



Millcreek Lutheran Church
September 6, 2026
Fifteenth Sunday of Pentecost

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: Father in heaven, who directs your church to be a corrective enabler when we sin against one another: Give us compassion and genuine love toward those who hurt us; that we may enable them to understand their errors and correct them. We pray through Christ our Lord. **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

Labor Day Litany

P: Let us pray to the Lord of all creation, from whom comes life and work and purpose.

Almighty God, when you formed us lovingly out of the dust of the earth, you breathed into us the breath of life and gave us work and purpose for living.

C: You placed Adam in the garden of Eden to till and keep it.

Through our work, you made us co-creators with you, shaping the world in which we live.

You gave dignity to our labor by sending your Son to labor with us.

By our labor, you enrich the world.

By our labor, we enjoy the fruits of creation.

By our labor, we find direction and purpose.

By our labor, our families are made secure.

For providing varieties of work and for blessing us by our labor:

We give you thanks, O Lord.

For those who plow the field and those who make the plow; for farmers and farm workers, for steelworkers and machinists; for those who work with their hands and those who move the earth:

We give you thanks, O Lord.

For those who tend the sick and those who seek new cures; for doctors and nurses, for scientists and technicians; for those who keep notes and those who transcribe:

We give you thanks, O Lord.

For those who think and those who create; for inventors and explorers, for artists and musicians; for those who write books and those who entertain:

We give you thanks, O Lord.

For those who work in offices and those who work in warehouses; for secretaries and receptionists, for stockers and bookkeepers; for those who market products and for those who move them:

We give you thanks, O Lord.

For those who inspire our minds and those who motivate us; for teachers and preachers, for public servants and religious servants; those who help the poor and those who work with our children:

We give you thanks, O Lord.

For those whose labor is tidiness and cleanliness; for janitors and sanitary workers, for dry cleaners and maids; for those who product cleaning products and those who use them:

We give you thanks, O Lord.

For those who sail the waves and those who fly the skies; for captains and attendants, for astronauts and deep sea divers; for those who chart and those who navigate:

We give you thanks, O Lord.

You bless us all with skills and gifts for labor.

You provide us opportunities to use them, for the benefit of others as well as ourselves.

Guard and protect those who labor in the world.

Bless the work of our hands, O Lord.

Look kindly upon the unemployed and the disabled.

Give health to the sick, hope to the bereaved.

Keep us from laboring only for greed.

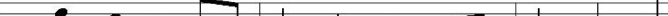
Make us loving and responsible in all that we do.

Creator Lord, you are the source of all wisdom and purpose, you are the blessing of those who labor. Be with us in our labor to guide and govern our

world. Give all men and women work that enhances human dignity and bonds us to one another. Give us pride in our work, a fair return for our labor, and joy in knowing that our work finds its source in you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Opening Hymn:** *Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun* LBW #269
Awake, My Soul, and with the Sun





dai - ly stage of du - ty run; shake off dull sloth, and
 hast re - freshed me while I slept. Grant, Lord, when I from
 perse my sins as morn - ing dew; guard my first springs of
 I de - sign or do or say, that all my pow'rs, with
 him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, with ye

joy - ful rise to pay thy morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
death shall wake, I may of end - less light par - take.
thought and will; and with thy - self my spir - it fill.
all their might, in thy sole glo - ry may u - nite.
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711

Music: MORNING HYMN, François H. Barthélémon, 1741–1808

***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)

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Children's Sermon

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷ So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸ If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their

iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel: Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" ¹¹Say to them: As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways, for why will you die, O house of Israel?

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

Psalm 119:33-40 (read responsively)

³³Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes,
and I shall keep it to the end.

³⁴**Give me understanding, and I shall keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with all my heart.**

³⁵Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for that is my desire.

³⁶**Incline my heart to your decrees
and not to unjust gain.**

³⁷Turn my eyes from beholding falsehood;
give me life in your way.

³⁸**Fulfill your promise to your servant,
which is for those who fear you.**

³⁹Turn away the reproach that I dread,
because your judgments are good.

