

We Warmly Welcome You to



Milton Lutheran Parish

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

July 11, 2021

7th Sunday after Pentecost

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)

As you enter the sanctuary this week please take a moment to enjoy the beauty of the flowers generously shared with us this week by Jeff & Cindy Coup and Rick & Judy Coup and their families. In loving remembrance of Sara, Carolyn & Edward Coup and Anna & Thomas Coup. May their beauty grant you serenity and remind you of joyful times spent with friends and family.



Welcome to Worship

Thank you for joining us today. Whether you've worshipped with us before or this is your first time, we want you to know that you are welcome. As Christians we recognize that each of us comes to worship just as we are. God loves us and so we love others, no expectations, no judgement, only acceptance, grace, and love.

As a community we have certain traditions in how we worship. You are invited to join with us in those traditions. Please know that there is no pressure and that you can worship in whatever way feels most comfortable to you.

There are times during the service that you will be invited to stand or sit as a way of engaging our whole selves in worship. If you are worshipping online, we invite you to sit or stand from wherever you may be. You will also be invited to join us as we sing our hymns out of the Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Red Book- ELW) or With One Voice (Blue Book- WOV). If you are joining us online the songs will be made available to you in this bulletin. You may also participate by speaking the parts of the service that are ***Bold Italicized***.

Offering- Everyone is invited to give an offering before or after worship. There are baskets located at the rear of the sanctuary for you to place your offering. If you are worshipping online you are welcome to send your offering directly to our parish office at 100 Mahoning St. Milton, PA. All the offerings we receive are used to accomplish the mission of our parish. Please know that you are in no way obligated to give financially. If you are not in a place to give, please know that we are just glad that you chose to worship with us.

Communion- We do receive communion each week as a community. If you are joining us in person you will receive a communion kit when you arrive. Inside the kit is a wafer and a container of wine. When it comes time for communion, you'll be asked to open the containers and receive the bread and wine. If you are joining us online you may use your own bread, wine and/or grape juice for communion. If you do not have wine or grape juice you can receive communion with just the bread. We believe communion to be the ultimate expression of God's love and forgiveness in our lives. Anyone that desires to feel that love and forgiveness is encouraged to receive communion, without exceptions.

Kids in Worship- We encourage children to join us in worship and participate as best as they can. We believe that all sound and movements are precious to God, especially those that come from our youngest participants. If your child needs to stretch their legs or their vocal cords, they are welcome to do that in our worship space. If you would rather have them participate somewhere where they have some more freedom, then we encourage you to escort them to the chapel located in the back of the sanctuary. Regardless of your decision, please know that they are welcome here!

Thank you again for joining us today. We pray that this worship sends you out into the word energized to share God's love with everyone you meet!



Gathering Music

John Warfel

Weekly Check In & Prayers

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

Confession and Forgiveness

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

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.



GATHERING SONG "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" (ELW 697) Please sing the 1st and 3rd verse. John Warfel

Refrain



Just a clos-er walk with thee, grant it, Je-sus, is my plea;



dai - ly walk-ing close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.



1 I am weak but thou art strong: Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;

2 Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal-ter, Lord, who cares?

3 When my fee-ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;



Refrain

I'll be sat-is-fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.
Who with me my bur-den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
guide me gent-ly, safe-ly o'er to thy king - dom shore, to thy shore.

Text: North American traditional

Music: CLOSER WALK, North American traditional



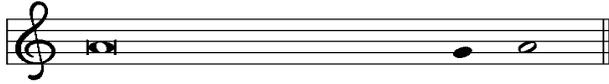
GREETING

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.

KYRIE

John Warfel



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



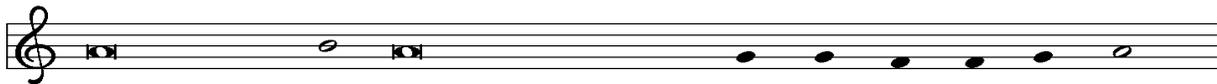
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.



CANTICLE OF PRAISE

John Warfel

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.



