# Grief Unbound

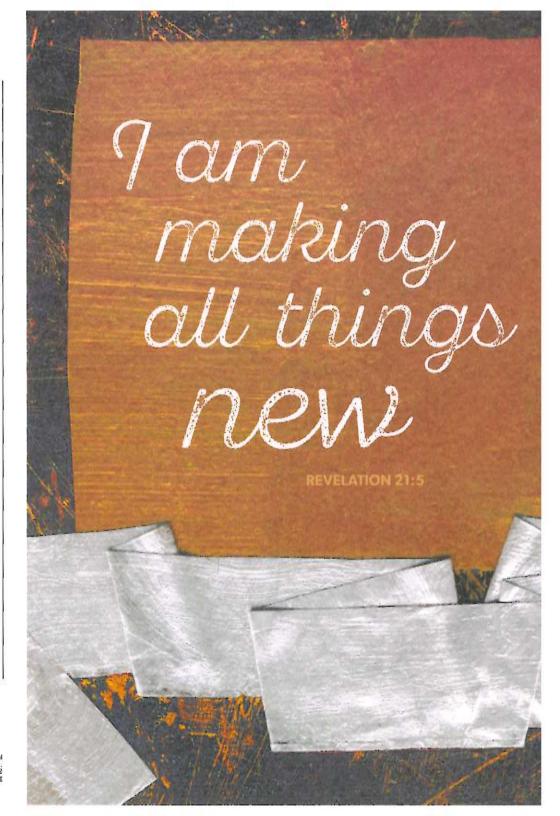
We get so much emotive action in this All Saints gospel! There is weeping and more weeping. There is deep regret, "what ifs," and "if onlys." We hear how deeply loved Lazarus was, and even Jesus is moved in body and spirit.

Grief is a full-body experience, and it is comforting to know that our God, in the form of Jesus—completely human and completely divine—fully understands this. Death stinks—there is no getting around it. Death stinks for the loved ones left behind, and decay ("Lord, already there is a stench") signals a finality to all living things.

And yet . . . All Saints Day is a time when we celebrate the finite human existence and how resurrection shows up beyond this. Jesus declares to Lazarus's loved ones, "Unbind him and let him go," resurrecting Lazarus back to life. During All Saints worship, we remember our loved ones who have died, and we hold fast to Jesus' proclamation of resurrection for them. Death is no longer the end of their story, or ours. Jesus has promised eternal life and a love that goes beyond any tomb we find ourselves trapped in.

All Saints Day is a time when you do not have to pretend that everything is okay. Grief is a part of the human experience, and it is a messy, smelly, loud, and overwhelming ride. May you know that no matter where you are on this day, God shows up next to you, weeping and disturbed. There is no stench that keeps God away.

May you know that your grief is holy. May you also know that this grief is not the end of your loved one's story or yours. Someday we shall be unbound. Someday we shall be whole. Someday all shall be well.



# Millcreek Lutheran Church All Saints' Sunday November 3, 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 in the pew rack and introduce yourself to Pastor Scott as you leave. We're glad you're here!

Prayer: Eternal Father, who blesses forever those who are faithful to you: Inspire us by the example of the saints who have gone before us and are now in your eternal care; that we may serve you with steadfastness, and know the happiness of faithfulness. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

#### The Service

Prelude of Entrance Announcements Prelude of Preparation

\*Confession & Forgiveness: Page 56

\*Opening Hymn: No. 499 NCH (red),

Shall We Gather at the River

\*Greetings: Pages 57, line 5

\*The Kyrie: Pages 57 & 58, line 6

\*Hymn of Praise, Feast of Victory: Page 60

\*Prayer of the Day: (On the lesson insert, read in unison)

Children's Sermon The First Reading

The Psalmody: (On the lesson insert, read responsively)

