

Heavenly Hosts

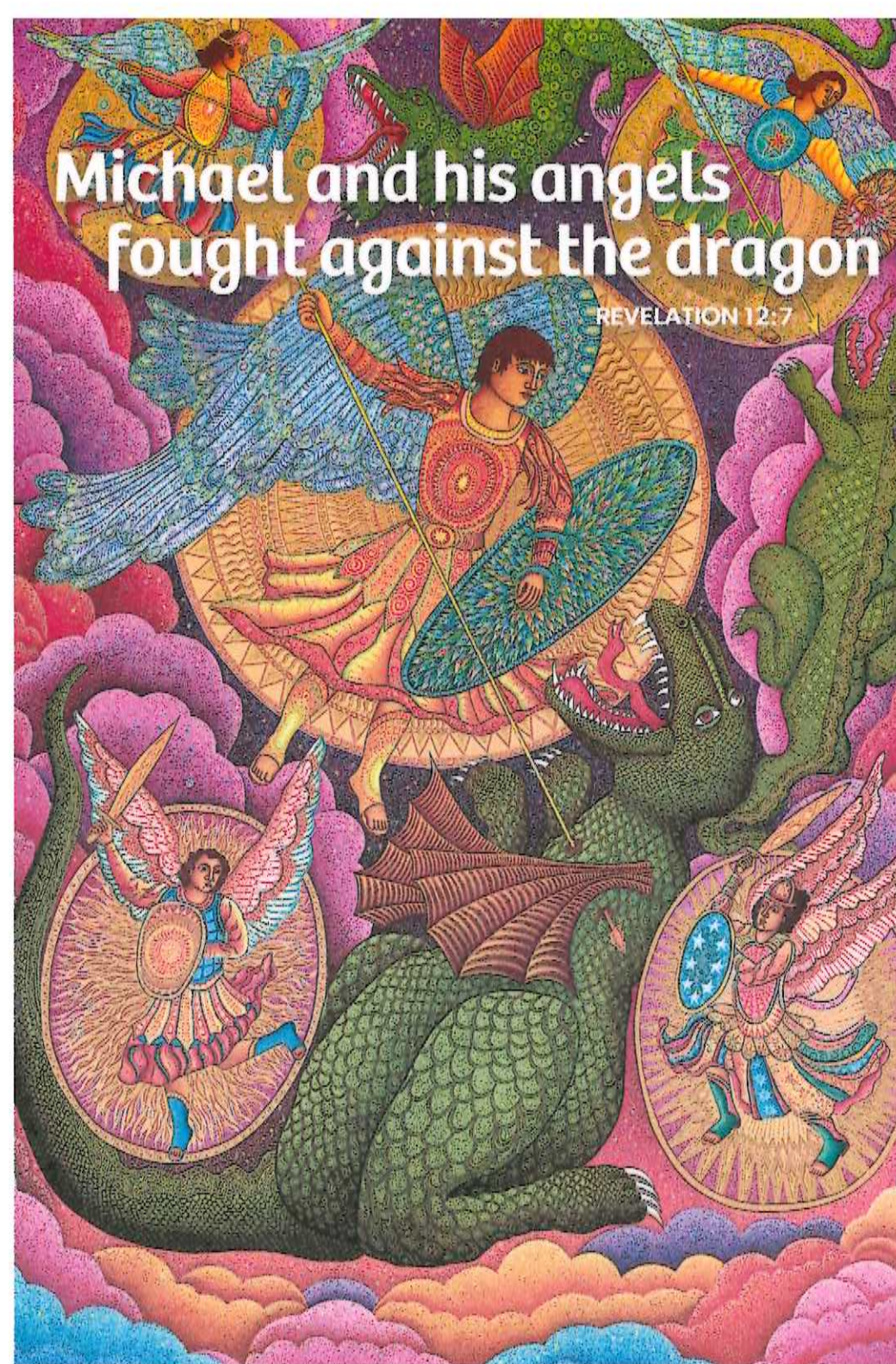
When angels show up in the Bible, there is a good chance they have arrived to stir things up. They are a sign that a surprise is in store and that God is nearby. In scripture, angels are messengers of God. They protect us, guide us, minister to us, and point us toward God's power and might.

