

We Warmly Welcome You to



Milton Lutheran Church

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

October 31, 2021

Reformation Day

Traditional Service

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

Visit <https://miltonlutheranchurch.org/> to link to the LIVE worship

(Bold italic items to be spoken by congregation.)

Today as you enter the sanctuary please pause and take a moment to admire the flowers and be inspired by their beauty. This week they have been provided by the Milton Lutheran Church congregation for all to share. In memory of loved ones.

We would like to give special thanks to our worship leaders; **Gary Schaeffer- Pastor, John Warfel- Music Director/Organist & Lynette Weisner - Worship Assistant.**

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 church office at 100 Mahoning St. Milton, PA. All the offerings we receive are used to accomplish the mission of our church. 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 be invited to come forward during worship in one line. Pastor Gary will administer the bread. You will then proceed to the left or right depending on which side of the church you are seated on. There will be pre-filled cups with wine. Please take the cup and a communion assistant will administer the wine. You may return to your seat from the outside aisle. Communion kits are available upon entry to the church for people who have mobility concerns or who prefer to stay seated. We will administer communion to people with the kits at the end of communion. 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 world energized to share God's love with everyone you meet!

GATHERING MUSIC

WEEKLY CHECK-IN AND PRAYERS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage 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

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

Amen

HYMN "HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION " (ELW 796) Please sing the first and last verses.



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
for I am your God and will still give you aid;
my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

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.

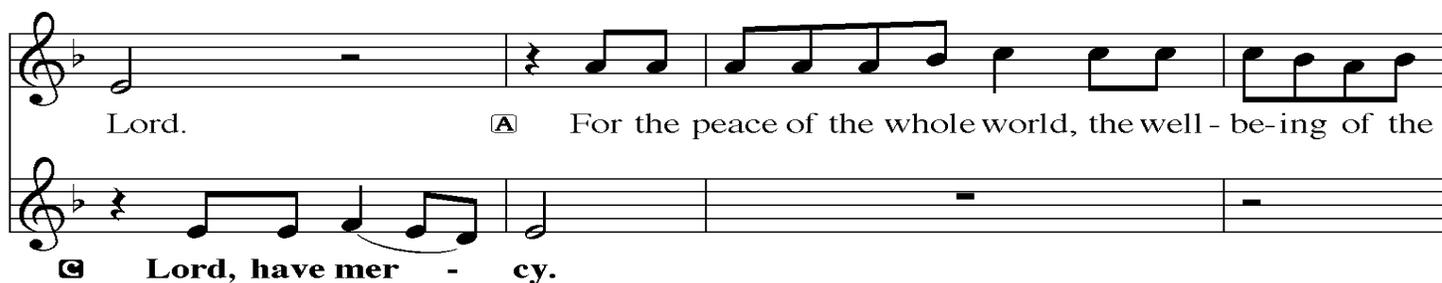
KYRIE (SUNG)



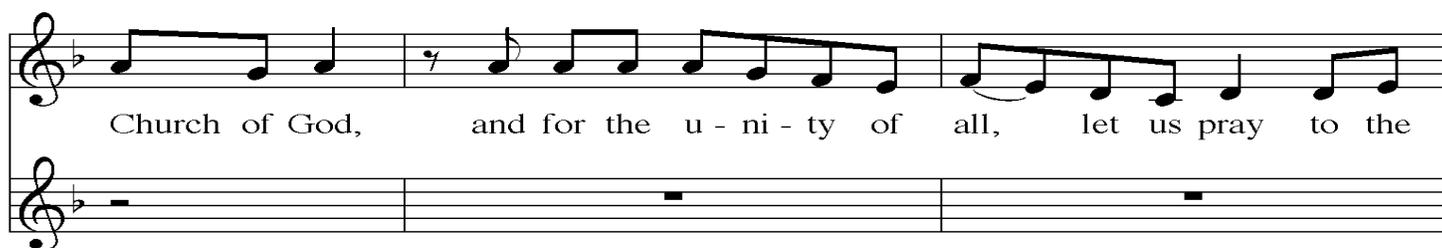
A In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord. **A** For the
G Lord, have mer - cy.