The Second Reading \*Verse: Page 63, line 14

\*The Gospel

\*Responses: Page 63, lines 15 & 16

The Sermon

Hymn of the Day: No. 320 LBW (green),

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Remembrance of the Saints

\*The Nicene Creed, Page 64

Choir Anthem: Will the Circle Be Unbroken

\*The Prayers: Page 65, line 22

\*The Greeting of Peace: Page 66, line 23

\*The Great Thanksgiving: Pages 68-71, lines 28, 29 & 31

\*The Lord's Prayer, Page 71 Holy Communion (continuous)

\*Post Communion Prayer: Page 74, line 40

\*Benediction & Dismissal: Page 74, lines 42 & 43

\*Departing Hymn: No. 535 LBW (green),

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

Moments of Meditation

Postlude

\*Please Stand

### Serving you this morning:

Pastor, The Rev. Scott J. Paradise

Lay Leader, Susan Long Organist, Pianist, Debra Tice Lay Reader, Dara Wolfe

Ushers, Audio, Frank Hoffman and Scott Johnson

The flowers and bulletins are given to the honor and glory of God and in memory of those remembered today.





November	3	2024
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+Lois J. Garloff 10-26-23	+Lynn H. Leibig 7-4-24	
Maureen L. Cook 12-2-23	Robert F. Stokes 7-7-24	
+Daryl F. Strickler 12-9-23	Esther Redcay 7-11-24	
Shirley I. Bender 12-26-23	Lois J. Funk 7-13-24	
Harold L. Noll, Sr. 1-3-24	Elizabeth A. Layser 7-16-24	
Randall S. Stamm 1-6-24	Eric B. Moon 7-23-24	
Chad M. Gibson 1-26-24	Joseph M. Snook 7-26-24	
Michael A. Pedia 1-26-24	Earline R. Smith 7-29-24	
+Andrea M. (Sites) Evans 2-13-2	4 Gifford D. Krause 8-22-24	
Ricky J. Woelfling 2-23-24	Matthew A. Weaver 8-24-24	
Bonnie J. Zehring 3-16-24	Harold F. Donely 9-1-24	
+Kevin R. Schoonover 5-3-24	James T. Missimer 9-21-24	
+John R. Walker 5-6-24	+Earl (Shad) F. Kreitz 9-24-24	
Joseph K. Stauffer, Jr. 5-13-24	+Virginia (Ginny) Mae Wolfe 9-25-24	
James C. Yordy 5-13-24	John I. Tschudy, III 9-28-24	
Gerald A. Houser 6-2-24	Kenneth L. Tschudy 10-6-24	
Robert L. Bechtel 6-18-24	+Robert Hart Beaver 10-10-2-	
Edward Bellina 7-2-24	+ Millcreek Lutheran Church Member	

#### Remembrance of the Faithful Departed

Let us pray. O God, before whose face the generations rise and pass away, you are the strength of those who labor, and the repose of the blessed dead. We rejoice in the communion of your saints. We remember all who have faithfully lived, all who have peacefully died, and especially those most dear to us who rest in you, especially.... Give us at length our portion with those who have trusted in you and striven to do your holy will in all things and unto your name; with the Church on earth and the Church in heaven, we ascribe all honor and glory, now and forever. Amen.



The custom of commemorating the saints of the church, especially martyrs, on a single day originated in the fourth century. By the eighth century, the festival commemorating all saints had been moved in England and Ireland to November 1 in order to Christianize the Celtic harvest festival of Samhain which marked the beginning of winter and communal attention to the dead. In current Christian use, the day is dedicated to thanksgiving for all the unnamed who died in the Lord. In many assemblies, the names of the local dead are read aloud, a focus originally associated with All Souls Day on November 2. The conflation of the two emphases fits with the Protestant belief that the all the Christian dead are saints and none needs release from purgatory.

