

Something Different

Sometimes the gospels give us the impression that Jesus would make a great lawyer. The Sadducees seem to ask him a pretty straightforward question, but Jesus answers it as though he is deliberately sidestepping the point. Indeed, he answers a lot of questions this way, apparently talking about something totally unrelated to the conversation at hand. If we pay close attention, though, we see that Jesus is directing us to an important point, even if it seems altogether different from the original track.

The Sadducees are challenging the validity of the resurrection with a hyperbolic question about ancient Hebrew marriage customs. But Jesus basically says, "Look, God came to Moses in the burning bush and said, 'I am the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob here and now, in the present. And I am the God of the living, not the dead.' Therefore, God's chosen ones are alive and well after death!"

Jesus knows that the reality of the resurrection is too hard for them to understand. It's too hard for *any* of us to understand. So instead of responding to their literal question, he offers some comfort. He says, "Listen, Moses already showed us that these saints are alive and well with God. It's okay. Don't worry about what comes next. God's got this."

Death is scary, so Jesus is giving us a word of assurance to help us face it. That word is this: "You will be resurrected. It's okay to be afraid. It's okay to not know what the resurrection will look like or who is going to be sitting where. Just remember that you are a beloved child of God and will be made alive together with all the saints."

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TEMPOSON.

Millcreek Lutheran Church Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost November 9, 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: Father in heaven, author of everlasting life; who has created us to live in your presence, even after our physical death: Convince us of the Christian hope that is ours, that we may not hinder our joy by unfounded doubts. We pray through Christ, our resurrection and life. Amen.

Serving you this morning:

Interim Pastor, Pastor Frank Terhune Lay Leader, Pastor Frank Terhune

Organist/Pianist, Debbie Tice Lay Reader, Cheryl Batdorf

Ushers/Audio, Scott Johnson & Frank Hoffman

The Service

Prelude of Entrance: <u>America the Beautiful, Battle Hymn</u>, <u>Thank You Soldiers</u>, by MLC Ensemble

Announcements

Prelude of Preparation: <u>Hymn to the Fallen</u>

*Greetings: Pages 57, line 5

*Opening Hymn: LBW (green) #567, God of our Fathers

God of Our Fathers

567





Prayer of the Day (read in unison)

O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Sermon

First Reading: Job 19:23-27a

O that my words were written down!
O that they were inscribed in a book!
O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock forever!
For I know that my vindicator lives and that in the end he will stand upon the earth;
and after my skin has been destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God,
a whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another."

Psalm 17:1-9 (read responsively)

- ¹ Hear a just cause, O Lord; give heed to my cry; listen to my prayer, which does not come from lying lips.
- ² Let my vindication come forth from your presence; let your eyes be fixed on justice.
- ³ Examine my heart, visit me by night, melt me down; you will find no impurity in me.
- ⁴ I have not regarded what others do; at the word of your lips I have avoided the ways of the violent.
- ⁵ My footsteps hold fast to your well-worn path; and my feet do not slip.
- ⁶ I call upon you, O God, for you will answer me; incline your ear to me and hear my words.
- ⁷ Show me your marvelous lovingkindness,
- O Savior of those who take refuge at your right hand from those who rise against them.
- ⁸ Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me under the shadow of your wings,

⁹ from the wicked who assault me, from my deadly enemies who surround me.

Second Reading: 2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

¹ As to the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered together to him, we beg you, brothers and sisters, ² not to be quickly shaken in mind or alarmed, either by spirit or by word or by letter, as though from us, to the effect that the day of the Lord is already here. ³ Let no one deceive you in any way, for that day will not come unless the rebellion comes first and the lawless one is revealed, the one destined for destruction. ⁴ He opposes and exalts himself above every so-called god or object of worship, so that he takes his seat in the temple of God, declaring himself to be God. ⁵ Do you not remember that I told you these things when I was still with you?

¹³ But we must always give thanks to God for you, brothers and sisters beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the first fruits for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and through belief in the truth. ¹⁴ For this purpose he called you through our gospel, so that you may obtain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁵ So then, brothers and sisters, stand firm and hold fast to the traditions that you were taught by us, either by word of mouth or by our letter.

