



# MILTON LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Fostering Community through Faith, Love & Service*

**NOVEMBER 5TH, 2023**

IN PERSON & LIVE STREAMED FROM THE  
SANCTUARY @ MILTON LUTHERAN CHURCH @  
9:30AM ON THE MLC YOUTUBE CHANNEL. VISIT  
[HTTPS://MILTONLUTHERANCHURCH.ORG](https://miltonlutheranchurch.org) FOR  
LINK TO LIVE WORSHIP.



**TRADITIONAL**



TODAY AS YOU ENTER THE  
SANCTUARY, PLEASE TAKE A  
MOMENT TO BE INSPIRED BY THE  
BEAUTY OF THE FLOWERS. THIS  
WEEK'S FLOWERS WERE  
GENEROUSLY DONATED BY:

*Steve Smith and  
Family*

**IN MEMORY OF DICK, JOY,  
AND TOM SMITH**

We would like to give special thanks to our worship leaders.

**WORSHIP LEADERS & VOLUNTEERS**

**Pastor:** Gary Schaeffer

**Director of Music:** John Warfel

**Assistant Director of Music:** Nancy Walters

**Worship assistant:** Penny Ulmer

## WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

**Greeters:** Ann Mellman and Linwood Hill

**Communion Asst:** Connie Stover, Kay Dunn, and CarolAnn Miller

**Worship Setup:** Helen Billhime

In Person & LIVE streamed from the Sanctuary at Milton Lutheran Church at 9:30am on the Milton Lutheran Church YouTube Channel. Visit <https://miltonlutheranchurch.org> to link to the LIVE worship.

Gary Schaeffer, Pastor

### Welcome and Announcements

#### 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.*

#### Remembrance of Saints

Lord, have mercy. *Lord have mercy.*

Christ, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*

Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*

*C: Be gracious to us. Deliver your people.*

*You loved us before the world was made.*

*You rescued the people of your promise.*

*You spoke through your prophets.*

*You gave your only Son for the life of the world.*

P: Hear us, O God.

*C: For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven.*

*And was born of the virgin Mary.*

*Who by his cross and suffering has redeemed the world.*

*And has washed us from our sins.*

*Who on the third day rose from the dead.*

*And has given us the victory.*

*Who ascended on high.*

*And intercedes for us at the right hand of God.*

P: Great is your love.

*C: For the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

*For the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church.*

*For the great cloud of witnesses into which we are baptized.*

*For Sarah and Abraham, Isaac and Rebekah.*

*For Gideon and Deborah, David and Esther.  
For Moses and Isaiah, Jeremiah and Daniel.  
For Miriam and Rahab, Abigail and Ruth.  
For Mary, mother of our Lord.  
For John, who baptized in the Jordan.  
For Mary Magdalene and Joanna, Mary and Martha.  
For James and John, Peter and Andrew.  
For Paul and Apollos, Stephen and Phoebe.  
For all holy men and women, our mothers and fathers in faith.*

P: Thanks be to God.

*C: For the noble band of the prophets.  
For the glorious company of the apostles.  
For the white-robed army of martyrs.  
For the cherubim and seraphim, Michael and the holy angels.  
For all those we remember, all those we honor, all those whose witness brought us to faith....  
For healing, for care, for compassion, for hope.  
For their leadership, example, and love.*

P: Thanks be to God.

*C: Be gracious to us.  
Deliver your people.  
Give new life to these chosen ones by the grace of baptism.  
Strengthen all who bear the sign of the cross.  
Clothe us in compassion and love.  
Bring us with all your saints to the river of life.*

P: Hear us, O God.

Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*  
Christ, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*  
Lord, have mercy. *Lord, have mercy.*

**Recognition of Saints:** *(A candle is lit as and the bell is rung as each name is read)*

*Those who have passed the gate of death into eternal life from November 1, 2022 to October 31, 2023: Paula Guffey, Pat Muffly, Jerrold C. Rousch, Joseph P. Solomon, David Walize, Leroy Hauck.*

**Personal Prayer and Reflection** *(Everyone is invited to take time in prayer as they remember the names of the people who have gone before them. There is a table in the front of the sanctuary with candles. If you feel so moved, you are welcome to come forward and light a candle in remembrance of those who have died. Special music will be played during this time in recognition of the Holy Spirit's presence in our lives and in our gathering.)*

## **Prayer**

Gracious God, you have enriched us with such a wonderful church. We have so many faithful examples to draw from, and so many stories of faith and trust in you. We lift our prayers to you now. May the stories of those from the past be able to

encourage us, and may we be able to shine your light, so that future generations may look back on our example and feel the same trust and conviction that we do. *Amen*.

