

Millcreek Lutheran Church
Newmanstown, PA



CELEBRATE
PRAISE
GIVE

October 12, 2025

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Every fall, Millcreek Lutheran Church continues the Pennsylvania Dutch tradition of "Harvest Home." Although the service is no longer in High German, our gifts are no longer homemade- nor given to the minister- the central focus "to celebrate and praise God's goodness" and give food "to poor families in the neighborhood" remains unchanged. Gifts of food and money collected today will be used to help our neighbors facing the challenges of food insecurity. Thank you for being generous!

About Harvest Home

"Since the Pennsylvania Germans were a religious people who placed their trust in God, they knew that without the help of the Heavenly Father there would not be any food. So, when the harvest was gathered sometime in late summer or early fall, they had a special service called Harvest Home or *Die Am Karrich* set aside to praise and celebrate God's goodness to them in harvest time. Pennsylvania Harvest Home was more important to the Pennsylvania Dutch farmers than November's Thanksgiving. In fact, before Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November as Thanksgiving Day, the Harvest Home celebration was the chief thanksgiving among our ancestors. It was the custom of the Pennsylvania Dutch to display the fruits of the field, garden and orchard around the altar to thank God for the harvest. Parishioners brought sheaves of wheat and corn stalks to decorate the display of pumpkins, squash, homemade preserves, ears of corn, clusters of grapes, homemade bread, and all kinds of fruits and vegetables. The entire service was conducted in High German—the singing of the hymns and the sermon were delivered in High German. After the service, the display was dismantled and often given to the minister, whose salary was meager, or to poor families in the neighborhood."

Source: Gladys M. Lutz in *Folk Art Memories: The Folklife Illustrations of Gladys M. Lutz*, The Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center at Kutztown University, 2014.

Prelude of Entrance

Announcements

Prelude of Preparation

We Gather to Celebrate the Harvest

Opening Dialog & Prayer (standing)

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Gathering Hymn: LBW (green) #362, *We Plow the Fields and Scatter*

We Praise God in Word and Song

Children's Sermon

First Reading from Isaiah 50:7-9a]. (seated)

The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced;
therefore I have set my face like flint,
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.
It is the Lord God who helps me;
Who will declare me guilty?

(P): Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

(C): Thanks be to God.

The Psalmody (seated)

I love the Lord, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,
For the Lord has given ear to me
whenever I called.

The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came
upon me;

I came to grief and sorrow.

Then I called upon the name of the Lord:

“O lord, I pray you, save my life.”

Gracious is the Lord and righteous;

our God is full of compassion.

The Lord watches over the innocent;

I was brought low, and God saved me.

Turn again to your rest, O my soul.

for the Lord has dealt well with you.

For you have rescued my life from death,

my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling;

I will walk in the presence of the Lord

in the land of the living.



Gospel Reading (standing)

(P): The holy gospel according to Luke 17:11-19.

(C): **Glory to you, O Lord.**

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus[a] was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten men with a skin disease approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus’s feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? So where are the other nine? Did none of them return to give glory to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

(P): The gospel of the Lord.

(C): **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon (seated)

***The Sacrament of Holy Baptism: LBW p. 121**

Hymn of the Day LBW (green) #407, Come, You Thankful People, Come (seated)

Prayer of Dedication (seated)

May we be the blessing.

may we be the justice in the harvest.

The sharing in the community,

the hope in the neighborhood.

May the gift of ourselves

be a blessing to many.

May we be the change the world needs:

the light in the shadows,

The truth in the darkness,

the healing in the hurt.

May our gift of ourselves

be a blessing to the world.

For we need to be no other than ourselves.

It is enough.

This prayer is adapted from the work of Roddy Hamilton.

Musical Offering (seated): Give Thanks



Intercessory Prayers and Lord's Prayer (standing)

Drawn together in the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray with confidence for the church, God's good creation, and all who are in need. [a brief silence]

We pray for the church throughout the world. Form us into communities of forgiveness and grace. Help us to notice where you are calling us into new relationships, and give us courage to embrace the uncomfortable and unfamiliar. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the earth and all its inhabitants. Protect lands at risk of wildfire and heal dying forests. Where fire brings destruction, raise up new growth. Guide us in tending precarious ecosystems. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for those who govern nations, tribes, and cities. Open them to the cries of people in need. Direct them in shaping policies that prioritize the health and well-being of all who struggle with insecurities in hunger and housing. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for all who are ill, all who are lonely or anxious, and all who grieve- especially those on our congregational prayer list. Draw them close to you and soothe them with the promise of your enduring love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for teachers, professors, librarians, school administrators, staff, and all who support the education of young people- especially within our ELCO School District. Sustain them as they shape learning communities, rooted in equity and

authenticity. We pray for children of all ages in their learning. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the leaders, clergy, and members of the Konde Diocese in Tanzania. May you grant them your wisdom, strength, and compassion as they strive to fulfill their mission. Grant them discernment to recognize the needs of their communities and the courage to address them with love and humility. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We remember our beloved dead, who with the great cloud of witnesses bear witness to your saving grace. Accompany us in our pilgrimage of faith, that we too place our hope and trust in you. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We entrust these and all our prayers to you, holy God, in the name of your beloved child, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who taught us to pray:

