

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.

1st Sunday of Advent, December 1, 2024, 10:15 a.m. - Online Edition

* = Please stand as you are able All congregational responses are in **bold**
(Young Families: There are two “activity boxes” for children located under the ushers’ bench at the rear of the sanctuary.)

Welcome to Muddy Creek!
Announcements, Good Morning/Waving Hello
Prelude:

*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: “People, Look East”#248

- 1. People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east, and sing today - Love, the Guest, is on the way.
- 2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in the course the flow’r may flourish.
People, look east, and sing today - Love, the Rose, is on the way.
- 3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as the sun and moon together.
People, look east, and sing today - Love, the Star, is on the way.
- 4. Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth.
Set ev’ry peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east, and sing today - Love, the Lord, is on the way.

*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 203

*Kyrie.....page 203

1. Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word, it saves us from despair.
2. Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.
3. Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart.
Renew us in your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!

*Canticle of Praise (“Come, let us join...”).....page 204

1. Come, let us join our cheerful songs with angels round the throne;
ten thousand thousand are their tongues, but all their joys are one.
2. “Worthy the Lamb that died,” they cry, “to be exalted thus!”
“Worthy the Lamb”, our lips reply, “for he was slain for us!”
3. Jesus is worthy to receive honor and pow’r divine;
And blessings, more than we can give, be, Lord, forever thine.
4. Let all creation join in one to bless the sacred name
of God who sits upon the throne, and to adore the Lamb.

*Prayer of the Day C: **Amen**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath (one candle on the wreath is lit)

L: Lord God, we light the first candle of Advent.

C: **We kindle it with hope.**

L: We long for you to come to our world to break through and reign with compassion, justice and peace.

C: **Come to us, O Christ the Light!**

Advent Hymn: “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” v. 1-2.....#257

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

First Reading: Jeremiah 33:14-16

¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.” L: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 25:1-10 (Congregational responses in bold)

¹ To [|] you, O LORD,

I lift [|] up my soul.

² **My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be [|] put to shame,
nor let my enemies triumph [|] over me.**

³ Let none who look to you be [|] put to shame;
rather let those be put to shame [|] who are treacherous.

⁴ **Show me your | ways, O LORD,
and teach | me your paths.**

⁵ Lead me in your | truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

⁶ **Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love,
for they are from | everlasting.**

⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and | my transgressions;
remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- | ness, O
LORD.

⁸ **You are gracious and up- | right, O LORD;
therefore you teach sinners | in your way.**

⁹ You lead the low- | ly in justice
and teach the low- | ly your way.

¹⁰ **All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith. ¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³ And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints. L: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God**

*Gospel Acclamation:page 205
(**Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word. Let it burn like fire within us;
speak until our hearts are stirred. Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you
bring.**)

*Gospel: Luke 21:25-36 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said: ²⁵ “There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.” ²⁹ Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³⁴ “Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

L: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Message

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: "The King Shall

Come.....#260

1. The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks,
when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.

2. Not as of old a little child, to bear and fight and die,
but crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.

3. Oh, brighter than the rising morn when Christ, victorious, rose
and left the lonesome place of death, despite the rage of foes.

4. Oh, brighter than the glorious morn shall dawn upon our race
the day when Christ in splendor comes, and we shall see his face.

5. The King shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings.

Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray: come quickly, King of kings.

*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**

Holy Communion

Great Thanksgiving.....p. 206

L: The Lord be with you. C: **And also with you.** L: Lift up your hearts. C: **We lift them to the
Lord.** L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Proper Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy.....p. 207

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are filled with your
glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer.....page 208

Our Father, who are in heaven, hallowed be 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.

Distribution of Communion

(Note for online followers – Prefilled grape juice and wafer kits are available from the table under the mailboxes for use at home as you follow along with Communion. Please contact Pastor Peter if you'd like them delivered to you. Or, feel free to use your own wine/juice and bread from home.)

*Post-Communion Blessing

*Communion Sending Prayer

*Blessing C: **Amen** (sung response)

*Sending Song: “Fling Wide the Door”#259

1. Fling wide the door, unbar the gate; the King of glory comes in state;
the Lord of lords and King of kings, the Savior of the world who brings
his great salvation to the earth. So raise a shout of holy mirth
and praise our God and Lord, Creator, Spirit, Word.

2. He is the rock of our belief, the heart of mercy's gentle self.
His kingly crown is holiness; his scepter is this loveliness;
he brings our sorrows to an end. Now gladly praise our king and friend,
and worship him with song for saving us from wrong.

