new life, you call us through the waters of baptism to be in relationship with you and one another. Guide the church and its leaders to proclaim Christ's righteousness throughout the world. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You create the world and all that is in it. Shelter budding plants and young animals, provide unpolluted habitats and clean water, and raise up stewards for the environment. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You set civil servants in the places where we live. Instill truth and equity among judges and lawyers, gentleness and courage among first responders, and peace among leaders of towns and nations. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You provide comfort in times of trouble. Heal those who are sick, shelter any who are unhoused, feed those undernourished, and accompany and console all who are lonely, bereaved, anxious, or ill, especially:

Clyde Feick	Cindy Fliegel	Barry Hoover
Mark Hoover	Ruth Hoover	Susan Johns
Betty Neiman	Mary Phillips	Denton Quick
Walt Smithson	Pat Weiser	Curt Wittman
Stephanie Boone	Sandy Chupkai	Debra Hoerner
Jayne Phillips	Tracy Rohrbach	Richard Schmeer
Betty Scollick	Suzanne Trigg	Jim & Lauri Walker

And for all those concerns and people we quietly name who we hold in our hearts.

Silent Prayers

Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You are love and you desire that we love one another. As a mother hen cares for her chicks, bless all who provide motherly care in our lives, and inspire us to care for one another. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A God of new life, your steadfast love endures forever. Inspire us by the example of the faithful departed, who clung to your promises of life, forgiveness of sins, and salvation. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

P God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior.

C Amen

SHARING THE PEACE

P The peace of our Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us share God's peace with one another.

Please be seated.

OFFERING / ANTHEM *Song of Fellowship* Price/Besig
Sr. Choir

Please stand.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE



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



bles - sing. 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



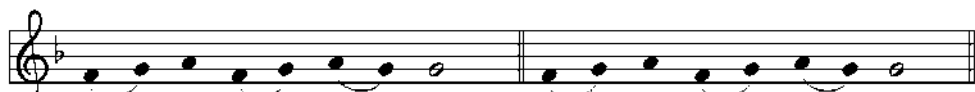
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

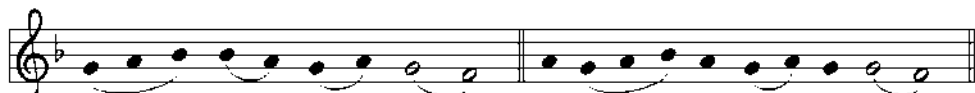
A Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered to give you glory. You have set a table before us, a glimpse of that great day when we will hunger and thirst no more. Nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus,

C **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING




P The Lord be with you. ☩ And al - so with you.



P Lift up your hearts. ☩ We lift them to the Lord.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



☩ It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...

... 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.**

A Word of Welcome:

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is the meal of the Church.

All are welcome to the Lord's Table to receive the gift of His body and blood.

*Children who have not yet received instruction for First Holy Communion
are welcome to come to the altar to receive a special blessing.*

*If you are unable to come forward, please let the ushers know, and you will be
served in the pew.*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Come to the table of new life.
Receive the risen Lord.

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

When directed by the usher, proceed to the altar by way of the center aisle.

If preferred, 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 the way of the side ramps.

HYMN SUNG DURING DISTRIBUTION

#522 *As We Gather at Your Table*

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 Holy One,
through this meal you have made your home among us
and are making all things new.
Send us now to speak peace to anxious hearts,
to love our enemies,
and to bring your healing to the nations.
In the name of Jesus,

C Amen.

BLESSING

P God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
+ bless you now and forever.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN #879 *For the Beauty of the Earth*

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia!

C **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

POSTLUDE *Andantino* Wesley

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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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Emergency 610-914-8257

SERVING AT WORSHIP

Christy D'Angelo	Assisting Minister
Jeff Schmehl	Usher Team Captain
Emma Dickerson	Acolyte
Christy D'Angelo, Terry Jenkins, Lauren Batzel	Communion Assistants
Peg Gumpert	Accompanist
Sally Kennedy, Emma Dickerson	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 presented to the glory of God and sponsored 1) by Bev and Chip Pauley in memory of their parents and grandparents, and 2) by Sally Kennedy with much love in honor of her mother, Janet Hafer, on Mother's Day.

The **bulletins** are presented to the glory of God and sponsored by JoAnn and Greg Lott for blessings on JoAnn's 55th birthday.