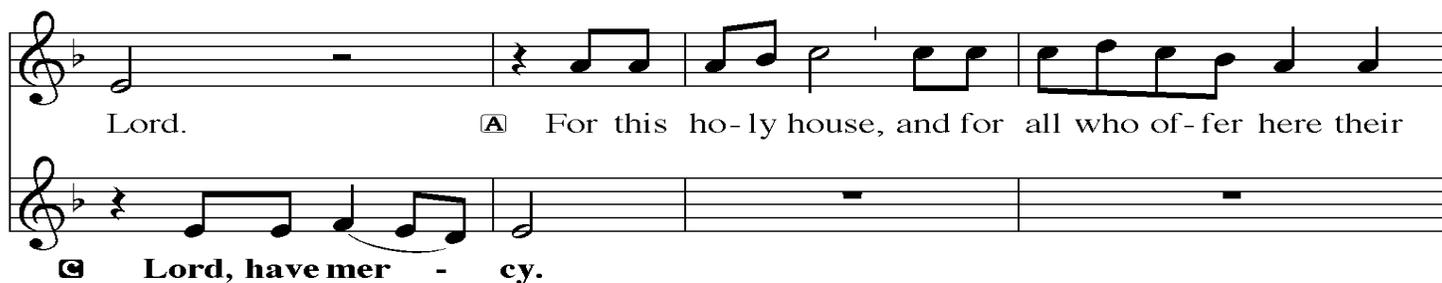
peace from a - bove, and for our sal - va - tion, let us pray to the



Lord. **A** For the peace of the whole world, the well - be - ing of the
G Lord, have mer - cy.



Church of God, and for the u - ni - ty of all, let us pray to the



Lord. **A** For this ho - ly house, and for all who of - fer here their
G Lord, have mer - cy.

wor - ship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

☒ Lord, have mer - cy.

☒ Help, save, com - fort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

☒ A - men

HYMN OF PRAISE.



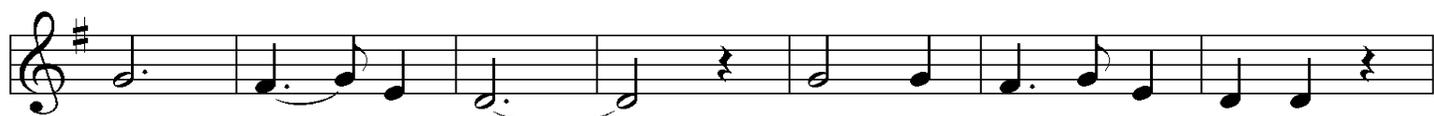
Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



1 Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we



wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



2 Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa-ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world: have mer - cy, have mer-cy on us; you are seat - ed



at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



3 For you a - lone are the Ho-ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have taught us in your Son that love fulfills the law. Inspire us to love you with all our heart, our soul, our mind, and our strength, and teach us how to love our neighbor as ourselves, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING: ROMANS 12:1-8

Lynette Weisner – Worship Assistant

A reading from Romans the 12th Chapter

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters,^[a] by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual^[b] worship. ²Do not be conformed to this world,^[c] but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.^[d]

³For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. ⁴For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, ⁵so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. ⁶We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ⁷ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; ⁸the exhorter, in exhortation; the giver, in generosity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119:1-8 Read Responsively

¹Happy are they whose way is blameless,
who follow the teaching of the LORD!

²*Happy are they who observe your decrees
and seek you with all their hearts,*

³who never do any wrong,
but always walk in your ways.

⁴*You laid down your commandments,
that we should fully keep them.*

⁵Oh, that my ways were made so direct
that I might ¹ keep your statutes!

⁶*Then I should not be put to shame,
when I regard all your commandments.*

⁷I will thank you with a true heart,
when I have learned your righteous judgments.

⁸*I will keep your statutes;
do not utterly forsake me.*

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: Mark 12:28-34

Gary Schaeffer, Pastor

The holy Gospel according to Mark 12th Chapter

Glory to you O Lord

²⁸One of the scribes came near and heard [Jesus and the Sadducees] disputing with one another, and seeing that [Jesus] answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” ²⁹Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; ³⁰you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ ³¹The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” ³²Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; ³³and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’ — this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” ³⁴When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you O Christ

SERMON “CHANGE IS OKAY”

Gary Schaeffer, Pastor

HYMN "A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD " (ELW 505) Please sing all verses.