⁴⁰**Behold, I long for your commandments;
by your righteousness enliven me**

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet," and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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

***Gospel: Matthew 18:15-20**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the eighteenth chapter.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

Sermon

Hymn of the Day: **Christ, You Teach Us of Your Kingdom¹**

Christ, you teach us of your kingdom

Unison G D G C D7

1. Christ, you teach us of your king - dom and the com - mon life we
 2. Shep - herd, eve - ry lamb is cher - ished, e - ven those who go a -
 3. Let your love be our foun - da - tion when we need to chal - lenge
 4. May we seek your will to - geth - er, bound to - geth - er by re -

G D G C D7

share. You re - mind us, "Be like chil dren!" So we of - fer you our
 stray. You want none of us to per - ish nor to wan - der from your
 sin; may our qui - et con - ver - sa - tions be the plac - es we be -
 birth. May we care for one an - oth - er, know - ing eve - ry sin - ner's

G C Am D Bm Em Am

prayer: Make us gen - tle, make us hum - ble, may we cause no one to
 way. When a sis - ter or a broth - er sins a - gainst you or an -
 gin. For our judg - ing and com - plain - ing and our gos - sip and our
 worth. Two or three u - nit - ed, pray - ing, two or three, your love o -

D Em G C D7 Em G C D7 G

stum - ble, shel - tered in your chur - ch's care.
 oth - er, give us help - ful words to say.
 blam - ing won't bring sin - ners home a - gain.
 bey - ing, are your voice and hands on earth.

Interlude, Ending

WORDS: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (Matthew 18:1-20)

MUSIC: Polish carol; arr. Edith M. G. Reed, 1926; harm. Austin Lovelace, 1964

W ZLOBIE LEZY

87.87.88.7

***The Prayers**

Reminded of God's gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

Proclaiming God, empower your church throughout the world to announce the words you give us. Open us to receive your word in unexpected ways.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Forming God, renew the cycles of your creation that provide for the needs of all. Protect grasslands, marshes, swamps, and all places of transition. Heal communities crying out after disaster.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Governing God, turn all who create, enforce, or interpret legislation away from selfish gain and toward your promise of good for all, especially the good of all who labor.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Attending God, wake us up to any around us who are in need. Restore broken relationships, failing health, frayed emotions, and the hurts we carry with us.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Gathering God, resolve conflicts in this community through your righteousness and grace. Reconcile us to each other, making your good news known even through our imperfections.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Loving God, all who die in faith have life with you. We give you thanks for the nearness of your salvation for all who have gone before us.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name. **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 Prayer** **LBW p.74**

***Blessing:**

The God of love draw you into full accord and one mind, in the body of Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

218 Work, for the Night Is Coming.

Anna L. Coghill

Lowell Mason



1. Work, for the night is com-ing, Work through the morn-ing hours;
 2. Work, for the night is com-ing, Work through the sun - ny noon;
 3. Work, for the night is com-ing, Un - der the sun - set skies;



Work while the dew is spark - ling, Work 'mid spring - ing flowers;
 Fill bright-est hours with la - bor, Rest comes sure and soon:
 While their bright tints are glow-ing, Work, for day - light flies;



Work while the day grows bright - er, Un - der the glow-ing sun;
 Give ev - 'ry fly - ing min - ute Some-thing to keep in store;
 Work, till the last beam fad - eth Fad - eth to shine no more;



Work, for the night is com - ing, When man's work is done.
 Work, for the night is com - ing, When man works no more.
 Work, while night is dark-'ning, When man's work is o'er.

Moments of Meditation (seated)

*Dismissal

LBW p.74

Postlude



*The flowers & bulletins are given in honor & glory of
God, and in memory of Helen M. Snyder,
by the family.*

¹ Biblical Reference: Matthew 18:1-20

Tune: Polish melody ("Infant Holy, Infant Lowly")

Text: Copyright © 2014 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.

Email: carolynshymns@gmail.com

New Hymns: www.carolynshymns.com/

"Christ, You Teach Us of Your Kingdom" celebrates Jesus' teachings in Matthew 18, including true greatness, the parable of the lost sheep and church discipline.

Hymn Use Permission: This hymn is copyrighted and is not covered by any organization (such as CCLI or OneLicense) that gives churches permission to use church music. If you would like to use this hymn, please contact Carolyn and Bruce Gillette (carolynshymns@gmail.com) for permission and to get a copy of the hymn in MS Word format for bulletin use.



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, September 6, 2026

You can **listen to the worship service** over the phone patch at **9:30AM**. 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

EVANGELISM IN-GATHERING UPDATE:

Don't forget to bring in-gathering items to church by Sept. 6th. The evangelism committee will pack and deliver to the collection point. Thanks again for your generosity in this project!

