

Muddy Creek Lutheran Church

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Website: www.mcchurch.org. Follow us on Facebook and our Muddy Creek Lutheran YouTube Channel.
The 10:15 a.m. service will be livestreamed and posted today on our YouTube channel and our website.

Christ the King Sunday, November 26, 2023, 10:15 a.m. - Online Edition
* = Please stand as you are able All congregational responses are in **bold**

Welcome to Muddy Creek!

Announcements, Greeting One Another

Prelude: *St. George's Windsor*.....E. L. Ashford

*Confession and Forgivenesspages 94 – 96

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. C: **Amen.**

L: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen.**

L: Most merciful God, C: **We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

L: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. C: **Amen**

*Gathering Hymn: "Rejoice, For Christ is King!".....#430

1. Rejoice, for Christ is king! Your Lord and king adore;

rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore: (Refrain)

Refrain: Lift up your heart, lift up your voice, rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

2. Our Savior Jesus reigns, the God of truth and love;

when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above: (Refrain)

3. His kingdom cannot fail; he rules o'er earth and heav'n;

the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n: (Refrain)

4. He sits at God's right hand till all his foes submit

and bow to this command and fall beneath his feet: (Refrain)

*Greeting L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: **And also with you**.....page 138

*Kyrie.....page 138

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. C: **Lord, have mercy.**

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. C: **Lord, have mercy.**

L: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. C: **Lord, have mercy.**

L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. C: **Lord, have mercy.**

L: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord. C: **Amen.**

*Hymn of Praise (“Glory to God in the highest...”).....page 139

L: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.

C: **Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

*Prayer of the Day: L: O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ our King. C: **Amen**

Choir Anthem: *Soldiers of Christ, Arise*.....B. Price

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

¹¹Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd.

²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.. L: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 95:1-7a (Congregational responses in bold)

¹Come, let us sing | to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of | our salvation.

²**Let us come before God’s presence | with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the | LORD with psalms.**

³For you, LORD, | are a great God,
and a great ruler a- | bove all gods.

⁴**In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;
the heights of the hills are | also yours.**

⁵The sea is yours, | for you made it,
and your hands have molded | the dry land.

⁶**Come, let us worship | and bow down,
let us kneel before the | LORD our maker.**

⁷^aFor the LORD | is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep | of God's hand.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

L: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God**

*Gospel Acclamation:page 142
(**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia**)

*Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples: ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when

was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.' L: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: "Crown Him With Many Crowns" (v. 1-3).....#855

1. Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon the throne;
hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king through all eternity.

2. Crown him the virgin's Son, the God incarnate born,
whose arm those crimson trophies won which now his brow adorn;
fruit of the mystic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
the root whence mercy ever flows, the babe of Bethlehem.

3. Crown him the Lord of love - behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bend their burning eyes at mysteries so bright.

*The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Thanksgiving for Offering C: **We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.**
(Offering to Muddy Creek or Disaster Relief may be contributed online through the church website, mclchurch.org, "Give Online" button on the home page.)

*Hymn #752 ("Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.")

*Prayers of the Church P: Lord, in your mercy C: **Hear our prayer**

*Lord's Prayer.....page 145

Our Father, who are in heaven, hallowed by thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

*Blessing L: 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.

C: **Amen** (sung response)

*Sending Song: "Jesus Shall Reign".....#434

1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
2. To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise with ev'ry morning sacrifice.
3. People and realms of ev'ry tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.
4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the pris'ners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.
5. Let ev'ry creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our king;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.

*Dismissal P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord! C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: *Hail to the Brightness*.....L. Mason

You are invited to stay for a time of fellowship, refreshments and beverages in the sanctuary immediately following the service.

Announcements

Welcome to everyone, especially all visitors and guests! If you are visiting today, it would be really appreciated if you would fill out the yellow card in your pew and put it in the offering box or give it to the pastor. Welcome!

Our Thanks Today to Pastor Bonnie Oplinger for preaching and leading worship while Pastor Peter is on vacation Welcome, Pastor Oplinger!

In Case of Any Pastoral Emergencies While Pastor Peter is on Vacation until Nov. 29th, please contact Pastor Marissa Becklin, Faith United Lutheran Church, Denver, at 717-203-6013.

Notes for Online Participants:

If you would like to pick up prefilled home communion kits of wafers and grape juice in order to participate online along with Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month, please contact Pastor Peter or pick them up from the box on the table under the church mailboxes. Or, if you wish, you may use bread and grape juice/wine from your own home.

Offering to Muddy Creek or Disaster Relief may be contributed online through the church website, mclchurch.org, "Give Online" button on the home page.