Source: Sundays and Seasons © 2020 (Augsburg Fortress)



Today's Readings

All Saints Sunday November 3, 2024

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

#### Allegar Hogas Street

Isalah 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of wellaged wines. of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations: \*he will swallow up death forever. Then the Lord GoD will wipe away the

tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. 9It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the LORD for whom we have

waited:

let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

or Wisdom 3:1-9 (not printed)

Psalm 24; tone 4



The earth is the LORD's and all ! that is in it. the world and those who I dwell therein. <sup>2</sup>For the LORD has founded it up-1 on the seas and established it up-! on the rivers. <sup>3</sup>Who may ascend the mountain of the Lorn. and who may stand in God's holy place? \*Those of innocent hands and puri- 1 ty of heart,

who do not swear on God's being, nor do they pledge by what is false.

<sup>5</sup>They shall receive blessing from the LORD and righteousness from the God of their salvation. <sup>6</sup>Such is the generation of those who seek 1 you, O LORD, of those who seek your face, O | God of Jacob. <sup>7</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O ever- lasting doors, that the King of glory may come in.

rsaim, continued

8Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, might- | y in battle! <sup>9</sup>Lift up your heads, O gates: and be lifted up, O ever- lasting doors, that the King of glory I may come in. 16Who is this | King of glory? Truly, the LORD of hosts is the King of glory.

Appropriate Commence of

Revelation 21:1-6a

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,

"See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them: they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; the will wipe every tear from their Death will be no more: mourning and crying and pain will be no more.

for the first things have passed away," And the one who was scated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true," 6Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

John 11:32-44

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." 35 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the lews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. 34He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see," 55 csus began to weep, 36 So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" 37But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

<sup>28</sup> Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed. came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. 39 Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister

of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." 40 lesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" "So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. 421 knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here. so that they may believe that you sent me." 43 When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" 44 The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

TODAY'S READINGS November 3, 2024 (All Saints Sunday)

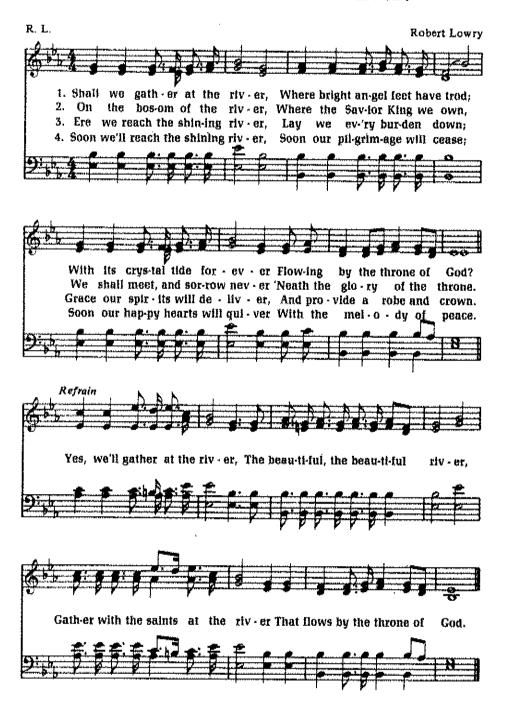
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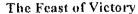
Next Sunday's Readings: 1 Kings 17:8-16; Psalm 146; Hebrews 9:24-28; Mark 12:38-44.

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continued

# 499 Shall We Gather at the River?



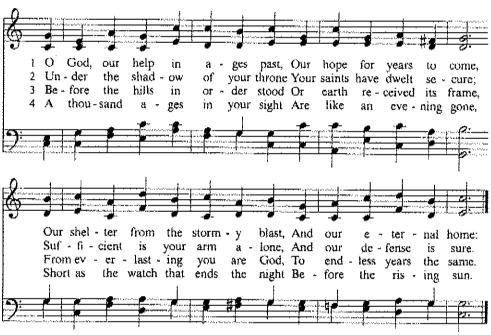








320



- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Soon bears us all away; We fly forgotten, as a dream Dies at the op'ning day.
- 6 O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Still be our guard while troubles last And our eternal home!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, als, Tune: William Craft, 1678-1727

SI: ANNE





"The Church on the Hill"

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Pastor Scott Paradise Home: (717) 628-1241 Cell: (540) 335-1693

pastorscottparadise@gmail.com

#### **Our Mission**

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

# Sunday November 3, 2024

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.

