

We Warmly Welcome You to



Milton Lutheran Church

*Fostering community through faith,
love and service.*

November 28, 2021

First Sunday of Advent

“Hanging of the Greens”

In Person & LIVE Streamed from the Sanctuary at 100 Mahoning St. 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 take a moment to admire the beauty of the flowers. This week they have been generously provided by Bonnie Heimbach in loving memory of her parents Shirley & Raymond Pentycofe.

We would like to give special thanks to our worship leaders; **Gary Schaeffer - Pastor, John Warfel- Music Director/Organist and Penny Ulmer- Worship Assistant.** Also our *Greeters - Cuff & Sharon Greiner and Communion Assistants - Helen Billhime & Chuck Stahl.*

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 word energized to share God's love with everyone you meet!

Gathering Music

Weekly Prayers and Check-in

Introduction

Gary Schaeffer, Pastor

In the days to come
the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hill;
all the nations shall stream to it.
Many peoples shall come and say:

All:

*"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that God may teach us God's ways
and that we may walk in God's paths."*

Penny Ulmer -Worship Assistant;
With what shall we come to God's house?

Gary Schaeffer, Pastor;
Bring branches of cedar and holly,
bring evergreens and a pine tree,
hang wreaths, lights and garlands.

All

Bring forth the sense of hope this advent season as we prepare our worship space, Listen to the words of the prophets.

Let us make our hearts and this space a place of inward and outward preparation for the One that gives us second birth.

Opening Prayer

Gary Schaeffer, Pastor;

**Good Lord, by your mercy
guide our outward actions in such ways
that our inward being is formed
in faith, hope, and love.
May the decorations we offer
engage our senses during the days of Advent
and enliven our praise and worship,
in the name of the child of Bethlehem,
our risen and coming savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Hymn: "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" (ELW 244) Please sing first and last verses.



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



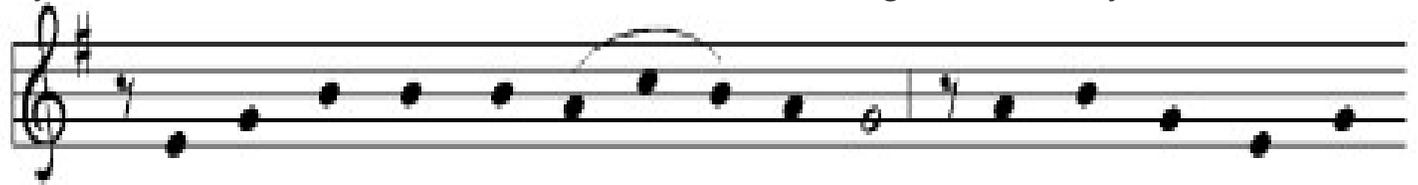
Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907
Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

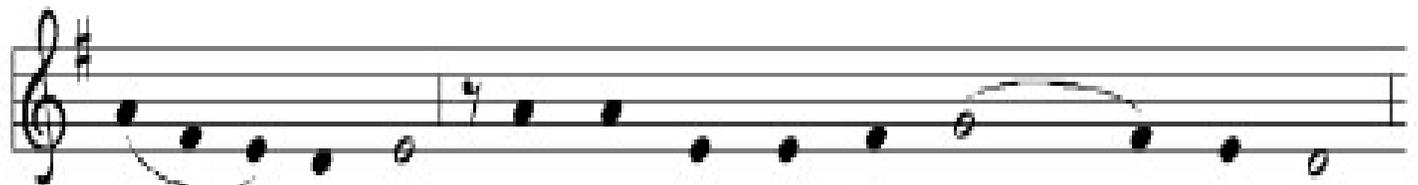


Hanging of the Greens

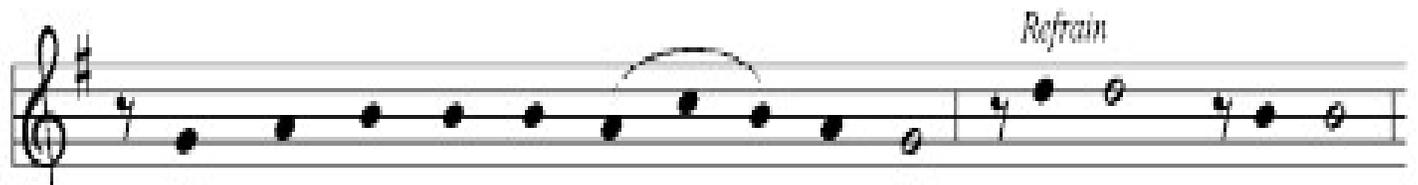
Hymn: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (ELW 257) Please sing first verse only.



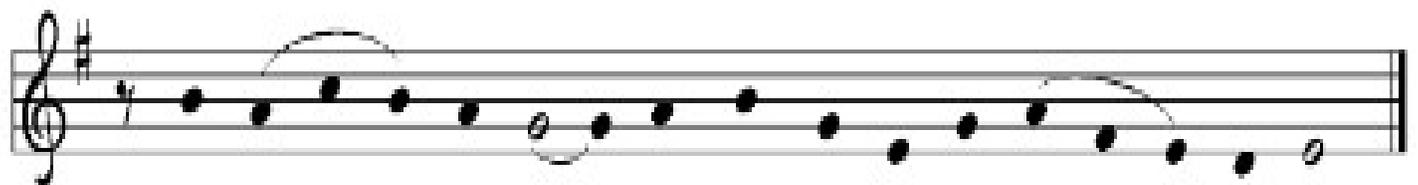
1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Lighting the Advent Wreath

We light one candle.

And we pray for peace.

We light one candle.

And we pray that swords will be turned into plowshares.

We look for the arrival of God's Son, our Prince of peace.

