



MILTON LUTHERAN CHURCH

Fostering Community through Faith, Love & Service

DECEMBER 14TH 2025

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:

Ernest and Sara Delp

**IN MEMORY OF PARENTS AND
ERNEST JR.**

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 Asst: Lynnette Weisner

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Greeters: Chuck Stahl and Helen Billhime

Communion Asst: Kevin and Alison Metzger

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.

GATHERING MUSIC

PRELUDE: "As The Deer"

Liturgical Dancer: Alison Metzger

Vocal Soloist: Viki Campbell

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREETING

BAPTISMAL SONG: "All Are Welcome"

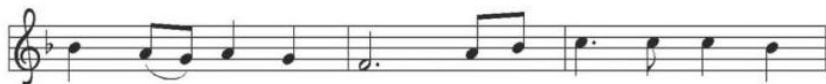
All Are Welcome



1 Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe - ly
 2 Let us build a house where proph-ets speak, and words are strong and
 3 Let us build a house where love is found in wa - ter, wine and



live, a place where saints and chil - dren tell how
 true, where all God's chil - dren dare to seek to
 wheat: a ban - quet hall on ho - ly ground where



hearts learn to for - give. Built of hopes and dreams and
 dream God's reign a - new. Here the cross shall stand as
 peace and jus - tice meet. Here the love of God, through



vi - sions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love of
 wit - ness and as sym - bol of God's grace; here as one we
 Je - sus, is re - vealed in time and space; as we share in



Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 claim the faith of Je - sus:
 Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Let us pray...

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water all around us. Especially, the West Branch of the Susquehanna River Watershed, you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

Blessed be God now and forever.

As we gather for worship today, we remember how you connect each of us to another in time and place. In this place, where people have gathered for thousands of years beginning with the Susquehannock tribe, then the first immigrants in what would become Milton, to today where people of all different backgrounds, traditions, and beliefs gather for worship. You bring us together in remembrance of our baptism.

Blessed be God now and forever.

In baptism, we are joined to Christ's death and resurrection. We are washed in God's mercy, sealed by the Spirit, and called beloved Children of God. Yet we confess that we do not always live as people of grace. Let us return to the waters of life, confessing our sins and trusting God's promise.

Brief silence for reflection

God of Life, we confess that we forget we belong to you. We turn from your ways, we fail to love our neighbors, and we doubt your power to make all things new. Forgive us, O God. Wash us again in your grace. Renew in us the joy of baptism, so that we may rise to serve you in freedom. Amen.

Hear the good news. By Water and the Spirit, you are buried with Christ and raised to new life. In Jesus' name, your sins are forgiven. You are made clean, renewed and sent to shine with the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God! Amen!

HYMN: ELW 244 "Rejoice, Rejoice Believers"

WREATH LIGHTING: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Verses 1-3

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.

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Only A Baby Came"

SCRIPTURE READING: 1 Peter 4:1-11

¹ Since, therefore, Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves also with the same intention (for whoever has suffered in the flesh has finished with sin), ² so as to live for the rest of your time in the flesh no longer by human desires but by the will of God. ³ You have already spent enough time in doing what the gentiles like to do, living in debauchery, passions, drunkenness, revels, carousing, and lawless idolatry. ⁴ They are surprised that you no longer join them in the same excesses of dissipation, and so they blaspheme. ⁵ But they will have to give an accounting to him who stands ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶ For this is the reason the gospel was proclaimed even to the dead, so that, though they had been judged in the flesh as everyone is judged, they might live in the spirit as God does.

⁷ The end of all things is near; therefore be serious and discipline yourselves for the sake of your prayers. ⁸ Above all, maintain constant love for one another, for love covers a multitude of sins. ⁹ Be hospitable to one another without complaining. ¹⁰ Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. ¹¹ Whoever speaks must do so as one speaking the very words of God; whoever serves must do so with the strength that God supplies, so that God may be glorified in all things through

Jesus Christ. To him belong the glory and the power forever and ever. Amen.

SERMON: “Using Gifts to Serve Others”

HYMN OF THE DAY: ELW 272 “Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

Prayers of Intercession

For an end to war and conflict, and for places of political unrest or contention, especially Gaza, South Sudan, Myanmar, Ukraine, and Pakistan/Afghanistan...

For victims and families of the Hong Kong apartment fire...

For all affected by flooding in Thailand, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka...

For protection, provision, and justice for immigrants, refugees, asylum seekers, and advocates...

For all victims of violence, exploitation, and abuse...

For access to affordable and reliable healthcare...

For those who live with seasonal affective disorder...

For just governance and equitable distribution of God’s abundance...

For those who cannot find peace or joy in this season...

ELW 692 “We Are an Offering”

We Are An Offering

ELW 692

Words and Music by
Dwight Liles

G⁷ C Dm⁷ C^(add2) C/E
 We lift our voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our

4 Fmaj⁷ C/E Dm⁷ G C Dm⁷
 lives up to You: we are an of-fer-ing Lord, use our voic - es, Lord, use our

7 Em⁷ C/E F C^(add2) B^b G⁷
 hands, Lord, use our lives, they are Yours: we are an of-fer-ing.

10 Em⁷ A Dm⁷ E⁷ Am
 All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we

13 Dm⁷ C^(add2) B^b Dm G⁷
 give to you, we give to you. We lift our

16 C Dm⁷ C^(add2) C/E Fmaj⁷ C/E
 voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You: we are an

19 Dm⁷ G C Dm⁷ Em⁷ C/E
 of-fer-ing Lord, use our voic - es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our

22 F C^(add2) B^b G⁷ C
 lives, they are Yours: we are an of-fer-ing. We are an of-fer-ing.

rit.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God, *as we gather around this table to receive the gift of your grace, we offer ourselves to you. All 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. Moved by your Spirit we ask that these gifts may be instruments of your love as we seek to love others. Amen.*

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also, with you.