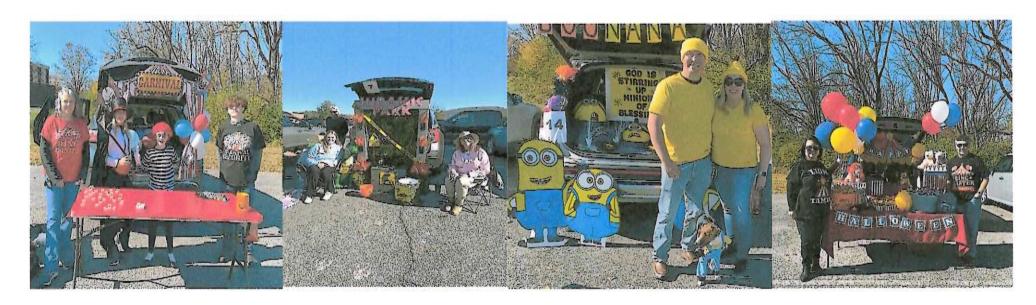


Don't forget to turn you clocks back November 2nd before going to bed!!!

# Helping God Restore and Renew our Community

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 (today)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: Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's trunk or treat event so successful. There were over 20 vehicles who decorated and helped hand out candy & treats to the trunk or treaters. Families voted for their favorite vehicles and Jennifer Miller, Brayce, Isabel and Maddie came in first and their theme was Carnival. Rosengrant family who did Jurassic Park and the Johnsons who did Minions tied for second. The Engle family came in third who also did a Carnival themed vehicle. Overall, everyone did a great job and thank you to everyone who helped and donated items to help make this day so much fun!



**HURRICANE RELIEF:** Thank you to everyone who helped donate items for Statesville, NC. I am overwhelmed by how many people helped donate for this cause in a short amount of time and I greatly appreciate all of you for donating the items that were needed. Thank you! Scott Johnson

RICHLAND T N R (trap, neuter, release) needs help to humanely reduce the feral cat population in Richland. Dana Moyer, Mary Moyer's granddaughter volunteers/runs this all-volunteer fundraiser to cover the \$30 cost of spaying/neutering a cat. You can help by donating gently worn, used or new shoes. The shoes are collected, weighed and for each pound, 40 cents is raised & will be put towards the cost of fixing the cats in the TNR program. The shoes collected are then donated to Haiti, Cambodia, Ghana, & Guatemala, sparking economic growth in developing countries. The collection runs through the end of October. Bins and information are located in the narthex. Monetary donations are also accepted. You may contact Dana Moyer at 717-675-0335 or moyerdana824@yahoo.com.

**INGATHERING PROJECT** this year resulted in 59 personal care kits delivered to our collection point which was Salem Lutheran Church in Lebanon. These items will help wherever needed. Thanks to everyone from the Evangelism Committee.

# Helping God Restore and Renew our Congregation

VETERAN'S DAY will be observed Sunday November 10th, 2024 as we thank our veterans here at Millcreek for their service.

TREASURER'S REPORT: October 27, 2024, Current Offerings-\$2,105.00, Plate-127.00, Memorial for Hart Beaver-150.00, MP Rental-150.00. Total-\$2,532.00. Sweet Sunday deposit-\$276.50. Attendence-75, Sunday School-16

CONGREGATION COUNCIL will meet Sunday, November 3rd, following the worship service.

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE will meet Wednesday, November 6th at 2:00 pm at the church.



NOVEMBER CHURCH BREAKFAST: The November 9<sup>th</sup> church breakfast will be held at Country Fare Restaurant in Myerstown at 8:00 a.m. For **THIS** month only, we will be meeting in the little cottage next door to the restaurant. Park around the back and walk directly into the cottage where you will see your Millcreek friends waiting for you.