1 A migh - ty for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
 2 If we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing turns to
 3 Though all the world with dev - ils fill and threat - en to de -
 4 God's Word shall stand a - bove the pow'rs, shall end all their thanks-



fail - ing; our help - er frees us from the flood of
 los - ing; the righ - teous one fights by our side, the
 your us, we trem - ble not, we trust God's will: they
 giv - ing. The Spir - it and the gifts are ours, for



mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing. For still our an - cient foe,
 one of God's own choos - ing. You ask who this may be:
 can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Though Sa - tan rant and rage,
 God with us is liv - ing. Let goods and kin - dred go,



for - sworn to work us woe, with guile and dread - ful might
 Christ Je - sus, it is he, the Lord of hosts by name.
 in fierc - est war en - gage, this ty - rant's doomed to fail;
 this mor - tal life al - so; though all of these be gone,



is armed to wage the fight: on earth there is no e - qual.
 No oth - er God we claim! None else can win the bat - tle.
 God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word shall tri - umph.
 they yet have noth - ing won. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1805–1890, alt.

Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther, 1483–1546

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APOSTLES CREED

*I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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

Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God's creation.

Strengthen the church to rediscover paths of love throughout the world and raise up teachers and leaders to guide communities of faith into joyful ways of welcoming, worshiping, healing, praying, singing, feeding, teaching, loving, and living. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Embolden movements of people to care for the world around us. Reveal to us creation's beauty and teach us to care for your fields, valleys, mountains, streams, oceans, and deserts, so that future generations will continue to be awed by them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Grant courage to all world leaders who hear your call for peace. Protect all who live in lands affected by violence. Strengthen the United Nations and all worldwide peace efforts that help us to live in harmony as neighbors who share a common planet. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Provide refuge and help for all who lack adequate food, housing, or health care. Strengthen organizations that provide neighborly care to all who struggle. Heal and be present with all who are sick or suffering in any way. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Pour out your wisdom upon all voters who will go to polling places on election day and uplift candidates and campaign workers locally and nationwide, that your vision of neighborly love and justice would infuse every community. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

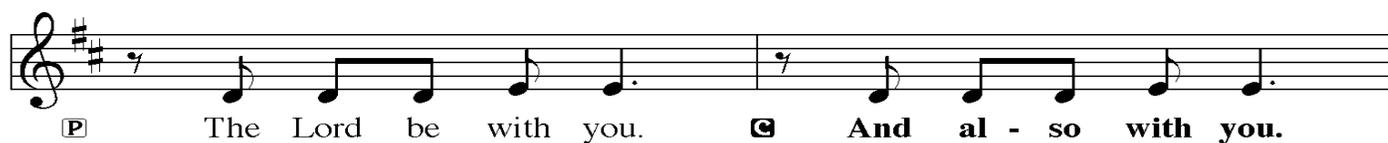
We give you thanks for the witness of the saints, especially reformers throughout generations who worked to rediscover the proclamation of the gospel. Guide us in their way of living until we all gather together at your table of abundance. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life.

Amen.

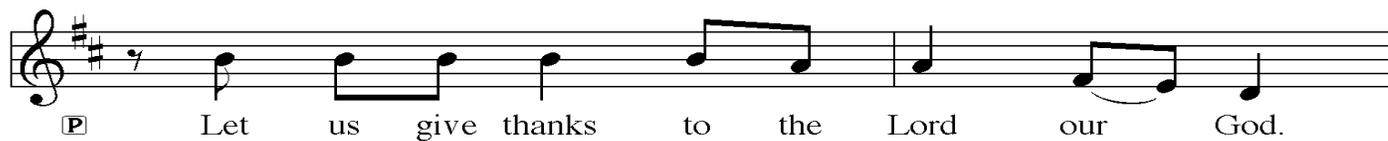
DIALOGUE



P The Lord be with you. **R** And al - so with you.