THE LEBANON SINGING CEDARS CHORUS will present their annual barbershop style show, "The Magic of Broadway" on Saturday, September 19 at 3:00 PM at the Church of the Good Shepherd, 1500 Quentin Road, Lebanon. The show will be hosted by local radio personality Laura Lebeau and will feature guest quartet 2026 International Champions "GQ". Admission is \$15. Contact 717-821-5298 or Roy Hoglund 717-228-8175 for tickets.

HARVEST HOME: September 20 will be Harvest Home. Bring canned goods or fresh vegetables to the service. It will be boxed and taken to the local food pantry.

RELAY FOR LIFE: The new year has begun for Relay for Life of Lebanon County. Check out the website to join as a member or follow us at Cancer Crusaders to get fundraising information. The first fundraiser of the year is mums. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex or contact Deb Buffington.

IT'S TIME FOR THE MUM SALE!



Order Options:

- 6.5" Mum \$7 each (no color choice)
- 9" Mum \$12 each
 - White
 - Yellow
 - Red
 - Purple
 - Bronze
- 10" Hanging Basket (Tricolor) \$17 each
- 10" Hanging Basket (monochromatic) \$17 each

Orders Due: 9/16/26
Order Pickup: 9/24/26
Pickup Location: TBD
Pickup Time: 5-6pm



Visit the Relay-Wide Fundraising Page to download an order form for your records and link to place your order

[Visit Relay-Wide Fundraising Page](#)

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.

UPCOMING SERVICE SCHEDULE & EVENTS:

- Sunday, Sept. 6- 9:30am communion service
- Sunday, Sept. 13- Rally Day- 9am Sunday School,10:15am communion service, potluck picnic after service
- Sunday, Sept. 20- 9am Sunday School, 10:15am regular service & Harvest Home
- Sunday, Sept. 27- 9am Sunday School, 10:15am regular service

General Fund- August Offerings

Current offerings:	8,672
Plate	435
Recycling	13
Bldg. Rental	60
Recycling	14.50
Capital Campaign	1,755

Flowers	80
Bulletins	40
World Hunger	100
Mower Refund	250
Bingo Food	234.50

Total:	\$11,756
---------------	-----------------

TOP OF THE HILL CLEAN UP Saturday, September 12, 2026 9:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Please note the time change. The yearbook lists the time as 10am; the time has been moved up an hour. Additional jobs may be added to the list, but this is the current list from which you can select a task. Please contact Nancy Deiter with your selection.

email: Indeiter@comcast.net Phone: 717-866-4665 or 717-383-0899

- ~~1. Enlarge cut out circle around evergreen tree to the left of the Sunday School entrance & lay mulch.~~
- ~~2. Enlarge cut out circle around the little evergreen tree known as "David" that is off the area to the tractor room & lay mulch.~~
- ~~3. Clean & weed the bell/cross outdoor area.~~
4. Sweep furnace room.
- ~~5. Sweep & tidy garbage area outside the kitchen.~~
6. Clean & "spruce up" the council room.
- ~~7. Cut off low & dead branches of maple trees off patio area & pick up branches~~
8. Pull out half dead rosebush in front corner of main entrance & plant a new appropriate bush.
9. Pull out & replace low bushes on either side of front walkway at main entrance.
- ~~10. Weed stone beds around all sides of building.~~
11. Spray stone beds with weed killer once they have been weeded.
- ~~12. Clean & organize janitor's closet.~~
13. Take Christmas lights off evergreen tree to left of the building & restring so it's ready for Christmas. The lights are available.
14. Clean the brass standing candelabras so they are wax-free & ready for Christmas season.
15. Move outdoor patio furniture back against the wall in preparation for winter.
- ~~16. Give the kitchen & side room floors a good cleaning.~~

RALLY DAY: Mark your calendars for our annual Rally Day, Sunday September 13th - Connecting and Reconnecting with God's Family. All children are invited for 9am story, games & snack. 10:15am Communion Service will be outdoors, weather permitting. Please bring a lawn chair and a covered dish for lunch after service (MLC will provide the hot dogs & drinks). Lots of fun to be had: The Giant Slip N Slide. Trivia. Giant Connect Four. Giant Jenga. And a Foam Blaster on the slip n slide! We hope you and your family can join us! You are encouraged to bring along a board game as well!

MLC FALL FUNDRAISER: We are looking for 5-6 volunteers to be part of our fundraising committee. We will be meeting beginning in September to schedule a fall fundraiser. The sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

CHOIR: As the summer draws to a close, it's time to think about fresh starts. The choir will begin on Thursday nights at 630 beginning September 17. Even if you just want to check it out, this is a great time to join us. We have room and welcome all who would like to sing. We sing most Sundays, but again no commitment is needed. We are here to enhance the service with appropriate music. Come and join us!

