



*Millcreek Lutheran Church*  
*April 5, 2026*  
*Easter Sunday*

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:** Victorious Father, who surrendered your Son to death, only to raise him from the grave; that we may know the hope of eternal life which is available to all who believe: Give us faith which will inspire committed living, that in death we may be forever with our Savior, in whose name we pray.  
**Amen.**

**Serving you this morning:**

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

**The Service**

**Prelude of Entrance**

**Announcements**

**Prelude of Preparation**

**\*Confession & Forgiveness**

**LBW p. 56**

**\*Opening Hymn:**

**Jesus Christ is Risen Today**

**LBW #151**

## Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



1 Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Sing we to our God a - bove, Al - le - lu - ia!



our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!



who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
now a - bove the sky he's king, Al - le - lu - ia!  
praise him, all you heav'n - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!



suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Latin carol, 14th cent., sts. 1-3; tr. J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708, alt.; Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, st. 4  
Music: EASTER HYMN, J. Walsh, *Lyra Davidica*, 1708

**\*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, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**Children's Sermon**

### **First Reading: Acts 10:34-43**

<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

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

### **Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (read responsively)**

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good; God’s mercy endures forever.

<sup>2</sup> **Let Israel now declare, “God’s mercy endures forever.”**

<sup>14</sup> The Lord is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation.

<sup>15</sup> **Shouts of rejoicing and salvation echo in the tents of the righteous: “The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!**

<sup>16</sup> The right hand of the Lord is exalted!

The right hand of the Lord acts valiantly!”

<sup>17</sup> **I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.**

<sup>18</sup> The Lord indeed punished me sorely, but did not hand me over to death.

<sup>19</sup> **Open for me the gates of righteousness;**

**I will enter them and give thanks to the Lord.**

<sup>20</sup> “This is the gate of the Lord; here the righteous may enter.”

<sup>21</sup> **I give thanks to you, for you have answered me and you have become | my salvation.**

<sup>22</sup> The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

<sup>23</sup> **By the Lord has this been done; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

<sup>24</sup> This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

### **Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

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

**\*Gospel: Matthew 28:1-10**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-eighth chapter.

<sup>1</sup> After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup> His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup> For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup> But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup> He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup> Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." <sup>8</sup> So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup> Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. <sup>10</sup> Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

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

**Hymn of the Day**

**Christ Arose**

**NCH (red) #564**

# Christ Arose

564

Robert Lowry

Robert Lowry

2. Low in the grave He lay Je-sus my Sav-iour! Wait-ing the com-ing day  
 2. Vain-ly they watch His bed Je-sus my Sav-iour! Vain-ly they seal the dead  
 3. Death can-not keep his prey Je-sus my Sav-iour! He tore the bars a-way

*Refrain Faster*

Je - sus my Lord! Up from the grave He a - rose, \_\_\_\_\_ He a-rose, With a

might - y tri-umph o'er His foes; \_\_\_\_\_ He a - rose a Vic-tor from the  
 He a-rose!

dark do-main, And He lives for - ev - er with His saints to reign, He a -

rose! \_\_\_\_\_ He a - rose! \_\_\_\_\_ Hal - le - lu - jah! Christ a - rose!  
 He a-rose! He a-rose!

**Choir Anthem: *Come to the Tomb***

**\*The Prayers**

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

*A brief silence.*

Risen Savior, you have conquered death and opened the gates of everlasting life. Dispel our doubts and fears and renew our faith and hope in you.

Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Life-giving God, the created world rejoices in Christ's victory over death. May all the earth be renewed by the light of Jesus' resurrection, and may we be faithful stewards of all you have made. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Sovereign God, let the nations acknowledge your reign of justice and truth. Where violence, oppression, and corruption hold sway, pour out your holy and life-giving Spirit to transform and redeem. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Gentle Shepherd, like the women at the empty tomb, many grieve or feel lost and afraid. Draw near to those who are ill or in pain. Reveal yourself to them as the Risen One. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Faithful God, we thank you for the living hope you give us through Christ's resurrection. Bless this community, that we may boldly proclaim Christ's victory over death in word and deed. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Eternal One, we give thanks for all who have died and now share in the joy of your resurrection. Bring us, with them, to the unending feast of your victory. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen 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**

**Choir Anthem: *In Remembrance***

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

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

**\*Closing Hymn** *Because He Lives* NCH (red) #122

Gloria &amp; William J. Gaither

William J. Gaither

1. God sent His Son, they called him Je-sus; He came to love,  
 2. How sweet to hold a new-born ba-by, And feel the pride,  
 3. And then one day I'll cross the riv-er; I'll fight life's fi-

heal, and for-give; He lived and died to buy my  
 and joy he gives; But great-er still the calm as-  
 nal war with pain; And then as death gives way to

par-don, An emp-ty grave is there to prove my Sav-ior lives.  
 sur-ance, This child can face un-cer-tain days be-cause He lives.  
 vic-t'ry, I'll see the lights of glo-ry and I'll know He lives.

*Refrain*

Be-cause He lives I can face to-mor-row; Be-cause He lives

all fear is gone; Be-cause I know — He holds the

fu-ture, And life is worth the liv-ing just be-cause He lives.

**\*Blessing:**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end, Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead, and the Spirit, our advocate and peace, † bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

**Moments of Meditation (seated)**

**\*Dismissal**

**LBW p.74**

**Postlude**



*The flowers & bulletins are given in honor & glory of God and in  
memory of Lloyd B. Hallman,  
by the family.*




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**Our Mission:**  
 Motivating Lives Through Christ and our  
 community, our congregation, & ourselves.