Thank You to All Who Came Out Yesterday Morning to Help Decorate the Church for Advent and Christmas! We really appreciate it!

Poinsettia Orders to Decorate the Church are Due Today! Cost is \$7.25. Poinsettia order forms may be found on the table under the mailboxes beside the marked box to return the forms. Additional order forms may also be found at the back of any non-folded bulletin, and at the back of the November newsletter (newsletter copies are also available online at the church website, mclchurch.org). Please use a separate sheet for each poinsettia ordered.

Our Congregational Budget and Elections Meeting will be held next Sunday, December 3rd following the 10:15 a.m. service. Advance copies of the proposed 2024 budget may be found on the table under the mailboxes.

Help is Needed on Sat. Dec. 9 at 9 am in the Fellowship Hall to Tie Bows on the Wreaths for the Veterans' Graves in Muddy Creek Cemetery. Also, contributions to the Veteran's Graves Christmas Wreath Project may be made in any of the red bowls on the entry tables.

Christmas Carol Hymn Sing and Cookie Social on Dec. 17th: You are invited to a joint Christmas Carol Hymn Sing with Muddy Creek and Peace United Church of Christ on Sunday, Dec. 17 at 3 p.m. You may bring cookies to share at a Cookie Social following the Hymn Sing. Please note: It will be held at Peace U.C.C., 37 E. Swartzville Road.

Thank You to All who Brought in Redner's Receipts this Month! We received \$131.00 from Redners from your receipts. Complete receipts (please do not tear off the bottom) may be placed in any of the marked boxes in the entryways. Gas receipts are no longer being collected.

10:15 AM Fellowship Time/Coffee Ministry: You are invited to stay after the 10:15 am service today to enjoy refreshments and beverages in the sanctuary! **Thank you today** to Doris and Brad Rauch for providing the refreshments! If you would be willing to provide refreshments following an upcoming service, please sign up on the pad on the table. If you have questions, please contact Audrey Noll at 717-336-3592, aan7@ptd.net.

The Altar Flowers Today are given by Audrey and Roger Noll in honor of their anniversary.

The Sign Up for Flower Sponsorships on Sundays is on the table outside Pastor Peter's office. If you wish, you may sponsor flowers in honor or in memory of someone. Cost is \$45.

In our Prayers: Linnny Ansel, Gloria Aseli, Dorothy Beam, Tom Carretta, Elmer Gockley, Joyce Keith, Bill Lausch, the Martin family, Helen Martin, Katie McCalicher, Mary Miller, Charles Moyer, Jean Moyer, Paul Moyer, Betty Ramsey, Tom and Audrey Riggle, Joanne Saylor, the Saylor family, Susan and Walt Siegel, Becky Thunberg, Jim Weber, Sev Yerger

Attendance and Giving:

Attendance Nov. 19, 8:00 a.m. – 15, 10:15 a.m. – 64, Online Views – 29

Received through end of Oct.: \$140,815.42 Expenses thru Oct.: \$167,440.48

Received on Nov. 19: \$3,007.55 Received Nov. to date: \$16,398.76 (includes a tax-free distribution gratefully received from a Muddy Creek participant's IRA).

10:15 am Worship Helpers Today:

Acolyte - Cannon or Grace Youndt Lay Reader - Doris Rauch
Cantor - Gail Bare Money Counters - Linda and Tim Fritz

Worship Helpers Next Sunday, Dec. 3:

Bread Baker - Marliese Smith 8:00 am Communion Assistant - Scott Strickland
10:15 a.m. Communion Assistant and Acolyte - 10:15 am Lay Reader – Brenda Berger
10:15 am Cantor - Greg Gehman 10:15 am Money Counters - Gail and Ted Bare



Place completed form, with money attached, in the marked box on the table under the mailboxes (if using a check, note: poinsettias.)

Deadline for orders is Sunday, November 26

Cost is \$7.25 (Red or White plant, 5 buds each)

I desire # of plants: Red _____ and/or White _____.

*Everyone is responsible to pick-up the plants they order.
Flowers can be picked up after the Christmas Eve services, or anytime following.*

Plants will be placed in the church by December 17.

If you would like your poinsettia “in honor of” or “in memory of” included in the bulletin, please list below (please print clearly). Please note: Please complete a separate form for each poinsettia purchased (for instance, Do not list “in Honor of” and “in Memory of” on the same form.)

Purchaser’s Name _____

In Honor of _____

By _____

(optional)

In Memory of _____

By _____

(optional)

If you wish to order poinsettias without your name being listed in the bulletin, check here _____