Lift up your heart.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

O God most mighty,

O God most merciful,

O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the earth was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child.

When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom.

Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city.

With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

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 to 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 death, we cry out Amen. ***Amen.***

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. ***Amen.***

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.

Amen.

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal.

O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself.

O God, you are wine: warm our hearts and make us one.

O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations.

Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

By ALBERT H. MALOTTE

SLOWLY

B \flat F/B \flat B \flat /D E \flat 6 Fsus F

OUR FA - THER WHICH ART IN HEAV-EN,

7 B \flat /D GM Cm7 F7sus F7 B \flat (ADD2) B \flat

HAL-LOW - ED BE _____ THY NAME.

12 GM GM9 Gdim7 Dm GM Cm/G C7/G D

THY KING-DOM COME; THY WILL BE DONE ____

17 N.C. GM E \flat B \flat /F F7sus B \flat sus B \flat

ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAV - EN.

23 E \flat /B \flat B \flat E \flat /B \flat B \flat E \flat /G Cm/G F7 B \flat E \flat /G B \flat /F E \flat B \flat /D Gm7 E \flat /G F7

GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAI - LY


30 B \flat Gm6 Gm6/D Gm6/B \flat Asus A Em7(\flat 5)/A A

BREAD, AND FOR-GIVE US OUR DEBTS AS WE ____ FOR-GIVE OUR DEBT-ORS.

35 *Em7(b5)/A A N.C. Bb Eb sus2/G Eb/G*



AND LEAD US NOT IN-TO TEMP-TA - TION, BUT DE-

39 C7/G F(Add2)/A Dm/A F7/E \flat B \flat /D E \flat 6

 LIV - ER US FROM E - VIL. FOR THINE IS THE KING - DOM AND THE

43 C7/E E \flat M/G \flat G \flat + E \flat M6/G \flat B \flat /F C \flat /F F7
POW - ER AND THE GLO - RY FOR - EV -

47 N.C. E \flat 6 B \flat MAJ7 Cm7/F F7 B \flat E \flat 6



ER. FOR THINE IS THE KING-DOM AND THE

51 C7/E E \flat M/G \flat G \flat + E \flat M \flat /G \flat B \flat /F CM7 N.C. CM CM7/F F7

POW-ER AND THE GLO - RY FOR - EV - ER. A -

56 *F7sus Eb/G Bb/F Eb Bb7sus2/D Bb7/D N.C. Eb/G Bb/F Eb6 Bb*
A TEMPO

- *MEN!*

Come to the Table in Love

Leader

Come,___ come,___ come to the ta - ble in love.____
 come to the ta - ble in need.____
 come to the ta - ble in truth.____

Assembly

We come to - geth - er in Je - sus' name.____
 We come to - geth - er in Je - sus' name.____
 We come to - geth - er in Je - sus' name.____
 We go to live___ in Je - sus' name.____

We come to the ta - ble in love.
 We come to the ta - ble in need.
 We come to the ta - ble in truth.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

COMMUNION SONG: "I Am the Bread of Life"

I Am the Bread of Life

Leader or All

1 "The bread that I will give
2 "Un- less you eat
3 "I am the res- ur- rec- tion,
4 Yes, Lord, I be- lieve
5 that

come to me shall not the hun- ger, and who be-
flesh for the life of the world, and if you
flesh of the Son of Man and
I am the life. If you be-
you are the Christ, the

lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to
eat of this bread, and you shall live for -
drink of his blood, and drink and
lieve in me, e - ven though you
Son of God, who have

me un- less the Fa- ther beck- ons."
ev- er, you shall live for - ev- er."
blood, you shall not have life with - in you."
die, you shall live for - ev- er."
come in - to the world.

Refrain
All

"And I will raise you up, and I will raise you up,

and I will raise you up on the last day."

Text: Suzanne Toolan, RSM, b. 1927, based on John 6

Music: I AM THE BREAD, Suzanne Toolan, RSM

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COMMUNION BLESSING

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION SONG: ACS “Guide My Feet”

Guide My Feet

Leader

1 Guide my feet
2 Hold my hand
3 Stand by me while I run this race.
4 I'm your child
5 Search my heart

All

Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me while I run this race.
I'm your child
Search my heart

Guide my feet
Hold my hand
Stand by me while I run this race,
I'm your child
Search my heart

for I don't want to run this race in vain.

Text: African American spiritual

Music: GUIDE MY FEET, African American spiritual

BLESSING

May the God of creation bless our community, may Jesus the Savior open our hearts to all, may the Holy Spirit empower us with faith, creativity, and stewardship to live and serve as people of God now and forever.

Amen

HYMN: ELW 438 “My Lord, What a Morning”

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



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK, INSTAGRAM AND OUR YOUTUBE
CHANNEL TO CONNECT WITH US ONLINE

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Church Office Hours

Monday- Thursday

12:00 P.M.- 5:00 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

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Website- <https://miltonlutheranchurch.org>

Prayer Requests

PRAYER LIST

DIANNE PERRIN
RUTH GREENLY
TAD HAMPTON
STEVEN GREENLY
JOHN SATTERSON
JUDY FARR

JOANNE SHULTZ
ERNIE DELP III
CINDY KOPYSCIANSKI
LINDA BASTIAN
SUSAN EVANS
KAREN MARTELLO
VALERIE BARNWELL
KAREN ARRANTS

HOMEBOUND

MARY BILLHIME
MARY AND MELVIN CRIST
HELEN NAPP
BARB ASHENFELDER
CHARLIE STIGERWALT
CANNAN ROBINSON