The angels we meet in today's reading from Revelation are not porcelain cherubs to put on a shelf. They are mighty, battle-hardened warriors. It is hard not to be swept up in John's mystical vision of this great battle in heaven. It is like a good fantasy novel: an army of angels, led by Michael, faces off against a great red fiery dragon with seven heads and ten horns.

This struggle is not confined to an ancient past or a distant future. It occurs whenever and wherever the faithful face down the powers of injustice, sin, and the forces that defy God. The seventy sent out by Jesus had done just that. Where do we see this confrontation play out in our world today? How might we equip ourselves to join in the cause?

The ultimate victory over evil is won not by a human army but by a celestial one. The dragon knows its time is short because love always wins. We do not have to save the world by our own power because God and all the company of heaven do it for us. Through the death and resurrection of Jesus, God has already won. As Jesus tells his first followers, "Your names are written in heaven."

Michael and All Angels is sometimes described as a festival of strong will and courage. Positioned just a few days after the fall equinox as the days become shorter and colder, it's a reminder that we do not have to face the enemy alone. Michael and his angels in Revelation demonstrate that Christ's love and protection accompany us every step of the way.



Millcreek Lutheran Church
19th Sunday after Pentecost
September 29, 2024

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, fill out a visitor's card and introduce yourself to Pastor Terhune as you leave. We're glad you're here!

Prayer: Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The Service

Prelude of Entrance
Announcements
Prelude of Preparation
*Confession and Forgiveness, Page 56
*Opening Hymn: **No. 530 LBW (green), *Jesus Shall Reign***
*Greetings: Page 57, line 5
*Hymn of Praise: ***Feast of Victory***, Page 60
*Prayer of the Day: On the lesson insert (read in unison)
Senior Choir and Children's Choir Anthem:
All Night, All Day, Angels Watching Over Me
The First Reading
The Psalmody: On the lesson insert (read responsively)

The Second Reading
*The Alleluia Verse: Page 62, line 14
*The Gospel
*Responses: Page 63, lines 15 & 16
The Sermon
Hymn of the Day: **No. 175 LBW (green), *Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones***
*Nicene Creed: Page 64
*The Prayer: Page 76
*The Greeting of Peace: Page 66, line 23
*The Great Thanksgiving: Pages 68-71, lines 28, 29 & 31
*The Lord's Prayer Page 76
Holy Communion (Continuous)
*Post Communion Prayer: Page 74, line 40
*Benediction
*Dismissal: Page 74, lines 42 & 43
*Departing Hymn: **No. 144 NCH (red), *Blessed Assurance***
Moments of Meditation: Congregation seated
Postlude
*Please stand

Serving You This Morning:

Pastor, Rev. Franklin Terhune
Lay Leader, Susan Long
Organist/Pianist, Debra Tice
Lay Reader, Cheryl Batdorf
Ushers, Audio, Frank Hoffman and Scott Johnson

The altar flowers are given to the honor and glory of God and in memory of Eileen and Diane Sites by a friend.

The bulletins are given to the honor and glory of God and in memory of my friends Eileen and Diane Sites.

Thank you to the Keener children for designing the sign welcoming Rev. Terhune to Millcreek this morning.



Michael and All Angels

September 29, 2024

Everlasting God, you have wonderfully established the ministries of angels and mortals. Mercifully grant that as Michael and the angels contend against the cosmic forces of evil, so by your direction they may help and defend us here on earth, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God whom we worship and praise with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, now and forever. Amen.

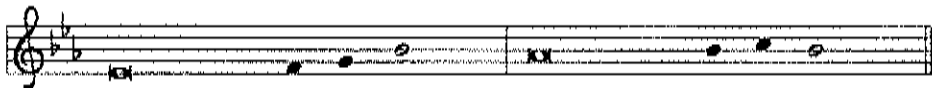
Daniel 10:10-14; 12:1-3

A hand touched me and roused me to my hands and knees. ¹¹He said to me, "Daniel, greatly beloved, pay attention to the words that I am going to speak to you. Stand on your feet, for I have now been sent to you." So while he was speaking this word to me, I stood up trembling. ¹²He said to me, "Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words have been heard, and I have come because of your words. ¹³But the prince of the kingdom of Persia opposed me twenty-one days. So Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, and I left him there with the prince of the kingdom of Persia, ¹⁴and have come to

help you understand what is to happen to your people at the end of days. For there is a further vision for those days."