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



P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

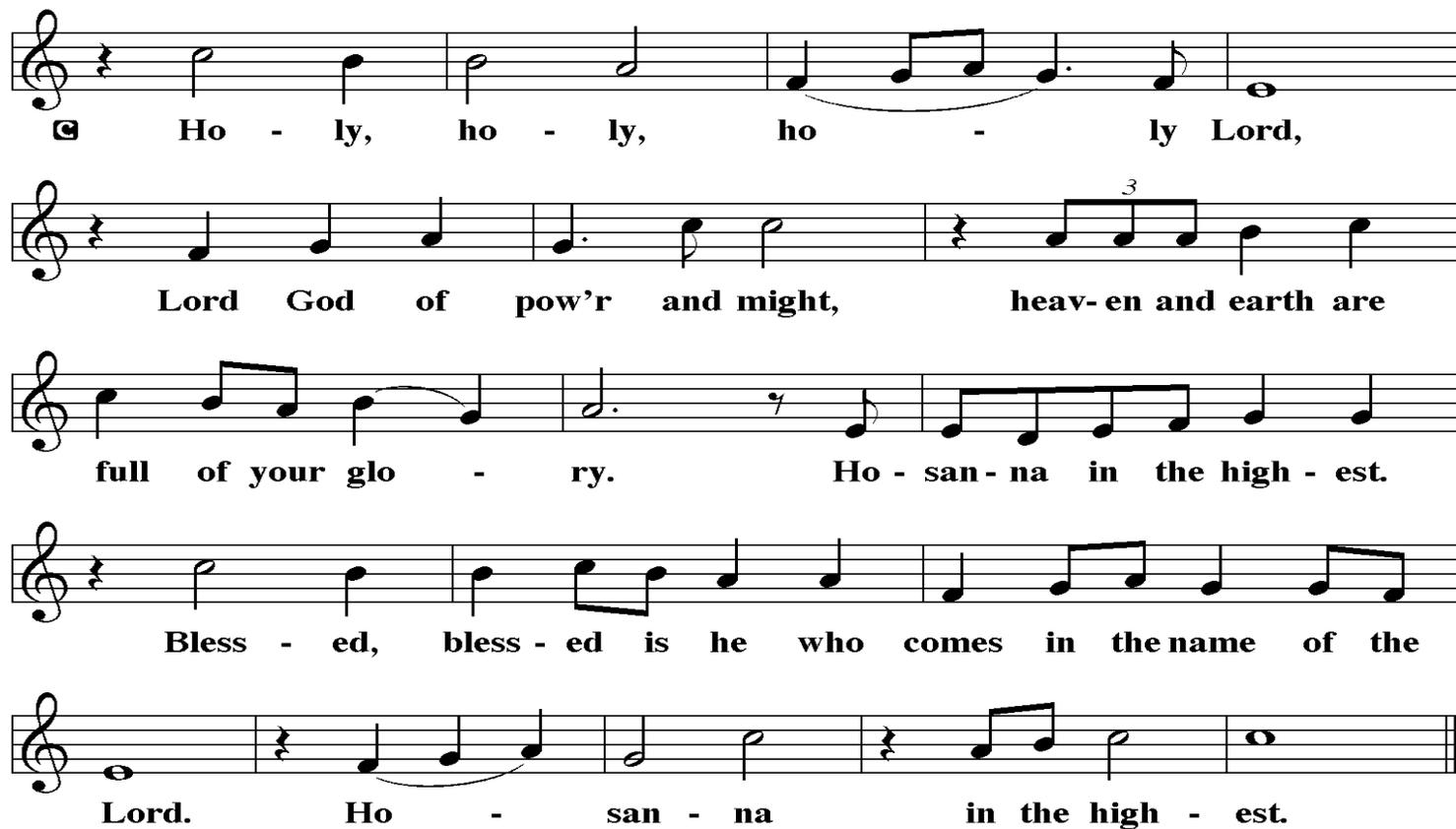


R It is right to give our thanks and praise.