2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING:

Penny Ulmer

A reading from *Acts 2:42-47*

⁴²They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

⁴³Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. ⁴⁴All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds^[a] to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home^[b] and ate their food with glad and generous^[c] hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 96:1-6 Read Responsively

Penny Ulmer

¹O sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.

²Sing to the LORD, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.

³Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.

⁴For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised;
he is to be revered above all gods.

⁵For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
but the LORD made the heavens.

⁶Honor and majesty are before him;
strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.



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.

GOSPEL

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

The holy gospel according to Matthew. 6:1-8

Glory to you, O Lord.

⁶ “Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven.

² “So whenever you give alms, do not sound a trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, so that they may be praised by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ³ But when you give alms, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, ⁴ so that your alms may be done in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.^[a]

⁵ “And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ⁶ But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.^[b]

⁷ “When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. ⁸ Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon “Spiritual Practices”

Pastor Gary Schaeffer



HYMN OF THE DAY : "Faith of Our Fathers" (ELW 812) Please sing the 1st and 3rd verse
John Warfel



1 Faith of our fa - thers, liv - ing still in spite of dun - geon,
2 The mar - tyrs, chained in pris - ons dark, were still in heart and
3 Faith of our fa - thers! We will love both friend and foe in



fire, and sword. Oh, how our hearts beat high with joy
con - science free; and blest would be their chil - dren's fate
all our strife; pro - claim thee too, as love knows how,

Refrain



when-e'er we hear that glo - rious word.
if they, like them, should die for thee. Faith of our fa - thers,
by sav - ing word and faith - ful life.



ho - ly faith, we will be true to thee till death.

Text: Frederick W. Faber, 1814–1863, alt.

Music: ST. CATHERINE, Henri F. Hemy, 1818–1888; James G. Walton, 1821–1905, refrain



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 INTERSESSION

Penny Ulmer

Let us come before the triune God in prayer.

Holy parent, you welcome your people into one family and gather all things to yourself. Bestow your grace upon your beloved church, lavish your wisdom upon us, and redeem us from our faults, that by our witness all might praise your glory. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Awesome Creator, you steadfastly tend to the smallest of seeds and the mightiest of sycamore trees. Spring up green growth from the earth, nourish the growth of fruit, grain, and other crops, and bless the work of farmers and laborers. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of the oppressed, turn the ears of those who are in power to the voices of prophets in our own day. Protect those who speak difficult truths when it is risky to do so. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of strength, you are near to those who endure difficulty. Comfort all who are survivors of violence, guard the refugee and the immigrant, and protect all those who are victims of prejudice and discrimination. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of love, we pray for this holy house and all those who worship here. We pray especially for those whose efforts behind the scenes often go unnoticed; for the custodian(s)



and maintenance workers, for our office staff (*other positions may be named*), and for all of our volunteers. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We thank you, God, for the saints, martyrs, and prophets who have died in the faith. We remember those in this community who have recently died. United with them as God's children, assure us that we are yours forever. Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

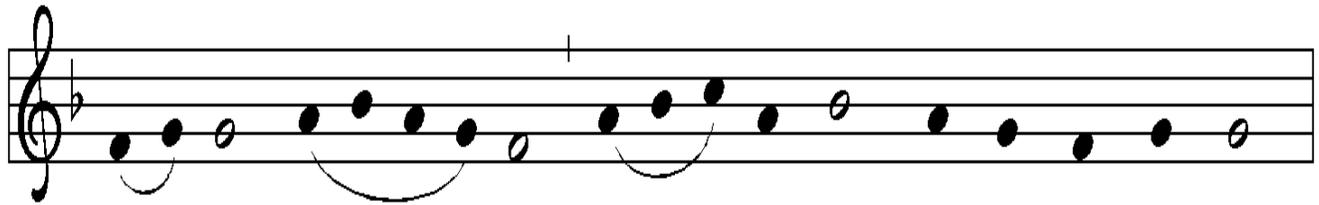
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