¹⁶ Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself and God our Father, who loved us and through grace gave us eternal comfort and good hope, ¹⁷ comfort your hearts and strengthen them in every good work and word.

*The Alleluia Verse: Page 62, line 14

Gospel: Luke 20:27-38

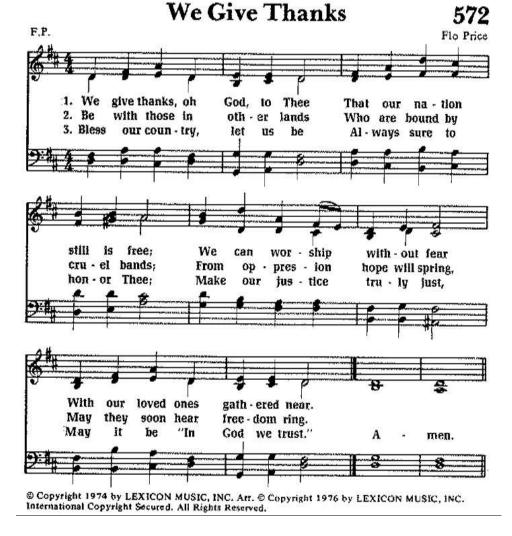
²⁷ Some Sadducees, those who say there is no resurrection, came to [Jesus] ²⁸ and asked him a question: "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother. ²⁹ Now there were seven brothers; the first married a woman and died childless; ³⁰ then the second ³¹ and the third married her, and so in the same way all seven died childless. ³² Finally the woman also died. ³³ In the resurrection, therefore, whose wife will the woman be? For the seven had married her."

³⁴ Jesus said to them, "Those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage, ³⁵ but those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage. ³⁶ Indeed, they cannot die anymore, because they are like angels and are children of God, being children of the resurrection. ³⁷ And the fact that the dead are raised Moses himself showed, in the story about the bush, where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. ³⁸ Now he is God not of the dead but of the living, for to him all of them are alive."

*Responses (spoken): Page 63, lines 15 & 16

The Sermon

Hymn of the Day: NCH (red) #572, We Give Thanks



*The Apostles' Creed, Page 65

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Special Music: Armed Services Salute

*The Prayers, Page 65, line 22

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all those who are in need. (a brief silence)

God of all that is, delight in the praises of your people and revive the spirit of your church. Move through us with boldness so that we proclaim the gospel of Christ throughout the world. Renew and revive pastors, deacons, and lay leaders. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**.

God of the beginning, give us the courage to advocate for environmental policy that will ensure a viable future for generations to come. Restore desolate places to health and flourishing. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**.

God of all our days, guide the leaders of governments, nations, municipalities, and all those seeking office. Accompany election officials and volunteers. Dismantle injustice and oppression wherever it is found. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God of comfort in troubled times, we pray for those in need of protection and care especially those on our congregational prayer list. Trusting that you are constant in mercy, protect those who seek safety and solace. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer**.

God of what is yet to come, encourage and inspire those who give their time, talent, and treasure in service to your church. By their commitment, further the work of ministry in this place and uplift your gospel. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

God o time and space, we give thanks for the faithful departed. Sustain us in hope of our eternal unity in Christ. Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*The Lord's Prayer, Page 71 (spoken in unison)

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.

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

Closing Hymn: LBW (green) #467, <u>Eternal Father</u>, <u>Strong to</u> Save



Moments of Meditation: Congregation seated

Postlude



Millcreek Lutheran Church Veteran's Day Recognition

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

Dale Bentz **Gregory Bergman Craig Evans Brett Flory** Gene Flory Stanley Kahl **Karl Keath Christopher Layser Daniel Long** Leonard "Lenny" Ontkos Gary Sharp Norman Sharp Patricia Sharp Roarke Singer **Richard Sites David Staaby Michael Stoudt Dustin Strickler Brian Webber** Joshua Weigman **Gerald Wolf**



Our Mission: Helping God restore & renew 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, November 9, 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

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. Finished shoe boxes are due by November 9th and 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. If you have any questions, please contact Lisa Martin (610-589-5505) or Pat Ontkos (610-589-4350).

