

April 21 at 9:30AM - In-Person Worship WORSHIP WITH US Fourth Sunday of Easter

FIRST READING: Acts 4:5-12 PSALM 23 SECOND READING: 1 John 3:16-24 GOSPEL: John 10:11-18

Pastor Erin Evans Preaching

Christ Lutheran Church 917 Evergreen Avenue, Millvale, PA 15209 Phone 412-821-4300 ~ Fax 412-693-9742 CLC Website: https://www.clcmillvale.com/ Youtube: clcmillvale Twitter: ChristMillvale Facebook and Instagram: #CLCMillvale Email to: ChristLutheran917@gmail.com

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The image of the good shepherd shows us how the risen Christ brings us to life. It is the relationship between the shepherd and the sheep, one of mutual knowledge and love, that gives the shepherd authority. The shepherd's willingness to lay down his life for the sheep shows his love. First John illustrates what it means to lay down our lives for one another by the example of sharing our wealth with any sibling in need. ~

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Dear Church,

"I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason, I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers." Ephesians 1:15-16

I had heard of your faith - and now I have seen it for myself these past three years. In my final weeks with you, I hope you realize the joy this congregation has brought me, and the faithful witness you have shown me. We have been through a lot together, and you have been kind, compassionate, and dedicated. We returned to in-person worship, and navigated the trials of gathering with safety. We have had hard conversations and shared hard truths. We have listened to each other and cared for each other. We have had set-backs and we have persevered together.

You have so much to offer the community, and so much good is taking root and growing here. New shoots have blossomed. Your children's ministry is poised to grow with Pastor Tricia's leadership. Our Food Pantry is essential to the neighborhood and draws more and more volunteers seeking to serve. Your membership has grown and developed and members are being raised up as leaders in the church. We have many regular visitors and friends who find this place a good place to be on Sunday morning. Our community partnerships are growing and so much more will happen as those deepen.

This new chapter will surely bring about new joys and new concerns. This is nothing new for the people of God. In every season, we are confident that Christ is present with us, in the sacraments, and in the least of these which we care for, and in the church, the body of Christ on earth. We are confident that the Holy Spirit, which calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies us, is indeed at work in us and through us, that God's steadfast love may be made known. May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

All our love, Pastor Erin Evans (and Vivian and Pastor Brian too!)

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PLEASE JOIN US TO CELEBRATE PASTOR ERIN AND WISH HER WELL!

Farewell Gathering for Pastor Erin Evans

Sunday, April 21 | 4pm GRIST HOUSE BREWERY 10 E Sherman St, Millvale, PA 15209

ALL ARE WELCOME! NO RSVP NEEDED!

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Please STAY FOR COFFEE HOUR ON APRIL 28th for Pastor Erin's last Sunday. Following our worship service, we'll have some light refreshments.



68

The Infant Room is temporarily closed. If you need a Quiet Space, please use the room at the top of the stairs.

Otherwise, all children are welcome in

worship, and able to play quietly and interact at our Pray Ground in the side aisle.

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Welcome PASTOR TRICIA SCHNECK

CLC has called a new pastor to serve our church!

The Rev. Tricia Schneck will begin her call here on May 1st.

Look for more information soon about this important news for our congregation.



"I am Pastor Tricia Schneck and I am excited to be your newly called pastor of Christ Lutheran Church in Millvale. I have 22 years of experience in ministry serving congregations throughout the Southwestern PA Synod. I earned my Bachelor's degree from Robert Morris University and my Master of Divinity degree from the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg. My husband is Pastor Tony Schneck and he serves a congregation in Gibsonia.

We have been married for almost 24 years and have 3 children. We have a son and two daughters. We also have two dogs, a beagle and a Shih Tzu. I enjoy the outdoors, vacationing with my family, and spending time with them. I am looking forward to getting to know all of you and following our Lord together."

THANK YOU TO OUR SCOUTS!

