



## Milton Lutheran Parish

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church – 1125 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847 – 570-742-7473

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

*Deacon Gary Schaeffer, Interim Pastor*

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Dear Friends of the Milton Lutheran Parish,

This week we hear the parable of the sower in the Gospel of Matthew. This parable is one of the most well-known parables in the Bible. For me, as I hear God's words I am reminded of God's generosity. As the sower God is constantly sowing seeds in the lives of all people no matter what. God's grace abounds even though we are not always able to see it.

My prayer for us this week is that we be reminded of how God plants the seeds of faith in our lives each and every single day so that God's grace abounds no matter what difficulties, doubts or fears we may be experiencing.

Having completed the two-week quarantine period on July 8<sup>th</sup> with no symptoms we have decided that it is safe to resume in-person worship this upcoming week. The worship schedule is as follows.

Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup> 7:00 P.M.- Ed Coup @ Trinity

Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup> 3:00 P.M.- Kellie Brouse @ Christ

Friday, July 17<sup>th</sup> 10:00 A.M.- Mindy Bartholomew @ Trinity

We will continue to follow the same guidelines and safety procedures outlined in our letter to you a few weeks ago. Our Parish leadership met this past week to discuss our current in-person offerings. We will update you as we continue to discern the best ways for us to gather.

A reminder that I will be on vacation from July 11<sup>th</sup>-26<sup>th</sup>. Pastor Tom Glasoe will be providing pastoral coverage during that time. If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Donna Riccio at either office and she will get you in contact with Pastor Tom.

During my vacation time there will not be online bible study, drive-thru prayer and communion. However, each of those will resume when I return. We will be recording an online worship service with a message that will be made available on Sunday mornings via our parish website (<http://miltonlutheranparish.faith>) or either church Facebook page.

Many Blessings,

Gary Schaeffer

## Home Devotional- 7/12/20



Opening prayer:

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Readings (if you don't have a bible handy, [biblegateway.com](http://biblegateway.com) is a great resource. We use NRSV - "new revised standard version" as our translation for worship)

Isaiah 55:10-13

Psalm 65: 9-13

Romans 8:1-11

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Questions to talk about:

What does living in the Spirit look like? How do we cultivate our connection to the Spirit? (Rom 8:1-11)

This parable paints a picture of our responses to God. In what way does it depict God? (Matt 13:1-9, 18-23)

Pray the Lord's Prayer together

Bless one another saying:

May God bless you this week and always. AMEN

Resources:

Opening prayer: [Sundaysandseasons.com](http://Sundaysandseasons.com) #32232

Questions for discussion: [workingpreacher.com](http://workingpreacher.com)