HOLIDAY BOXES: We will be having our next kids' event on Sunday, Nov. 16th from 1-3pm. This event is a community service project. We will be assembling Thanksgiving boxes & we are in need of the following items:

boxed mashed potatoes boxed stuffing gravy canned yams canned green beans canned corn canned cranberry sauce.

A box will be in the Narthex for donations. Your generosity is appreciated!

Helping God Restore and Renew our Congregation

TREASURER'S REPORT: Sunday, November 2, 2025:

Current Offerings- \$1,843, Plate- \$115, Recycling- \$16 **Total- \$1,974** Attendance- 60 Sunday School- 17

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

THE COFFEE BAR in the Narthex is now up and running! It will be open 9 am to 10:05 am and then closed during service. Be sure to come early to get your coffee, tea, or hot chocolate!

CELL TOWER: The cell tower presentation is confirmed for Sunday November 9th immediately following the service. All questions from the congregation have been forwarded to TPG. This will also be available via the phone patch. Please plan to attend.

PHOTOS & PRAYERS: 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.

CHRISTMAS GIFT BAGS: Starting Sunday November 16th, the table will be set up in the narthex with the gift bags. There are 12 shut-ins currently on our list. Please have all cards and items in the bags by Sunday, Dec. 14th to allow time for bags to be delivered by Christmas. There will be a sign-up sheet to deliver the bags on the table. Any questions or if someone needs added to the list, please tell Nikki Johnson. Thank you.

POINSETTIAS: We invite members to purchase poinsettias in memory of or in honor of loved ones, or simply in their own names. The poinsettias will be used to decorate the Sanctuary for the holidays. Please order early. Deadline is Sunday November 16th. They are \$12 per plant.

Sign up form is in the Narthex. Make checks payable to Millcreek Lutheran Church. Please designate poinsettias.

BIBLE STUDY: Pastor Terhune will begin a weekly adult Bible study for Advent this year and will continue Bible study into 2026. There is a sheet in the Narthex to sign up. We are asking for your preferred time in addition to topics you have an interest in. We may have multiple days and times based upon schedules.

UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE & EVENTS:

- Sunday Nov. 9- Veteran's Celebration. Abbreviated service with cell tower presentation and Questions & Answers from 11am-12pm.
- Sunday Nov. 16- Sweet Second Sunday and 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.

Helping God Restore and Renew Our Selves

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

Barbara Potteiger Henner Apartments, Apt. #105 24 East High St. Womelsdorf, PA 19567

PRAYER LIST: Please make requests to Jen M. by noon Wed. each week: <u>secretary@millcreeklutheran.com</u> 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
The Leibig Family	Barbara Potteiger	Audrey Putt
Brian Ream	Norm Sharp	Gerry Strickler
Stewart Wolf	Aaron Yiengst	Devon Yiengst
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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
Candy Hibshman, friend of Rachel Mock
Jennifer Clinton, daughter of Renee & Layne Strickler
Mitch Keath, relative of Mary Ream & Deb Buffington
Renee Troutman, friend of Debbie Tice
Richard Shaddinger, nephew of Nancy Deiter





Pennsylvania Dutch

(Also known as Pennsylvania German)

Christmas Service

Gottesdienscht

Zoar Lutheran Church Zoar (Ziegel) Ludderisch Karrich

560 Freeport Road.(Mt. Zion)Lebanon, PA 17046

Sunday, November 23, 2025 Sunndaag, der dreiunzwansichscht November 2025 2:30 P.M.

Am halwer drei nummidaag

The Christmas Story from Luke Chapter 2 will be read in PA Dutch and in English.

Christmas carols, religious and secular, will be sung in PA Dutch and English.

A PA Dutch Christmas tradition will be told in English. The sermon will be in PA Dutch.

> PA Dutch Sermon by: David Adam Der Breddicher: der David Adam

Light refreshments following Service

Questions: call 717-933-5511, or email pgalice2@gmail.com