

Millcreek Lutheran Church
April 19, 2026
Third Sunday of Easter

A warm welcome to our church! We appreciate your presence here today and enjoy the new and the familiar faces as we gather together. If you are a visitor and believe that Christ is your Savior and present in the Sacrament, you are welcome to receive Holy Communion with us. All children who have received Communion instruction and have been approved to receive Holy Communion either here or at another church are also welcome to commune with us. Any child may come forward for a blessing. Visitors, please sign our guest book or fill out a visitor's card in the pew rack. We're glad you're here!

Prayer: Almighty God: In the vastness of your creation, you know the paths we walk daily. And on these paths your risen Son comes to walk with us! Give us clear vision, open hearts, and understanding minds, that we may know our risen Lord is with us. In his name we pray. **Amen.**

Serving you this morning:

Guest Pastor,	Pastor Joel Risser
Lay Leader,	Jennifer Rosengrant
Organist/Pianist,	Debbie Tice
Lay Reader,	Mary Ream
Ushers/Audio,	Scott Johnson & Frank Hoffman

The Service

Prelude of Entrance

Announcements

Prelude of Preparation

***Confession & Forgiveness**

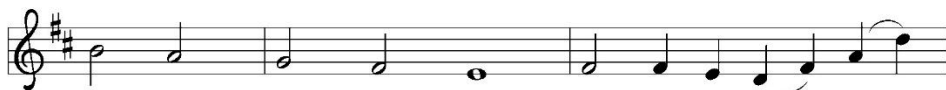
LBW p. 56

***Opening Hymn: I Know That My Redeemer Lives! vs. 1-4 LBW# 352**

I Know That My Redeemer Lives!



1 I know that my Re - deem - er lives! What com - fort
 2 He lives tri - um - phant from the grave; he lives e -
 3 He lives to grant me rich sup - ply; he lives to
 4 He lives to si - lence all my fears; he lives to



this sweet sen - tence gives! He lives, he lives, who
 ter - nal - ly to save; he lives ex - alt - ed,
 guide me with his eye; he lives to com - fort
 wipe a - way my tears; he lives to calm my



once was dead; he lives, my ev - er - liv - ing head!
 throned a - bove; he lives to rule his church in love.
 me when faint; he lives to hear my soul's com - plaint.
 trou - bled heart; he lives all bless - ings to im - part.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>5 He lives to bless me with his love;
 he lives to plead for me above;
 he lives my hungry soul to feed;
 he lives to help in time of need.</p> | <p>7 He lives and grants me daily breath;
 he lives, and I shall conquer death;
 he lives my mansion to prepare;
 he lives to bring me safely there.</p> |
| <p>6 He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
 he lives and loves me to the end;
 he lives, and while he lives, I'll sing;
 he lives, my prophet, priest, and king!</p> | <p>8 He lives, all glory to his name!
 He lives, my Savior, still the same;
 what joy this blest assurance gives:
 I know that my Redeemer lives!</p> |

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738-1799, alt.

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

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***Greetings:**

LBW p. 57, line 5

***The Kyrie**

LBW p. 57-58, line 6

Hymn of Praise, *This is the Feast*

LBW p. 60

Prayer of the Day (read in unison)

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Sermon

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: ³⁶“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸ Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

”The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 (read responsively)

¹ I love the Lord, who has heard my voice, and listened to my supplication,

² **for the Lord has given ear to me whenever I called.**

³ The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me; I came to grief and sorrow.

⁴ **Then I called upon the name of the Lord:**

“O Lord, I pray you, save my life.”

¹² How shall I repay the Lord for all the good things God has done for me?

¹³ **I will lift the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord**

¹⁴ I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God’s people.

¹⁵ **Precious in your sight, O Lord, is the death of your servants.**

¹⁶ O Lord, truly I am your servant;

I am your servant, the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.

¹⁷ **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the Lord.**

¹⁸ I will fulfill my vows to the Lord in the presence of all God’s people

¹⁹ **in the courts of the Lord’s house, in the midst of you, O
Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23

¹⁷ If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person’s work, live in fear during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the

heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel: Luke 24:13-35**

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the twenty-fourth chapter.

¹³ Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Holy Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Alfred H. Ackley

Alfred H. Ackley

1. I serve a ris-en Sav-ior, He's in the world to-day; I know that He is
2. In all the world a-round me I see His lov-ing care, And tho' my heart grows
3. Re-joice, re-joice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing E - ter - nal hal-le -

liv - ing, what - ev - er men may say; I see His hand of mer - cy, I
wea - ry, I nev - er will de - spair; I know that He is lead - ing thro'
lu - jahs to Je - sus Christ the King! The Hope of all who seek Him, the

hear His voice of cheer, And just the time I need Him, He's al-ways near.
all the storm-y blast, The day of His ap - pear-ing will come at last.
Help of all who find, None oth-er is so lov - ing, so good and kind.

