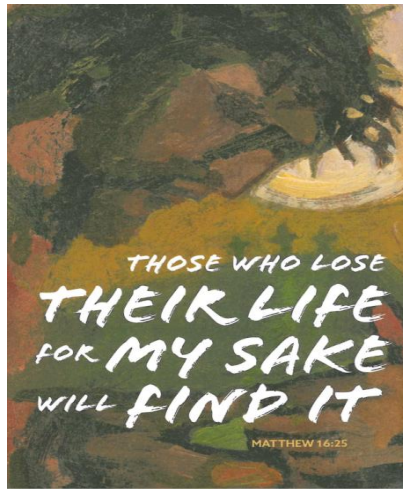




Millcreek Lutheran Church
August 30, 2026
Fourteenth Sunday After Pentecost

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, we hope you will consider joining us- knowing that you can expect to find people who love God and who want to know and love you. 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, whose Son calls disciples who are willing to lay aside personal values for commitment to him: Convince us that living for our own selfish ends is a losing investment, that we may forget ourselves in your service and experience the joy of living for you. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

Serving you this morning:

Interim Pastor,	Pastor Frank Terhune
Lay Leader,	Jennifer Rosengrant
Organist/Pianist,	Debbie Tice
Lay Reader,	Rachel Mock
Ushers/Audio,	Scott Johnson & Frank Hoffman

The Service

Prelude of Entrance:

Announcements

Prelude of Preparation:

***Opening Hymn:**

Jesus Calls Us

NCH #580

Mrs. Cecil F. Alexander

Jesus Calls Us

William H. Jude

580

1. Je-sus calls us; o'er the tu-mult Of our life's wild, rest-less sea,
2. Je-sus calls us from the wor-ship Of the vain world's gold-en store,
3. In our joys and in our sor-rows, Days of toil and hours of ease,
4. Je-sus calls us; by Thy mer-cies, Sav-ior may we hear Thy call,

Day by day His sweet voice sound-eth, Say-ing, "Chris-tian, fol-low Me."
From each i-dol that would keep us, Say-ing, "Chris-tian, love Me more."
Still He calls, in cares and pleas-ures, "Chris-tian, love Me more than these."
Give our hearts to Thy o-bedi-ence, Serve and love Thee best of all.

*Greetings:

LBW p. 57, line 5

Prayer of the Day (read in unison)

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Special Music: Brothers in Grace, part 1

*Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the sixteenth chapter.

¹³ Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" ¹⁴ And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." ¹⁵ He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" ¹⁶ Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." ¹⁷ And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." ²⁰ Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

The Sermon

Special Music: Brothers in Grace, part 2

*The Prayers

With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

For the church in every land, that its mission and ministry is anchored in the love of Christ. When threats or challenges arise, teach us to take up our cross and follow you in faith. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the well-being of your creation, that all that lives and grows on the earth may thrive. Bring relief to areas ravaged by droughts, floods, fires, storms, and other disasters. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the nations and all in authority, that they seek to live in peace with one another. Bless the work of international and diplomatic organizations and all who work to bring peace to a world scarred by violence. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For all those in need, that they be satisfied. Ensure all your children have safe access to food, water, shelter, and medical care. Bring healing to all who bear wounds in body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the congregation gathered here to serve you, that they remain strong in faith and united in purpose. Guide our committees, study groups, and other meetings toward honesty and humility, always seeking genuine love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

For the faithful departed, that their witness continues to strengthen and guide the church. Renew our hope in your promises in this life and the life to come. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Closing Hymn

Lead On, O King Eternal

LBW# 495

*Dismissal

LBW p.74

Postlude

*The flowers & bulletins are given in
honor & glory of God.*



Lead On, O King Eternal!



- 1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir-ring drums,
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862–1917

Music: LANCASHIRE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879



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, August 30, 2026

You can **listen to the worship service** over the phone patch at **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

EVANGELISM IN-GATHERING UPDATE:

Don't forget to bring in-gathering items to church by Sept. 6th. The evangelism committee
will pack and deliver to the collection point. Thanks again for your generosity in this project!

MUSIC IN MEMORIAL PARK:

Millcreek Community Group Presents the 2026 Karen Krater Memorial Season:

- Aug. 30th- Jeff Krick Jr.- A must0see Elvis impersonator!