^{12:1}"At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ²Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

Psalm 103:1-5, 20-22; tone 4



Bless the LORD, ¹O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless God's ¹holy name.

²Bless the LORD, ¹O my soul,
and forget not
¹all God's benefits—

³who forgives ¹all your sins
and heals all ¹your diseases;

continued

Psalm, continued

⁴who redeems your life
¹from the grave
and crowns you with
steadfast ¹love and mercy;
⁵who satisfies your desires
¹with good things
so that your youth is renewed
¹like an eagle's.
²⁰Bless the LORD, you angels,
you mighty ones

who ¹do God's bidding,
who obey
the voice ¹of God's word.
²¹Bless the LORD,
all you ¹hosts of God,
you servants who ¹do God's will.
²²Bless the LORD,
all you works of God, in all places
¹where God rules;
bless the LORD, ¹O my soul.

Revelation 12:7-12

War broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, ⁸but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. ⁹The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him.

¹⁰Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming,

"Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God
and the authority of his Messiah,

for the accuser of our comrades
has been thrown down,
who accuses them day and night
before our God.

¹¹But they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb
and by the word of their
testimony,
for they did not cling to life even in
the face of death.

¹²Rejoice then, you heavens
and those who dwell in them!
But woe to the earth and the sea,
for the devil has come down
to you
with great wrath,
because he knows that his time
is short!"

Luke 10:17-20

The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" ¹⁸He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and

scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

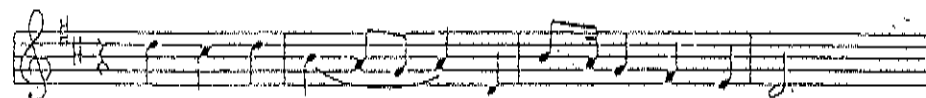
TODAY'S READINGS September 29, 2024 (Michael and All Angels)

Volume 55, Number 4

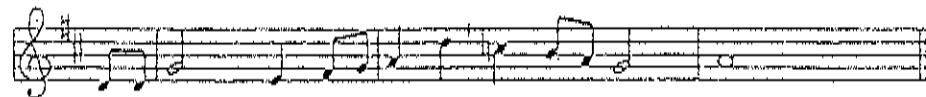
Next Sunday's Readings: Genesis 2:18-24; Psalm 8; Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12; Mark 10:2-16.

TODAY'S READINGS (ISSN 1089-0166, USPS 009626) is published quarterly by Augsburg Fortress, 411 Washington Avenue North, Third Floor, Minneapolis, MN, 55401. Postmaster: postage paid in St. Paul, MN and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Today's Readings, Augsburg Fortress Publishers, P.O. Box 1553, Minneapolis, MN 55440-8750. Printed in U.S.A. Price per weekly part \$4.75 per 100 copies; price in Canada subject to exchange rates. Minimum order 50 copies of each issue; all orders must be in multiples of 50. Copyright © 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Readings from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha © 1988 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Prayer of the day and psalm from Evangelical Lutheran Worship © 2006, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Psalm tone accompaniment in Psalter for Worship, Year B (Augsburg Fortress, 2008). Please visit our website at augsburgfortress.org. Lectionary year B.

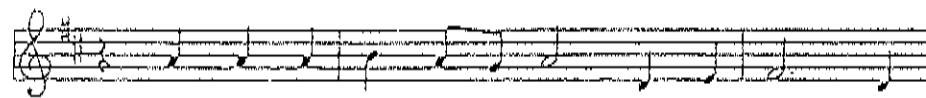
The Feast of Victory



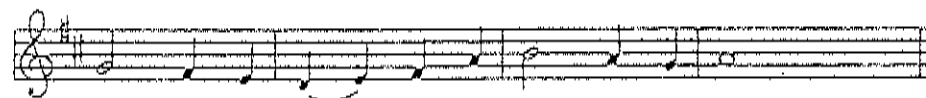
Ⓒ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Ⓓ Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



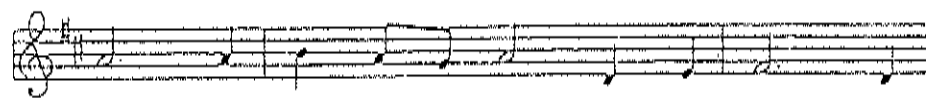
blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



