

Beyond the Known Limit

Telescopes provide a whole new way to see the cosmos, and over the centuries since their invention, we have expanded our understanding of the known universe. For example, we keep increasing our estimate of just how many galaxies are out there. In another hundred years, that number will no doubt be even greater. Will we ever find a fixed boundary?

We might view love as we do the universe. We might experience a limit to love today, but as we embrace the truth that God is love, we continually discover another truth: there is no limit to love. Jesus says all is contained in the two great commandments—love God, and love neighbor as self.

On Pentecost, the church was given the profound gift of love by the Holy Spirit, flowing and very much alive. The church is encouraged to dive deep into that love, to experiment with and experience the reality of love, as shown to us by the God who created us.

One practical way to know God's love is to acknowledge there is so much more to learn about it. We allow for the possibility of infinity in how God expresses love, whether for the person we see in the mirror or for the person who angers us the most.

The Trinity is often shown in ancient art as the Holy Triune gathered around a table in deep and honest conversation. This conversation began way before the beginning, continues in the present, and lives forevermore. The ancient art often offers the viewer a space in the holy circle for one more person. That "one more" is each one of us.

When Jesus says, "I have many things to say to you" (John 16:12), we give thanks that at the holy table, the triune God invites us to sit together and then gifts us with all the time in the universe for each one of us to listen to the loving words God has to say.

Millcreek Lutheran Church
The Holy Trinity
June 15, 2025

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: Heavenly Father, whose gift of your Son continues to bless us through the Spirit of truth which he promised: Make our spirits and our wills receptive to the Spirit's leading; that we may live in the will of our Lord and Savior, through whom we pray. Amen

Serving You This Morning:

Guest Pastor,	Pastor Bonnie Oplinger
Lay Leader,	Jennifer Rosengrant
Organist/Pianist,	Debbie Tice
Lay Reader,	Roy Hoglund
Ushers/Audio,	Scott Johnson & Frank Hoffman



The Service

Prelude of Entrance

Announcements

Prelude of Preparation

*Confession & Forgiveness: Page 56

*Opening Hymn: **LBW (green) #165, Holy, Holy, Holy**

*Greetings: Pages 57, line 5

*The Kyrie: Pages 57 & 58, line 6

*Hymn of Praise: *This is the Feast*, Page 60

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

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: **LBW (green) #486, Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart**

*The Nicene Creed, Page 64

*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 (spoken)

Holy Communion (continuous)

*Post Communion Prayer: Page 74, line 40

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

*Departing Hymn: **LBW (green) #517, Praise to the Father**

Moments of Meditation: Congregation seated

Postlude



Prayer of the Day

First Reading

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

before the hills, I was brought
forth—

²⁶when he had not yet made earth
and fields,
or the world's first bits of soil.

27 When he established the heavens,
I was there,
when he drew a circle on the face
of the deep.

²⁸ when he made firm the skies above,
when he established the fountains
of the deep.

²⁹when he assigned to the sea its limit.

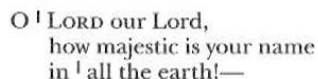
so that the waters might not
transgress his command,
when he marked out the foundations
of the earth.

³⁰then I was beside him, like a
master worker;
and I was daily his delight,
rejoicing before him always,

³¹rejoicing in his inhabited world
and delighting in the human race."

Psalm

Psalm 8; tone 1



²you whose glory is chanted
above the heavens
out of the mouths
of in-¹ fants and children;

continued

Psalm, continued

**you have set up a fortress
against your enemies,
to silence the foe ¹ and avenger.**

³When I consider your heavens,
the work ¹ of your fingers,
the moon and the stars
you have set ¹ in their courses,

⁴ what are mere mortals that you
should be mind-¹ful of them,
human beings that you
should ¹care for them?

⁵Yet you have made them
little less ¹ than divine;
with glory and hon- ¹ or
you crown them.

**⁶You have made them rule
over the works ¹ of your hands;
you have put all things
un- ¹ der their feet;**

⁷all ¹flocks and cattle,
even the wild beasts ¹of the field,

⁸the birds of the air,
the fish ¹ of the sea,
and whatever passes along
the paths ¹ of the sea.

⁹O LORD our Lord,
how majestic is your name
in all the earth!

Second Reading

Romans 5:1-5

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our

sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

Gospel

John 16:12-15

[Jesus said:] "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you

the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."