In case of rain, to be held at Living Stones Church (formerly Millcreek Community Center)
229 E. Main St. Newmans town.

THE LEBANON SINGING CEDARS CHORUS will present their annual
barbershop style show, "The Magic of Broadway" on Saturday, September 19 at 3:00 PM
at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 1500 Quentin Road, Lebanon. The show will be
hosted by local radio personality Laura Lebeau and will feature guest quartet 2026
International Champions "GQ". Admission is \$15. Contact 717-821-5298 or Roy Hoglund
717-228-8175 for tickets.

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.

UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE & EVENTS:

**** August services will be held in the multi-purpose room****

- Sunday, August 30- 930am regular service
- Sunday, September 6- 9:30am communion service
- Sunday, September 13- Rally Day- 9am Sunday School, 10:15am communion
service, potluck picnic after service
- Sunday, September 20- 9am Sunday School, 10:15am regular service
- Sunday, September 27- 9am Sunday School, 10:15am regular service

SUMMER MUSIC:

August 30 -Based in south-central Pennsylvania, *Brothers In Grace* has ministered throughout the Mid-Atlantic region, delighting audiences with their unique Southern Gospel style music and tight harmony. The members of the quartet feel blessed that the Lord has enabled them to serve Him through a manner they love the best, and which provides a message of encouragement and hope to the listener.

Brothers In Grace has performed with some of gospel music's best known artists, as well as prominent speakers. Since their inception in 1994, they have recorded 11 projects and produced three concert videos. The quartet can tailor a performance to meet your specific needs, including worship services and concerts for churches, community groups, camp meetings and special occasions. They offer a wide range of musical styles, from traditional to Southern Gospel. You will be blessed with the ministry which the quartet has to offer



September 6- Morgan Hoffman

TOP OF THE HILL CLEAN UP Saturday, September 12, 2026 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Please note the time change. The yearbook lists the time as 10am; the time has been moved up an hour. Additional jobs may be added to the list, but this is the current list from which you can select a task. Please contact Nancy Deiter with your selection. email: Indeiter@comcast.net Phone: 717-866-4665 or 717-383-0899

- ~~1. Enlarge cut our circle around evergreen tree to the left of the Sunday School entrance & lay mulch.~~
- ~~2. Enlarge cut out circle around the little evergreen tree known as "David" that is off the area to the tractor room & lay mulch.~~
- ~~3. Clean & weed the bell/cross outdoor area.~~
4. Sweep furnace room.
- ~~5. Sweep & tidy garbage area outside the kitchen.~~
6. Clean & "spruce up" the council room.
- ~~7. Cut off low & dead branches of maple trees off patio area & pick up branches~~
8. Pull out half dead rosebush in front corner of main entrance & plant a new appropriate bush.
9. Pull out & replace low bushes on either side of front walkway at main entrance.
- ~~10. Weed stone beds around all sides of building.~~
11. Spray stone beds with weed killer once they have been weeded.
- ~~12. Clean & organize janitor's closet.~~
13. Take Christmas lights off evergreen tree to left of the building & restring so it's ready for Christmas. The lights are available.
14. Clean the brass standing candelabras so they are wax-free & ready for Christmas season.
15. Move outdoor patio furniture back against the wall in preparation for winter.
- ~~16. Give the kitchen & side room floors a good cleaning.~~

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN: We are happy to share that *\$129,500 has been pledged toward our goal of \$200,000 in our Empowering the Future Capital Campaign.* We will be sharing updates monthly and watch for some additional tax saving/giving opportunities in the coming months. We are fortunate to have a wonderful church family committed to helping us achieve our goals!

RALLY DAY: Mark your calendars for our annual Rally Day, Sunday September 13th - Connecting and Reconnecting with God's Family. All children are invited for 9am story, games & snack. 10:15am Communion Service will be outdoors, weather permitting. Please bring a lawn chair and a covered dish for lunch after service (MLC will provide the hot dogs & drinks). Lots of fun to be had: The Giant Slip N Slide. Trivia. Giant Connect Four. Giant Jenga. And a Foam Blaster on the slip n slide! We hope you and your family can join us! You are encouraged to bring along a board game as well!

