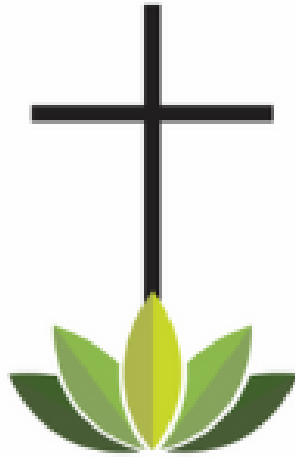


We Warmly Welcome You to



Milton Lutheran Parish

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

April 18, 2021
Third Sunday of Easter
(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)

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

Prelude

John Warfel

Thanksgiving for Baptism

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

In the name of the Father,
and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.
We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.
Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word, you claim us as daughters and sons,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.
We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life,
and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ.
Shower us with your Spirit,
and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.
To you be given honor and praise
through Jesus Christ our Lord
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. *Amen.*



Opening Hymn: "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

John Warfel

1) *Now all the vault of heav'n resounds
in praise of the love that still abounds: "Christ has
triumphed! He is living!" Sing, choirs of
angels, loud and clear! Repeat their song of glory
here: "Christ has triumphed! He is living!"*

4) *Adoring praises now we bring
And with the heav'nly blessed sing: "Christ has
Triumphed! Alleluia!" Be to the Father, and our
Lord, to Spirit blest, most holy
God, all the glory, never ending!*

Greeting

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

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.*

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

¹See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. ²Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. ³And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

⁴Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. ⁵You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. ⁶No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. ⁷Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

The word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 4: (Read Responsively)

Val Gardner

¹Answer me when I call, O God, defender of my cause;
you set me free when I was in distress; have mercy on me and hear my prayer.

*²"You mortals, how long will you dishonor my glory;
how long will you love illusions and seek after lies?"*

³Know that the LORD does wonders for the faithful;
the LORD will hear me when I call.

*⁴Tremble, then, and do not sin;
speak to your heart in silence upon your bed.*

⁵Offer the appointed sacrifices,
and put your trust in the LORD.

*⁶Many are saying, "Who will show us any good?"
Let the light of your face shine upon us, O LORD.*

⁷You have put gladness in my heart,
more than when grain and wine abound.

*⁸In peace, I will lie down and sleep;
for you alone, O LORD, make me rest secure.*

Gospel: Luke 24:36b-48

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 24th Chapter *Glory to you, O Lord.*

^{36b}Jesus himself stood among [the disciples] and said to them, "Peace be with you." ³⁷They were startled and terrified and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? ³⁹Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I, myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." ⁴⁰And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" ⁴²They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you — that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸You are witnesses of these things.”

The Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, O Christ.*

Sermon “Resurrection Doubts”

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

 Hymn: Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing

John Warfel

1) *Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky. Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.*

5) *Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to This and ev'ry age, till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.*

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.*

Hear us, O God.

Living God, in the midst of Easter joy we are still filled with questions and wondering. Open our hearts and minds as we encounter the scriptures, so that the church embodies repentance and forgiveness in the name of Jesus to all nations. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Creating God, like a master artist you have fashioned the universe out of your love and delight. Heal your creation where it is in need of restoration. Provide all the inhabitants of earth a peaceful and sustainable home. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all, the nations hunger and thirst for your righteousness. Many call on you for guidance and strength. Answer their hopes with the peace of Christ and give your loving kindness to national, state, and local leaders of people. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Healing God, you hear the cries of those in need and answer them in their distress. Grant to those who are sick and suffering your compassion and nurse them back to health and wholeness. Be close to the hearts of the lonely. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Loving Parent, you have given us such love that we should be called the children of God. Reveal yourself to us, so that we, in this community of faith will become more and more like you in our mutual love and bold witness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

God of all times and ages, those who have died in you now see you as you are. We thank you for their lives among us. Assure us of the peace you have promised that we may join them in everlasting life. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

In the hope of new life in Christ, we raise our prayers to you, trusting in your never-ending goodness and mercy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Great Thanksgiving

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

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.

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 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 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

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

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.*

Blessing

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

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: This Joyful Eastertide

John Warfel

1) *This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and
Sorrow! My love, the Crucified, has
Sprung to life this morrow*

3) *Death flood has lost its chill since Jesus crossed the
river. Lover of souls, from ill my
passing soul deliver.*

Refrain: *Had Christ who once was slain, not burst his three-day prison, our
Faith had been in vain. But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen.*

Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ is with you. *Thanks be to God.*

Postlude

Altar flowers for today's service are in memory of Joyce Stahl and loved ones by Chuck Stahl and family.
Thank you to the Stahl family for the beauty of the flowers shared with us today.

News and Announcements from the Parish

A Note from Pastor Gary . . . I'm excited to share with you an additional partnership opportunity that we have been offered as a parish. Starting in June the parish will be hosting the "*Getting Ahead Foundation*" at Trinity. This group works to improve the quality of life for low income individuals, families, and their communities. You can read more about them on their website www.gettingaheadfoundation.org. In addition to hosting their program we will also partner with them by providing volunteers, meals, and support. There are brochures at Trinity that you can pick up if you are interested in volunteering to help. You can also talk to me about it if you have any questions. Many Blessings, Gary

This Week at Milton Lutheran Parish . . .

Sun., Apr. 18 Adult Sunday School at 8 AM and Worship at 9:30 AM. Live stream available.
Happy Birthday John Warfel
 Mon., Apr. 19 Combined Councils Meeting 6:30 PM
 Wed., Apr. 21 Bible Study is posted on the website and social media
 Thu., Apr. 22 **Happy Birthday to Mindy Bartholomew and Deb Owens**
 Fri., Apr. 23 **Happy Birthday to Brent Mitch**
 Sat., Apr. 24 **Happy Birthday to Katie Trapane**
 Sun., Apr. 25 Adult Sunday School at 8 AM and Worship at 9:30 AM. Live stream available.

Milton Lutheran Parish Leadership Team	
Pastor	Gary Schaeffer
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	Krisa Yaiko, President; Don Fisher, Vice President; Lynnette Weisner, Secretary; Rose Handy, Bill Heimbach, Donna Spear
Christ Council	Donna Spear, President; Tonya Wargo, Vice President; Penny Ulmer, Secretary; Rich Handy, Treasurer, Kellie Brouse, Kay Dunn, Don Fisher, Nancy Mensch, Nancy Walters
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

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