Troop 162 (CLC, Millvale) and Troop 138 (Bethlehem, Glenshaw) combined forces to "Scout for Food". They set up tables at Shop N Save and recieved more Food Pantry donations than we have room for on our shelves! They are also continuing "Scouting for Food" door to door in their neighborhoods this month.

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SWPA Synod Assembly 2024

Friday, June 14 @ 9:30 AM - Saturday, June 15 @ 12:30 PM PennWest California (Formerly Cal-U)

swpasynod.org/assembly2024

Registration opens April 1. Voting members from your congregation have an important responsibility on behalf of all the members of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. This assembly is the highest legislative authority of our synod; they will be making decisions that impact 143 congregations covering 10 counties in southwest PA. Please speak with Pastor Erin or Lennie Jansen if you'd like to attend. ~

CLC is "in the neighborhood, for good!"

Your regular support and presence at church is vital to the ministry of our congregation. We are known in the community for the work we do and the relationships we build, and for the ways we offer our time, talents, and treasures to serve our neighbor. As a committed member of the church, please remember to send your offerings regularly,

check your Weekly Update, and find ways to participate in this community of faith.

If you're new here, or just visiting, please take some time to get to know us!



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CAMP LUTHERLYN

For seventy-five years Lutherlyn has been combining the love of God, fun, friends, swimming, playing in the woods, adventure challenges, Bible study, worship, cookouts, campfires, discoveries in nature, games, and a few surprises into an unforgettable experience!

Lutherlyn offers a variety of week-long, half-week, and day programs for children entering 1st grade through those who have finished their senior year of high school.

CLC has had a long relationship with Lutheran Outdoor Ministries at Lutherlyn and has scholarship funding available for YOUR child to attend a week at camp this summer! Check out <u>https://www.lutherlyn.com/</u> <u>summercamp</u> for all the details.

Camp Lutherlyn is located in Prospect, PA. Go visit for FREE on May 11th for their Annual CAMP BLAST showcase to learn about all camp has to offer!

> Donations are requested for PEANUT BUTTER and JELLY

The Food Pantry is Open Mondays and Fridays from 9:30am to 11:30am, and on Wednesdays from 5pm to 7pm.

All We Like Sheep

Joseph Imhoff

"All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the Lord has laid on Him the iniquity of us all." This chorus from Handel's Messiah Part II, No. 26 is an appropriate introduction to the Fourth Sunday of Easter referred to as Good Shepherd Sunday. Sheep are stupid and need to be led, prodded, in the right direction, that was the assessment of Pastor George after attending a retreat where tending sheep was one of the duties, he was not referring to the flock of CLC!

The Dialogues are Plato's homage to Socrates and The Republic is the greatest. In it a group of friends meet for dinner and discussion, much like an adult Sunday study group.

At 345c, Socrates replies to Thrasymachus' political argument comparing a ruler to a shepherd (sound familiar) as being interested only in the culinary possibilities.

"For I must remark, Thrasymachus, if you will recall what was previously said, ... a shepherd tends the sheep not with a view to their own good, but like a mere diner or banqueter with a view to the pleasures of the table. Yet surely the art of the shepherd is concerned only with the good of his subjects; he has only to provide the best for them...! I conceived that the art of the ruler... could only regard the good of his flock or subjects."

In ancient times a shepherd was a low skill (minimum wage) job just above tending swine as in the story of the Prodigal Son. The loss of a sheep might be deducted from the shepherd's wages. The art Socrates referred to is concern, the shepherd to the ruler.

I doubt Socrates or Plato were familiar with אֶחְסָר יְהוָה David's "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

In John: 10, the lesson for all three cycles of the lectionary, Jesus puts forth his duties as the 'good shepherd'. "The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep." - "I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me just as the Father knows me and I know the Father." - "Whoever has seen me, has seen the Father!"

We are poor little lambs who have lost our way. Baa, baa, baa! \sim

Christ Lutheran Church



FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Always Room for One More

When Jesus says "I am" in the Gospel of John, he unlocks a new perspective on his love. In today's reading, when Jesus declares, "I am the good shepherd," we can imagine our Lord caring for us and guiding us. We picture ourselves as his sheep. It's reassuring to hear that we aren't alone to navigate the dangers and challenges of this world. We have a loving shepherd who is looking out for us.

