



## 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

<https://miltonlutheranparish.faith/>

*Deacon Gary Schaeffer, Pastor*

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Dear Friends of the Milton Lutheran Parish,

Another week has passed, and we continue to adapt, grow, and change in the midst of our lives. This week is another exciting week in the life of our parish.

On Sunday, September 6<sup>th</sup> we will be having a tailgate at 5:00 P.M.-6:30 P.M. and worship at 6:30 P.M. in the Christ parking lot. You are invited to come anytime between 5:00-6:30 set up your tail gate, enjoy some food and fellowship with one another. We ask that you bring your own food and refrain from sharing to minimize the spread of any germs. You can bring your own chairs or there will be chairs at the church that you can use. You are also encouraged to walk around and visit with people, but we ask that you wear a mask and maintain the 6ft social distance guidelines.

At 6:30 P.M. we will being worship and will celebrate my ordination as a Pastor and the installation to serve the Parish. Bishop Barbara Collins will be presiding over the ordination and the Rev. Stina Schaeffer, my wife, will be preaching. There will be Pastors from around the synod and other colleagues and friends of mine visiting as well.

The worship service will be recorded and live streamed and made available for those that cannot attend in person. Just check out the parish website for the link and more details. <http://miltonlutheranparish.faith>.

Our Gospel text for this week is all about community. In Matthew 18:15-20 Jesus gives instructions for how we are to live together in community with one another. He specifically instructs us on how to manage conflict. This text has me thinking about the times in my life when I've had to have some pretty difficult conversations. Those conversations are never easy, but through the grace of God, the conversations almost always produce a transformational change in the lives of the people involved. In the years ahead we will learn how new ways of growing in our sense of being a community, as a parish, as Pastor and people, as friends, as disciples. It won't always be easy, but through the grace of God, it will be transformational.

Many Blessings,

Gary

## **14th Sunday of Pentecost September 6, 2020**



### **Ordination Service of Reverend Gary Schaeffer**

#### **Welcome!**

We are glad you are here! Welcome to Parking Lot Worship Today! As we gather for worship, here are some procedures and guidelines for our time together:

1. Tune in your car to FM 87.9 for the audio of the service.
2. For communion we will begin with a word of prayer and the blessing of the elements, followed by an invitation to take communion.
3. You are welcome to sing the hymns if you remain in your car. If you are outside, we ask that you refrain from singing unless you are a minimum of 25 feet from others.
4. The ushers will collect offering before and after the service at the entrances and exits of the parking lot.

A special thank you to everyone who has come today to celebrate this special occasion! I want to thank Bishop Barbara Collins for presiding and Rev. Stina Schaeffer for preaching. Also, I want to thank the many family friends, and colleagues who have supported me throughout this journey of faith. - *Gary Schaeffer*

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

### Prayer of the Day

Let us Pray

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

AMEN

### Opening Hymn- *Will you Come and Follow Me*

### Gospel: **Matthew 18:15-20**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>15</sup>"If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. <sup>16</sup>But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. <sup>17</sup>If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. <sup>18</sup>Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup>Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup>For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

### Sermon- *The Rev. Stina Schaeffer*

## Ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament

### Presentation- *The Rev. Stina Schaeffer*

I present for ordination to the ministry of word and sacrament Gary Schaeffer who has been prepared, examined, and approved for this ministry and who has been called by the church to this ministry through the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. **Thanks be to God.**

### Address and Questions

All baptized Christians are called to share in Christ's ministry of love and service in the world, to the glory of God and for the sake of the human family and the whole creation. According to apostolic usage you are now to be entrusted with the office of word and sacrament in the one holy catholic church by the laying on of hands and by prayer.

*A reading from John:* Jesus said, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." (*John 20:21-23*)

*A reading from Matthew:* Jesus said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age." (*Matthew 28:18-20*)

*A reading from First Corinthians:* I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. (*1 Corinthians 11:23-26*)

Before almighty God, to whom you must give account, and in the presence of this assembly, I ask: Will you assume this office, believing that the church's call is God's call to the ministry of word and sacrament?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

The church in which you are to be ordained

confesses that the holy scriptures are the word of God and are the norm of its faith and life.