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

We Are Sent to Help Our Neighbors in Need

Benediction and Dismissal (standing)

(P): In our sowing and our harvesting, in our cooking and our eating. Let us

(C): Till the earth gently, fish the seas wisely, tend to the animals lovingly, share with the hungry generously, enjoy the food thankfully, praise the giver abundantly.

(P): So may the Father who provides for all creation, the Son who encompasses God's most holy mercy, the Spirit who gives breath to all living things bless our lives with goodness and guide us in generous living.

Amen.

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

Sending Hymn: NCH (red) #145, *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*



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

memory of Margie Rudy and Pearl Zehany

by David & Ann Marie Engle

Today, we celebrate the baptism of

Brecon James Hepler,

son of Nathan and Lindsay Chaffier Hepler and grandson
of Kent and Tammy Hepler.



Celebratory Poem , by Kelly Roper

*Bless this baby, O Lord,
Who joins Your Family today.*

*With prayers and holy water,
The minister prays,
And the congregation calls you.*

*Hear our prayers on this special day,
to guard and guide this baby
May he walk in Christ from this day on.*



221 North Sheridan Rd.
PO Box 399
Newmanstown, PA 17073

Our Mission:
Helping God restore & renew
our community, our
congregation, & ourselves.

Church Office: (610) 589-2570
secretary@millcreeklutheran.com
www.millcreeklutheran.com

Sunday, October 12, 2025

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.



Helping God Restore and Renew our Community

TRUNK OR TREAT Our annual trunk or treat event will take place on Sunday October 26th from 1-3pm. Please join us by decorating your vehicles and handing candy out to the children. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex for anyone who would like to participate, donate candy, or provide hot dog buns. If you have any questions, please reach out to Jennifer Rosengrant or Nikki Johnson.

TOYS FOR TOTS: This year marks the 10th anniversary of our annual toy drive, held in honor of my sister, Stacey, who was tragically killed in an act of domestic violence. Toys for Tots was her favorite charity, and we continue this tradition to keep her legacy alive!

My hope is to make this year our biggest toy drive yet! After 10 years, I hope to pass along this tradition to Jordan and my nephews, and I hope you'll consider donating to this charity in your own way. All collected toys will be given directly to the children of Queen Anne's County. Please feel free to ship toys directly to our home throughout the months of September and October to add to our drive. All toys can be mailed to: 321 Narnia Drive S, Grasonville, MD 21638. Toys can also be brought to the church & will be transported by Stephanie Seldomridge.

The last day for church pickup will be Oct. 19th.

Thank you for helping to keep Stacey's legacy alive!

~ Mike, Lindsay & Jordan



The Cancer Crusaders would like to thank everyone that supported our team in any way this past season. At a recent awards banquet we obtained a plaque for being 8th in fundraising, our team raised \$3,592!

That being said, a new season of Relay has begun and our goal this year is for our team to raise \$5,000 towards the fight for a cure for cancer. We are always looking for team members, but if you would just be interested in helping to fundraise or even volunteer at an activity, that is always appreciated! Every little bit helps!

RELAY PIE SALE: Our 1st group fundraiser is selling pies made by Sycamore Springs Orchard. Orders will be taken until Sunday Oct. 25. The order form will be on the table in the Narthex or you can contact Deb Buffington, Mary Ream, or Deb Tice if interested. The delivery date is Wednesday Nov. 5 after 6pm, so expect to receive your pie on Thursday Nov. 6 after 4pm unless other arrangements are made. Thank you in advance for your support!

~ The Cancer Crusaders

Deb Buffington, Mary Ream, and Deb Tice

Pies available for order:

Apple Crumb

Apple Double Crust Pie- (also comes sweetened with Splenda)

Cherry Crumb

Bumbleberry Crumb

Pecan

Shoofly

Coconut Cream

Pumpkin

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: 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 also pre-printed 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 the 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

completing boxes is Sunday, November 9, 2025. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Martin (610-589-5505) or Pat Ontkos (610-589-4350).