HYMN – ELW 424 “Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones”

## Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones



1 Ye watch - ers and ye ho - ly ones, bright  
2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, more  
3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, ye  
4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, su -



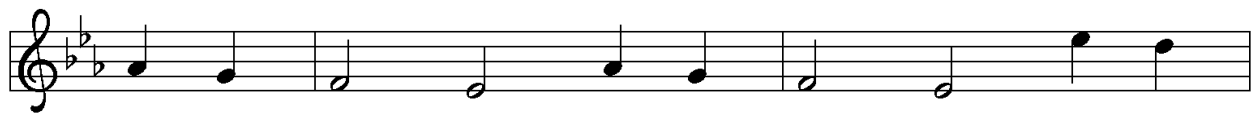
ser - apts, cher - u - bim, and thrones, raise the glad strain:  
glo - rious than the ser - a - phim, lead their prais - es:  
pa - tri - archs and proph - ets blest: “Al - le - lu - ia!  
per - nal an - thems ech - o - ing: “Al - le - lu - ia!



“Al - le - lu - ia!” Cry out, do - min - ions, prince - doms,  
“Al - le - lu - ia!” Thou bear - er of the e - ter - nal  
Al - le - lu - ia!” Ye ho - ly twelve, ye mar - tyrs  
Al - le - lu - ia!” To God the Fa - ther, God the



pow’rs, arch - an - gels, vir - tues, an - gel choirs:  
Word, most gra - cious, mag - ni - fy the Lord:  
strong, all saints tri - um - phant, raise the song:  
Son, and God the Spir - it, Three in One:



“Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!” Al - le -



lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text: J. Athelstan Riley, 1858–1945

Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Köln, 1623

Outside USA: Text from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906. All rights reserved.

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# KYRIE

**A** In peace, in peace let us pray to the Lord. **A** For the

**C** 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

**C** 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

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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

**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

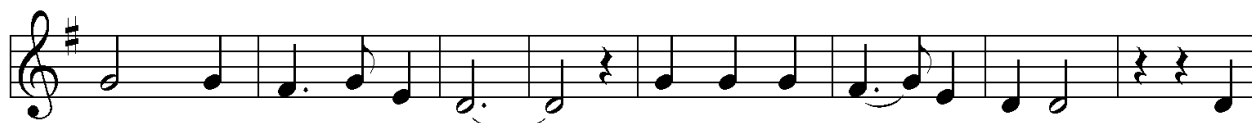
**A** Help, save, com - fort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.

**C** A - men

# HYMN OF PRAISE



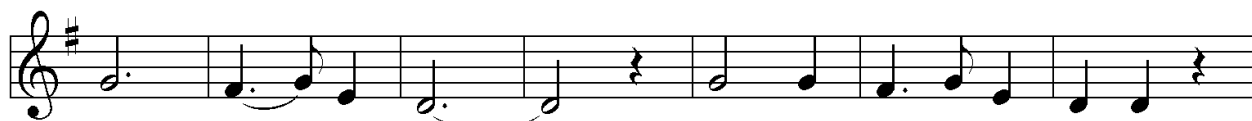
☐ Glo-ry to God in the high - est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.



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

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

***Amen.***

## SCRIPTURE READING: REVELATION 7:9-17

9After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. 10They cried out in a loud voice, saying,

"Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

11And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, 12singing,

"Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom  
and thanksgiving and honor  
and power and might  
be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

13Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" 14I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal ;they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

15For this reason they are before the throne of God,  
and worship him day and night within his temple,  
and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.

16They will hunger no more, and thirst no more;  
the sun will not strike them,  
nor any scorching heat;

17for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd,  
and he will guide them to springs of the water of life,  
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

## PSALM 34:1-10, 22

<sup>1</sup>I will bless the LORD at all times;  
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

<sup>2</sup>*My soul makes its boast in the LORD;  
let the humble hear and be glad.*

<sup>3</sup>O magnify the LORD with me,  
and let us exalt his name together.