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:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
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, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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

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.*

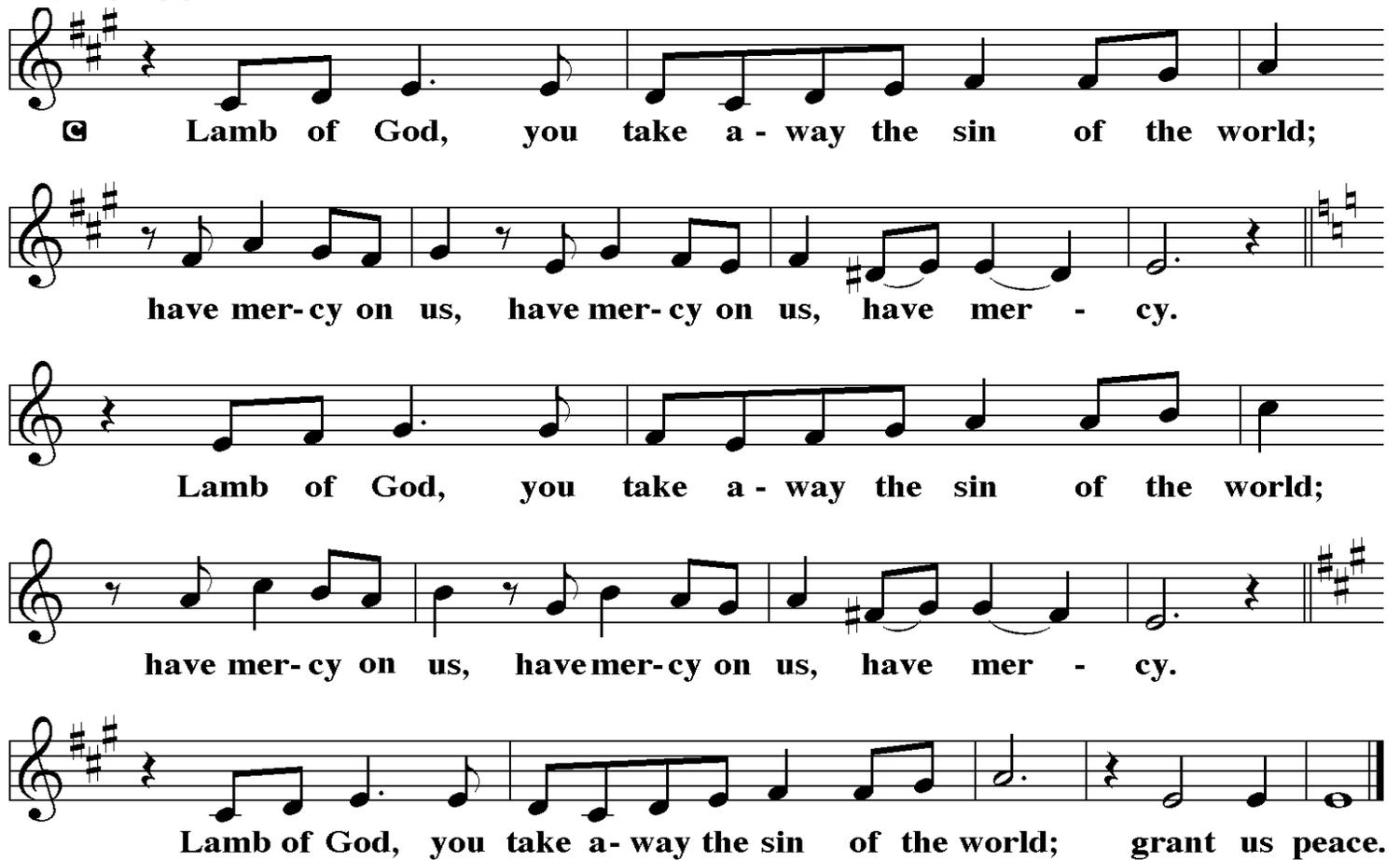
Give us this day our daily bread;

*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.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;
have mer-cy on us, have mer-cy on us, have mer - cy.

