

Millcreek Lutheran Church
April 26, 2026
Fourth Sunday of Easter

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: O God of joy and happiness, who desires to save your children from needless hurts and empty living: Enable us to hear your Son calling us into his fold; that we may enjoy the wonderful life of being in his presence. In his name we pray. **Amen.**

Serving you this morning:

Guest Pastor,	Pastor Joel Risser
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**

LBW p. 56

***Opening Hymn:**

He Leadeth Me

LBW #501

He Leadeth Me



- 1 He lead-eth me: oh, bless-ed thought! Oh, words with heav'n-ly com-fort fraught!
- 2 Some-times mid scenes of deep-est gloom, some-times where E - den's bow-ers bloom,
- 3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ev - er mur - mur nor re - pine;
- 4 And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the vic-t'ry's won,



What-e'er I do, wher-e'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead-eth me.
by wa - ters calm, o'er trou-bled sea, still 'tis God's hand that lead-eth me.
con - tent, what-ev - er lot I see, since 'tis my God that lead-eth me.
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jor - dan lead-eth me.



He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me, by his own hand he lead-eth me.



His faith-ful fol-l'wer I would be, for by his hand he lead-eth me.

Text: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1834-1918
Music: HE LEADETH ME, William B. Bradbury, 1815-1868

*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 our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, 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: Acts 2:42-47

⁴² [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All who believed were together and had all things in common; ⁴⁵ they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ Day by day, as they spent much time together in the

temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved..

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

Psalm 23(read responsively)

¹The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.

²**The Lord makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**

³You restore my soul, O Lord,
and guide me along right pathways for your name’s sake.

⁴**Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall
fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they
comfort me.**

⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my
life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:19-25

¹⁹It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. ²⁰If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before God. ²¹For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. ²²“He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth.” ²³When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. ²⁴He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, having died to sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. ²⁵For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

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

***Gospel: John 10:1-10**

The Holy Gospel according to John, the tenth chapter.

[Jesus said:] ¹“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. ²The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. ³The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. ⁴When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. ⁵They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” ⁶Jesus used this figure of

speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. ⁷ So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. ⁹ I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

Have No Fear Little Flock

LBW #476

Have No Fear, Little Flock



1 Have no fear, lit - tle flock; have no fear, lit - tle
 2 Have good cheer, lit - tle flock; have good cheer, lit - tle
 3 Praise the Lord high a - bove; praise the Lord high a -
 4 Thank - ful hearts raise to God; thank - ful hearts raise to



flock, for the Fa - ther has cho - sen to
 flock, for the Fa - ther will keep you in
 bove, for he stoops down to heal you, up -
 God, for he stays close be - side you, in



give you the king - dom; have no fear, lit - tle flock!
 his love for - ev - er; have good cheer, lit - tle flock!
 lift and re - store you; praise the Lord high a - bove!
 all things works with you; thank - ful hearts raise to God!

Text: Luke 12:32, st. 1; Marjorie Jillson, b. 1931, sts. 2-4
 Music: LITTLE FLOCK, Heinz Werner Zimmermann, b. 1930
 Text and music © 1973 Concordia Publishing House.

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***The Nicene Creed**

LBW p. 64

Choir Anthem: *Gentle Shepherd*

***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.

Shepherding God, draw all people to yourself and lead them in paths of righteousness. Embolden your church to enter the valleys of the world and

guide us beside the still waters of your grace. We pray for military and prison chaplains serving near and far. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Creator God, by the resurrection of your Son, show us your steadfast love and instruct our hearts in your ways. Help us to revere and protect the wonders of your creation. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Righteous Judge, strengthen and uphold those who work for justice and advocate for human rights. Bring an end to oppression and save us from the temptation of violence or vengeance. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Great Physician, walk with those who are grieving, and anoint those who are ill or injured. Restore them to health of body, mind, and spirit. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, continually seek us out as lambs of your flock, and form us into a community where all are honored and cared for. Spread a feast before us and fill our cups to overflowing. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Living God, we praise you for the saints who have died in faith and now dwell in your love. At our end, bring us, with them, to our heavenly home. 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