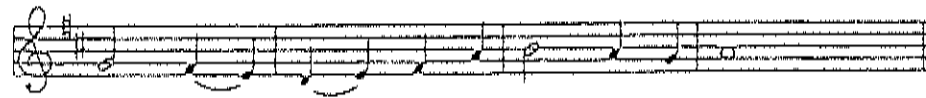
Ⓒ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



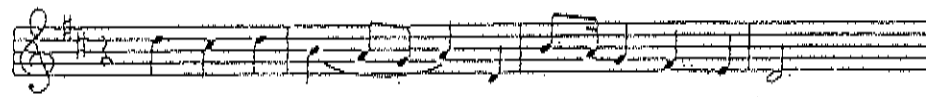
Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



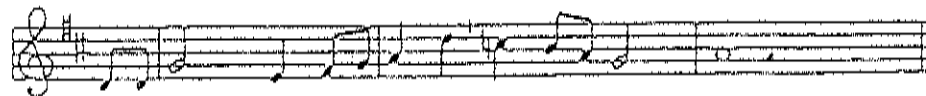
Ⓓ Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



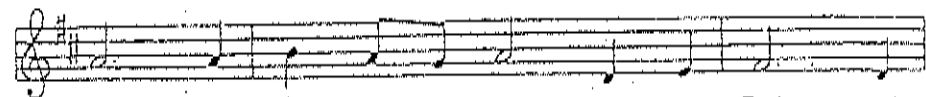
hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



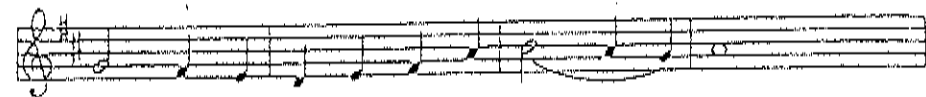
Ⓒ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Ⓓ Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



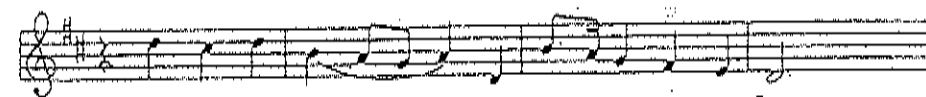
join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion:



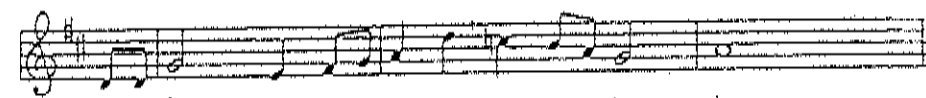
Bless - ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to



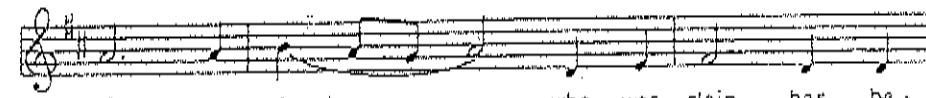
God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - - - - - men.



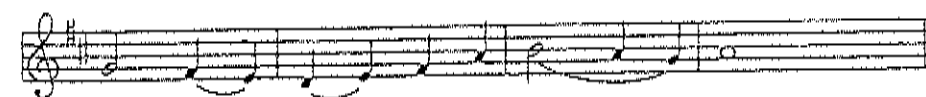
Ⓒ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



Ⓓ For the Lamb who was slain has be -



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia.



Ⓒ This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God.



Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

530

Jesus Shall Reign

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun Does its suc -
 2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, And prais - es
 3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue Dwell on his
 4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: The pris - 'ners