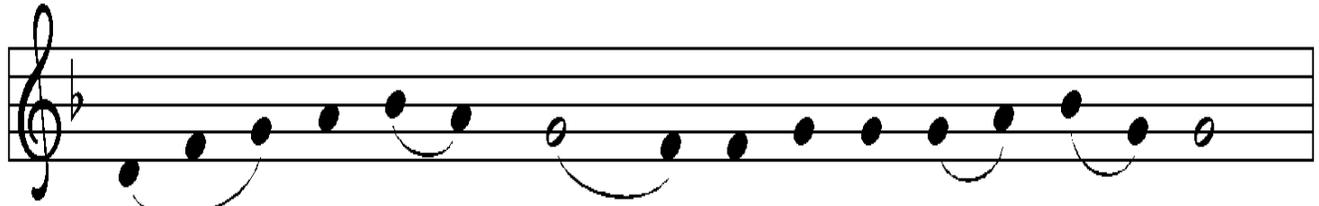
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And 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



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 in the high - est.



Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.



Ho - san - na in the high - est.



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.



COMMUNION SONG- 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. A - men.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.



SONG AFTER COMMUNION

John Warfel

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

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.*

BLESSING

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 SONG "God Who Stretched The Spangled Heavens (ELW 771 Please sing the 1st and 3rd verse.

John Warfel



1 God, who stretched the span - gled heav - ens in - fi - nite in time and place,
2 We have ven - tured worlds un - dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;
3 As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new:



flung the suns in burn-ing ra - diance through the si - lent fields of space:
known the ec - sta - sy of wing-ing through un - trav-eled realms of space;
chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - 'ring you.



we, your chil - dren in your like-ness, share in - ven - tive pow'rs with you;
probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield-ing un - i - mag - ined pow'r,
May our dreams prove rich with prom-ise; each en-deav-or well be - gun;



great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do.
fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.
great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

Text: Catherine Cameron, b. 1927

Music: HOLY MANNA, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

John Warfel

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News and Announcements from the Parish

Over the past couple of weeks, we have been talking about discernment, what it is and how we know if we are staying on course with our discernment process. So, as we move forward in this process, we would like to remind you of a few important dates and times.

1. **Discussion Sessions** - will be held in the library on the main floor, at 100 Mahoning Street and are scheduled for the dates and times listed below. The sessions are opportunities to talk with members of the leadership teams about our feelings and share what is in our hearts after prayerfully discerning the above motion. Questions will also be addressed. **It is important that each member participate in at least one of these discussion sessions.** If for whatever reason you are not able to attend one of these sessions, please reach out to Pastor Gary or a member of either Church Council.
 - Saturday, July 10, at 10 a.m.
 - Wednesday, July 14, at 7 p.m.
 - Thursday July 29, at 10 a.m.
2. **The Congregational Meeting** - to vote on the above motion will be conducted and weaved into our worship service on Sunday, August 1. Using the scripture Acts: 1:15-26 as a guide, we will vote early in the worship service, offering first a time for prayer and silent discernment with God. Votes will be cast anonymously, counted, and results will be shared during our worship service. The Bishop or the Assistant to the Bishop will be present at this worship service.
3. **Social Hour – Come join us!** Whether today is your first visit with us or you've been a member your whole life, please know you are welcome to join us at the Social Hour. It will immediately follow Sunday Worship downstairs in the Fellowship Hall, which is accessible by elevator or stairs. There will be light refreshments available. We would like to thank the Parish Council for making this possible and for volunteering their time and energies to create this social time for us all. We look forward to chatting, smiling and laughing with you!

This Week at Milton Lutheran Parish . . .

Sun. July 11 9:30 AM Worship at Trinity. Live Stream Available.
Social Hour immediately following Worship downstairs in the Fellowship Hall.



Wed. July 14 **Happy Birthday Carol Yost!**
Discernment Discussion Group Meeting in the Library at 7 PM
Bible Study Posted to Website & Social Media

Thu. July 15 **Happy Birthday Sherry Palko!**

Fri. July 16 **Happy Birthday Rosie Bingaman!**
Happy Birthday Mary Crist!

