

We warmly welcome You to



Milton Lutheran Parish

Serving God through faith formation, worship,
service, evangelism, and fellowship.

May 9, 2021

6th Sunday of Easter

Traditional Service

In Person & LIVE Streamed from the Sanctuary at Trinity Lutheran at 9:30 a.m.
on the Milton Lutheran Parish YouTube Channel

Visit <https://miltonlutheranparish.faith/> to link to the LIVE worship

*Thank you for being here. Whether this is your first time here, or you have been with us for a while, please
know this . . . we are glad you have chosen to worship with us.*

(Bold italic items to be spoken)

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

Flowers for today's service provided by Rosie Bingamin in loving memory of Charles Bingamin and Joesph & Elizabeth Dersham. Thank you to the Bingaman family for their kindness and for sharing the beauty of the flowers with us.

Prelude

John Warfel

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

In the name of the Father,
and of the ✝ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

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.

Amen.

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

Most merciful God,

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.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

Opening Hymn: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

John Warfel

1) Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us thy humble dwelling all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art: visit us with thy salvation enter every trembling heart.

4) Finish then thy new creation, pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee! Changed from glory into glory till in heav'n we take our place, til we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise!

Greeting

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

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

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

First Reading: Acts 10:44-48

Nancy Walters

While Peter shares the good news of Jesus with a Gentile soldier and his family, the Holy Spirit comes upon them. Recognizing that the Spirit works inclusively in the lives of both Jews and Gentiles, Peter commands that these Gentiles also be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

⁴⁴While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. ⁴⁵The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, ⁴⁶for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, ⁴⁷"Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 98 : Read Responsively

Nancy Walters

Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands. (Ps. 98:4)

¹Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

²*O LORD, you have made known your victory,
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.*

³You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

⁴*Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands;
lift up your voice, re-joice, and sing.*

⁵Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

⁶*With trumpets and the sound of the horn
shout with joy before the king, the LORD.*

⁷Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

⁸*Let the rivers clap their hands,
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.*

⁹The LORD will judge the world with righteousness
and the peoples with equity.

Gospel: John 15:9-17

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

[Jesus said:] ⁹“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. ¹¹I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

¹²“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. ¹³No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command you. ¹⁵I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. ¹⁶You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. ¹⁷I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

Sermon “You’ve Got a Friend in Me”

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

Hymn of the Day: Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love ”

John Warfel

Refrain) Jesu, Jesu, Fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

*1) Kneels at the feet of his friends and silently washes their feet, master who acts as a slave to them.
(refrain)*

4) Kneel at the feet of our friends, silently washing their feet: this is the way we will live 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

Nancy Walters

Alive in the risen Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit, we bring our prayers before God who promises to hear us and answer in steadfast love.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, the earth praises you. The seas roar and the hills sing for joy. Fill the earth with your love so that by their song, all creatures of land and sea and sky, burrowing and soaring, may call us to join with them in praise. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Faithful Savior, you conquer the world not with weapons but with undying love. Plant your word in the hearts of the nations' leaders and give them your Spirit, so that the peoples of the world may live in peace. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Caring Healer, you forget no one and accompany the lonely. Be present with those who are sick or suffering (*especially*). Provide for those needing homes or medical care and point us towards life-changing responses to these needs in our own communities. Be with the dying (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious God, as a mother comforts her child, you comfort us. Bless mothers and mothering people in our lives. Comfort those who miss their mothers, mothers who grieve, those who grieve because they cannot be mothers, and those who have never known a loving mother. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gentle Redeemer, all who die in you abide in your presence forever. We remember with thanksgiving those who shared your love throughout their lives (*especially*). Keep us united with them in your lasting love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars; beneath the sea;
within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:

through the water; by night and day;
across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering; within this meal;
among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

Amen.

Sending Hymn: "What Wonderful Love Is This"

John Warfel

1) What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this! O my soul! What wondrous love is this that caused the lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, For my soul. To bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

4) And when from death I am free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing God's love for me, and through eternity I'll sing on, I'll sing on.

