

Millcreek Lutheran Church
February 15, 2026
Transfiguration of Our Lord

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: Holy God our heavenly Father, who has revealed your Son to us as divine Lord: Open our eyes to see his glory, that we may give our devotion to him through committed living. In his name we pray. **Amen.**

Serving you this morning:

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

The Service

Prelude of Entrance

Announcements

Prelude of Preparation

***Confession & Forgiveness**

LBW p. 56

***Opening Hymn:**

LBW #526

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise



1 Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2 Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3 To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4 Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish like leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der; oh, help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise!
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - cr and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee!

Text: Walter Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.
 Music: ST. DENIO, Welsh traditional

***Greetings:**

LBW p. 57, line 5

***The Kyrie**

LBW p. 57-58, line 6

Hymn of Praise, *This is the Feast*

LBW p. 60

Prayer of the Day (read in unison)

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Choir & Children's Anthem: *We are Singing for the Lord is our Light*

We Are Singing, for the Lord Is Our Light

HAL H. HOPSON
Based on Psalm 27:1-4

CONGREGATIONAL PART

Zulu Traditional Song
Arranged by HAL H. HOPSON

REFRAIN

(S. A. T. B. or unison voices)
S. A.

We are sing - ing, for the Lord is our light, — we are
Zulu: See yah hahm — buh koo kah nigh nee kwen kohs, — See yah

T. B.

sing - ing, for the Lord is our light. — We are sing - ing, for the
hahm buh koo kah nigh nee kwen kohs. — See yah hahm — buh koo kah

Lord is our light, — we are sing - ing for the Lord is our light. —
nigh nee kwen kohs, — See yah hahm buh koo kah nigh nee kwen kohs. —

REFRAIN (Choir only)

CHOIR

1. We are singing,
Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.
We are singing,
Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.
The Lord is the strength of our lives;
of whom shall we be afraid?
Though foes may be near to destroy;
the Lord may be our light.

REFRAIN (Congregation joins)

CHOIR

2. We are singing,
Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.
We are singing,
Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.
One thing have we asked of the Lord,
yes, this is the thing we seek:
To dwell in the house of the Lord,
to live with God forever.

REFRAIN (Congregation joins)

CHOIR

3. We are singing,
Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.
We are singing,
Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.
When burdens are heavy to bear,
our shelter is God alone.
Our feet are lifted high,
yes, high upon a rock.

REFRAIN (Congregation joins)

CHOIR

4. We are singing,
Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.
We are singing,
Oh, we are singing, for the Lord is our light.
We walk in the strength of the Lord,
God's love is ever sure.
We shout that the world may hear,
we sing a joyful song.

REFRAIN (Congregation joins)

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Children's Sermon

First Reading: Exodus 24: 12-18

¹²The Lord said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there; I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up onto the mountain of God. ¹⁴To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come back to you. Look, Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the Lord settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the

cloud. ¹⁷ Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the Israelites. ¹⁸ Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

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

Psalm 2 (read responsively)

¹ Why are the nations in an uproar?

Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?

² Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes plot together, against the Lord and against the Lord's anointed?

³ "Let us break their yoke," they say;

"let us cast off their bonds from us."

**⁴ God whose throne is in heaven is laughing;
the Lord holds them in derision.**

⁵ Then in wrath God speaks to them,
and in rage fills them with terror.

**⁶ "As for me, I have anointed my king
upon Zion, my holy mountain."**

⁷ Let me announce the decree of the Lord,
who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I begotten you.

**⁸ Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance
and the ends of the earth for your possession.**

⁹ You shall crush them with an iron rod
and shatter them like a piece of pottery."

**¹⁰ And now, you kings, be wise;
be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

¹¹ Submit to the Lord with fear,
and with trembling bow in worship;

**¹² lest the Lord be angry, and you perish in a sudden blaze of
wrath. Happy are all who take refuge in God!**

Second Reading: 2 Peter 1:16-21

¹⁶ We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷ For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." ¹⁸ We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹ So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰ First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹ because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

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

***Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the seventeenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. ² And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became bright as light. ³ Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. ⁴ Then Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will set up three tents here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁵ While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!" ⁶ When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. ⁷ But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Get up and do not be afraid." ⁸ And when they raised their eyes, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

⁹ As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, "Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead."

