



Millcreek Lutheran Church
February 8, 2026
Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

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, we hope you will consider joining us- knowing that you can expect to find people who love God and who want to know and love you. 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, who challenges your church with a ministry which lightens and enhances the lives of others: Lead us into committed service, that our ministry may bring wholeness to our world through Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. **Amen.**

Serving you this morning:

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

The Service

Prelude of Entrance

Announcements

Prelude of Preparation

***Confession & Forgiveness**

LBW p. 56

***Opening Hymn:**

LBW #231

O Word of God Incarnate

O Word of God Incarnate



1 O Word of God in - car - nate, O Wis - dom from on high,
2 The church from you, dear Mas - ter, re - ceived the gift di - vine;
3 Oh, make your church, dear Sav - ior, a lamp of bur - nished gold



O Truth un - changed, un - chang - ing, O Light of our dark sky;
and still that light is lift - ed o'er all the earth to shine.
to bear be - fore the na - tions your true light, as of old;



we praise you for the ra - diance that from the hal - lowed page,
It is the chart and com - pass that, all life's voy - age through,
oh, teach your wand - ring pil - grims by this their path to trace,



a lan - tern to our foot - steps, shines on from age to age.
mid mists and rocks and quick - sands still guides, O Christ, to you.
till, clouds and dark - ness end - ed, they see you face to face.

Text: William W. How, 1823–1897, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

***Greetings:**

LBW p. 57, line 5

***The Kyrie**

LBW p. 57-58, line 6

Hymn of Praise, *Glory to God*

LBW p. 58

Prayer of the Day (read in unison)

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Sermon

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-9a

¹ Shout out; do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet day after day they seek me
and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments;
they want God on their side.

³ “Why do we fast, but you do not see?
Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day
and oppress all your workers.

⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight
and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵ Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the Lord?

⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?

⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you;
the glory of the Lord shall be your rear guard.

^{9a} Then you shall call, and the Lord will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, “Here I am.”

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

Psalm 112:1-9 (read responsively)

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the Lord
and have great delight in God’s commandments!

² **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**

³ Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴ **Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**

⁵It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.

**⁶For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**

⁷They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

**⁸Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**

⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast
forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. ⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him”

¹⁰God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

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

***The Alleluia Verse**

LBW p. 62, line 14

***Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the fifth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ¹³“You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled underfoot. ¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in

heaven. ¹⁷“Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

The Holy Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The Sermon

Hymn of the Day

NCH (red) #344

344

The Heavenly Vision

(Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus)

Helen H. Lemmel

Helen H. Lemmel

1. O soul, are you wea - ry and troub - led? No light in the
 2. Through death in - to life ev - er - last - ing He passed, and we
 3. His word shall not fail you He prom - ised; Be - lieve Him and

dark-ness you see? — There's light for a look at the Sav - ior,
 fol - low Him there; — O - ver us sin no more hath do - min - ion.
 all will be well: — Then go to a world that is dy - ing,

Refrain
 And life more a - bun - dant and free!
 For more than con - qu'rors we are! Turn your eyes up - on Je -
 His per - fect sal - va - tion to tell!

sus, Look full in His won - der - ful face; — And the things of

earth will grow strange - ly dim In the light of His glo - ry and grace.

Choir Anthem

***The Prayers**

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

A brief silence.

Your church does ministry in many and various ways. Keep the baptized true to the mind of Christ, that our works and witness bring hope to a troubled world. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your marvelous creation cries out to you. Restore polluted air, soil, and water sources to wholeness. Guard honeybees, elephants, great whales and songbirds from harm, and renew the face of the earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your people in every nation suffer injustice, poverty, and the threat of violence. Guide those in authority to govern with compassion, and bring peace to war zones. We pray for our enemies. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your blessings are poured out for all in need. Help and heal any who experience trauma, discrimination, disease, hunger, abuse, or persecution. Comfort those who are sick or grieving. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your wisdom guides this congregation and its ministries. Sustain our ordained leaders, staff, lay leaders, and volunteers. Form us to be salt and light for the neighbors we serve, following the example of Christ. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Your saints rejoice at your heavenly banquet. We give thanks for their lives of faith, trusting that we also will be embraced by your eternal love. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **Amen.**

***Blessing:**

May the triune God, who has put a new song in your mouth and tuned your heart for praise † bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

***Closing Hymn**

LBW #403

Lord Speak to Us, That We May Speak

Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak



1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak in
2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead the
3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach the
4 Oh, fill us with your full - ness, Lord, un -



liv - ing ech - oes of your tone; as you have sought, so
wan-d'ring and the wa - v'ring feet; oh, feed us, Lord, that
pre - cious truths which you im - part; and wing our words, that
til our ver - y hearts o'er - flow in kin - dling thought and



let us seek your stray - ing chil - dren, lost and lone.
we may feed your hun - g'ring ones with man - na sweet.
they may reach the hid - den depths of man - y_a heart.
glow - ing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, alt.
Music: CANONBURY, Robert Schumann, 1810-1856

Moments of Meditation (seated)

*Dismissal

Postlude

LBW p.74

*The flowers & bulletins are given in honor & glory
of God and in honor of Zachary Hepler's 34th
birthday! Love, Mom & Dad*



Happy Birthday



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, February 8, 2026

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.