<sup>4</sup>*I sought the LORD, and he answered me,  
and delivered me from all my fears.*

<sup>5</sup>Look to him, and be radiant;  
so your faces shall never be ashamed.

<sup>6</sup>*This poor soul cried, and was heard by the LORD,  
and was saved from every trouble.*

<sup>7</sup>The angel of the LORD encamps  
around those who fear him, and delivers them.



<sup>8</sup>*O taste and see that the LORD is good;  
happy are those who take refuge in him.*

<sup>9</sup>O fear the LORD, you his holy ones,  
for those who fear him have no want.

<sup>10</sup>*The young lions suffer want and hunger,  
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.*

<sup>22</sup>The LORD redeems the life of his servants;  
none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

## 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.**

The gospel according to Matthew the 5th Chapter *Glory to you oh Lord.*

## GOSPEL READING: MATTHEW 5:1-12

<sup>1</sup>When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. <sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

<sup>5</sup>"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

<sup>6</sup>"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

<sup>8</sup>"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

<sup>9</sup>"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>"Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

SERMON: "#Blessed"

HYMN – ELW 423 "Shall We Gather at the River"

# Shall We Gather at the River



- 1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
- 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
- 3 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - 'ry bur - den down;
- 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;



with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?  
we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.  
grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.  
soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

## *Refrain*



Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Text: Robert Lowry, 1826–1899

Music: HANSON PLACE, Robert Lowry

## 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

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Holy God, the church triumphant gathers around your throne to praise you. We join them in worship and remember your sustaining grace in every generation. Heal our divisions; show us unity in your presence. Hear us, O God.

*Your mercy is great.*

Holy creator, we marvel at your creation revealed in the cycle of seasons, changing landscapes, and the rise and fall of ocean tides. Turn us from selfish consumption and open us to gentle healing of the earth so all creation thrives. Hear us, O God.

*Your mercy is great.*

Holy advocate, we lift grateful hearts for the ability to vote and elect leaders. Grant wisdom to those who will be elected and safety to poll workers. May civic leaders serve the whole community, especially all who are underrepresented or oppressed. Hear us, O God.

*Your mercy is great.*

Holy healer, bless the brokenhearted and all who mourn. Send your compassion to all who grieve, grant wholeness to those who are sick, and accompany the dying. Be near to all who need you. Hear us, O God.

*Your mercy is great.*

Holy comforter, we pray for this congregation, that the promise of your new life may be shared and experienced. We pray for the funeral ministry of this congregation, that families and friends seeking your love find it here. Hear us, O God.

*Your mercy is great.*

Holy One, for the saints who now rest in your mercy, we give you thanks. We remember their witness of faithfulness and love. Praise to you for the eternal life they have been given through Jesus Christ. Hear us, O God.