Refrain
He lives, He lives, Christ Je-sus lives to-day! He walks with me and
He lives, He lives,

talks with me a-long life's nar-row way. He lives, He lives, sal -
He lives, He lives,

va-tion to im-part! You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.

Choir Anthem

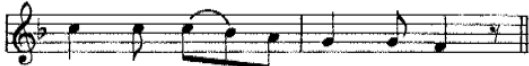
8

Christ Is Risen As He Said

CONGREGATION PART

TIMOTHY DUDLEY - SMITH JOHN CARTER

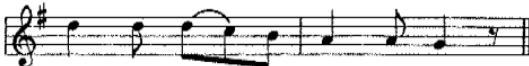
CHOIR: **CONGREGATION and CHOIR:**



1. Christ is risen as he said, Christ the first - born from the dead:
See, the stone is rolled away, see the place — where Je - sus lay.

2. Lord of life, who lives again, Lord of lords, — to rule and reign:
Every tongue confess him now, ev - ery knee — be - fore him bow.


3. Christ who died our life to win, Christ has con - quered death and sin:
Now is all his warfare done, now is ev - ery tri - umph won.



4. Son of God, his life he gave, Son of man, — to seek and save:
Risen now, the Son who died, ris'n, as - cend - ed, glo - ri - fied.

CONGREGATION and CHOIR:

slowing

ENDING: 

ris'n, as - cend - ed, glo - ri - fied.

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*The Prayers

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

A brief silence.

Living Savior, just as you journeyed with the disciples to Emmaus, accompany us on our journey of faith. Gather us at your table, that we recognize you in the breaking of the bread. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Almighty God, you provide for the needs of all creation. Bless the fields that are being prepared for planting, and send favorable weather so that the soil may yield an abundant harvest. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of justice, where leaders abuse power, confront them and call them to repentance. Where there is corruption, bring integrity; where there is violence, sow peace. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing Savior, your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. Heal those who are sick. Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Gracious One, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Unite us in genuine love for one another and uphold this community in your name. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal Light, we give thanks for all who have nurtured your church's life in ages past. Bring us at last with them to the brightness of your glorious presence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving (spoken) LBW p.68

***The Preface** LBW p.68

The Sanctus: *Holy, Holy, Holy LBW p.69

***Words of Institution** LBW p.69

***The Lord's Prayer** LBW p.71

Communion of the Faithful

***Communion Blessing** LBW p.72

Post-Communion Canticle, *Thank the Lord LBW p.72

***Post-Communion Prayer** LBW p.74

***Closing Hymn *I Know That My Redeemer Lives!* vs. 5-8** LBW# 352

***Blessing:**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, † bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

Moments of Meditation (seated)

***Dismissal** LBW p.74

Postlude



*The flowers & bulletins are given in honor & glory
of God and in honor of Esther Keener's birthday,
by her family.*

Commemoration

When we are baptized, we are baptized into the body of Christ.

We understand this body to be the communion of saints, a diverse witness of men & women across time and space. Throughout its history, the church has sought to lift up Christians who have been unique, exemplary people of faith.



Today we recognize brothers Olavus Petri, priest, and Laurentius Petri, Archbishop of Uppsala, renewers of the Church.

Olavus Petri (born 1493) and his brother Laurentius (born 1499) were the principal leaders of the Lutheran movement in Sweden. Both studied at Wittenberg, where they were influenced by Martin Luther. Olavus translated the New Testament into Swedish, published a catechism, & published a Swedish hymnal. In 1540 he resisted the king, who wished complete royal control of the Church, and was condemned to death, but later pardoned. He died 19 April 1552.

Laurentius became a professor at the university of Uppsala. He was ordained to the priesthood in 1527 and made Archbishop of Uppsala in 1531. The king had wished to abolish bishops but was persuaded otherwise by Laurentius, who thus saved the Swedish episcopate, which continues unbroken to this day. In 1541 the Petri brothers published a complete Bible in Swedish, and also a revised liturgy with increased congregational participation. Laurentius died in 1573.



Our Mission:
Motivating Lives Through Christ and our
community, our congregation, & ourselves.

Interim Pastor: Rev. Frank Terhune
Cell: 610-751-5472

Email: frankterhune@gmail.com

In Office: Tues. & Fri. 9am-12pm

www.millcreeklutheran.com

Secretary: Jennifer Miller Email: secretary@millcreeklutheran.com

Lay Leader: Jennifer Rosengrant

Sunday, April 19, 2026

You can **listen to the worship service** over the phone patch at **10:15 AM**. Just dial **717-628-0125**. You will hear a message welcoming you to Millcreek. At that point you are connected to our church sound system, so just stay on the line. You may also watch the service later on You Tube.



Motivating Lives Through Christ and our Community

We will once again be holding summer tutoring sessions at the church beginning June 15th through July 17th for ELCO students in grades K through 5. If you can please share with family, friends and neighbors. There are fliers in the narthex.

