



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

Dear Friends of the Milton Lutheran Parish,

I hope you are all doing well and enjoying the warmer weather! I'm excited to be writing to you this week and update you on the work that our parish leadership has done over the past couple of weeks.

After a lot of discernment and conversation our Church Councils have approved a plan to offer several different opportunities for us to gather in person as a community again.

The first is that we will resume in-person worship beginning the week of June 22nd-28th by offering 3-4 prayer services led by our Authorized Lay Worship Leaders. The services will be held at both churches and will take place at different times/days during the week. We have assembled a team of leaders from both churches to start planning and there will be more information coming to you next week including dates/times, safety precautions, and safety guidelines.

The second is that I will be providing drive-thru prayer and communion starting next Thursday (June 18th from 8:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.) Anyone that would like to have prayer and communion can come to the church parking lot at Christ. We will pray together and receive communion in a way that is safe for folks. We hope to offer this for the long-term as the virus limits our ability to gather in person.

Finally, we will continue to provide online worship and online bible study through YouTube, Facebook, and our parish website. We are working at improving the quality of the online services and hope to enhance your viewing experience.

The Milton Parish Leadership and I would like you all to know that we continue to pray for each of you. We recognize as a community of faith that we are all in different places when it comes to what we feel comfortable doing in the midst of this pandemic. We are hopeful that these additional in-person gatherings will offer the opportunity for us to be more connected with one another. At the same time, we recognize the need to be mindful of the precautions we need to take to keep each other safe. If you are still not comfortable gathering in person, we hope that you will still be fed through our online ministry.

We continue to limit our office hours, so if you need anything it is best to reach out to me via cell phone (845) 636-0194 or e-mail schaeffer0319@gmail.com.

Take Care and God Bless,
Gary

Sunday, June 14, 2020, Worship Bulletin
Second Sunday after Pentecost
Milton Lutheran Parish- Milton, PA



Welcome and Announcements

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

Confession and Forgiveness

P- Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
whose steadfast love is everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

Amen.

P- Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

C- Reconciling God,

we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

Beloved of God,

by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through † Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

First Reading: Exodus 19:2-8a

At Sinai God assured Israel, "You shall be my treasured possession," and commissioned them to serve as mediating priests for the nations. The people commit themselves completely to God's will.

²[The Israelites] had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.³Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: ⁴You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."

⁷So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. ^{8a}The people all answered as one: "Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do."

Psalm: Psalm 100

We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture. (Ps. 100:3)

¹Make a joyful noise to the Lord, | all you lands!

²Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence | with a song.

³Know that the Lord is God, our maker to whom | we belong;
we are God's people and the sheep | of God's pasture. R

⁴Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving and the | courts with praise;
give thanks and bless God's | holy name.

⁵Good indeed is the Lord, whose steadfast love is | everlasting,
whose faithfulness endures from | age to age. R

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-8

We are no longer God's enemies but have peace with God because we were brought into a right relationship with God through Christ's death.

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Gospel: Matthew 9:35--10:15

The mission of Jesus' followers is to continue the mission of Jesus himself. Here, he instructs his first disciples as to how they might proclaim the gospel through their words and deeds.

³⁵Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

^{10:1}Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. ²These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' ⁸Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. [⁹Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, ¹⁰no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. ¹¹Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. ¹²As

you enter the house, greet it. ¹³If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

Sermon-

Hymn-

Apostles Creed

Let us confess our faith in the words of the 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us pray for our shared world.

Holy One, you bring us together and call us your own. Bless theologians, teachers, and preachers who help us grow in faith. Guide your church, that we might be a holy people. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy One, the whole earth is yours. Where there is fire, bring cool air and new growth. Where there is flooding, bring abatement. Where there is drought, bring rain. Inspire us to care for what you have provided. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy One, we have created divisions you will not own. In places of conflict (*especially*), raise up leaders who work to develop lasting peace and reconciliation. Encourage organizations and individuals who care for all forced to leave their homes.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy One, you care for those who are harassed and helpless. Protect and defend those who are abused. Heal those who are sick. Feed all who hunger. Empower all whose voices go unheard, and help us respond to the pressing needs of our neighbors.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy One, you provide a plentiful harvest of gifts and resources. Prepare us to labor and gather the fruits of this congregation, that we might discover new ways of living. Minister to us in our work, that we do not lose heart.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray together saying...

Lord's Prayer

**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.**

Blessing

May God warm your hearts with the love of the Spirit.

May Jesus guide your comings and goings.

May the Holy Spirit inspire you with the passion to seek justice in the world.

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

Amen.

Closing Hymn:

Dismissal P: Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Home Devotional- 6/14/20



Opening Prayer

God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Readings

Exodus 19:2-8a

The covenant with Israel at Sinai

Psalms 100

We are God's people and the sheep of God's pasture. (Ps. 100:3)

Romans 5:1-8

While we were sinners, Christ died for us

Matthew 9:35--10:15

The sending of the Twelve

Questions for Reflection

1. What is one thing you needed to hear from God this week that you heard in our scriptures?
2. What is it that God is trying to tell you?
3. What is it that God wants you to do in response to what God is telling you?

Prayers- (What do you have God to give thanks for? What worries you? What does the world need? How can God give you direction?)

Lord's Prayer- (Recite the Lord's Prayer)

Blessing- Neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus.

God, the creator, ✠ Jesus, the Christ,
and the Holy Spirit, the comforter,
bless you and keep you in eternal love.

Amen.

Resources:

Opening prayer: Sundaysandseasons.com #32232

Questions for discussion: workingpreacher.com