



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

8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST JULY 19, 2026 9:00 A.M.

HYMNS ON THE CARILLON

CALL TO WORSHIP—RINGING THE BELLS



PRELUDE *Be Thou My Vision* arr. Paul Manz

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. Therefore, I 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 #793 *Be Thou My Vision*

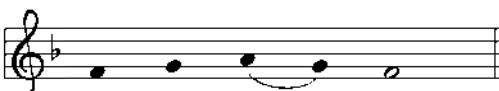
GREETING

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

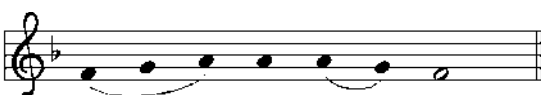
C **And also with you.**

KYRIE

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

C 
Lord, have mer - cy.

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

C 
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.

C 
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.

C 
Lord, have mer - cy.

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

C 
A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray. Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen.

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S CIRCLE Chaplain MaryAnn Farnsworth

FIRST READING Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶ Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:

I am the first, and I am the last;
besides me there is no god.

⁷ Who is like me? Let them proclaim it;
let them declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

⁸ Do not fear or be afraid;
have I not told you from of old and declared it?
You are my witnesses!

Is there any god besides me?
There is no other rock; I know not one.

A The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM 86:11-17 *read responsively*

¹¹ Teach me your way, O Lord,
that I may walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹² **I give thanks to you, O Lord my God,
with my whole heart,
and I will glorify your name forever.**

¹³ For great is your steadfast love toward me;
you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

¹⁴ **O God, the insolent rise up against me;
a band of ruffians seeks my life,
and they do not set you before them.**

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

¹⁶ **Turn to me and be gracious to me;
give your strength to your servant;
save the child of your maidservant.**

¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favor,
so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame,
because you, Lord, have helped me and comforted me.

SECOND READING Romans 8:12-25

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

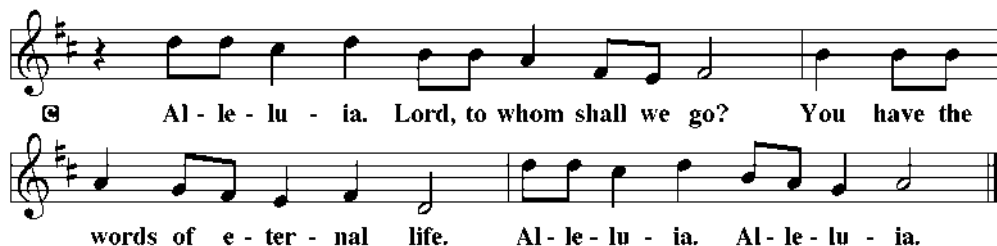
¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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. Matthew.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field,²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds

come from?’ ²⁸ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. ⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

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

Please be seated.

SERMON Chaplain MaryAnn Farnsworth

Please stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY #764 *Have No Fear, Little Flock*

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 God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

A God our source, protect your church from those who sow weeds among the wheat. Where we trade grace for judgment, restore us, and where we get lost among the complexities of life, guide us. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A God our creator, sustain creation in places not easily seen; the depths of oceans, microscopic plants and animals, galaxies beyond our own. May we share earth's dedication to hope for what we do not yet see. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A God our soil, we yearn to live on your lands and waters with justice and in righteousness. Renew the hearts of all in authority, that our leaders guide wisely toward the flourishing of all. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A God our rock, be a source of constancy for those whose lives have been uprooted by war, eviction, global climate change, unemployment, harassment, false witness to their character, or illness or injury. We pray especially for:

Mark Bauer

Cindy Fliegel

Carol Gunzelmann

Janet Hafer

Rosalie Heller

Ruth Hoover

Susan Johns

Betty Neiman

Mary Phillips

Denton Quick

Walt Smithson

Sandy Chupkai

Michelle Haak

Karin Kohl

Sharon Lombardo

Louella Marie

Sean Miller

Jayne Phillips

Tracy Rohrbach

Richard Schmeer

Patricia Schonour

Betty Scollick

Paula Shirk

Jim & Lauri Walker

Melissa Scollick

Marty Wegman

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

Silent Prayers

God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A God our teacher, guide and provide for all summer camp staff and campers, daycare professionals, librarians, summer school educators and coaches, teachers preparing for the coming academic year, and youth becoming first-time babysitters. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A God our hope, the message of your salvation is planted among us in all times and places. We give you thanks for the witness of all the saints who shine like the sun in your presence. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

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 / SPECIAL MUSIC *The Summons* Kailey Batzel, 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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

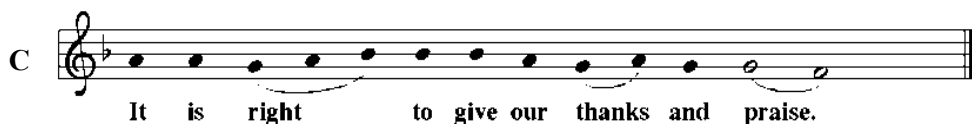
P The Lord be with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



PREFACE

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



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.

