



Jesus,
remember
me when
you come into
your kingdom

LUKE 23:42

The Servant King

Many congregations will sing a hymn this Sunday that declares, “Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o’er the grave and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save” (ELW 855). This is an image of a conquering hero who fought Satan and won. Hail to the king! But that is not the king we are presented with in today’s gospel reading. Jesus is a broken, rejected man hanging naked in public shame, dying for a capital offense, sandwiched between two criminals.

Many people struggle to think of Jesus as king because of the negative actions of historical kings. Kings have too often been men wielding power for their own gain, sitting on thrones upheld by patriarchy and wealth. Furthering this negative image are colonialism and the kings who issued decrees to ravage and control people in their native land. Neither is this the image of Christ the king in today’s reading.

At Gonzaga University (Spokane, Washington), a focus on servant leadership is offered as a concentration in the master’s program in organizational leadership. Its focuses are forgiveness and restorative justice, listening and discerning, community-building, foresight and strategy, and transformational thinking. Doesn’t that sound a lot more like the leadership of Jesus?

Perhaps we are reminded of the hard parts of Jesus’ journey to draw our attention to his purpose and the focus of his teachings. He wasn’t a conqueror, and he didn’t wield power for his own gain. He hung naked on the cross to be the ultimate servant leader. We claim Jesus as our king because of his servant leadership—his focus on forgiveness and restoration, building community, and thinking in transformational ways. Hail the servant king!

Cover: Metal carving of three men on crosses. Photo copyright © 2024 Peter Griffin/Getty Images. Used by permission.

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Tracks 1 and 2
ELCA-E

Millcreek Lutheran Church
Christ the King
November 23, 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: Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who desires that all person acknowledge your Son as King of their lives: Give us perceptive minds and penitent hearts, that we may submit to Jesus as the true master of our lives, and come into your kingdom. We pray in his name. Amen.

Serving you this morning:

Interim Pastor,	Pastor Frank Terhune
Lay Leader,	Jennifer Rosengrant
Organist/Pianist,	Debbie Tice
Lay Reader,	Julie Strickler
Ushers/Audio,	Scott Johnson & Frank Hoffman

The Service

Prelude of Entrance

Announcements

Prelude of Preparation

*Confession & Forgiveness Page 56

*Opening Hymn LBW (green) #170
Crown Him with Many Crowns vs. 1-3

*Greetings Page 57

*Kyrie Page 57

Prayer of the Day (read in unison)

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Children's Sermon

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. ²Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalms 46 (read responsively)

¹God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

²**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**

³though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

⁴**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

⁵God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.

⁶**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

⁷The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸**Come now, regard the works of the Lord,
what desolations God has brought up- on the earth;**

⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields
with fire.

¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the
earth.”**

¹¹ The Lord of ¹ hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Second Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***The Alleluia Verse**

Page 62

***Gospel: Luke 23:33-43**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-third chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ [[Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.”]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?” ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly,

for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.”⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom.”⁴³ He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

The Holy Gospel according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Sermon

Hymn of the Day

NCH (red) #427

I Walk with the King

***The Nicene Creed**

Page 64

Choir Anthem: *Majesty*

***The Prayers**

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church in the world, its leaders, and its mission to share the good news of healing and restoration. Inspire us to embody the beloved community in ways that faithfully witness to the Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the trembling mountains and glad streams of creation. Preserve and renew your coastlines, deep seas, forests, and grasslands. Guide all who tend flocks or care for creatures of all kinds. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for leaders and advocates in government, civic life, and public safety. Support equity across the globe, and heal division with accountability and truth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for any who are hungry, living in poverty or desperation, weary in body or spirit, or sick (*especially*). Comfort all in need of your tender care. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for this part of the body of Christ gathered around word and sacrament. Bring us into authentic community where all ages are valued and experience God's faithfulness together. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for all who have died in faith (*especially*). May we remember them faithfully until we are gathered with you in the paradise you promise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