Come to us, Prince of Peace

Scripture Reading- Luke 19:1-10

Gary Schaeffer, Pastor

19 He entered Jericho and was passing through it. **2** A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. **3** He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. **4** So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. **5** When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." **6** So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. **7** All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." **8** Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." **9** Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. **10** For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

Video- The Gift of Expectancy

Sermon- Where is Jesus?

Gary Schaeffer, Pastor

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.*

Communion

Communion Blessing

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. *Amen.*

Blessing

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

Hymn: "Joy To The World" (ELW 267) Please sing the first and last verses.



1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -
 2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their
 3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the



ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -



room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture
 plains re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his



sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is found.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748

Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792–1872

Sending

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



Please Join Us In Prayer This Week For

Gerald Greenly	Joanie Fisher	Family & Friends of
Kimberly Dill	Ken Gaugler	Florence & Pete Ishler
Jim Seidel & Family	Karen Smith	Mary Lou Benshoff
Doris Heffelfinger	Mae Jones	Russ Wynn
Chole Henderson	Terry Deaner	Mary Billhime
Nancy Cochran	Patricia Muffly	Jason Brouse
& Family	Julie Benshoff	Maddox Brouse
Jack & Patsy Aunkst		

This Week at Milton Lutheran Church

SUN., Nov 28

8:00 AM Sunday School in the Library- Led by Kellie Brouse
9:30 A.M. Worship Service Advent begins – Live stream available.



“Hanging of the Greens”.

A time for the Milton Lutheran Church congregation to establish new and unique traditions, have some holiday fun and share our love for Christ and for one another.

Joining us for worship online? You are encouraged to bring your Advent/Christmas decorations with you as we prepare our worship spaces together. There will be dedicated time during the service where we will decorate, sing songs, and have a time of fellowship. Share a photo with us of your home worship space so we can see it!

WED., DEC 1

**7:00 P.M. Bible Study Led by Pastor Gary Schaeffer in the library,
all are welcome to join us!**

SAT Dec 4

**9: A.M. to 11:30 A.M. Meal Preparation for the Community Meal
in the kitchen at 100 Mahoning St.**

SUN., Dec 5

8:00 A.M. Sunday School in the Library- Led by Kellie Brouse

9:30 A.M. Worship Service - Live stream available.

5:00 PM Sunday, Dec 5, Free Community Meal being served at 1125 Mahoning St.

**Menu: Ham, mashed potatoes, ham gravy, glazed carrots, apple sauce and
a dinner roll. All meals will be provided as take out.**

**5:00 P.M. Confirmation & 6:00 P.M. Youth Group at United in Christ located
at 1875 Churches Rd. Lewisburg.**

Coming In December...

December 4 & 5- Meal Prep and Meal distribution. Volunteers and donations needed.

Community Meal volunteer information: We will be making Ham, Mashed Potatoes, Ham Gravy, glazed carrots, rolls, and cookies. In addition to being invited to share in this meal there are a few different ways you can help out.

1. Volunteer for food prep on Saturday, December 4th from 9:00 A.M.-11:30 A.M. at 100 Mahoning St.
2. Volunteer for food distribution on Sunday, December 5th from 2:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M. at 1125 Mahoning St.
3. Donate food items for the meal. Donations must be dropped off to the church by Thursday, December 2nd . There is a sign-up sheet at the main entryway of 100 Mahoning St.

Sunday, Dec. 5, Free Community Meal at 5:00 PM In partnership with St. Paul's AME, The Milton Lutheran Church & Saint Paul's United Church of Christ. **Served at 1125 Mahoning St., Milton. Menu: Ham, mashed potatoes, ham gravy, glazed carrots, apple sauce and a dinner roll. All meals will be provided as take out.**

Sunday, Dec. 19, Christmas Craft Party begins at 5:00 PM at United In Christ Lutheran Church. 1875 Churches Rd. Lewisburg. Everyone is welcome! There will be Christmas crafts, caroling and a cookie exchange. Bring a plate of cookies to share and take some new ones home with you. Volunteers are needed to lead crafts. If you are able to lead a craft

please sign-up in the main entryway. We are asking people to provide their own craft supplies (enough for 100 people). If you are unable to provide your own supplies but still want to lead a craft please indicate on the sign-up sheet and we will provide a craft for you. Masks are expected.

Wednesday, Dec. 22, “Blue Christmas” 7:00 PM at Milton Lutheran Church, 100 Mahoning St. If you struggle with sadness or feel overwhelmed by grief at this time of year. This service is for you. We will be partnering with United in Christ Lutheran Church and St. Paul’s United Church of Christ to provide this worship service for people in need.

Friday Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Service 7:00 PM Family Service & 11:00 PM Candlelight Service

Please see the Calendar insert for more details and this month’s birthdays and anniversaries. Feel free to take it home and put it on the frig so you always know what’s happening!

Milton Lutheran Church Leadership Team	
Pastor	Gary Schaeffer
Church 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, Stephen Moll, Donna Spear
Outreach Team	Connie Stover, Kay Dunn, Claire Weisner, Lynnette Weisner, Carol Yost, Linwood Hill, Krista Yaiko, Karen Martello
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
Church 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

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Office Hours

Monday – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Tuesday - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday – Noon to 5 p.m.

Thursday - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Friday - Office Closed

Please feel free to Email or drop off bulletin announcements or newsletter articles.

Pastoral Office Hours

Mon, Tue, Wed & Thursday 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Please call the office to reserve time to speak with Pastor Gary.

Office Location:

Milton Lutheran Church, 100 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847, 570-742-4601

Office Administrator email: office@miltonlutheranchurch.org

Website: <https://miltonlutheranchurch.org>

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and our YouTube Channel to connect with us online.



“Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.” “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.”