WEATHER ALERT: In case of bad weather, please tune into Channel 27 WHTM (Comcast Channel 12) for notices of church service cancellation, which scrolls across the bottom of the TV screen or WLBR 1270 radio station. When church is cancelled due to the weather, there is no one at the church for a service on the Phone Patch.

Helping God Restore and Renew our Community

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING: Millcreek Lutheran Church is excited to once again participate in the Lebanon County Christian Ministries Souper Bowl of Caring. We kicked off on Sunday the 18th with a goal of 420 Cans of soup. We will have a soup and sandwich luncheon following the service this Sunday.

We are also extending our collection of cans of soup to the 15th due to missing 2 weeks of church. A display is in the Narthex for you to drop off your soup. If you prefer to give a monetary donation, we can purchase soup for you. We look forward to helping tackle hunger in our community over the next 30 days! Go Team Millcreek!

Any questions, contact Jen Rosengrant: jrosengrant1200@comcast.net or 717-228-8857.



Happy New Year! Our Relay for Life team, the Cancer Crusaders, are participating in multiple fundraising opportunities currently. If you have any questions, see team members, Deb Buffington, Deb Tice or Mary Ream.

Thank you for your support!

- Mr. Sticky's sticky buns- Orders will be taken until Sunday February 15th. Delivery date is February 27th. Individual buns are \$4 and a 6-pack is \$21. Look for the order form in the Narthex.
- Daffodil Days- Orders will be taken until Sunday February 15th. Flowers will arrive March 25th. Look for the order form in the Narthex.
- Cash and Gift Card Bingo- Saturday February 21, 2026 at the Neptune Fire Company in Richland. Doors open at noon, games start at 1pm. Tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door, if not sold out. Limited seats available & each seat needs a ticket. Additional games/cards available at the door! Door prizes, raffle baskets, 50/50 drawing, Survivor game, food for purchase and Fun! Purchase your tickets from any team member.

Helping God Restore and Renew our Congregation

FLOWER AND BULLETIN SIGNUP SHEETS for 2026 are available on the bulletin board in the narthex. Flowers-\$30, Bulletins- \$10.

CHURCH BREAKFAST: The Church Breakfast is held on the 2nd Saturday of every month (next: Feb. 14th) at the Country Fare Restaurant in Myerstown at 8:00 a.m. Everyone is welcome with no reservations needed. Inform the hostess of the group you are looking for and she will direct you to our table. You can choose to come every month or only on an occasion. Either way, we'd love for you to be part of our group. *Nancy Deiter*

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: We want to express our appreciation for those that attended the congregational meeting last Sunday. The following items were passed as follows:

2026 Budget **approved unanimously**

2026 Council slate **approved unanimously**

Moving forward with the cell tower **48 Yes** **6** No or abstain

Moving forward with solar **49 Yes** **5** No or abstain

UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE & EVENTS:

- Sunday February 8- Souper Sunday soup collection for the food bank and Souper Bowl lunch following the service.
- Wednesday February 18- 7pm Ash Wednesday service with light refreshments following the service.

Helping God Restore and Renew Our Selves

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:

Bryan Breidigam	Debbie Hartman	Violet Hepler
Liz Leibig	Brian Ream	Norm Sharp
Gerry Strickler	Stewart Wolf	Aaron Yiengst
Devon Yiengst	Michael Yiengst, Jr.	Greer Zellers

NON-MEMBERS:

Gary Beatty, friend of Debbie Hartman
JoAnn Deahl, Brandy Gahres' mother
Linda McMullan, sister in law of Greta McMullan
Jennifer Clinton, daughter of Renee & Layne Strickler
Mitch Keath, relative of Mary Ream & Deb Buffington
Louise Hainley, cousin of Debbie Tice
Renee Troutman, friend of Debbie Tice
Jeff Okamoto & family, friend of Kristin Bender
Alethea Grissinger, friend of Deb Buffington
Portia Lindermath, daughter of Deb Hogeland

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

Liz Leibig
34 W. Park Ave.
Newmanstown, PA 17073

TAX FORMS: Donation forms for tax year 2025 are available for pick up in the Narthex.

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany 🕯️ February 8, 2026

The Lamp Is Already Lit

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine" (ELW 677). There's nothing quite like the joyous call and response of a whole congregation singing together the words of this beloved African American spiritual. The text and tune make it very hard to keep any lamps under a bushel basket!

In his Sermon on the Mount, Jesus calls us to "let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). Many congregations use these words during the rite of Holy Baptism. But "Let *your* light shine" doesn't imply that the light belongs only to us or to the church. The first chapter of Genesis clarifies this. At the beginning of creation, God speaks light into existence, making light God's first gift to the whole world. In that light, God creates everything, including human-kind, which is made in the divine image, according to God's likeness.

Living in harmony with God's word, letting our light shine with "good works" that glorify God, is not about striving for perfection. Because God's light has existed from the beginning, it is not something we earn or achieve for ourselves. We don't provide the spark that lights the lamp—it is already lit by God. Our job is to let the light shine. To be light for the world, then, is to be none other than who we have been from the beginning. Therein lies not only the fulfillment of God's word, but also our own fulfillment as God's children and light-bearers in the world.

Plugged In and Turned On

"You are the light of the world." Matthew 5:14 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 5:14-16 (NIV)



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

LAMP

WORLD

PRAISE

LIGHT

CITY

HOUSE

BOWL

MEN

FATHER

GOOD

HIDDEN

HILL

DEEDS

SHINE

STAND