Great Thanksgiving (spoken)	Page 68
*The Preface	Page 68
*The Sanctus: <i>Holy, Holy, Holy</i>	Page 69
*Words of Institution	Page 69
*The Lord's Prayer	Page 71
Communion of the Faithful	
*Communion Blessing	Page 72
*Post-Communion Cantic, <i>Thank the Lord</i>	Page 72
*Post-Communion Prayer	Page 74
*Blessing	Page 74
*Closing Hymn	LBW (green) #170
<i>Crown Him with Many Crowns vs. 4-6</i>	
*Dismissal	Page 74
Moments of Meditation: Congregation seated	
Postlude	

Commemoration

When we are baptized, we are baptized into the body of Christ. We understand this body to be the communion of saints, a diverse witness of men & women across time and space. Throughout its history, the church has sought to lift up Christians who have been unique, exemplary people of faith.

November 23 is set aside for the commemoration of Clement of Rome. Clement (ca. 35-100 AD) is remembered for having established the pattern of apostolic authority that governed the Christian Church during the first and second centuries. He also insisted on keeping Christ at the center of the Church's worship and outreach. In a letter to the Christians at Corinth, he emphasized the centrality of Jesus' death and resurrection: "Let us fix our eyes on the blood of Christ, realizing how precious it is to His Father, since it was poured out for our salvation and brought the grace of repentance to the whole world" (1 Clement 6:31). Clement displayed a steadfast, Christ-like love for God's redeemed people, serving as an inspiration to the future generations to continue to build the Church on the foundation of the prophets and apostles, with Christ as the one and only cornerstone. Tradition indicates he suffered a martyr's death by drowning, being tied to an anchor.



The flowers are given in honor & glory of God and in celebration of the Merkel's 65th anniversary.

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on his throne; Hark,
 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, The God in - car - nate born, Whose
 3 Crown him the Lord of love— Be - hold his hands and side, Rich
 4 Crown him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the grave And

how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own, A -
 arm those crim - son tro - phies won Which now his brow a - dorn; Fruit
 wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied, No
 rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those he came to save. His

wake, my soul, and sing Of him who died for thee, And
 of the mys - tic rose, Yet of that rose the stem, The
 an - gels in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sign, But
 glo - ries now we sing, Who died and rose on high, Who

hail him as thy match - less king Through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, The babe of Beth - le - hem,
 down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes At mys - ter - ies so bright.
 died, e - ter - nal life to bring, And lives that death may die.

- 5 Crown him the Lord of peace,
 Whose pow'r a scepter sways
 From pole to pole, that wars may cease,
 Absorbed in prayer and praise.
 His reign shall know no end,
 And round his pierced feet
 Fair flow'rs of paradise extend
 Their fragrance ever sweet.

- 6 Crown him the Lord of years,
 The potentate of time,
 Creator of the rolling spheres,
 Ineffably sublime.
 All hail, Redeemer, hail!
 For thou hast died for me;
 Thy praise and glory shall not fail
 Throughout eternity.

James Rowe

Bentley D. Ackley

1. In sor - row I wan - dered, my spir - it op - prest, But now I am
 2. For years in the fet - ters of sin I was bound, The world could not
 3. O soul near des - pair in the low - lands of strife, Look up and let

hap - py, se - cure - ly I rest; From morn - ing till eve - ning glad
 help me, no com - fort I found; But now like the birds and the
 Je - sus come in - to your life; The joy of sal - va - tion to

car - ols I sing, And this is the rea - son, I walk with the King.
 sun - beams of spring, I'm free and re - joic - ing, I walk with the King.
 you He would bring Come in - to the sun - light and walk with the King.

Refrain

I walk with the King, hal - le - lu - jah! I walk with the King, praise His name!

No lon - ger I roam, my soul fac - es home, I walk and I talk with the King.



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 16, 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

ADVENT FOOD COLLECTION: Advent is fast approaching. We are bringing back our Reverse Advent Calendar. This time of year, we think about getting. This calendar is all about giving. You can pick one up in the narthex. There is one food item mentioned every day. Completed boxes can be brought during Christmas week to be distributed to local Food pantries to replenish their shelves following the Christmas demand. The need this year is great. We can help feed the hungry. Take the Advent challenge. Together. We can live out Jesus' command to love one another.