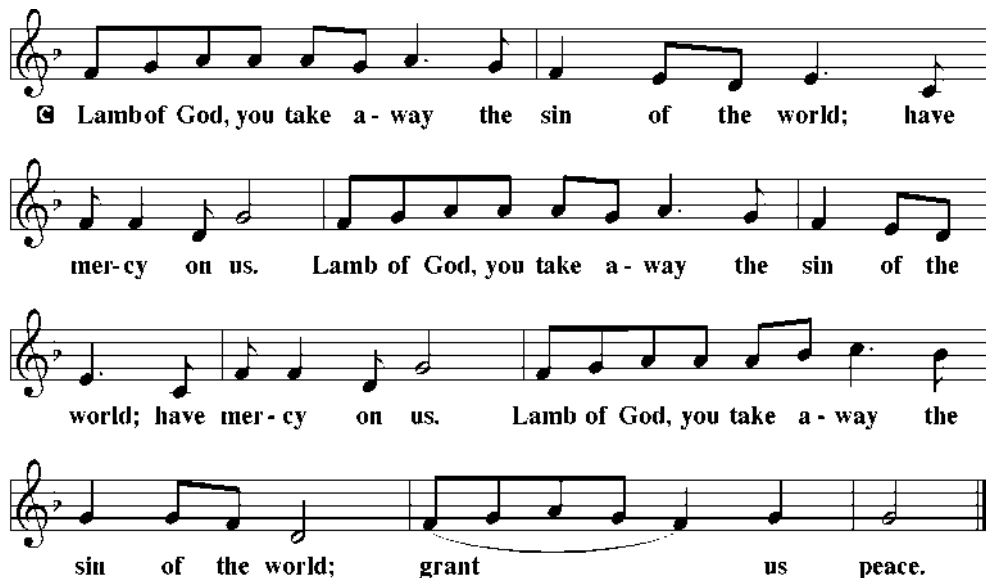
*Children who have not yet received instruction for First Holy Communion
are welcome to come to the altar to receive a special blessing.*

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

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P Heaven has come near.
Come, share in the feast!

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.

SUNG BY ALL DURING DISTRIBUTION #697 *Just A Closer Walk with Thee*

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 AND BLESSING

A Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

C Amen.

P Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, + one God,
bless, heal, and hold you today and always.

C Amen.

SENDING HYMN #733 *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

DISMISSAL

A Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE *This Little Light of Mine* arr. Ann Buys

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Please be advised, 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.

SERVING AT WORSHIP

- Peg Gumpert Assisting Minister
- Jeff Schmehl Usher Team Captain
- Peg Gumpert, Terry Jenkins, Lauren Batzel Communion Assistants
- Sally Kennedy, Emma Dickerson, Ian Carr 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!

A special thank you to Clara Worrall for serving as our supply organist during the summer months.

The **bulletins** are presented to the glory of God and sponsored by The Quicks in honor of our congregation.

ALTAR FLOWER UPDATE — Our current florist is unavailable for the next several months. We will be using artificial altar flowers. Sponsorships are still available to help defray the cost of the artificial flowers; however, the flowers are not available to take or to be delivered to shut-ins. Please use the sign-up sheets in the Narthex to sponsor flowers or bulletins.

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.

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

SATURDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

The next Saturday evening service
is scheduled for 6:00 p.m. in the pavilion on **August 8**.

For those who are able, we will then share a meal together at a local restaurant.

The Exeter Area Food Pantry is requesting donations of school supplies to distribute to its families in August:



**backpacks
pencils
glue sticks
highlighters
rubber erasers**

**binders
boxes of 24 crayons
2-pocket folders
1-subject notebooks
colored pencils**

Please have your donations at church by July 26.



Schuykill River Parish Luther League

Youth Line Dancing

at Island Pizza

Monday, July 20th

8:00 p.m.

\$5 cover fee

Bring your family and bring a friend!



AT HOME YOUTH MINI-MISSION TRIP

The Schuykill River Parish will sponsor an At-Home Youth Mini-Mission Trip Monday-Tuesday, August 10 –11

For youth going into grades 7 to 12

Parent drop-off at 8:30 a.m.
each day at St. Mark's, Birdsboro

Lunch will be provided each day

Youth will participate in service activities
(i.e. cooking and serving a meal, helping at a food pantry distribution,
working in a garden, etc.)

Youth will travel to Reading on Tuesday to serve a taco Tuesday meal.

Parent pick-up at 5:30 p.m. at St. Mark's each day

To register, please contact St. Mark's Lutheran Church,
Birdsboro, at 610-582-8167.

NEXT SUNDAY, JULY 26TH

AT 11:00 AM

(This will be in place of our regular worship service at Schwarzwald)

Schuylkill River Parish

Worship Service and Picnic

**Schwarzwald, St. Mark's, Reformation and
St. Paul's will join together for this special
outdoor service to be held at**

Rustic Park (please note change of venue)
1314 Haycreek Rd, Birdsboro, PA
Pavilion #3

PICNIC WILL FOLLOW WORSHIP!

Hamburgers and Hot Dogs will be provided.

Please a covered dish to share.

Please bring lawn chairs.

If you have lawn games, please bring them as well.

**This is a great opportunity for our church families to
get to know each other.**



FILL *the* TRUCK

and HELP OUR NEIGHBORS

Help us fill the truck with furniture, clothing, and household items to help families get back on their feet after experiencing homelessness.

Electronics and baby furniture are not accepted.



Scan
to Donate:



Find us at our next destination:

**Reformation Evangelical
Lutheran Church
3670 Perkiomen Ave
Reading, PA 19606**

Drop Off/Donations

12 Sept 11 AM - 3 PM

13 Sept 12 PM - 3 PM

Rear Parking Lot



**Opportunity
House**



We invite you to join us!

SUMMER FESTIVAL OF PRAISE

* August 23, 2026 * Outdoor Service: 11:00 - 12:00 *

Entertainment by:

THE HAPPY
DUTCHMEN

Schwarzwalld Lutheran Church
250 Church Lane Rd.

FREE

Bouncy House
Entry for Kids

Kennifman's Chicken BBQ

12:00-2:00

Enjoy on site or do take-out!

Presale: \$10/dinner [includes sides]

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

Get your
chicken!



Get your ice
cream!