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

Altar flower (\$25) and bulletin sponsors (\$14) are needed for May through August. Please use the sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

The **May Pulpit and Pew** is available for pick-up in the Narthex and Vestibule entrances.

Thank you to the youth who have participated in the Youth Chorus and the Youth Chimes groups this year! You are a real blessing to this congregation! Today's anthem concludes our Youth Chorus/Chimes season! We will resume rehearsals in September. Please check your September newsletter for further information!

BREAKFAST BUNCH - The monthly **Breakfast Bunch** will meet on Thursday, May 14, at 9:00 a.m. at the Breakfast Hut Restaurant on Perkiomen Avenue. Please join us! All are welcome!

WEAR RED for Pentecost—Sunday, May 24

NEXT SUNDAY!

CONFIRMATION RECEPTION AT 10:15 in the Parlor Coffee Café.

Please come and congratulate our Confirmands!

Confirmation will be held during the worship service.

This year's Confirmands are:

Vinnie D'Angelo

Cara Dobbins

Colette Jordan

Jeremy Kerber

SOCIAL MEDIA

Do you have pictures on your cell phone of SLC events? Please send them to the church office to be posted on our Facebook and Instagram pages!

administrator@schwarzwaldlutheran.org

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Beginning June 7, our Sunday morning worship services will begin at 9:00 a.m. for the summer and will be led by Chaplain MaryAnn Farnsworth.

The 3rd Sunday of each summer month will be led by Seminarian Tina Andrews. This service is in place of the regular 10:45 a.m. worship time.

HELP NEEDED!

We could use your help on Saturday morning, May 23, at 8:45 a.m. to help unload the Geraniums from the delivery truck and help with decorating the sanctuary for Pentecost.

MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK!

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICES

For the summer, Pastor Jim will lead us in a monthly Saturday evening service at 6:00 p.m. in the pavilion on June 20, July 18, and August 8. For those who are able, we will then share a meal together at a local restaurant.

PARLOR COFFEE CAFÉ / GREETERS

Scan the QR code or use the Sign-Up Genius link to sign-up to bring a baked good for the coffee café or to be a Greeter on a Sunday morning:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050C4FA9AD2FA7FD0-60582416-schwarzwald>





VBS 2026

June 8 - 12

Mark your calendars for this year's VBS!
Want to be a volunteer? Contact Ellen Focht!
More info will be coming as we get closer.

"Let the children come to me"

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW FOR A WEEK FULL OF FAITH,
FELLOWSHIP AND FUN!**

AGES 4-12

DINNER WILL BE SERVED EACH EVENING

BEGINNING AT 5:45 PM.

THE EVENING WILL INCLUDE A GROUP OPENING, BIBLE STORIES, MUSIC
CRAFTS AND ACTIVE PLAY.

PICK-UP AT 8:00 PM.

THE CHILDREN WILL PROVIDE SHOWCASE OF THE LESSONS THEY HAVE
LEARNED ON FRIDAY, 6/12 AT 7:00 PM .

WITH AN ICE CREAM SOCIAL TO FOLLOW.

WE ENCOURAGE ALL PARTICIPANTS, THEIR FAMILIES AND FRIENDS TO ATTEND CHURCH ON
SUNDY, JUNE 14TH SO THE CHILDREN CAN SHARE ALL THEY HAVE LEARNED WITH

OUR CHURCH FAMILY.

We invite you to join us!

SUMMER FESTIVAL OF PRAISE

August 23, 2026

Schwarzwald Lutheran Church

Outdoor worship
beginning at
11:00

★ service music by:
THREIFOLD BLESSING

★ post-service entertainment by:
THE HAPPY DUTCHMEN

Kauffman's BAR-B-QUE
12:00-2:00

order your tickets online, or contact:
administrator@schwarzwaldlutheran.org



Get your
chicken!



Get your ice
cream!



**SPONSOR RED GERANIUMS
FOR PENTECOST
SUNDAY, MAY 24**

6" pot \$6.50 per plant

10" pot \$12.00 per plant

Please fill out the form below and place it in one of the pew envelopes or use one of the green envelopes from your envelope packet and mark it "Seasonal Flowers" and place it in the offering plate.

The geraniums may be picked up after the 10:45 AM worship service on May 24.

Order deadline is May 17.

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Geranium Order Form

Name _____
(As you wish it to appear in the bulletin—names only, please)

Env. # _____

_____ Geraniums 6" pot \$ 6.50
#

_____ Geraniums 10" pot \$12.00
#

\$ _____ Total amount enclosed

