

Christ Lutheran Church ~ 917 Evergreeen Avenue, Millvale, PA 15209 ~ 412-821-4300 ~ eMail: christlutheran917@gmail.com

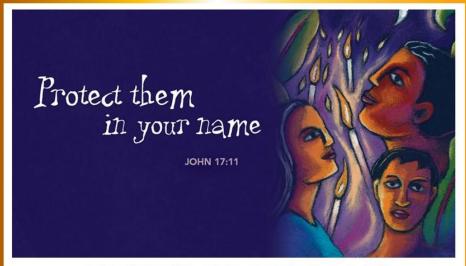


INDEED, HE IS RISEN!

CLC WEEKLY UPDATE
The Seventh Sunday of Easter
May 16, 2021

IN PERSON WORSHIP
This Sunday, May 16, at 9:30AM
Pastor Erin Evans presiding

Please visit us at: https://clcmillvale.com



WORSHIP WITH US

This Seventh Sunday of Easter!!
First Reading: Acts 1:15-17, 21-26
Psalm 1

Second Reading: 1 John 5:9-13

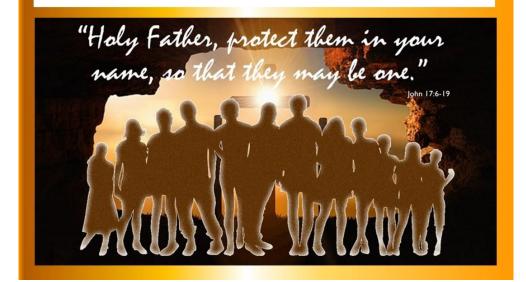
Gospel: "Holy Father, protect them in your name, so that they may be one."

John 17:6-19

Pastor Erin Evans preaching

Hymns:

"Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise"
"Choir Anthem"
"Spirit and Grace"
"Come Holy Ghost"





The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This

oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!



Volunteer for the Food Pantry!

Volunteers greet clients, pack food bags, pick up food, put donations away, and unload trucks and cars. Contact Dorie Budzik for more information (412)874-0083. Food Pantry hours are 9:30am-11:30am Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri. but our food pantry crew works all week long with flexible hours whenever our donations come.



Confirmation on Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd

The following students have completed the Confirmation Program and classes with Mr. Leonard Jansen and are ready to affirm their baptism: Caitlyn Cahoo, Troy Leas, Gavin Smallwood, Tyler Vogel, and Logan Weiher. (Due to a scheduling conflict, Troy Leas will be confirmed on another Sunday this summer.)

Please congratulate our young people on their accomplishment and continue to pray for them and support them in their faith journey! Thank you especially to

Lennie Jansen whose commitment to this ministry enabled the program to continue through a pandemic, and the parents of our young people for encouraging them to attend and participate virtually.

<u>Sign-up to be a Greeter!</u> As we ease back in to in-person worship, we need volunteers to greet people, take temperatures, and provide assistance or information to visitors. Sign-up in "The Welcome Place" or talk to Linda Thens (412)487-0840.

CLC MILLVAL

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

elp out at our Cemetery on SUNDAY MAY 16th at 1:00pm Bring gloves, weedwackers, and clippers, etc. Entrance to Cemetery located at the end of Martha Street, off Anderson Road



CLC Cemetery News A workday has been planned for Sunday May 16th beginning at 1:00pm. There is a wonderful group of neighbors in that area who want to help our church in caring for the property, so that our cemetery is a beautiful place in their neighborhood. We need pick-up trucks to take some debris out, rakes, gloves, weedwackers, etc. Becky Nyren and Pastor Erin will be working with the neighborhood and any church members who would like to work on getting a few projects done this summer! Reach out to Becky (412)720-4599 if you plan to come on May 16th, OR would like to be involved in the future!

The Power of Prayer

Here in the Gospel of John, at the close of Jesus' final speech to his disciples before he is arrested and crucified, he engages in a remarkable, even visceral act of love. He prays for his disciples.

When we pray, God already knows, of course, what is on our hearts. We are not



bringing God any new information. When we pray, we bring to God our deepest needs. This vulnerability is what strengthens our relationship with God, as any repeated physical actions strengthen our muscles. But prayer is not only for our own needs. Unexpectedly perhaps, it is intercessory prayer that nourishes us like nothing else. When we petition God on behalf of another person, we become other-focused in the way Jesus so fervently invites us to be in his own prayer: In this moment so close to the end of his life, Jesus prays not for himself but for his disciples, whom he loves: "Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one. . . . But now I am coming to you, and I speak these things in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves" (John 17:11, 13). How extraordinarily powerful it is to hear someone pray for you!

Sixth Sunday + (Seventh Sunday After Easter) Joseph Imhoff

The disciples are rudderless, Christ has been taken up into heaven leaving behind the promise of the Comforter to come. They were left staring up into the heavens without their marching orders. With hindsight we know there are only ten days from the Ascension until the Holy Spirit descends on Pentecost. They have been given no such timeline, a thing that only the Father knows.

The disciples would have been familiar with Psalm 21 beginning with verse 10: "Hear, O Lord, when I cry with my voice: have mercy upon me, and answer me. When you said, Seek my face, my heart said, Your face, Lord, I will seek."

Exaudi, Domine, vocem meam, qua clamavi ad te.

They may well have uttered these words, in Aramaic, not Latin or Eng-

lish! In the past the Church would use the same cycle of lessons each year, now it's every third year so the old Latin names don't apply.

The Church too is in a between time awaiting marching orders, as the appointed lessons for Exaudi Sunday demonstrate: Isaiah: For the palace will be forsaken, the populous city deserted.... until a spirit from on high is poured out on us.

In 1 Peter, the writer admonishes all to live Christlike lives while waiting.

John: When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father,

.... he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been
with me from the beginning!

The Church each year acts out the life of Christ and the beginnings of the Church. Each Christmas is a new Birth, each Holy Week ends with a new Resurrection, and each Pentecost, next week, is the new beginning of the Church

Perhaps we can think of it as a new beginning for CLC! ~

UPCOMING on the Calendar at CLC . . .

Sunday, May 16 - CLC Worship onsite @ 9:30am

Monday, May 17 - Foodbank 9:30-11:30am

May 18 - NO FOODBANK, Election Day @ CLC Millvale

May 19 - Reserve Democratic Committee 5:30pm-8:30pm @ Library

Thursday, May 20- Foodbank 9:30-11:30am, Boy Scouts 6-8pm,

Choir Practice 7pm-9pm with Ed Kapsha

Friday, May 21- Foodbank 9:30-11:30am, Girl Scouts 6-8pm, NA 6-8:30pm

May 22 - AA- 8-10am@ Library, NA 6-8pm

Sunday, May 23 - CLC Worship onsite @ 9:30am - Confirmation Sunday

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