Sat. July 17 **Happy Anniversary Valerie & Jim Gardner!**

Sun. July 18 9:30 AM Worship at Trinity. Live Stream Available.
Social Hour immediately following Worship downstairs in the Fellowship Hall
Happy Anniversary Ann & Edward Kaye!

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	Don Fisher , President; Krista Yaiko, Vice President; Lynnette Weisner, Secretary; Rose Handy, Bill Heimbach, Donna Spear
Christ Council	Kellie Brouse, President; Krista Yaiko, Vice President; Penny Ulmer, Secretary; Rich Handy, Treasurer, Kellie Brouse, Kay Dunn, Don Fisher, Nancy Mensch, Nancy Walters, Tonya Wargo, Donna Spear
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

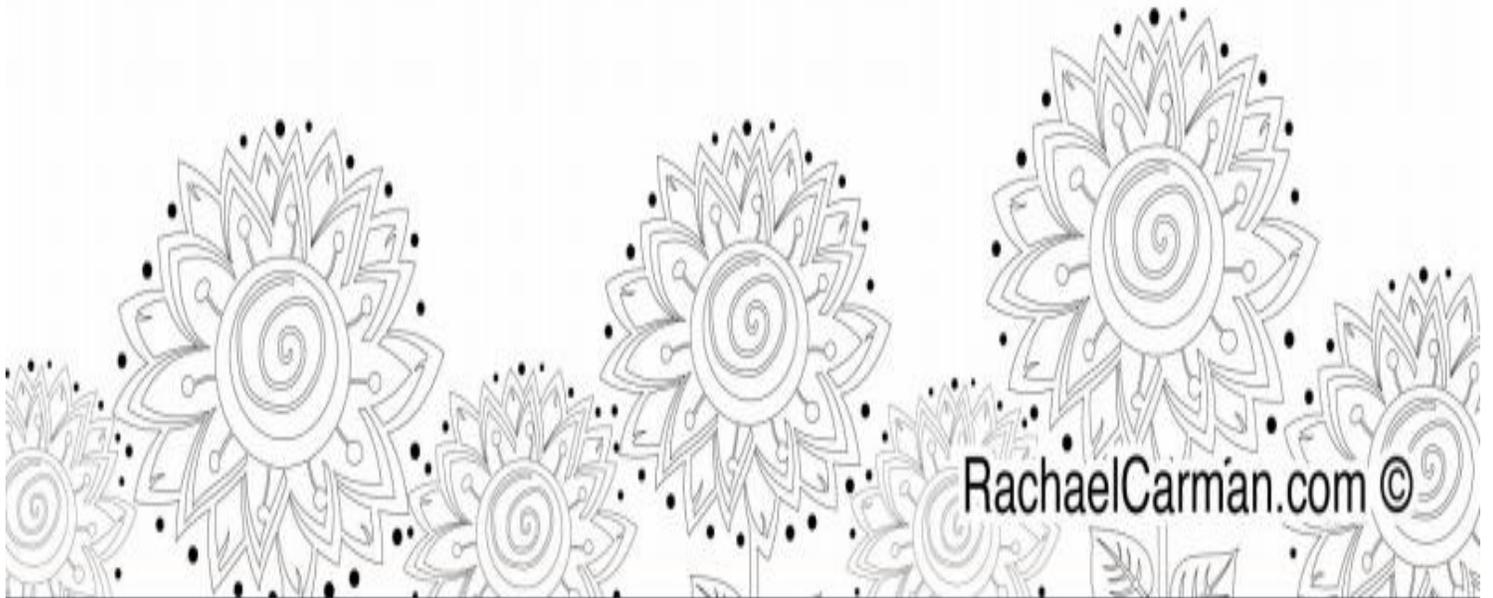
Sermon Notes



Bible Verse: Philippians 1:10

DISCERNMENT

Being able to distinguish
What is best.



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