Helping God Restore and Renew our Congregation

TREASURER'S REPORT: Sunday, Oct. 5, 2025: Current Offerings- \$8,975, Plate- \$81, World Hunger- \$100 **Total- \$9,156** Attendance- 56 Sunday School- 12

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS: We are looking for one more member of our congregation to share the role of Sunday School teacher for our pre-K/kindergarten class for the upcoming year. If you are interested, please see Nikki Johnson for details

UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE & EVENTS:

- Sunday Oct. 12- Harvest Home service with Pastor Frank Terhune- Gifts of food & money will be collected for donation. Also, Second Sunday Sweets.
- Sunday Oct. 19- service with Pastor Joel Risser. Pastor Terhune will be away at his granddaughter's confirmation.
- Sunday Oct. 26- service with Pastor Frank Terhune. Trunk or Treat 1-3pm for community in church parking lot
- Sunday Nov. 2- All Saints Day communion service with Pastor Frank Terhune
- Sunday Nov. 9- Veteran's Celebration. Abbreviated service with cell tower presentation and Questions & Answers from the congregation 11am-12pm.
- Sunday Nov. 16- Sunday Fun Day 1-3pm and Service Project for community youth.
- Sunday November 23 is Christ the King Sunday, signifying the end of the church year, followed by November 30, the 1st Sunday in Advent! Stay tuned for the rest of the Advent & Christmas schedule!! Children have begun working on their Christmas program.
It is very important to have them at Sunday School as often as possible since we do most learning of songs there.

CALL FOR ACOLYTES: All those currently serving & all interested in learning to be acolytes, we will have a brief meeting after church on Sunday, Oct. 12. If you are interested & cannot attend, please contact Debbie Tice (debtice53@gmail.com or 717-926-4273). We are looking for 4th grade through high school (or beyond!).

SWEET SECOND SUNDAY: October 12th will be Sweet Second Sunday - look for treats from Charmayne after the service

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES: Offering envelopes for 2026 are being prepared with a tentative date for distribution on Sunday November 30. There is a list of names on the secretary's office door- please indicate if you would like to receive envelopes. If you would like to be added to the list, please leave a note and include your current address. If you are currently on the list, please notify me of any address changes that need to be made for the financial statements. This information is needed no later than October 31.

Thank you! ~ Jen M.

PHOTOS & PRAYERS: On Sunday Nov. 2, we will be remembering those we lost since the last All Saints. Feel free to bring a picture to remember your loved one. On Sunday Nov. 9 we will be remembering veterans. If you have pictures you would like to share, they may be placed on the table (up front) or on a windowsill in the church during services.

THE MLC ENSEMBLE will be playing on November 9 for Veterans' Sunday.

Rehearsals will be at 11AM on Saturdays Oct. 25, Nov. 1, and Nov. 8.

Please let me know if you are able to play and have any questions or for music. My email is juliestrickler@gmail.com or text me at 610-207-9650. Thanks to all for joining us in this music ministry!

~Julie Strickler

Helping God Restore and Renew Our Selves

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

Alfred & Barb Beck
153 Deck Rd.
Womelsdorf, PA 19567

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:

Peg Auman	Bryan Breidigam
Joe Buffington	Debbie Hartman
Violet Hepler	Frank Hoffman
Abbie Keath	The Leibig Family
Barbara Potteiger	Brian Ream
Norm Sharp	Stewart Wolf
Aaron Yiengst	Devon 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)
 Candy Hibshman (friend of Rachel Mock)
 Jennifer Clinton (daughter of Renee & Layne Strickler)
 Mitch Keath (relative of Mary Ream & Deb Buffington)



Jesus Heals Ten Lepers

One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. Luke 17:15 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 17:11-19 (NIV).



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S U L I R D V I L L A G E A S
S S T H E T V K S M Z F I F Z
V O H L V R H S W M S R E I J
V G A L T A D I S T A N C E L
X E N L E V E S P M P I T Y T
H D K O N E P Z A R J B X G L
J S E Y L L G S H G I N D C E
Y C D I R E J J P E X E Y A P
K T L Z P D E E M F E I S J R
V A C E M Y S G X S A Q V T O
G O N Z A U U P P R A I S E S
U X I D S N S C W O T D T F Y
M M U C T S S N V C F V M H P
M O D N E U N E N I N E Q M Q
L W A L R X A B D Y R D R J O
  
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FAITH	TRAVELED	FEET	LEPROSY	THANKED
VOICE	PITY	PRIESTS	JESUS	PRAISE
SAMARIA	DISTANCE	VILLAGE	GALILEE	NINE
MASTER	TEN	HEALED	CLEANSSED	LOUD