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

The Sermon

Hymn of the Day

NCH (red) #57

The Light of the World is Jesus

The Light of the World Is Jesus

Philip P. Bliss

Philip P. Bliss



1. The whole world was lost in the dark-ness of sin; The Light of the
2. No dark-ness have we who in Je-sus a-bide, The Light of the
3. Ye dwell-ers in dark-ness with sin-blind-ed eyes, The Light of the
4. No need of the sun-light in heav-en we're told, The Light of the



world is Je-sus; Like sun-shine at noon-day His glo-ry shone in,
 world is Je-sus; We walk in the Light when we fol-low our Guide,
 world is Je-sus; Go, wash at His bid-ding, and light will a-rise,
 world is Je-sus; The Lamb is the light in the cit-y of gold,

*Refrain*

The Light of the world is Je - sus. Come to the Light, 'tis



shin - ing for thee; Sweet - ly the Light has dawned up - on me, Once I was



blind, but now I can see: The Light of the world is Je - sus.



*The Nicene Creed

LBW p. 64

*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.

Revealing God, your Spirit sustains the church. Strengthen the faithful with the revelation of Christ transfigured, that we may joyfully follow him in the way of the cross. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Life-giving God, creation is full of your majesty. Nurture in us a deep respect for the interdependence of all life, and make us wise and vigilant stewards of your good earth. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Peacemaking God, the nations are in turmoil. We pray for an end to violent conflict. Give wisdom to negotiators and sanctuary to refugees. Defend any who are in danger. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Healing God, you desire wholeness for all people. Bring healing to any who are experiencing illness, chronic pain, or mental anguish. Comfort the dying and those who grieve. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Holy God, in our worship we glimpse your glory, hear your voice, and receive assurance of your love. Inspire all who prepare, lead, and participate in worship to serve you with reverence and joy. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Transforming God, you bring life from death. We give thanks for the witness of those who have died in faith, and we praise you for the hope we have in Christ, our Morning Star. 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.**

The Great Thanksgiving (spoken) **LBW p.68**

***The Preface** **LBW p.68**

The Sanctus: *Holy, Holy, Holy **LBW p.69**

***Words of Institution** **LBW p.69**

***The Lord's Prayer** **LBW p.71**

Communion of the Faithful

***Communion Blessing** **LBW p.72**

Post-Communion Canticle, *Thank the Lord **LBW p.72**

***Post-Communion Prayer** **LBW p.74**

***Closing Hymn** **LBW #89**

How Good Lord to Be Here

Moments of Meditation (seated)

***Dismissal** **LBW p.74**

Postlude

How Good, Lord, to Be Here!



1 How good, Lord, to be here! Your glo - ry fills the night;
2 How good, Lord, to be here, your beau - ty to be - hold
3 Ful - fill - er of the past and hope of things to be,
4 Be - fore we taste of death, we see your king - dom come;
5 How good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not re - main;

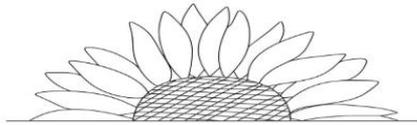


your face and gar - ments, like the sun, shine with un - bor - rowed light.
where Mo - ses and E - li - jah stand, your mes - sen - gers of old.
we hail your bod - y glo - ri - fied and our re - demp - tion see.
we long to hold the vi - sion bright and make this hill our home.
but since you bid us leave the mount, come with us to the plain.

Text: Joseph A. Robinson, 1858–1933, alt.

Music: POTSDAM, W. Mercer, *The Church Psalter and Hymn Book*, 1854

The flowers & bulletins are given in honor & glory of God, and in honor of Bethany Keener's birthday, by her family.



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 15, 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 YouTube.



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



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.

MANY THANKS TO OUR SOUPER HELPERS who all made our Souper Bowl Sunday luncheon a success: our soup-makers Julie, Nancy, Jen R, Pastor, and Deb, all who came and brought sides, Morgan and Frank Hoffman and all the rest who helped to clean up. It was a group effort and wonderful day of fellowship! Soup collection will continue for the rest of the month. Thanks again for always giving when asked!

GIRL SCOUTS: On March 8th, the girl scouts will hand out fliers and will have a table of cookies for sale, \$6/box.

Helping God Restore and Renew our Congregation

January Treasurer's Report: Current offerings: \$4130, Plate- \$190, Initial- 186, Advent-\$5, Flowers & Bulletins- \$70, Capital Campaign- \$25. Total- \$4,606

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

SECURITY NOTE: If you stop by the church or are the last one to leave the church, please make sure to pull on all the door handles once outside to ensure they are all locked. We have numerous instances over the past month where the doors have been found unlocked. If you are stopping in outside of the Pastor's office hours or for a meeting, we encourage you to use the side door rather than unlocking the electronic doors. We appreciate your attentiveness to this matter.

UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE & EVENTS:

- Sunday February 15- Communion service
- Wednesday February 18- 7pm Ash Wednesday service
- Sunday February 22- Regular service
- Wednesday February 25- Lent service at Elias UCC, Newmanstown, 7pm
- Sunday March 1- Communion service with Pastor Joel Risser. (Pastor Terhune will be on vacation.)
- Wednesday March 4- Lent service at New Life Fellowship, Newmanstown, 7pm
- Sunday March 9- Regular service
- Wednesday March 11- Lent service at Grace UCC, 7pm

Helping God Restore and Renew Our Selves

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

Sandy & Dale Bashore
604 W. Franklin St.
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:

Bryan Breidigam	Debbie Hartman	Violet Hepler
Liz Leibig	Portia Lindermuth	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
Jeff Okamoto & family, friends of Kristin Bender
Alethea Grissinger, friend of Deb Buffington
Ken Dudley, son of Barb Heckendorn

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

Newmanstown-Richland Ministerium

LENTEN SERVICES

FEBRUARY 18 2026

Millcreek Lutheran Church, Newmanstown PA, 7:00 PM
Pastor Matt Grant • Poor In Spirit

FEBRUARY 25 2026

Elias United Church of Christ, Newmanstown PA, 7:00 PM
Pastor Jim Artz • Those Who Mourn

MARCH 4 2026

New Life Fellowship, Newmanstown PA, 7:00 PM
Pastor Jay Heberling • Blessed Are The Meek

MARCH 11 2026

Grace United Church of Christ, Richland PA, 7:00 PM
Pastor Bill Wink • Hunger & Thirst

MARCH 18 2026

Church of Christian Outreach, Newmanstown PA, 7:00 PM
Pastor Jay Heberling • Blessed Are The Merciful

MARCH 25 2026

Tulpehocken Trinity Church, Richland PA, 7:00 PM
Pastor Wendy Buffington • Pure In Heart

APRIL 1 2026

St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Newmanstown PA, 7:00 PM
Pastor Mario Madden • Peacemakers

APRIL 3 2026

Richland Community Bible Church, Richland PA, 7:00 PM
Pastor Frank Terhune • Persecuted

What Goes Up

The law of gravity dictates that whatever goes up must come down. Even with its dazzling mountaintop revelation, the transfiguration story quickly reminds us that if Jesus is Emmanuel, God with us, then not even God's beloved can escape death's inevitable pull. Jesus leads Peter, James, and John up the mountain, but very soon they will be on their way down again. Suddenly, Jesus is gloriously transformed before the three disciples; then, just as suddenly, Jesus speaks of his impending death.

The transfiguration is a story of both fulfillment and foretaste. The appearance of Moses and Elijah reminds us of Jesus' promise to fulfill the Law and the Prophets, during his sermon on another mountain (Matthew 5:17). The startling turn toward talk of his suffering and death gives us a foretaste of the "mountain" at Golgotha he has yet to climb.

For the church, coming down the Mount of Transfiguration leads directly into the season of Lent and a journey that draws out more fully for us the implications of baptism. For Jesus, his baptism by John at the Jordan was just the start of a journey to be fulfilled in all the ups and downs to come. This is how transformation tends to happen—not when we insist on playing it safe, but when we dare to enter more fully into life as it is. So, too, our baptism can be fulfilled only in the light of our mortality. God's voice on the mountaintop calls us not simply to behold God's beloved Son but also to follow where Jesus leads.

All this, however, is not meant to bring us down. Jesus' transfiguration offers a glimpse of an even bigger picture that includes both gravity and grace. It foreshadows what is to come: death—and resurrection. This promise of new life is a bright cloud that leads the church now, as it did the ancient Israelites, through the wilderness ahead.

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The Transfiguration

While he was still speaking, a bright cloud enveloped them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased. Listen to him!" Matthew 17:5 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 17:1-9



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

SIX
LOVE
JAMES

PETER
MOSES
DAYS

CLOTHES
GOOD
APPEARED

VOICE
WHITE
MOUNTAIN

JOHN
ELIJAH
HIGH