Jesus loves us so much that he goes above and beyond the shepherd's role as a caretaker. He gives up his own life so our sins can be forgiven and we can receive eternal life. That's what being a good shepherd means—having such a close relationship with the sheep that the shepherd will stop at nothing to protect them. The shepherd will lay down his own life so his sheep can have life.

When we hear Jesus' promise to be our good shepherd, we must not miss his commitment to gather up the sheep that aren't yet part of his flock. They, too, will listen to Jesus' voice. Responding to his loving call, they will become part of the one flock that follows Jesus as their good shepherd, their Savior, and their Lord. No matter how many sheep are already jostling for space, there is always room for one more. Just like there is always room at our holy communion table for one more person to eat the bread, drink the wine, and receive the gifts of God's mercy and grace. We can always squeeze closer to the sheep around us to let one or more sheep enter Jesus' flock, thankful that the flock is growing and that we get to listen to the loving voice of our good shepherd, together. ~

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This Week at CLC: Reminder Sunday, April 21 -This Veek 8:30am Sunday School at CLC: Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am Monday April 22 - 9:30-11:30am Food Pantry 3:45-6:15pm Violin, 5-6pm TOPS CLUB, 6-7pm – Yoga, 6:30-8pm ESL, 7-9pm Pain Support Tuesday April 23 - 9am to 3pm 412 Food Rescue, 6-8pm Violin, Voting Primary Election Wednesday April 24 - 4-8pm Anchorpoint Community Counseling, 5-7pm FOOD PANTRY 6-7pm Choir Practice, 6:30-8pm ESL Thursday April 25 - 6:30-7:30pm Boy Scouts Pack 162 Friday April 26 - 9:30 to 11:30am FOOD PANTRY 7pm NA meets-Library Saturday April 27 - 9am AA meets in the Library 7pm NA meets in the Library Sunday April 28 - 8:30am Sunday School Sunday Worship Service at 9:30am April Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Sat Fri 2 3 4 1 5 6 10 7 8 9 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30

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Upcoming Commemorations

Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury, died 1109 Sunday, April 21, 2024

This eleventh-century monk was one of the greatest theologians of the Middle Ages. He is remembered for emphasizing the maternal aspects of God, and for the theory that the Son of God became human in order to make the necessary payment for our sin.



Toyohiko Kagawa, renewer of society, died 1960 Sunday, April 23, 2024

Day of the Creation (Día de la Creación) (LLC)

This observance invites us to notice and give God thanks for the wonders of the created universe. As

stewards of that creation, we are also challenged to be

Born in Kobe, Japan, Kagawa was orphaned as a young child. Later, when he became Christian, he was disowned by his family. Wishing to bring Christian principles into society, he worked among poor people, established schools and hospitals, and worked for peace.

Mark, Evangelist Tuesday, April 25, 2024

Monday, April 22, 2024

careful in our use of it.

He was not numbered among the twelve apostles, yet Mark was probably a member of the early church community. The gospel that bears his name is the shortest and most direct, and many scholars think it was the first to be written.



The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace. ↔

Christ Lutheran Church



With prayers for the grieving and abiding hope in the resurrection, we are sorry to inform you that George "Herb" Loomis entered eternal life on April 10th.

The church hosted Herb's funeral on April 15th. Please pray for Betty and the family.



For details go to: https://www.schellhaasfh.com/obituary/george-loomis

Online Giving No matter the amount, the most helpful way to give to the ministries of the congregation is regularly and consistently. Whether it's weekly or monthly, make a prayerful decision ahead of time this Easter, and commit to a consistent amount.

With our online giving platform, Vanco, it's super easy! Go to: <u>https://www.clcmillvale.com/donate/</u> See the **Online Giving Code** here, and **Thank You!**



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All We Like Sheep: Our Thanks to SundaysandSeasons.com

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