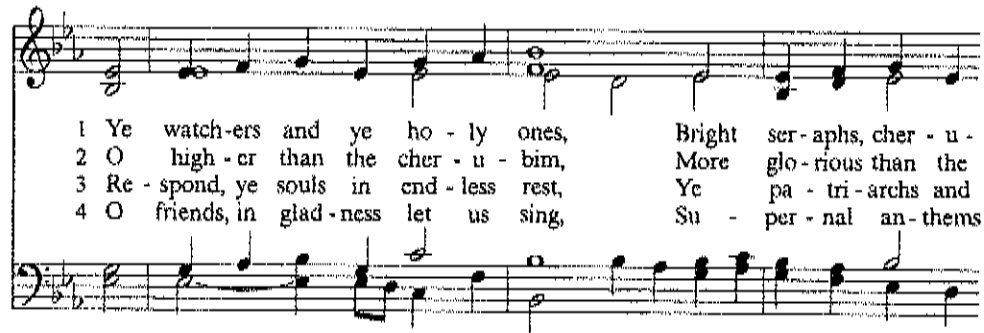
ces - sive jour - neys run; His king - dom stretch from
 throng to crown his head; His name like sweet per -
 love with sweet - est song; And in - fant voic - es
 leap to lose their chains, The wea - ry find e -

shore to shore, Till moons shall wax and wane no more.
 fume shall rise With ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
 shall pro - claim Their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
 ter - nal rest, And all who suf - fer want are blest.

5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring
 Honors peculiar to our King;
 Angels descend with songs again,
 And earth repeat the loud amen.

175

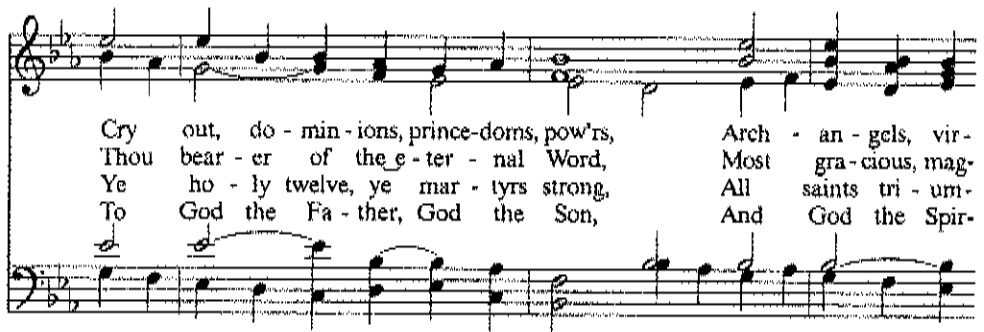
Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones



1 Ye watch-ers and ye ho - ly ones, Bright ser - aphs, cher - u -
 2 O high - er than the cher - u - bim, More glo - rious than the
 3 Re - spond, ye souls in end - less rest, Ye pa - tri - archs and
 4 O friends, in glad - ness let us sing, Su - per - nal an - thems



bim, and thrones, Raise the glad strain: "Al - le - lu - ia!"
 ser - a - phim, Lead their prais - es; "Al - le - lu - ia!"
 proph - ets blest: "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!"
 ech - o - ing: "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!"



Cry out, do - min - ions, prince - doms, pow'rs, Arch - an - gels, vir -
 Thou bear - er of the e - ter - nal Word, Most gra - cious, mag -
 Ye ho - ly twelve, ye mar - tyrs strong, All saints tri - um -
 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, And God the Spir -



tues, an - gel choirs:
 ni - fy the Lord: "Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!"
 phant, raise the song:
 it, Three in One:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

© Text: J. Athelstan Riley, 1858-1945
 Tune: Geistliche Küchengesänge, Köln, 1623

LASSY UNS ERFREUHN
 888 KRN and alto/tenors

Blessed Assurance

Fanny J. Crosby

Phoebe P. Knapp

1. Bless-ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O, what a fore-taste of
 2. Per-fect sub - mis-sion, per-fect de - light, Vi-sions of rap-ture now
 3. Per-fect sub - mis-sion, all is at rest, I in my Sav-ior am

gio - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God,
 burst on my sight; An - gels de - scend - ing, bring from a - bove
 hap - py and blest; Watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove,

Refrain

Born of His Spir-it, washed in His blood.
 Ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love. This is my sto - ry, this is my
 Filled with His good - ness, lost in His love.

song, Praising my Sav-ior all the day long; This is my sto - ry,

this is my song, Praising my Sav - ior all the day long.

About Michael and All Angels (Michaelmas)

Sunday, September 29 is the lesser festival set aside (since the 400s) for Saint Michael and All Angels. In Jewish angelology, Michael is one of the four archangels (along with Gabriel, Raphael, and Uriel) who carry out the will of God. The focus of the observations of September 29 eventually broadened to include thanksgiving for all the angels, who are seen as messengers of the word and will of God.