***Communion Blessing LBW p.72**

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

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

***Closing Hymn *Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us* NCH (red) #338**

***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)

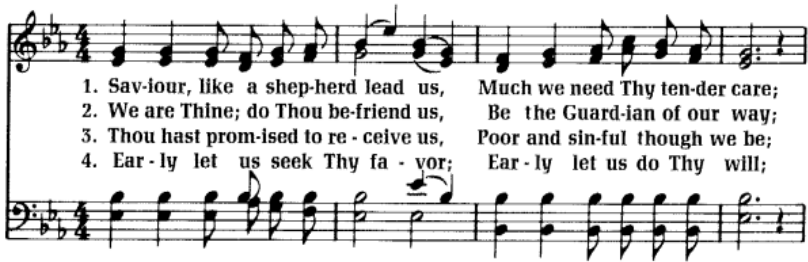
***Dismissal LBW p.74**

Postlude

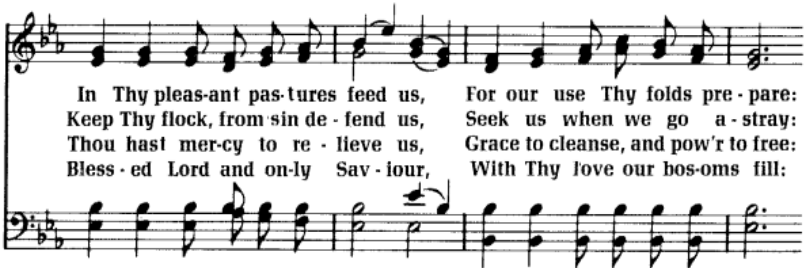
338 Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Dorothy A. Thrupp

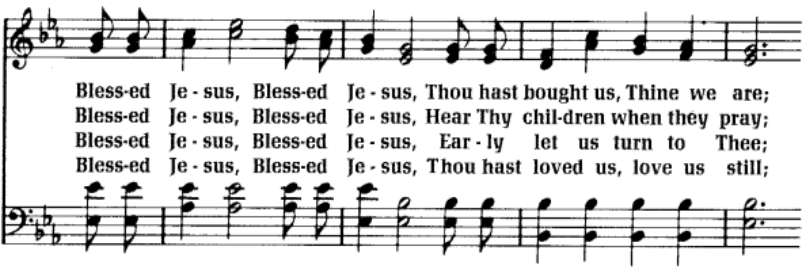
Wm. B. Bradbury



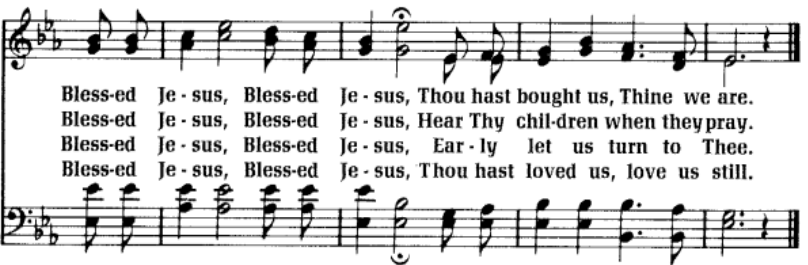
1. Sav-our, like a shep-herd lead us, Much we need Thy ten-der care;
2. We are Thine; do Thou be-friend us, Be the Guard-ian of our way;
3. Thou hast prom-ised to re-ceive us, Poor and sin-ful though we be;
4. Ear-ly let us seek Thy fa-vor; Ear-ly let us do Thy will;



In Thy pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, For our use Thy folds pre-pare:
Keep Thy flock, from sin de-fend us, Seek us when we go a-stray:
Thou hast mer-cy to re-lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free:
Bless-ed Lord and on-ly Sav-our, With Thy love our bos-oms fill:



Bless-ed Je-sus, Bless-ed Je-sus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
Bless-ed Je-sus, Bless-ed Je-sus, Hear Thy chil-dren when they pray;
Bless-ed Je-sus, Bless-ed Je-sus, Ear-ly let us turn to Thee;
Bless-ed Je-sus, Bless-ed Je-sus, Thou hast loved us, love us still;



Bless-ed Je-sus, Bless-ed Je-sus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.
Bless-ed Je-sus, Bless-ed Je-sus, Hear Thy chil-dren when they pray.
Bless-ed Je-sus, Bless-ed Je-sus, Ear-ly let us turn to Thee.
Bless-ed Je-sus, Bless-ed Je-sus, Thou hast loved us, love us still.



*The flowers & bulletins are given in honor & glory of
God and in loving memory of Mary Lou Bergman,
by the family.*



Our Mission:
Motivating Lives Through Christ and 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, April 26, 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.



Motivating Lives Through Christ and our Community

SUMMER TUTORING: We will once again be holding summer tutoring sessions at the church beginning June 15th through July 17th for ELCO students in grades K through 5. If you can please share with family, friends and neighbors. There are fliers in the narthex.