Dismissal

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia!

Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Postlude

John Warfel

News and Announcements from the Parish

A Note from Pastor Gary . . .

This week I am reminded of the animated Pixar movie "Toy Story". The movie's theme song is "You've Got a Friend in Me" by Randy Newman. Every time I read our appointed Gospel text. I start singing this song in my head. Jesus calls his followers in John 15:9-17 friends. Jesus is our friend.

Friendship is not always easy as we all have experienced in our lives before. However, in some of the most magical and spiritual ways our friendships can transform our lives and the lives of people around us. Unlike real friendship, Jesus' friendship with us is perfect. He is always there when we need him, he is supportive, he challenges us, he cries, smiles, laughs, and celebrates with us.

This week I pray that you are reminded of Jesus' friendship and that you allow that sense of love and joy fill you with hope as you experience the routine of your everyday life.

Blessings,

Gary

This Week at Milton Lutheran Parish . . .

- Sun., May. 9 **HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!**
 9:30 AM Worship at Trinity. Live Stream Available
- Mon., May. 10 **Happy Anniversary Bill & Tiff Heimbach!**
 Parish Council Meeting 7 PM at Trinity
- Wed., May 12 **Happy Anniversary Bob & Steph Byers !**
 Bible Study Posted to Website & Social Media
- Thu., May 13 **Happy Birthday Sloan Byers!**
- Sun., May 14 **Happy Birthday Judy Coup**
 Happy Birthday Bob Schwartz!
 9:30 AM Worship at Trinity. Live Stream Available.

Milton Lutheran Parish Leadership Team	
Pastor	Gary Schaeffer
Parish Office Administrator	Robin A. McKean-Power
Parish Organist, Music Director	John Warfel
Digital Ministry Coordinator	Seth Reitz
Sexton/Custodian	Chuck Stahl and Helen Billhime
Treasurers	Rich Handy, Carol Yost, Craig Lawler, and Lorraine Lawler
Groundskeeper	Bob Greenly
Parish Council	Krisa Yaiko, President; Don Fisher, Vice President; Lynnette Weisner, Secretary; Rose Handy, Bill Heimbach, Donna Spear
Christ Council	Donna Spear, President; Tonya Wargo, Vice President; Penny Ulmer, Secretary; Rich Handy, Treasurer, Kellie Brouse, Kay Dunn, Don Fisher, Nancy Mensch, Nancy Walters
Trinity Council	Krista Yaiko, President; Jeff Coup, Vice President; Crystal Gnidovec, Secretary; Kate Budman, Kevin Fry, Bill Heimbach, Connie Stover, Dawn Russell, Cindy Trapane
Worship Team	Jeff Coup, Kellie Brouse, Nancy Walters, Sue Warfel, John Warfel
Digital Ministry Team	Aaron Coup, Rick Coup, Seth Reitz, Stephen Moll, Donna Spear
Outreach Team	Connie Stover, Kay Dunn, Claire Weisner, Lynnette Weisner, Carol Yost, Linwood Hill, Krista Yaiko
Discipleship Team	Rose Handy, Ed Coup, Kate Budman, Kellie Brouse
Parish Ministry Team	Penny Ulmer, Rose Handy, Lynette Weisner, Ruth Scott, Joe Yaiko and Cindy Coup
Parish Property Team	Don Fisher (point person for Christ) Chuck Stahl (point person for Trinity), Bob Greenly, Rusty Brouse, Helen Billhime, Bill Heimbach, Seth Reitz, Joe Yaiko

Central Office Location: Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, 100 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847, 570-742-4601

Parish Office Administrator email: info@miltonlutheranparish.faith

Additional Campus Location: Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church – 1125 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847

Website: <https://miltonlutheranparish.faith/>

Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and our YouTube Channel to connect with us online.

CCLI License: 20959644 Size A; Augsburg Fortress License: SAS020405