We accept, teach, and confess the Apostles', the Nicene, and the Athanasian Creeds. We also acknowledge the Lutheran confessions as true witnesses and faithful expositions of the holy scriptures.

Will you therefore preach and teach in accordance with the holy scriptures and these creeds and confessions?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you be diligent in your study of the holy scriptures and faithful in your use of the means of grace?

Will you pray for God's people, nourish them with the word and sacraments, and lead them by your own example in faithful service and holy living?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you give faithful witness in the world,  
that God's love may be known in all that you do?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Almighty God, who has given you the will to do these things, graciously give you the strength and compassion to perform them. Amen.

## **Prayers of Intercession**

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

For the holy catholic church, that, filled with your love, it may hunger for truth and thirst after righteousness: God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all members of the church and this parish, that they may serve you in true and godly lives: God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all pastors and deacons that, together with all those responsible for the care and nurture of your people, they may support one another in serving Christ: God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the peace of the church, that our divisions may be overcome, so that, united in Christ, we may serve the world and bear witness to the good news: God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the nations of the world and their leaders, that they may work for justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person: God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the whole creation, that everything you have made may fulfill your purpose and that we may exercise care for your diverse gifts: God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, the lonely, the forgotten, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected:  
God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

## **Hymn of Invocation** *Creator Spirit Heavenly Dove*

### **Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,  
we bless you for your infinite love in Christ our Lord, in whom we have redemption and forgiveness of sins according to the riches of his grace. We thank you that by his death your Son overcame death, and that, raised by your mighty power, he gives us new life. We praise you that, having ascended into heaven, Christ pours out his gifts abundantly on the church, making some apostles, some prophets, some pastors and teachers, to equip your people for their work of ministry for building up the body of Christ.

Eternal God, through your Son, Jesus Christ,  
pour out your Holy Spirit upon Gary and fill him with the gifts of grace for the ministry of word and sacrament. Bless his proclamation of your word and administration of your sacraments, so that your church may be gathered for praise and strengthened for service. Make him a faithful pastor, patient teacher, and wise counselor. Grant that in all things he may serve without reproach, that your people may be renewed and your name be glorified in the church; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **Giving of a Stole**

Receive this stole as a sign of your work, and live in obedience to the Lord Jesus, serving his people and remembering his promise: "Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." (*Matthew 11:28-30*)

### **Charge**

*Hear the words of the apostles:* Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called. (*1 Timothy 6:11-12*)

*And again:* Take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you guardians, to feed the church of God that he obtained with the blood of his own Son. (*Acts 20:28*)

*And again:* Tend the flock of God that is in your charge, not under compulsion but willingly, not for sordid gain but eagerly. Do not lord it over those in your charge, but be examples to the flock. And when the chief shepherd appears, you will win the crown of glory that never fades away. (*1 Peter 5:2-4*)

*And again:* Think of us in this way, as servants of Christ and stewards of God's mysteries. Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. (1 Corinthians 4:1-2)

Gary, care for God's people, bear their burdens, and do not betray their confidence. So discipline yourself in life and teaching that you preserve the truth, giving no occasion for false security or illusory hope. Witness faithfully in word and deed to all people. Give and receive comfort as you serve within the church. And be of good courage, for God has called you, and your labor in the Lord is not in vain.

## **Blessing**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

**Amen.**

## **Acclamation by the Assembly**

Will you, assembled as the people of God and speaking for the whole church, Receive Gary as a messenger of Jesus Christ, sent by God to serve all people with the gospel of hope and salvation?

Will you regard him as a servant of Christ?

**We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Will you pray for him, help and honor him for his work's sake, and in all things strive to live together in the peace and unity of Christ?