"The Church on the Hill"

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secretary@millcreeklutheran.com

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Newmanstown, PA 17073
www.millcreeklutheran.com

For pastoral emergencies, please contact
Jennifer Rosengrant, 717-228-8857

Our Mission

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

Sunday, June 15, 2025

You can **listen to the worship service** over the phone patch at **9:30 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.



Helping God Restore and Renew our Community

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AT MILLCREEK

Summer Tutoring

We are happy to announce that we are offering summer tutoring here at the church for ELCO students grades K-5. The sessions are on Tuesday and Thursday June 17th through July 17th. We coordinated the effort with our neighbor Fort Zeller after ELCO eliminated the program from their budget for the summer of 2025. We have local teachers/college students and ELCO high school students volunteering their time. This is a great way to provide a service to our local community! Fliers are in the Narthex.

Backyard Bible

We are happy to share that Millcreek Lutheran is hosting the local Backyard Bible program on Wednesday mornings outside under our big shade trees. Becky Barnhart is the coordinator and has been providing this program at 4 locations within Lebanon County for the past 5 years. We are happy to share that there are 66 kids registered at our location! Millcreek Lutheran will be providing our outside yard, water and snacks (already donated by a few of our members), bathrooms for the program, and the multipurpose room in the event of heavy rain.

Our goal is to become a space where community can come together and introduce youth and families to our church on the hill. We will be sharing information about Millcreek Lutheran with all children and families that participate in these events during the months of June and July.

SUMMER CAMP We are happy to share that we do have a few of our kids registered for summer camp. There is still time to register! We have funds available to cover the cost of camp for your kids or grandkids! Simply complete the registration form and give to Jen Rosengrant. We will mail the check and registration in for you!

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF ORDINATION

Friedens will be honoring Rev. Paris Beckhardt for his 50 years of Ordination during their church service on June 29, 2025. 23 members of our church will be attending the luncheon following the service. The deadline has passed for anyone else to sign up for the luncheon but anyone who is interested may attend the 10:30am Friedens church service. Cards of congratulations may be mailed to the church office. Please write in the lower left corner of the envelope "Ordination Anniversary." ~Nancy Deiter

IT'S LEBANON AREA FAIR TIME! If you are in need of information or BBQ tickets, please contact Deb Tice or Morgan or Frank Hoffman. There will be coloring sheets available for the kids, brochures and catalogs for all. Entry due date is July 4. The fair runs July 19 - 26. Great food, entertainment and much more!

Helping God Restore and Renew our Congregation

TREASURER'S REPORT: Sunday, June 8, 2025, Current Offerings- \$1,715 Plate-\$155, Memorial Fund- \$150, Recycling- \$12 **Total-\$2,032** Attendance- 77 Sunday School- 11

FLOWER AND BULLETIN SIGNUP SHEETS FOR 2025 are available on the bulletin board in the narthex. Flowers-\$30, Bulletins- \$10

PASTORAL EMERGENCY CONTACT: If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Council President Jen Rosengrant (717-228-8857) and she will work with the pastor on call.

COUNCIL UPDATE: We want to thank the congregation for their timely submission of the church survey. Council is in the process of summarizing the results and will be sharing with the congregation in the coming weeks.

We again want to thank you for your patience during our transition time. We are continuing to work on finding supply pastors during the interim.

SUNDAY SCHOOL & MLC POOL & PIZZA PARTY: The pool & pizza party will be held Saturday, July 19 from 1-4pm at Barb Heckendorn's house, 1687 N. 8th Ave. Lebanon, 17046 Please **RSVP** on the paper located in the Narthex or text Nikki Johnson @ 717-639-1300

Helping God Restore and Renew Our Selves

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

Norman & Patricia Sharp
8 Central Drive
Newmanstown, PA 17073

PRAYER LIST: If you asked for someone to be put on the prayer list, please tell the church secretary when our prayers have been answered so this list can be kept current. For non-member requests, please contact Jen M. with your requests by noon Wednesday each week.
secretary@millcreeklutheran.com or call: 610-589-2570.

MILLCREEK MEMBERS: Chub & Peg Auman, Bryan Breidigam, Debbie Hartman, Violet Hepler, Frank Hoffman, Abbie Keath, The Leibig Family, Barbara Potteiger, Brian Ream, Norm Sharp, Stewart Wolf, Aaron Yiengst, Michael Yiengst, Jr., Greer Zellers

NON-MEMBERS: Mike Nelson (friend of Kristin Bender), Gary Beatty, (friend of Debbie Hartman), JoAnn Deahl (Brandy Gahres' mother), Linda McMullan (sister in law of Greta McMullan), Kathy Reigle (friend of Deb Buffington)



LUMINARIA ORDERS can be taken anytime. Check with Deb for details. There are times when they are on sale for \$5 each instead of the normal \$10. Lanterns are also available for \$30.

