



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 this letter finds you doing well, staying safe, and enjoying the snowy weather! As the winter storm coated everything around us, I'm reminded of how God's love is a lot like snow. It covers everything!

This week we have a few updates for you. The first thing I wanted to draw your attention to is our monthly newsletter. In it you will find a lot of information about upcoming ministries and events at the parish, so make sure you [take a look!](#)

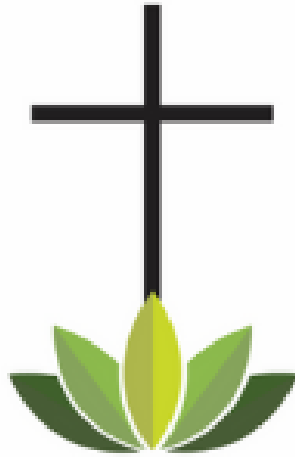
I also wanted to let you know that our temporary office administrator, Claire, has started her full-time job and will be working during the day. Rather than bringing on someone new we decided to ask Claire to work some evenings during the week while also coordinating with volunteers to get the office work done. Because of this, there will not be set office hours for the time being. If you need something, please call the office, and leave a message. You can also reach us through e-mail. If there is a pastoral emergency, you can contact me directly on my cell phone.

As always if you need anything, please don't hesitate to call or e-mail me. I do my best to respond as quickly as I can. Please note that Friday is my day off, and I try not to respond to e-mails or phone calls that day unless it is an emergency.

Blessings,
Gary



We Warmly Welcome You to



Milton Lutheran Parish

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

February 7, 2021

Fifth 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)

Prelude

John Warfel

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Gary Schaeffer



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: "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"

John Warfel

*1) Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!*

*6) To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.*

Scripture Reading- 1 Corinthians 9: 16-23

Lynnette Weisner

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel.

¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings.

Gospel Reading- Mark 1:29-39

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

²⁹As soon as [Jesus and the disciples] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³⁸He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Sermon "A day in the life..."

Pastor Gary Schaeffer

Song: "On Eagle's Wings"

John Warfel

*1) You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord,
who abide in this shadow for life,
say to the Lord: "My refuge,
my rock in whom I trust!"*

*Refrain:
And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand.*



*4) For to the angels God's given a command
to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up,
lest you dash your foot against a stone.*

*Final refrain:
And he will raise you up on eagle's wings,
bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun,
and hold you in the palm of his hand;
and hold you, hold you in the palm of his
hand.*

Prayers-

Lynnette Weisner

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.

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.

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars; beneath the sea;
within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water; by night and day;
across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

We thank you, O God.

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 love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering; within this meal;
among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus,
by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

Amen.



Lord's Prayer (Sung)

John Warfel

Our Father, which 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. Amen.

Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Communion Blessing

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Closing Song: "I Love to Tell the Story"

John Warfel

*1) I love to tell the story
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.
I love to tell the story,
because I know it's true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else would do.
Refrain.*

*Refrain:
I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.*

*3) I love to tell the story,
for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting
to hear it like the rest.
And when, in scenes of glory,
I sing the new, new song,
I'll sing the old, old story
that I have loved so long.
Refrain.*



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.

Sending

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

John Warfel

News and Announcements from the Parish

A Note from Pastor Gary . . .

Please take a look at our monthly newsletter! In it you will find a lot of information about upcoming ministries and events at the parish.

I also wanted to let you know that our temporary office administrator, Claire, has started her full-time job and will be working during the day. Rather than bringing on someone new we decided to ask Claire to work some evenings during the week while also coordinating with volunteers to get the office work done. Because of this, there will not be set office hours for the time being. If you need something, please call the office, and leave a message. You can also reach us through e-mail. If there is a pastoral emergency, you can contact me directly on my cell phone.

This Week at Milton Lutheran Parish . . .

Sun., Feb. 7

Happy Birthday Pat Muffly!

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., Feb. 8

Parish Council Meeting 7 PM via Zoom

Wed., Feb. 6

Bible Study is Posted on the Website and Social Media

Sat., Feb. 13

Happy Birthday Gini Kaar! Happy Birthday Sally Shrawder! Happy Birthday Harold Webb!

Sun., Feb 14

Happy Birthday Jay Bastian! Happy Birthday Nancy Brown! Happy Birthday Harrison Scott! Happy Valentines Day! Special Parking Lot Worship Service at Christ 11 AM

1st Worship Kit Pick-up at 11:00 A.M at Christ

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, 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, Don
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.

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Home Devotional- Feb. 8th-14th

Introduction

The Sundays after Epiphany begin with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Readings and Psalms

2 Kings 2:1-12- *Elijah taken up to heaven and succeeded by Elisha*

Psalms 50:1-6 - *Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth in glory. (Ps. 50:2)*

2 Corinthians 4:3-6- *God's light seen clearly in the face of Christ*

Mark 9:2-9- *Revelation of Christ as God's beloved Son*

Questions for Reflection

1. What does the nature of Elijah and Elisha's prophetic community teach us about communal ministry? (2 Kgs 2:1-12)
2. Who has been a mentor to you, and helped you through a transition? (2 Kgs 2:1-12)
3. When have you experienced light shining in the darkness, perhaps your darkness? (2 Cor 4:6)
4. Peter, James and John saw Jesus on the mountain top. Where do you see Jesus? (Mark 9:2-9)

Pray the Lord's Prayer Together

Bless one another saying: May God bless you this week and always. **AMEN**

Resources:

Opening prayer: Sundaysandseasons.com - Questions- Workingpreacher.org