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Interim Pastor: Rev. Frank Terhune  
 Cell: 610-751-5472

Email: [frankterhune@gmail.com](mailto:frankterhune@gmail.com)

In Office: Tues. & Fri. 9am-12pm

[www.millcreeklutheran.com](http://www.millcreeklutheran.com)

Secretary: Jennifer Miller Email: [secretary@millcreeklutheran.com](mailto:secretary@millcreeklutheran.com)

Lay Leader: Jennifer Rosengrant

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**Sunday, April 5, 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.




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**Motivating Lives Through Christ and our Community**

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**A SPECIAL OFFERING:** We will be collecting our quarterly donation for the Lower Susquehanna Synod on Sundays April 5<sup>th</sup> and April 12<sup>th</sup>.

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**Motivating Lives Through Christ and our Congregation**

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**March Treasurer's Report**

Current offerings:	8,247
Empowering our Future Offerings	100
Plate	1006
Initial	8

Lent	365
Flowers	130
Bulletins	10
Recycling	37

World Hunger	100
Memorial Fund	100
Sweet Sunday	335
Bldg. Rental	155

**March Total: \$10,593**

We have combined our Restore and Renew Campaign into our Empowering Our Future Campaign for a total of \$ 9,779.29 as of end of March.

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

**EMPOWERING THE FUTURE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN:**

Our Empowering the Future Capital Campaign is underway!

We want to express our appreciation for those that have already pledged. As you and your family prayerfully consider your gift, we ask that you complete the pledge form in its entirety by April 12th and designate on your check or electronic payment Empowering the Future Campaign for accounting purposes. Forms can be placed in the treasurer's box in office or given to David Engle. This is your opportunity to make a difference in the future vision of MLC!

**SWEET SUNDAY:** Sweet treats by Charmayne returns April 12<sup>th</sup>. Stop by after service!

## SPRING FUNDRAISER

We will once again be holding a pulled pork dinner fundraiser on Saturday May 2, 2026, from 11am-1pm. Tickets are available after the service in the Narthex. We are asking each individual to sell at least 10 tickets. Our GOAL FOR 2026 is to SELL 450 TICKETS. Tickets are \$15 and include pulled pork, a roll, baked beans, cheesy potatoes and cookies. Sign-ups for event day help and cookies are on the table in the Narthex. We had a FUN time last year and look forward to another great day in 2026.

## UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE & EVENTS:

- Sunday April 12- communion service with Pastor Risser. Sweet Sunday by Charmayne
- Sunday April 19- communion service with Pastor Risser
- Sunday April 26- communion service with Pastor Risser
- Saturday May 2- MLC BBQ Fundraiser

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## Motivating Lives Through Christ and Ourselves

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

Norman & Patricia Sharp  
8 Central Dr.  
Newmanstown, PA 17073

**PRAYER LIST:** Please make requests to Jen M. by noon Wed. each week: [secretary@millcreeklutheran.com](mailto: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:

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  
Family of Louise Hainley  
Alethea Grissinger, friend of Deb Buffington  
Kevin Kochinsky, family friend of Stephanie Seldomridge  
Pastor Frank Terhune  
CMDR Stanley Kahl-USNR , Deployed ,Epic Fury for 60 Days

**“THANK YOU!”** From Violet Hepler for the lovely cards, delicious tidbits, and the visit from Rachel. Happy Easter! He is risen!

## Strongly Sung Alleluias

In Matthew's telling of the Easter story, Mary Magdalene and "the other Mary" are the first to experience the resurrection of Jesus (28:1). Earthquake, descending angel, and convulsing grave-guards all attest to this miraculous feat of God's love defeating death forever. The angelic invitation to the women to behold the bodiless resting place of Jesus is met with evangelistic fervor; the women race off full of "fear and great joy" (v. 8) to tell the others. Their run from the empty tomb, however, is interrupted by the risen Christ. A simple word of greeting from Jesus sends the women to the ground; they "took hold of his feet, and worshiped him" (v. 9).

What did this first Easter-morning worship look like? Did the women recite traditional Jewish prayers? Were they moved to sing? Might this worshipful moment be the time and place the first Easter "alleluia" was uttered? Perhaps they harkened back to Psalm 118 and sang to Jesus, "The LORD is my strength and my song, and has become my salvation" (v. 14). At the feet of Jesus, the women found strength as they bore witness to God's liberation and the power of resurrection. This was the Jesus they would share with the other disciples and, by extension, the world. This is the Jesus they would sing out to others in Galilee and beyond. A new day had dawned; Easter had arrived. Alleluia!

The church gathers on this Easter Day to join in the proclamation of Christ crucified and risen. We gather to share in the wonder and joy of Mary and Mary, whose worshipful witness has become our own. We join in the prayers, the confession, the Easter fervor that knows the salvation of our God, our strength and our song. A new day, an Easter Day has come. "This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24). Indeed, let us rejoice, worship, and sing out strong: Alleluia! Alleluia!

# The Resurrection

"Don't be alarmed," he said. "You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him." Mark 16:6 (NIV)

The puzzle is based on Mark 16:1-8



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

AFRAID	BODY	FIRST	DAY	CRUCIFIED
RISEN	MARY	TOMB	SPICES	ROLLED
SUNRISE	JESUS	WEEK	ANOINT	STONE