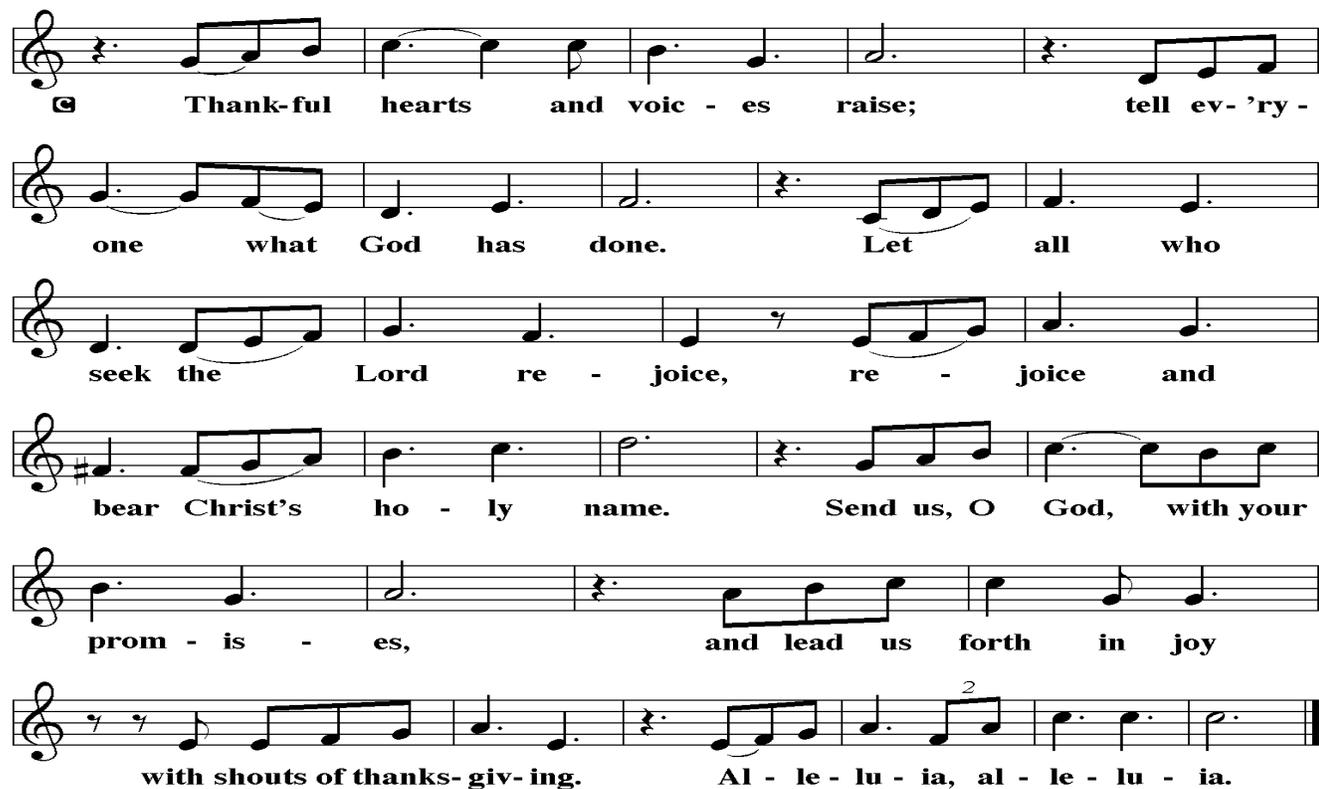
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION

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.

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE



Thank-ful hearts and voices raise; tell ev-'ry -
one what God has done. Let all who
seek the Lord rejoice, rejoice and
bear Christ's ho - ly name. Send us, O God, with your
prom - is - es, and lead us forth in joy
with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement
grant you to live in harmony with one another,
in accordance with Christ Jesus.

Amen.

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing,
so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The God of all grace † bless you now and forever.

Amen.

CLOSING HYMN "THE CHURCHES ONE FOUNDATION "(ELW 705) Please sing the first and last verses.



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
by schisms . . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
Oh, bless - ed heav'n - ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900
Music: AURELIA, Samuel S. Wesley, 1810–1876

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

Notice to the Congregation:

We need volunteers from the congregation to be Greeters and Communion Assistants. Anyone of any age who is interested may volunteer. Participating in these duties is a wonderful way to meet new people, or people you may have been sitting in church with but have never really had a chance to speak with. If you have questions about what each position entails, please see Pastor Gary. He is happy to answer your questions. There will be a sign up sheet coming to you. So take a leap of faith and volunteer, it will be a rewarding experience!