**We will, and we ask God to help us.**

Let it be acclaimed that Gary Schaeffer is a called and ordained minister in the church of Christ. He has Christ's authority to preach the word of God and administer the sacraments, serving God's people as together we bear God's creative and redeeming love to all the world.

**Amen. Thanks be to God.**

## **Installation**

*Presiding Minister*

Having been authorized by the church to install The Rev. Gary Schaeffer, our co-worker in the gospel, as Pastor,

I now ask for certification of this call.

*Krista Yaiko- Parish Council President*

After prayerful deliberation, we, of the Milton Lutheran Parish, have called Gary Schaeffer as Pastor. I present him and this letter certifying the call.

*Presiding Minister*

Gary, in the presence of this assembly

will you commit yourself to this new trust and responsibility?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

Will you carry out your duties in harmony with the constitutions of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America?

I will, and I ask God to help me.

*Presiding Minister*

Gary the office of Pastor is now committed to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## **Blessing**

The God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, make you complete in everything good so that you may do God's will, working in you that which is pleasing in God's sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever and ever.

Amen.

*Donna Riccio- Parish Administrator*

You have been called to be among us to baptize, to teach, and to forgive sins.

*John Warfel- Parish Organist*

You have been called to be among us to proclaim the good news.

*Donna Spear- Christ Council President*

You have been called to be among us to preside at the Lord's supper.

*Presiding Minister*

People of God, I present to you Gary Schaeffer, Pastor of the Milton Lutheran Parish. Let us welcome him in the name of Christ.

## **Hymn- Canticle of the Turning**

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you

**And also with you**

Lift up your hearts

**We lift them up to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,

and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish  
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world  
to fulfill for us your holy will  
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

## **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.**

## **Communion**

### **Prayer after Communion**

God of the welcome table, in this meal we have feasted on your goodness and have been united by your presence among us. Empower us to go forth sustained by these gifts so that we may share your neighborly love with all,  
through Jesus Christ, the giver of abundant life.  
Amen.

### **Blessing**

Live your lives in Christ, rooted and built up in him, and abound in thanksgiving;  
and the blessing of the holy Trinity, † one God,  
be upon you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

### **Closing Hymn- *A Mighty Fortress is our God***

Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve; loving God, serving God and welcoming all in Jesus name.

**Thanks be to God. We will!**

## **Worship Leaders**

Bishop Barbara Collins- Presiding  
Rev. Stina Schaeffer (Preaching and Presenter)  
Donna Riccio- Parish Administrator  
Donna Spear- Christ Council President  
John Warfel- Parish Organist  
Krista Yaiko- Parish Council President and Trinity Council President

# Weekly Devotional- August 31 – September 6

## Introduction

Conflict is a part of relationships and life in community. Jesus' words in today's gospel are often used in situations having to do with church discipline. The prophet Ezekiel tells of warning the wicked to turn from their ways, and Paul reminds us that love is the fulfilling of the law. We gather in the name of Christ, assured that he is present among us with gifts of peace and reconciliation.



## Prayer of the Day

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## Readings and Psalm

### Ezekiel 33:7-11

*The prophet's responsibility to warn the people*

### Psalm 119:33-40

I desire the path of your commandments. (Ps. 119:35)

### Romans 13:8-14

*Live honorably as in the day*

### Matthew 18:15-20

*Reconciliation in the community of faith*

## Questions

1. In what settings do you find it easy and hard to believe God takes pleasure in you? (Ps 149:4)
2. In our time, what are works of darkness, and what does the armor of light look like in practice? (Rom 13:12)
3. Have you ever seen this pattern of confronting sin work well, and if so what made it work? (Matt 18:15-20)

## Pray the Lord's Prayer

**Blessing-** May the Lord's blessings be known to you now and forever. AMEN

*Resources: [sundaysandseasons.org](http://sundaysandseasons.org)- SAS020405 and [workpreacher.org](http://workpreacher.org)*

Resources:

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

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