I hope to see you there...Nancy Deiter

# Helping God Restore and Renew Our Selves

**SWEET SECOND SUNDAY** will take place Sunday November 10 in the multi-purpose room after the worship service. All proceeds are donated to the church. Many thanks to Charmayne for her generosity and satisfying our sweet tooth with her baked goodies.



Thyme with Debbie continues with instructional classes about seasonal ingredients and flavors in the kitchen. All classes are held at Millcreek Lutheran Church from 10 AM to 12 PM with a cost of \$23.00. The next class is November 19, 2024 Topic: Worth Its Weight in Gold, Saffron Description: This class will look at the world of saffron, from growing to harvest to cooking. This remarkable spice is special to the PA Dutch as well as the Middle East cuisine and beyond. To register for a

class or for any questions, please contact Debbie at 484-577-6695 or at thymewithdebbie@gmail.com.

THIS WEEK WE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING PERSON(S) WITH CARDS & PRAYERS: Sandy Bashore, 604 West Franklin St. Womelsdorf, PA 19567

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: 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 <u>WEEKLY BASIS</u>. TO BE INCLUDED, YOU MAY CONTACT LINDA EACH WEEK WITH YOUR REQUESTS BY NOON ON THURSDAY. <u>secretary@millcreeklutheran.com</u> or call 610-589-2570

NON-MEMBER PRAYER LIST: Mike Nelson, (friend of Kristin Bender)

#### **MLC Upcoming Events**

This past Sunday our congregation's youth and adults, along with Pastor Scott had the opportunity to participate with about 175 kids from our local community at Trunk or Treat in our church parking lot. What a blessed and beautiful day it was!

There were so many smiling faces that enjoyed the decorated cars, fire trucks, free fire hats, a Peanuts themed train, goats, a turkey and a cute little pig on a leash! Many parents shared that they love our event and have been coming for the past couple of years.

One parent commented that this was her first year with her daughter and she will be back next year! She heard about it from another Fort Zeller parent. They shared that she should bring her daughter as everyone is so friendly and inviting. She feels more comfortable bringing her daughter to our parking lot than taking her to stranger's houses on Halloween. Wow what a great compliment for our family here at Millcreek Lutheran!

Last Sunday was the beginning of many upcoming events that MLC will be hosting in the coming year to grow our youth program and reach our goal of 20 new children by December 31, 2025.

We have scheduled future events in the coming months:

- A pizza and craft party on Sunday Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> from 1-3 (the craft will be given to local nursing homes). Flier is in the Narthex
- Polar Express Party with trains on Fri Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> from 6-7:30.

We invite you to join us as a volunteer or simply invite your nieces, nephews, grandchildren, and neighbors. With your help, we know we can reach our goal!

# All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast Buffet



7:00-10:00 AM

**BREAKFAST INCLUDES:** EGGS, HOME FRIES, CREAMED CHIPPED BEEF, PANCAKES, FRENCH TOAST, BACON, SAUSAGE, HAM, COFFEE, TEA, JUICES, VARIOUS PASTRIES AND FRUIT.

Admission by donation

PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: NORTH LANCASTER CONFERENCE DEAN'S FUND

PROCEEDS BENEFIT LOWER SUSQUEHANNA SYNOD LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE MINISTRY IN 2025

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GOD'S WORK...OUR HANDS.



WWW.wreathsacrossamerica.org/PA0679
PARICH-Richland Cemetery
Richland Post 880 & Heritage Society

2024

We are starting our Campaign "Sponsor a Wreath" for are 165
Veterans 2024 we need your support!
Buy 2 get one free!

Sponsorship Group ID PA0679
Coordinator's contact
26 N Race St. POBox 509 Richland Pa. 17087
Gary Althouse Sr. 717-866-7050
Charlotte Peffley 717-507-7152