ACOLYTES: It is time to recruit acolytes! We are looking for young folks, 5th grade and up (or younger by approval). Acolytes not only light the candles, but they assist with communion, baptism, and other things as assigned by the pastor. We will have a short training session, most likely after church, and then assign an experienced one with a new one. We especially need some older kids when it comes to Christmas Eve and Easter. We are hoping to have enough that no one has to serve more than once a month. Look for the sign up sheet in the narthex or contact Deb Tice at debtrice53@gmail.com or 717-926-4273.

Motivating Lives Through Christ and Ourselves

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

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

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:

Violet Hepler	Liz Leibig	Michael Yiengst, Jr	Stewart Wolf
Portia Linderemuth	Brian Ream	Devon Yiengst	Norm Sharp
Gerry Strickler	Julie Strickler	Aaron Yiengst	Greer Zellers

NON-MEMBERS:

Gary Beatty, brother in law 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
Kaylee Gordon, family member of Jamie Keener
Rev. Althea Seidel
Candy Hibshman, friend of Rachel Mock
Laura Weist, friend of Debbie Tice

Community Is Complicated

Navigating life with other humans is not always easy. We who call ourselves the church likely know this all too well. Perhaps you've witnessed church council meetings gone awry, frustrating conversations about the budget, or intense disagreements over worship styles. Maybe your faith community has had to navigate conflicting visions for mission and outreach, welcome and hospitality, or diversity and justice. Maybe the generational or political divides in your community feel like rifts too big to cross. As the church, we are called to wrestle with difficult questions about faith and life, but at times, even with the best of intentions, we leave one another feeling hurt, overlooked, or misunderstood.

Jesus knew a thing or two about life in community. He knew what it was like to be betrayed by the ones he loved. He shared meals with people of different backgrounds, people whose identities at times put them at odds with one another. Even his disciples never quite seemed to be on the same page! Yet Jesus knew that despite the complexity of these situations, faith is best practiced in community. Accompanying one another, sharing one another's burdens, encouraging one another, forgiving one another, and holding each other accountable are vital to the Christian life.

Therefore, managing conflict is not something to be taken lightly. Disagreements are not to be just swept under the rug, ignored until the next issue emerges. We are instead called to embrace truth-telling, courage, accountability, and compassion in our dealings with one another. The work of conflict resolution is not easy or glamorous. In fact, it can be awkward and downright painful. But it is holy work. And by God's grace, it can be an invitation to build a community that more truly reflects God's love poured out for the whole world.

When Someone Hurts You

"If your brother sins against you, go and show him his fault, just between the two of you. Matthew 18:15a

Based on Matthew 18:15-20 (NIV)



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

TRUTH
AGAINST
CHURCH
YOU

HEAVEN
EARTH
WITNESSES
AGREE

BIND
SINS
REFUSES
TESTIMONY

FAULT
LOOSE
HEAVEN
WON

FATHER
SHOW
LISTENS
BROTHER

BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, September 17th • 11:00 am - 7:00 pm

Millcreek Lutheran Church

221 North Sheridan Road, Newmanstown 17073

In the Multipurpose Room

Everyone will receive:

- Papa John's buy one Large Pizza get one FREE certificate
- Certificate for a \$10 Coupon at any Good's Store
- Blood Donor Travel Mug
- Blood Donor T-Shirt



PAPAJOHNS



3 ways to schedule your donation appointment:

- go to 717GiveBlood.org & click on **DONATE NOW**
- call 1-800-771-0059
- scan the QR Code



FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



A form of ID is
REQUIRED to donate

- We kindly suggest you schedule an appointment to donate blood. Appointments help us improve your donation experience.
- Walk-Ins are welcome; however, donors with appointments will be taken first and this may result in a significant wait time.



Grace UCC is Sponsoring

TASTE & SEE

Community Chili Cook-Off

Saturday, September 19, '26

@ 12-Noon

Find out who is Richland's 2026

CHILI COOKING CHAMPION!

NO CHARGE to participate!

Register by September 15th by calling 717-866-5946.
Then prepare a large pot of your best chili for the event.

A Top Prize of \$50 will be Awarded!

Come Taste & Vote & See Who Wins!

Don't have a champion chili recipe?

Join us on **Sept. 19th** at 22 Church St. to

Taste & Vote for your favorite Chili,
then ***See*** who takes home the prize.

Mark Your Calendar Now!