MILLCREEK BB CLUB: A big THANK YOU to everyone who supported our shooters' fundraising efforts! (Flyers attached) Your generosity is helping them attend the 2026 Daisy Nationals in Rogers, Arkansas. We're grateful for our church community coming together to cheer them on! ~The Long family

Motivating Lives Through Christ and our Congregation

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

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.

Our Empowering the Future Capital Campaign is underway!

We want to express our appreciation for those that have already pledged toward our capital campaign. Pledge forms can be placed in the treasurer's box in office or given to David Engle. As of April 19th, we have \$121,000 in pledges and have received \$32,000 to date. This is your opportunity to make a difference in the future vision of MLC!

MUSIC: The choir is winding down their weeks to sing. If you have a special song you would like to hear before the end of our "season", please let me know. That being said, we are also looking forward to Special Summer Music. If you have someone you would like to schedule, please speak to Debbie. We hope to have a mix of old favorites and new folks. All musicians of all ages are welcome!

Special thanks to all who provided special music during the Lenten and Easter season. Special shoutout to all the "extras" that joined us for the Easter service, as well as the musicians that did preludes. You ALL make Millcreek special!! ~Debbie Tice

UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE & EVENTS:

- Saturday May 2- MLC BBQ Fundraiser
- Sunday May 3- communion service
- Saturday May 9- church breakfast at Country Fare
- Sunday May 10- communion service
- Thursday May 14- Blood Drive

Motivating Lives Through Christ and Ourselves

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

Stewart Wolf
Celebration Villa of Lebanon, Rm. 141
860 Norman Dr.
Lebanon, PA 17042

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:

Debbie Hartman	Violet Hepler	Liz Leibig	Dale Bentz
Portia Lindermuth	Brian Ream	Norm Sharp	
Gerry Strickler	Stewart Wolf	Aaron Yiengst	
Devon Yiengst	Greer Zellers	Michael Yiengst, Jr.	

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
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
Ann Shallcross, sister of Stephanie Gahres
Kaylee Gordon, family member of Jamie Keener



**Millcreek Rod and Gun
Breakfast**

**This Saturday
May 2nd
7am - 10:30am**

401 Rod and Gun Rd, Newmanstown.

*--This Month is Hosted by--
The Millcreek Youth BB Gun Program
All proceeds support the youth program.*

**HEADED TO THE
2026 DAISY NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP**



Dine Out & Support Our Shooters!

Sunday, May 17th 2026
Open 8AM - 9PM

12 E. Main Street, Richland, PA 17087

****Reservations Encouraged****

****Take-out option ****

Call (717) 866-9394

RAFFLE BASKETS AND 50/50
TICKETS WILL BE AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE

10% of food sales breakfast,
lunch, and dinner will be donated
directly to help cover travel and
competition expenses



Our Good Shepherd

The images in today's texts provide us with much food for thought and action. Psalm 23 tells of a shepherd who leads us to green pastures and refreshing waters, walks alongside us as we face challenging times, takes us to a table already set, and anoints us with oil to mark each of us as chosen. We are heard, seen, known, valued, and loved, and remain in the Shepherd's presence for all time.

Jesus' words in the gospel reading add to the image of a loving and caring shepherd. The shepherd calls each sheep by name, while the sheep follow because they recognize that voice. Jesus, our Good Shepherd, knows us well and calls each of us by name. Jesus also serves as the gate for the sheep, guarding and protecting us in the sheepfold, while also providing access to pastureland. This protection and access give us the space to be who we are, with no need to play games or pretend to be someone we are not. And when it comes right down to it, the Good Shepherd comes to give us abundant life—new life in relationship with God, others, and all creation.

The reading from Acts 2 provides an image of abundant life among the early Christians, a life with an extravagance of worship, fellowship, prayer, generosity, service to others, and thankfulness.

How does the image of the Good Shepherd sit with you? How do you picture the relationship between you and Jesus—with shepherd and sheep imagery, or something else? Where and how do you recognize the Good Shepherd's voice? Do you know someone who has abundant life in Christ—a life of faith, joy, and love? What would such a life look like for you, and for your faith community?

The Shepherd's Voice

When he has brought out all his own, he goes on ahead of them, and his sheep follow him because they know his voice. John 10:4 (NIV)



The puzzle is based on John 10:1-10 (NIV)

Find the hidden words. The words have been placed horizontally, vertically, or diagonally. When you locate a word, draw a circle around it.

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

A simple line drawing of a sheep standing and facing right.

LIFE
KNOW
SHEEP

LEADS
STRANGER
ROBBER

NAME
THIEF
GATE

PEN
LISTEN
SHEPHERD

VOICE
FOLLOW
SAVED