Thanks to all supporting Relay for Life as the American Cancer Society strives to find a cure. **See Debbie Buffington or Debbie Tice for more Relay details.**

SUMMER SCHEDULE & MUSIC AT MLC

June 15 – Holy Communion service begins at 930 AM. No Sunday School until Sept. 7

June 22 - 930AM service with guest Pastor James Yoder (multipurpose room)

June 29 – 930AM Holy Communion service with guest Pastor James Yoder (sanctuary)

July 6 - Salute to America by Millcreek Ensemble

July 13 – TBD. Ice Cream Sunday for all!

July 20 - Cindy Wittenberg (multipurpose room)

July 27 – Jeremy Goodling (multipurpose room)

August 3 - Barry Wenrich

August 10 - Brothers in Grace (multipurpose room)

August 17 - TBD

August 24 – Favorite Hymns Program by Millcreek Ensemble

August 31(Labor Day Weekend) – Megan Fields, flute

September 7 - Sunday School resumes

The Mystery of the Trinity

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you." John 16:13-15 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on John 16:12-15



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

TRUTH
MAKE
GLORIFY

FATHER
SPEAK
COMES

RECEIVE
BELONGS
TRUTH

KNOWN
SPIRIT
HEARS

GUIDE
MINE
TELL

Holy, Holy, Holy

165

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God Al - might - y!
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! All the saints a - dore thee,
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Though the dark - ness hide thee,
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.
 Cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;
 Though the eye made blind by sin thy glo - ry may not see,
 All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!
 Cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,
 On - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!
 Which wert and art and ev - er - more shalt be.
 Per - fect in pow'r, in love and pu - ri - ty.
 God in three Per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

Text: Reginald Heber, 1783-1826, alt.
 Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823-1876

NICARA
 11 12 12 10

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart 486

1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart; Wean it from earth, through
 2 I ask no dream, no proph-et ec - sta - sies, No sud-den rend - ing
 3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King; All, all your own, soul,
 4 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love, One ho - ly pas - sion

all its puls - es move; Stoop to my weak - ness, strength to
 of the veil of clay, No an - gel vis - i - tant, no
 heart, and strength, and mind? I see your cross; there teach my
 fill - ing all my frame: The bap - tism of the heav'n - de-

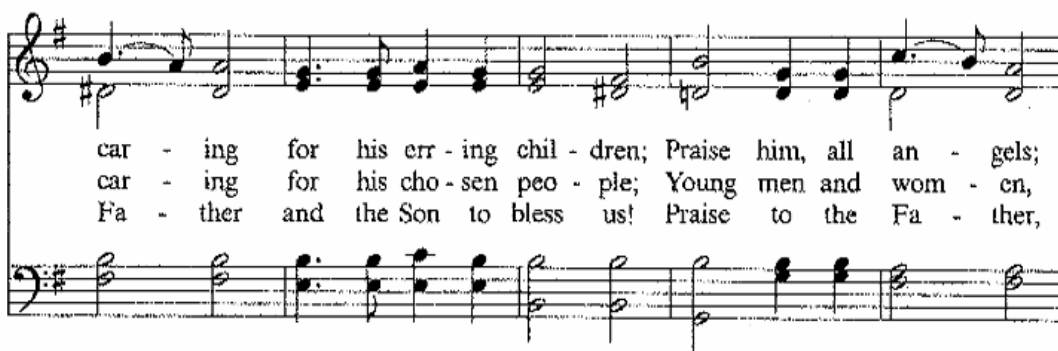
me im - part, And make me love you as I ought to love.
 o - p'ning skies; But take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 heart to cling. Oh, let me seek you and, oh, let me find!
 scend-ed dove, My heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

517

Praise to the Father



1 Praise to the Fa - ther for his lov - ing - kind - ness, Ten - der - ly
2 Praise to the Sav - ior for his deep com - pas - sion, Gra - cious - ly
3 Praise to the Spir - it, com - fort - er of Is - rael, Sent from the



car - ing for his err - ing chil - dren; Praise him, all an - gels;
car - ing for his cho - sen peo - ple; Young men and wom - en,
Fa - ther and the Son to bless us! Praise to the Fa - ther,



praise him in the heav - ens; Praise to the Fa - ther!
ag - ing folk and chil - dren, Praise to the Sav - ior!
Son, and Ho - ly Spir - it! Praise to the tri - une God!