Please Join Us In Prayer This Week For

Joanie Fisher	Kimberly Dill	Patricia Muffly	Doris Heffelfinger
Ken Gaugler	Nancy Cochran &	Patsy Aunkst	Chole Henderson
Karen Smith	Family	Jack Aunkst	Kathy Longenberger
Mae Jones	Family & friends of	Mary Lou Benschhoff	Florence & Pete Ishler
Terry Deaner	Mary Ellen Bartholomew	Julie Benschhoff	Jim Seidel & Family
Mary Billhime		Gerald Greenly	Gabby Ricco
Family & friends of		Darlas Yost	
Patricia Engelman			

If you know someone who needs to be added or removed from the list please call the office, so that we may update the list properly. Thank you for your assistance.

A Note From Our Outreach Team

The Outreach team would like to focus the month of October on Disaster Relief. While we all know there are disasters happening all around us, our main focus this month would be for those affected by Hurricane Ida in Louisiana. We are asking you to consider making a donation either via check/cash (marked specifically for disaster relief) in the offering plate or by reaching out to any member of the Outreach team. We will see that the funds are deposited and forwarded to the relief program set up through the ELCA for Hurricane Ida. I also am including a link if you would want to make a donation directly to them through the ELCA.

<https://community.elca.org/emailviewonwebpage.aspx?erid=20e3e4c8-dde1-40b6-9dcd-1047cbcd5290&trid=20e3e4c8-dde1-40b6-9dcd-1047cbcd5290>

Thank you as always for your continued support. Blessings, The Milton Lutheran Church Outreach Team

This Week at Milton Lutheran Church

SUN., Oct 31

8:00 AM Sunday School in the Library, led by Kellie Brouse.

9:30 A.M. Worship Service at Milton Lutheran Church. Live stream available.

WED., Nov 3

7:00 PM Bible Study in the library, led by Gary Schaeffer, Pastor.

THU., Nov 4

Altar Guild Meeting –7 PM in the Library

SUN., Nov 7

8:00 AM Sunday School in the Library

9:30 A.M. Worship Service at Milton Lutheran Church. Live stream available.

***5:00 PM Confirmation & 6:00 PM- Youth Group at United in Christ Church**

(*held the first and third Sunday of the month only)

Milton Lutheran Church Leadership Team	
Pastor	Gary Schaeffer
Organist, Music Director	John Warfel
Office Administrator	Robin A. McKean-Power
Digital Ministry Coordinator	Seth Reitz
Sexton/Custodian	Chuck Stahl
Treasurers	Rich Handy, Carol Yost, Craig Lawler, and Lorraine Lawler
Transitional Council	Kellie Brouse, Krista Yaiko, Don Fisher, Jeff Coup, Penny Ulmer, Crystal Gnidovec, Rose Deener, Seth Reitz
Worship Team	Jeff Coup, Kellie Brouse, Nancy Walters, Sue Warfel, John Warfel
Digital Ministry Team	Aaron Coup, Rick Coup, Seth Reitz, Donna Spear
Outreach Team	Connie Stover, Kay Dunn, Claire Weisner, Lynnette Weisner, Carol Yost, Linwood Hill, Krista Yaiko, Karen Martello, Peggy Fisher
Discipleship Team	Rose Handy, Ed Coup, Kate Budman, Kellie Brouse
Ministry Planning Team	Penny Ulmer, Rose Handy, Lynette Weisner, Ruth Scott, Joe Yaiko and Cindy Coup
Property Team	Don Fisher (point person for 1125 Mahoning St.) Chuck Stahl (point person for 100 Mahoning St.), Bob Greenly, Rusty Brouse, Helen Billhime, Bill Heimbach, Seth Reitz, Joe Yaiko

Office Location: Milton Lutheran Church, 100 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847,

Office Phone 570-742-4601 Office Administrator email: info@miltonlutheranparish.faith

Website: <https://miltonlutheranchurch.org/> 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



YOU SHALL
LOVE
YOUR NEIGHBOR
as yourself.