On this day, the church ponders the richness and variety of God's created order and the limits of human knowledge. The Scriptures speak of angels (the word means "messengers") who worship God in heaven. Angels speak for God on earth in both testaments. We remember angels most vividly as they appear to the shepherds and announce the birth of the Savior as well as at the

Empty Tomb. Michael is an angel whose name appears in Daniel (chapters 10–12) leading the faithful dead to God's throne on the day of resurrection. In Revelation, Michael fights in a cosmic battle against Satan, which is why artistic renderings of Michael often show him slaying a dragon.

As it falls near the equinox, Michaelmas (a British name for September 29) is associated with the beginning of autumn and the shortening of days. Enjoying some traditional foods is one way we can mark Michaelmas in our lives. The legend goes that when St. Michael threw Satan out of Heaven, as described in Revelation 12, the devil landed on a blackberry bush, which he then spit on and cursed turning the blackberries bitter. The tradition became that blackberries must be picked and eaten by Michaelmas before the devil gets a chance to spit on them. In a Scottish custom, women harvest wild carrots on Michaelmas by digging triangular holes with a three-pronged tool representing St. Michael's shield and trident. Saint Michael's Bannock is a large scone-like cake cooked in Scotland on this day. (There are lots of recipes online.) Goose is a traditional Michaelmas food, but hard to find and not to everyone's taste!



"The Church on the Hill"

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Our Mission

Helping God restore and renew our community, our congregation, and our selves.

Sunday September 29, 2024

Today we welcome Pastor Frank Terhune to deliver the message at Millcreek Lutheran Church. Pastor Scott (as dean) will be installing The Rev. Althea Seivel as pastor of Holy Trinity Church 723 Lehman Street Lebanon, at their 9:00 AM worship service.

SHOE BOX PROJECT: We will be participating in Samaritan's Purse-Operation Christmas Child this year by filling shoe boxes for children who would otherwise not receive any gifts at Christmas. There are brochures and labels in the narthex with instructions. (Please read them carefully as there are restrictions as to what can be included in the shoe boxes.) There are preprinted shoe boxes that can be assembled, or you can wrap a shoe box of your own, just make sure the lid can be opened. Finished shoe boxes should be placed on the table in the multi-purpose room. If you are including the shipping charges, it is \$10 per box, payable to Samaritan's Purse (put your check in an envelope inside your box) or you can refer to the instructions in the brochure to donate online. The deadline for the completed boxes is Sunday, November 3, 2024. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Martin (610-589-5505) or Pat Ontkos (610-589-4350). Thank you, Lisa & Pat





TRUNK OR TREAT: Trunk or treat will be held on Sunday 10/27 from 1-3 pm. Please come and decorate your vehicle and hand candy out to the trick or treaters. Also, you can help by making donations. The sign-up sheets are in the Narthex on the table. We are in need of hot dogs, hot dog buns and candy. See Nikki Johnson for more information. Thank you.

STACEY'S TOY DRIVE:

Since 2016, the Seldomridge/Pennington/O'Connor family has held an annual toy drive in honor of Stacey, who was tragically killed in an act of domestic violence. Toys for Tots was her favorite charity and we have dedicated ourselves to carry on this tradition and continue her legacy through an annual toy drive in her remembrance. This year is our 9th annual toy drive and all collected toys will be given directly to the children of Queen Anne's County, MD (home of Lindsay, Stacey's sister). We hope you will consider donating a new, unwrapped toy for donation (ages 0-12) that can be brought to the church. The last date for the collection is **October 13th**. Stephanie Seldomridge will transport the toys to Lindsay **October 18th**.



If you prefer to order on Amazon or elsewhere, you can ship directly to Lindsay O'Connor at 321 Narnia Drive, S Grasonville, MD 21638.

Thank you for helping to keep Stacey's legacy alive and for helping the kids of Queen Anne's County.

BLOOD DRIVE RESULTS: 39 registered, 27 units of blood were collected saving 81 lives. Thank you to all who donated and to Debra Buffington who organized the event.