The Millcreek BB Gun Team is headed to Nationals this year in July. Some of our own church kids will be participating. Daniel Long is the coach of the team. It is an amazing accomplishment as this is only the 2nd year competing for the team. They are currently fundraising for their trip. There are some local events coming up if you are interested or you can give a monetary donation. There is information in the Narthex. If you would like to give a monetary donation please place in an envelope marked Dan Long and we will make sure the club receives any donations.

Motivating Lives Through Christ and our Congregation

FLOWER AND BULLETIN SIGNUP SHEETS for 2026 are available on the bulletin board in the narthex. Flowers-\$30, Bulletins- \$10.

SPRING FUNDRAISER

We will once again be holding a pulled pork dinner fundraiser on Saturday May 2, 2026, from 11am-1pm. Tickets are available after the service in the Narthex. We are asking each individual to sell at least 10 tickets. Our GOAL FOR 2026 is to SELL 450 TICKETS. Tickets are \$15 and include pulled pork, a roll, baked beans, cheesy potatoes and cookies. Sign-ups for event day help and cookies are on the table in the Narthex. We had a FUN time last year and look forward to another great day in 2026.

UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE & EVENTS:

- Sunday April 19- communion service with Pastor Risser
- Sunday April 26- communion service with Pastor Risser
- Saturday May 2- MLC BBQ Fundraiser

Motivating Lives Through Christ and Ourselves

WE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) WITH CARDS & PRAYERS:

Liz Leibig
34 W. Park Ave.
Newmanstown, PA 17073

PRAYER LIST: Please make requests to Jen M. by noon Wed. each week:
secretary@millcreeklutheran.com or call: 610-589-2570. *Please provide updates when our prayers have been answered, so this list can be kept current.*

MILLCREEK MEMBERS:

Debbie Hartman	Violet Hepler	Liz Leibig
Portia Lindermath	Brian Ream	Norm Sharp
Gerry Strickler	Stewart Wolf	Aaron Yiengst
Devon Yiengst	Michael Yiengst, Jr.	Greer Zellers

NON-MEMBERS:

Gary Beatty, friend of Debbie Hartman
JoAnn Deahl, Brandy Gahres' mother
Linda McMullan, sister in law of Greta McMullan
Jennifer Clinton, daughter of Renee & Layne Strickler
Alethea Grissinger, friend of Deb Buffington
Kevin Kochinsky, family friend of Stephanie Seldomridge
Pastor Frank Terhune
CMDR Stanley Kahl-USNR , Deployed ,Epic Fury for 60 Days
Ann Shallcross, sister of Stephanie Gahres
Kaylee Gordon, family member of Jamie Keener

The Way of Resurrection

In some Bibles the subheading for today's gospel reading is "The Road to Emmaus." Although this is a suitable description, we could also call it "The Way to Emmaus." On the road or way to Emmaus, two disciples encounter the risen Christ. Notice that as Jesus accompanies them, he meets them where they are, holds their heartache, questions their assumptions, challenges their perspectives, and ultimately guides them deep into God's word. All this happens on the way!

Only one of the two companions on the way with Jesus is named: Cleopas. Why is the other disciple's identity a mystery? Luke may be using a clever storytelling device, one designed for readers to see themselves as part of the narrative. In that case, you may be the unnamed disciple in this Jesus story! (Aren't we all disciples on the way, accompanied by Jesus on the journey of Easter faith?)

Eventually, after Jesus blesses and breaks bread at a meal, the two disciples finally recognize him. Their hearts are kindled with faith and activated by the word of God encountered on the way with Jesus. It is no surprise that they hit the road again, racing back to Jerusalem to tell the others what just happened on the way.

From the very beginning, the way of faith in Christ has been a movement of resurrection promise. This movement has never stopped sharing the grace and love of God with everyone it encounters along the way. We are called to join this movement, with all our heartaches, assumptions, and misunderstandings. We are not people with all the answers, but sojourners or pilgrims on the way.

On the Road to Emmaus

Then their eyes were opened and they recognized him.
Luke 24:31a (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 24:13-35 (NIV).



W X Q T T I Z H E G H W Z O R
V O D H L I F G J S E C R O E
Q P E A Y N I Q I H Y Q T G U
C E P N A B J L X D E I A T X
T N Y K D R O I E E S L Y U H
J E I S E O Z K F I L C K G R
I D S V F A L L V I G R R J X
B P K T T A H T V K U U S K E
D E R W W B R E A D N C U F I
U S L O C L E O P A S I F V E
O T D I P H F V S C M F F I A
W T I M E H I C J I O I E C D
J M S M C V E Y K J S E R Z G
E M M A U S E T Y L E D P C O
J V K V I D K H J E S U S R Z

WALKED
MOSES
THANKS
CLEOPAS

JESUS
BREAD
FOOLISH
OPENED

SUFFER
BELIEVE
PROPHET
VILLAGE

CRUCIFIED
VISITOR
EYES
EMMAUS