3. Oh, happy towns and blessed lands that live by their true king's commands.
And blessed be the hearts he rules, the humble places where he dwells.
He is the rightful Son of bliss who fills our lives and makes us his,
creator of the world, our only strength for good.

4. Come, Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ; our hearts are open wide in trust.
Oh, show us now your lovely grace, upon our sorrows shine your face,
and let your Holy Spirit guide our journey in your grace so wide.
We praise your holy name, from age to age the same!

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

Postlude:

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 plate or give it to the pastor. Welcome!

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, melchurch.org, “Give Online” button on the home page.

Thank You to All Who Came Yesterday to Decorate the Church for Advent and Christmas!
Also, thank you once again this year to the Weber/Dimitris family for donating the beautiful Christmas trees!

Caring Tree Donations Begins Today: Beginning today, we are collecting items under the Caring Tree. The deadline to bring in donations is Dec. 22. We will be collecting new packaged underwear for the orphanage children in Jamaica for Hollie Kemper's Mission Trip there, and we are collecting items for the Good Samaritan Womens' Shelter in Ephrata and the Good Samaritan Men's Shelter. A list of needed items can be found in the newsletter.

Christmas Eve Services Yard Signs are available for pick up in the sanctuary beginning today. Please place one on your lawn to invite your neighborhood to our Christmas Eve Candlelight Services at 4:30 and 10:30 p.m.

We Are Collecting Food Items for Peter's Porch, our local Food Pantry, today (the first Sunday of the month). Items may be placed in the marked bins in the entryways. Thank you!

The Deadline to Order Poinsettias to decorate the church at Christmas is next Sunday, Dec. 8. Forms are available in the newsletter, at the end of the stapled bulletins, or on the table under the mailboxes (this is also where you can place your order forms and payment). Cost is \$7.50 each.

Volunteers Needed for Cemetery Veteran's Wreath Preparation on Dec. 14: If you would like to volunteer to help tie the bows on to the wreaths that will be placed upon the graves of all the veterans in our Muddy Creek Cemetery, please come on Saturday, December 14 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This will be followed by a brief ceremony at the cemetery flagpole and the local scouts placing the wreaths on the veterans' graves. Contact Judy Nichol, 717-484-1447, jnichol@windstream.net, if you are able to help with this project.

All are Invited to Our Community Christmas Carol Hymn Sing and Cookies at Muddy Creek on Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3:00 p.m. This Carol Hymn Sing is an annual joint event of Peace U.C.C. and Muddy Creek. Bring your friends and neighbors! Donations of cookies are also needed!

Advance Copies of the 2025 Budget are available on the table under the mailboxes.

The Congregational Budget and Elections Meeting Will Be Held on Sunday, Dec. 15, immediately following the 10:15 a.m. worship service. Please come out so that we may have a quorum!

Anyone Interested in Muddy Creek's Field Trip to Lancaster History (230 North President Ave in Lancaster) on Monday, Dec. 16 at 1:00 p.m. may speak with Pastor Peter. We will be viewing Muddy Creek's original deed from the sons of William Penn, and viewing other items we have already donated. As well, Muddy Creek and the Archive Task Force are donating more items to Lancaster History.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services At Muddy Creek will be at 4:30 pm and 10:30 pm (Communion). Invite your friends and neighbors!

The Sign Up for Altar Flower Sponsorships 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. Bulletins may also be sponsored in honor or memory of someone for \$15.

In Our Prayers: Gloria Aseli, Linny Ansel, Addison Butch Ebbert, Charlie Fisher, Ken Frazer, Molly Fritz, Eleanor Litzenberger, Lori Lutz, the Martin family, Katie McCalicher, Mike Messner, Paul Moyer, George Nagle, Doug Rauch, Tom and Audrey Riggle, Joanne Saylor, Mary Ann Seidel, Donald Steinmetz, Becky Thunberg.

Worship Helpers Today:

8:00 am Communion Assistant - Scott Strickland

10:15 a.m. Communion Assistant and Acolyte - Grace Youndt

10:15 am Lay Reader – Brenda Berger

10:15 am Cantor - David Sensenig

10:15 am Money Counters - Julie and David Emrhein, Kim Eshleman

Bread Baker - Marliese Smith

10:15 AM Worship Helpers Next Sunday, Dec. 8:

Acolyte -

Lay Reader - Nancy Beck

Cantor - Gail Bare

Money Counters - Linda and Tim Fritz



**Order Your
Poinsettias**

Place completed form, with money attached, in the marked box on the table under the mailboxes (if using a check, note: poinsettias.) Or it may be sent to the church office.

Deadline for orders is Sunday, December 8, 2024

Cost is \$7.50 (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 22.

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 _____