*Your mercy is great.*

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.  
*Amen.*

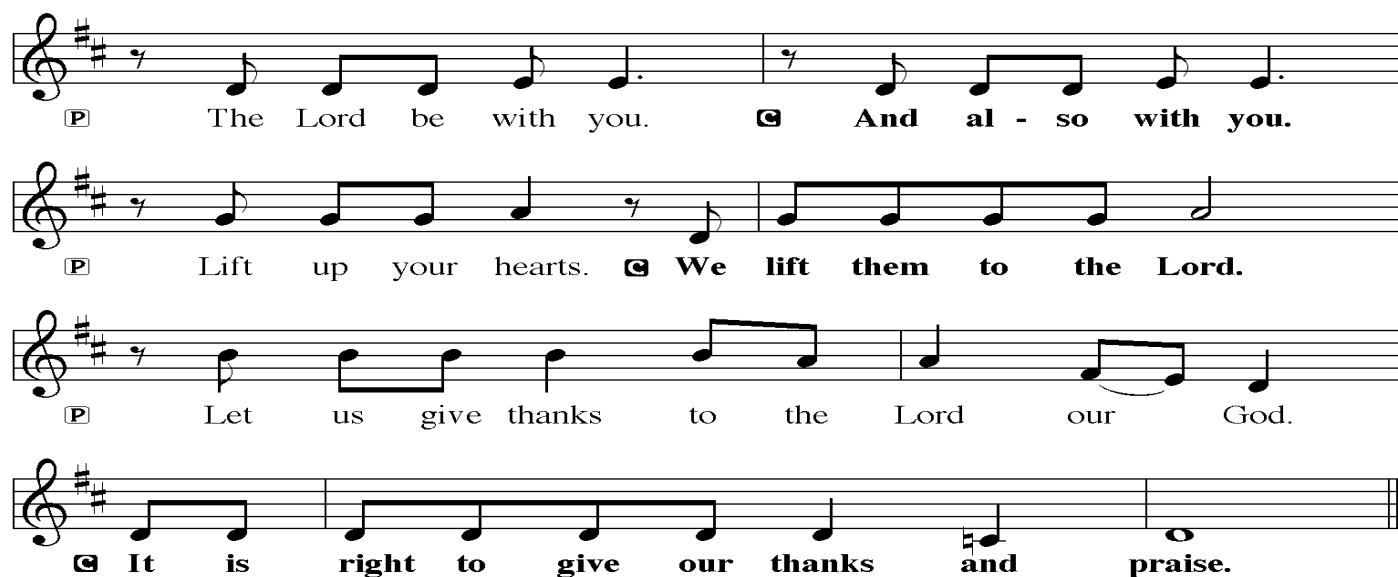
**C** Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, fill to the brim our  
cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown,  
that we may be fed, we may be fed with the bread of life.  
Gath-er the hopes and the dreams of all; u-nite them with the  
prayers we of-fer now. Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence,  
and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, *as we gather around this table to receive the gift of your grace, we offer ourselves to you. All that we have, everything we are, and everything we will be comes from you. We give you thanks, offer our time, gifts, and resources as people of God.*

*Trusting in your mercy and moved by your Spirit we ask that these gifts may be instruments of your love as we seek to love others. Amen.*

## DIALOGUE



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

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

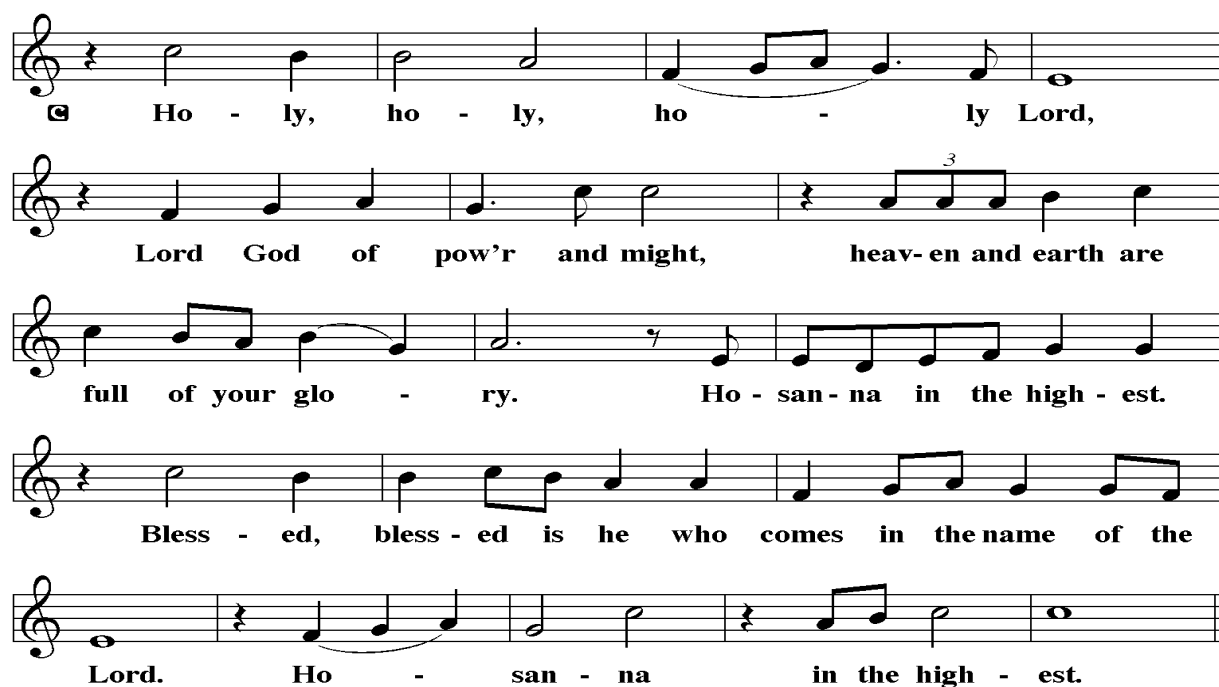
**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** 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