Helping God Restore and Renew our Congregation

TREASURER'S REPORT: Sunday, November 16, 2025:

Current Offerings- \$1,545, Plate- \$155, Flower- \$30, Memorial Fund- \$100

Total- \$1,830 Attendance- 62 Sunday School- 16

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

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.

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.

CHRISTMAS EVE MUSIC: Musicians are welcome to join the choir, the MLC ensemble, or the brass choir for Christmas Eve – see Debbie Tice or Julie Strickler for information.

UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE & EVENTS:

- Sunday November 23 is a communion service for Christ the King Sunday, signifying the end of the church year.
- Sunday November 30 – Advent begins with a communion service & lighting of the Advent wreath.
- Sunday December 7– 2nd Advent communion service with Hanging of the Greens – bring an ornament for the tree, children will sing. Service is followed by a light lunch of sandwiches & Christmas cookies.
- Sunday December 14 – 3rd Advent – Children’s Program – The Shepherd’s Story – see the Christmas Story thru the eyes of the shepherds! This service is held in the multi-purpose room.
- Sunday December 21 – 4th Advent – Lessons & Carols – A very simple but special service with special readings and music.
- Sunday December 21 – 5 pm – Quiet Christmas – we have traditionally been doing this service on the night of the Winter Solstice. A very simple service with communion and candlelight. It is especially geared to those who may have suffered a loss in the past year and do not want to face the standard Christmas services.
- Wednesday December 24 @ 10 pm –candlelight communion service filled with music, candles, and joy!
- Sunday December 28 – Christmas continues with our regular worship service. There will be no Sunday School on this date.

▪ **Helping God Restore and Renew Our Selves**

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

Ann Welling, Rm. # 238
Country Meadows
1800 Tulpehocken Rd.
Wyomissing, PA 19610

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
Liz Leibig	Barbara Potteiger	Brian Ream
Norm Sharp	Gerry Strickler	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
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

Advent Bible Study **A Clear View of the Birth of Jesus** **Tuesdays, 1:00 pm & 7 pm**

The Manger and the Inn	November 25
Ancestors, Joseph, & Herod	December 2
Salvation and the Magi	December 9
Atrocity and Welcome	December 16

Take some time to prepare the way
for the Christmas celebration of Jesus' birth.
We'll share traditions, Bible study, and faith
as we focus on this meaningful time of getting
ready for Christ.

God's Gift of Love



Pennsylvania Dutch

(Also known as Pennsylvania German)

Christmas Service

Gottesdiensch

Zoar Lutheran Church
Zoar (Ziegel) Ludderisch Karrich

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

Sunday, November 23, 2025

Sunndaag, der dreiunzwansichst 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



We would like to thank EVERYONE from Millcreek that gave to the Toys for Tots collection in memory of Stacey Pennington, our Daughter, Sister, and Mother. Lindsay had just enough room in the car for a suitcase after loading all the toys and heading back to Maryland. This was a huge success.

THANK YOU to Our Church family,
Stephanie, Lindsay, Conner, & Cole





Thanks to everyone who participated in Samaritan's Purse- Operation Christmas Child. We collected a total of 62 shoeboxes this year. However you helped support this project- either by filling a shoebox, a monetary contribution, or your continued prayers for this project- a BIG THANK YOU!!!

Lisa Martin & Pat Ontkos

Christ the King

When they came to the place called the Skull, there they crucified him, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. Luke 23:33 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Luke 23:33-43 (NIV).



CHRIST THE KING

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

PUNISHED
MOCKED
TRUTH
FEAR

LEFT
PARADISE
SKULL
SOLDIERS

CRUCIFIED
KING
SAVE
RIGHT

DIVIDED
FATHER
CRIMINALS
FORGIVE

CLOTHES
CHOSEN
CHRIST
MEMEMBER