LARGE NARTHEX DISPLAY CASE: Do you enjoy showing your creative side? We are looking for a volunteer to assume the role of changing/updating the large display case in the Narthex. Please see Jen Rosengrant or Dara Wolfe for details if interested.

MLC FALL FUNDRAISER: We are looking for 5-6 volunteers to be part of our fundraising committee. We will be meeting beginning in September to schedule a fall fundraiser. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

CHOIR: As the summer draws to a close, it's time to think about fresh starts. The choir will begin on Thursday nights at 630 beginning September 17. Even if you just want to check it out, this is a great time to join us. We have room and welcome all who would like to sing. We sing most Sundays, but again no commitment is needed. We are here to enhance the service with appropriate music. Come and join us!

Motivating Lives Through Christ and Ourselves

WE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) WITH CARDS & PRAYERS:
Ann Welling, Rm. # 238
Country Meadows
1800 Tulpehocken Rd.
Wyomissing, PA 19610

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:

Violet Hepler	Liz Leibig	Michael Yiengst, Jr	Stewart Wolf
Portia Linderemuth	Brian Ream	Devon Yiengst	Norm Sharp
Gerry Strickler	Julie Strickler	Aaron Yiengst	Greer Zellers

NON-MEMBERS:
Gary Beatty, brother in law 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
Kaylee Gordon, family member of Jamie Keener
Rev. Althea Seidel
Candy Hibshman, friend of Rachel Mock
Laura Weist, friend of Debbie Tice

Take Up Your Cross

Jesus issues a difficult invitation to his disciples: "Take up [your] cross and follow me" (Matthew 16:24). While the disciples may have hoped for a Messiah who would set the world right through satisfying displays of force and strength, Jesus offers them a different vision. His new kingdom or reign will not be built on traditional concepts of power and glory. It is instead a kingdom centered on the cross.

Today we, too, may long for a mighty Messiah to put the world back in order, throw down corrupt rulers from their thrones, and take away suffering once and for all. And like Peter, we may find ourselves crying out in disbelief, "God forbid it, Lord!" (v. 22) when Jesus redirects our gaze to the cross.

The cross reminds us that following Jesus requires nothing less than our whole lives. To follow Jesus is to love our neighbors with a self-sacrificing love, to sit in the discomfort of another's struggle, and to be willing to lay down our own power and privilege to see the world from our neighbor's point of view. Following Jesus requires practicing courage as we show up for one another in the least glamorous moments of life: in the hospital room, at the gravesite, in the living rooms of the brokenhearted, in the streets marching for justice. To follow Jesus is to open our hearts to the world's pain and to practice loving others with God's generous love, trusting that there is always more than enough.

Putting love of God and neighbor above power, prestige, and comfort is countercultural. It might even get us into trouble. But through Jesus' own life, death, and resurrection, we are freed to enter into the world's suffering, trusting that God's love always gets the last word and that we will indeed be brought to new life through God's resurrection power.

Ten Rules for Christian Living – Romans 9:12-21 According to St. Paul

- 9 Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good
- 10 Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor.
- 11 Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord.
- 12 Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer.
- 13 Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.
- 14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.
- 15 Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep.
- 16 Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are.
- 17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. 18 If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. 19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord."
- 20 Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." 21 Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Grace UCC is Sponsoring
TASTE & SEE
Community Chili Cook-Off
Saturday, September 19, '26
@ 12-Noon

Find out who is Richland's 2026
CHILI COOKING CHAMPION!

NO CHARGE to participate!

Register by **September 15th** by calling **717-866-5946**.
Then prepare a large pot of your best chili for the event.

A **Top Prize** of **\$50** will be **Awarded!**
Come Taste & Vote & See Who Wins!

Don't have a champion chili recipe?
Join us on **Sept. 19th** at 22 Church St. to
Taste & Vote for your favorite Chili,
then ***See*** who takes home the prize.

Mark Your Calendar Now!

Peter's Confession of Christ

"But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Matthew 16:15 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 16:13-20 (NIV)



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

CHRIST
BLESSED
LIVING
JOHN

EARTH
KINGDOM
ROCK
HEAVEN

SON
CHURCH
FATHER
PETER

PROPHETS
GATES
HADES
KEYS

PEOPLE
BAPTIST
ELIJAH
JEREMIAH