



**CLC Weekly Update - In-Person Worship
July 30th at 9:30AM**

WORSHIP WITH US

9th Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12

Psalm Psalm 119:129-136

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

Gospel: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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

Visit Us at [CLCMillvale.com](https://www.clcmillvale.com/)

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In the neighborhood...
For good.

CLC
MILLVALE
Christ Lutheran Church



The kingdom
of heaven
is like yeast
MATTHEW 13:33



As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first! ~

Visit Us at CLCMillvale.com

Welcome to Church!

Join us after worship July 9, 16, 23, and 30th for an informative and informal look at Lutheran Church Basics.

For visitors, new members, life-long Lutherans and anyone in between. Coffee and light snacks provided.



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

*Catechism and
Sacraments
Church History
Denominational
Differences
Worship and
Liturgy*



Welcome Sarah!

CLC has a new Church Secretary!

Mom of four, Sarah Bowers is a lifelong resident of the community. You may know her dad, Jim, and sister, Jaime, from Hahn Funeral Home. Sarah will be managing the church office part-time with open hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9-12pm.

Confirmation Classes

Confirmation Classes will begin on September 10th, Sunday mornings at 8:30.

Young persons in grades 7-9 meet together with Lennie Jansen and Pastor Erin to cover Small Catechism teachings and prepare to affirm their faith over the course of two years. If your young person has not yet been confirmed and desires to do so, please speak with Lennie or Pastor Erin about the class.



Visit Us at CLCMillvale.com

SUNDAY SCHOOL SERVICE PROJECT



Following worship on
Sunday August 13th,
we'll be making Birthday
Bags to distribute at the
food pantry!

Please join us!

In case of emergency....



Did you know we have an emergency
defibrillator? It's on the wall, near the office
and food pantry check-in table.

Did you know we have Narcan available? With
the first aid kits in the narthex and in the office
too!

Donations are
requested for

- ❖ Spaghetti and
spaghetti sauce.
- ❖ Pancake mix and
pancake syrup.

The Food Pantry is Open

Mondays and Fridays from
9:30am to 11:30am,
and on Wednesdays from
5pm to 7pm.

Visit Us at CLCMillvale.com

“Ask The Pastor”

NEW QUESTION and ANSWER!

Submit an anonymous question in the offering plate, and you might get your question answered in the Weekly Update! Have a Bible question? A Church question? A burning query about what the number of candles means and why? *Ask away!*

You asked, I'll answer!

Question: What does Kyrie Eleison mean? Is there a reason we don't sing it all year long?

Answer: It means Lord, have mercy, and yes! It comes to the Western church from the Eastern orthodox church somewhere between the 4th and 6th centuries. It was originally part of the long entrance rite for special services. It takes a long time to get all the priests and deacons and everybody in the door! Now it has come to be a part of the introductory prayers, along with an apostolic greeting (The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all...) and the Hymn of Praise (This is the Feast OR Glory to God).

As far as when to sing and when not to sing those parts, there are suggested orders and rules about all that. The kyrie is a more penitential piece of liturgy - asking for mercy, so it would be used during penitential seasons and omitted during others. However, the tone and tune of our current Kyrie from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal, is a more upbeat and lively prayer for God's mercy, so we're using it for the summer, and not just saving for seasons like Lent.

continued

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“Ask The Pastor”

When it comes to rules like this, its good to know them - and the reason for them and the tradition behind it. But using the Kyrie in a service is a "may" rubric - as in, The Kyrie MAY be sung. One of Martin Luther's sticking points in his criticism of practices in the Church is that traditions and "may" rubrics have the potential to turn into something else entirely.

In the Augsburg Confession, Martin Luther and Philip Melancthon sought to not only put forth their reformation ideals, but to also show their orthodoxy and where they were in unity with the rest of the Church. From the Article Concerning the Church *"The Church is the congregation of saints, in which the Gospel is rightly taught and the Sacraments are rightly administered. And to the true unity of the Church it is enough to agree concerning the doctrine of the Gospel and the administration of the Sacraments. Nor is it necessary that human traditions, that is, rites or ceremonies, instituted by men, should be everywhere alike."*

The liturgy of the church is a gift to be used and honored! Thanks for your insightful question!

Pastor Erin



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The Greatest of Shrubs

Surely God's kingdom should end up sounding more impressive. Surely God can do better. Providing shelter for birds does sound like something God would do, but why can't the birds nest in a more attractive tree? A mustard seed, at its best, grows into a sort of weedy shrub. The greatest of shrubs is not that great. Maybe that's the point. Maybe these little stories are supposed to seem a little strange. After all, God's choices often seem that way to us. God does not always value what we value. God likes small, weedy shrubs as much as big, majestic trees.

That is extremely good news for those of us who suspect we have more in common with the shrub than the tree. It is good to know that God loves both! It is good to know that God loves the mustard seeds of this world enough that God sends Jesus to be a mustard seed, to be the living proof that the kingdom of heaven is real. And the kingdom of heaven is here, because Jesus is here. And as we are filled with his Spirit, we also become living signs of that same kingdom.

After all, a God whose kingdom can be compared with something like a mustard seed is probably not going to stop short of using other unlikely things. A God like that might even decide to use people like us. So look around. What do you see? What do you see that surprises you? What do you see that you normally take for granted? What do you see that's alive? The kingdom of heaven is like that. The kingdom of heaven is even like us, right now. The kingdom of heaven may not do what we expect, or even what we want—but one way or another, the kingdom of heaven will grow. ~

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Refrigerator Art

Check out our "mini fridge" bulletin board in the narthex, and add your art!

Tiny coloring pages available in the Playground in the side aisle.



I wish to thank everyone for showing their support and offering their prayers for the time I have been laid up! They have been most appreciated and welcomed.

Thanks to all!

Joe Imhoff

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The Kingdom of Heaven: Bowls of sourdough rising. Photo copyright The Picture Pantry Alamy Stock Photo. Used by permission.

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**ONLINE
GIVING**



SCAN ME



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