



Milton Lutheran Parish

Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church - 1125 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church - 100 Mahoning Street, Milton, PA 17847

Phone: 570-742-4601

Website: <https://miltonlutheranparish.faith/>

Gary Schaeffer, Pastor

Dear Friends of the Milton Lutheran Parish,

I hope you are doing well, and staying safe and healthy. In our Gospel text this week, we hear the story of Jesus calling his first disciples to follow him. This passage reminds us of how important it is to be intentional in our faith. We are all disciples. The original Greek word disciple means "lifelong learner." As we seek to be disciples, we are making a commitment to God and one another. This commitment helps us to stay connected with God, grow in our relationships, and find ways to care for one another. As we look to another week in the life of our faith community, I pray that we are all reminded of this important task and know that God goes with us.

I have just a few updates for you this week. The first is that we are working to put together an annual report for the parish that will be sent out to you sometime in the beginning of February. Included with this report will be updates from our councils, ministry teams, and committees. I will also be sharing a video with all of you about the current status of our ministry together and some plans we have for 2021.

The second thing I wanted to share is that our leadership has decided to continue virtual worship until there is a downward trend of Coronavirus cases over the course of two weeks. Our hope is that as the vaccines become more available and the effects of the holiday season wear off it will become safer for us to gather in person once again. In the meantime, we will continue to gather online for worship and bible study, send out home devotional kits, and work to find ways that we can remain connected with one another.

As always, I want to invite you to join us online for worship and bible study this week. You can access them both through our parish website or through our Facebook page.

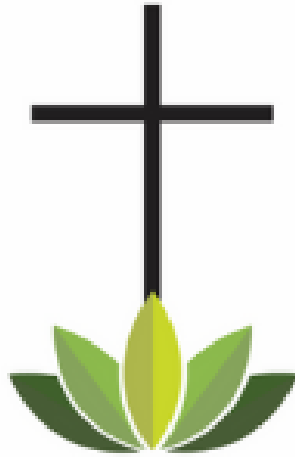
I am also available to you through phone or e-mail if you need anything. Please note that my day off is Friday, so if I don't respond to you right away, that is why.

God's Blessings,

Gary



We Warmly Welcome You to



Milton Lutheran Parish

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

January 17, 2021

Second Sunday After Epiphany

Prayer Service

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

Prelude

John Warfel



Thanksgiving for Baptism

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

The Lord be with you

And also with you

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, you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

Blessed be God now and forever.

By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land.

Blessed be God now and forever.

In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God now and forever.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that those who are here may be given new life. Wash away the sin of all those who are cleansed by this water and bring them forth as inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

Opening

O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.

*Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit:*

*as it was in the beginning, is now,
and will be forever. Amen.*

Give glory to God, our light and our life.

Oh, come, let us worship and praise.

Opening Hymn: "O Zion, Haste"

*1 O Zion, haste your mission high fulfilling,
to tell to all the world that God is light;
that he who made all the nations is not willing
one soul should perish, lost in shades of night.*

*Refrain: Publish glad tidings, tidings of peace,
tidings of Jesus, redemption, and release.*

Cindy Coup

*3 He comes again! O Zion, ere you meet him,
make known to ev'ry heart his saving grace;
let none whom he has ransomed fail to greet him,
through your neglect, unfit to see his face. Refrain*



Scripture Reading- 1 Samuel 3:1-9

Nancy Walters

¹Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.²At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; ³the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. ⁴Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" ⁵and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. ⁶The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." ⁷Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. ⁸The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. ⁹Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

Gospel Reading- John 1:43-51

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

⁴³The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth." ⁴⁶Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you." ⁴⁹Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

Sermon- "Will You Come and Follow Me"

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

Song: "Will You Come and Follow Me"

Cindy Coup

*1 Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?*

*5 Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.*



Prayers-

Nancy Walters

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

Mighty God of mercy, we thank you for the resurrection dawn, bringing the glory of our risen Lord who makes every day new.

Especially we thank you —

for the sustaining goodness of your creation . . .

for the new creation in Christ and all gifts of healing and forgiveness . . .

for the gifts of relationship with others . . .

for the communion of faith in your church . . .

Other thanksgivings may be added.

Merciful God of might, renew this weary world, heal the hurts of all your children, and bring about your peace for all in Christ Jesus, the living Lord.

Especially we pray —

for those who govern nations of the world . . .

for the people in countries ravaged by strife or warfare . . .

for all who work for peace and international harmony . . .

for all who strive to save the earth from carelessness and destruction . . .

for the church of Jesus Christ in every land . . .

Other petitions may be added.

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

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 (Sung)

John Warfel

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; 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

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Communion Blessing

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Closing Song: "Here I Am Lord "

Cindy Coup

*1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?*

*3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? Refrain*

*Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*



Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

Amen.

Sending

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

John Warfel

News and Announcements from the Parish

A Note from Pastor Gary . . .

I have just a few updates for you this week. The first is that we are working to put together an annual report for the parish that will be sent out to you sometime in the beginning of February. Included with this report will be updates from our councils, ministry teams, and committees. I will also be sharing a video with all of you about the current status of our ministry together and some plans we have for 2021.

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This Week at Milton Lutheran Parish . . .

- Sun., Jan. 17 9:30 AM LIVE Stream Worship Service. Those who do not have access to the internet and are unable to watch the LIVE stream are invited to worship in the sanctuary during the service. Please contact Parish Office if you plan to attend so we can ensure there is enough space.
- Mon., Jan 18 **Happy Birthday Kay Dunn**
Joint Council Meeting 6:30-8:30 via Zoom
- Tues., Jan. 19 **Happy Birthday Andy McNeal Jr.**
- Wed., Jan. 20 **Happy Birthday Doris Moore**
Bible Study is Posted on the Website and Social Media
- Fri., Jan. 22 **Happy Birthday Linn Davis**
- Sat., Jan. 23 **Happy Birthday Helen Billhime**
- Sun., Jan. 24 9:30 AM Live Stream Worship Service. Those who do not have access to the internet and are unable to watch the LIVE stream are invited to worship in the sanctuary during the service. Please contact Parish Office if you plan to attend so we can ensure there is enough space.



Milton Lutheran Parish Leadership Team	
Pastor	Gary Schaeffer
Parish Organist, Music Director	John Warfel
Sexton/Custodian	Chuck Stahl and Helen Billhime
Treasurers	Rich Handy and Carol Yost
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

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Be sure to follow us on Facebook, Instagram, and our YouTube Channel to connect with us online.

CCLI License: A709164



Introduction

As we continue through the time after Epiphany, stories of the call to discipleship show us the implications of our baptismal calling to show Christ to the world. Jesus begins proclaiming the good news and calling people to repentance right after John the Baptist is arrested for preaching in a similar way. Knowing that John was later executed, we see at the very outset the cost of discipleship. Still, the two sets of brothers leave everything they have known and worked for all their lives to follow Jesus and fish for people.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Readings and Psalms

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalms 62:5-12

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20

Questions for Reflection

1. God gave Jonah and Nineveh a second chance. Who needs a second chance from you? (Jonah 3:1-5, 10)
2. When have you had to “wait in silence,” remembering the power and steadfast love belong to God? (Ps 62: 5-12)
3. How does knowing the certainty of God’s reign help us with present troubles in this life? (1 Cor 7:29-31)
4. God’s call is always into an uncertain future. What call, job or relationship are you pondering? (Mark 1:14-20)

Pray the Lord’s Prayer Together

Bless one another saying:

May God bless you this week and always. AMEN