RELAY FOR LIFE BOO BASH will be held Saturday October 12, 2024, 6-11 pm at Eagle Banquet Hall 116 North 8th Street, Lebanon. Cost is \$40 per person. Contact Debbie Tice or Debbie Buffington for more information.

Helping God Restore and Renew our Congregation

CONGREGATION COUNCIL will meet next Sunday after the worship service.

TREASURER'S REPORT: September 22, 2024, Current Offerings-\$2,105.00, Plate-100.00, Flowers-30.00, Bulletins-20.00, Building Rental-75.00. **Total-\$2,330.00**
Attendance-52, Sunday School-16

BLESSING OF THE PETS: Millcreek Lutheran Church will celebrate the Commemoration of Saint Francis by blessing pets and animals on Sunday, October 6. (If the weather allows it, our 10:15 AM service will be outdoors or moved to the Multi-Purpose Room if the weather does not allow.)

*Bring your pet for blessing on Sunday, October 6. Pets that are well-socialized are best, although any pet is welcome. (We don't have space limitations outdoors!) Please make sure your pet is in a carrier or on a leash that is 6 feet long or shorter.

*Stuffed animals are welcome.

*If you have photos or cremated remains of deceased pets, please consider bringing them along so that Pastor Scott can thank God for the many good memories.



CALLING ALL MUSICIANS to play for Veteran's Sunday on November 10th. **Rehearsals will be:** Saturday, October 26, Saturday, November 2 and Saturday, November 9, all at 9:30 AM at the church. Please contact Julie Strickler at juliestrickler66@gmail.com for music or any questions. Thank you for your consideration. Julie

FLOWER & BULLETIN SIGNUP SHEETS are on the bulletin board in the narthex. Sponsorship of flowers is \$30 and bulletins are \$10. There are still dates available for 2024.

Helping God Restore and Renew Our Selves



Prayers and sympathy of Millcreek Lutheran Church are extended to the family of Earl (Shad) Kreitz who passed away Tuesday, September 24th. Shad is the father of member Lynne Ober. Grose Funeral Home is handling the arrangements.

The congregation of Millcreek Lutheran Church extends sympathy and prayers to the family of Ginny (Virginia) Wolfe. Ginny is the mother-in-law of Dara Wolfe. Ginny passed away September 25th at home. Clauser Funeral home is in charge of the arrangements.



Praise God that after 23 months of being unable to walk without crutches, our grandson, Branson Hoglund, is now fully mobile and remains cancer free. Thank you for all the prayers for his healing! Roy & Dotti Hoglund



SWEET SUNDAY will be held Sunday, September 29th in the multi-purpose room after the worship service. All proceeds are donated to the church. We thank Charmayne for satisfying our sweet tooth and her generosity.

There **will not be a Sweet Sunday in October**, but will resume the 2nd Sunday in November (the 10th)

Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central PA has many activities taking place from October through Christmas. Includes Nawakwa, Kirchenwald and The Wittel Farm. You may find the information at LutheranCamping.org.

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

Audrey Putt, 201 West Main Street, Newmanstown, PA 17073

IF YOU ASKED FOR A MILLCREEK MEMBER TO BE PUT ON THE PRAYER LIST, PLEASE TELL THE CHURCH SECRETARY WHEN OUR PRAYERS HAVE BEEN ANSWERED SO SHE CAN KEEP THIS LIST CURRENT.

MILLCREEK MEMBERS PRAYER LIST: R. Hart Beaver, Debbie Hartman, Violet Hepler, Abbie Keath, The Leibig Family, Ronald Merkel, Barbara Potteiger, Norm Sharp, Debra Webber, Stewart Wolf, Aaron Yiengst, Devon Yiengst, Michael Yiengst, Jr., Greer Zellers

NON-MEMBER REQUESTS ARE LISTED ON A WEEKLY BASIS. TO BE INCLUDED, YOU MAY CONTACT LINDA EACH WEEK WITH YOUR REQUESTS BY NOON ON THURSDAY. secretary@millcreeklutheran.com or 610-589-2570

NON-MEMBER PRAYER LIST: Mike Nelson, (friend of Kristin Bender), John Tshudy (relative of Mary Ream), Susan Staaby, (Aunt of Jamie Keener), Marilyn Yahn and Family-Lisa, Carol, Hilary and baby Declan. (friends of the Hoglunds)