**C** 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

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:  
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.  
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.  
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.  
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.  
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.  
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

***Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

With this bread and cup  
we remember your Word dwelling among us,  
full of grace and truth.  
We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.  
We look with hope for his coming.

***Come, Lord Jesus.***

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.  
Come among us. Bless this meal.  
May your Word take flesh in us.  
Awaken your people.  
Fill us with your light.  
Bring the gift of peace on earth.

***Come, Holy Spirit.***

All praise and glory are yours,  
Holy One of Israel,  
Word of God incarnate,  
Power of the Most High,  
one God, now and forever.

***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



During communion you are invited for a special time of prayer. Pastor Gary and Cindy Coup are available at the side railings up front. You may come forward to receive communion and proceed to either side for a prayer of healing and anointing. If you prefer, you may return to your seat and join the congregation for more singing after you receive communion.

## **COMMUNION**

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

## **COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

*Amen*

## **Blessing**

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**CLOSING HYMN: ELW 422 "For All the Saints"**



## For All the Saints



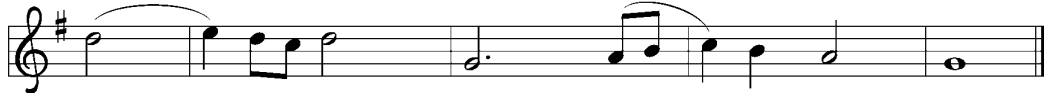
1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who  
 2 Thou wast their rock, their for - tress, and their might; thou,  
*Stanzas 3-5 below.*  
 6 But then there breaks a yet more glo - rious day: the  
 7 From earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast, through



thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, thy  
 Lord, their cap - tain in the well - fought fight; . .  
 saints tri - um - phant rise in bright ar - ray; the  
 gates of pearl streams in the count - less host, . .



name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er blest.  
 thou, in the dark - ness drear, their one true light.  
 King of glo - ry pass - es on his way.  
 sing - ing to Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost:



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



3 Oh, blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine, we fee - bly strug - gle,  
 4 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long, steals on the ear the  
 5 The gold - en eve - ning bright - ens in the west; soon, soon to faith - ful



they in glo - ry shine; yet all are one in thee, for all are  
 dis - tant tri - umph song, and hearts are brave a - gain and arms are  
 ser - vants com - eth rest; . . . sweet is the calm of par - a - dise the



thine. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 strong.  
 blest.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897

Music: SINE NOMINE, Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958

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Together we at the Milton Lutheran Church  
*Foster community through faith, love, and service.*  
Go forth in faith, to live out our mission.  
*Thanks be to God.*

Postlude

*FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM AND OUR YOUTUBE  
CHANNEL TO CONNECT WITH US ONLINE  
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# Church Office Hours

Monday- Thursday 9:00 A.M.- 2:00 P.M.

Friday- Sunday Office Closed

# Pastor's Office Hours

Monday- Thursday 10:00 A.M.- 2:00 P.M.

*Please contact Pastor Gary to make an appointment.*

## Contact Us

Milton Lutheran Church

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Phone- (570) 742- 4601

Office E-mail- [office@miltonlutheranchurch.org](mailto:office@miltonlutheranchurch.org)

Pastor E-mail- [pastor@miltonlutheranchurch.org](mailto:pastor@miltonlutheranchurch.org)

Website- <https://miltonlutheranchurch.org>

# Prayer Requests



MATT SPANGLER

KEN GAUGLER

TERRY & ROSE DEANER

MARY BILLHIME

MARY SUDOL- CROMIS

JACK & PATSY AUNKST

GERALD & RUTH GREENLY

MELVIN CRIST

CHRIS PALKO

CHARLOTTE MARTZ

FAMILY & FRIENDS OF LEROY HAUCK

MARK NOLDER