

**Muddy Creek Lutheran Church**  
11 South Muddy Creek Rd., Denver, PA 17517  
**Celebrating 290 Years!**

Church Office: 717-336-2770, office@mcchurch.org      Pastor Peter: 717-598-5095, peter@mcchurch.org  
Website: www.mcchurch.org, Follow us on Facebook and our Muddy Creek Lutheran YouTube channel.  
The 9:00 a.m. service will be livestreamed and posted today on our YouTube channel and Facebook Page.

*Christmas Day, December 25, 2022, 9:00 a.m.*

\* = Please stand as you are able      All congregational responses are in **bold**

*Welcome to Muddy Creek! Masks are currently optional for worship.*

Announcements, Waving Hello

Prelude – *O Come, All Ye Faithful*.....A Whitworth

\*Opening Hymn: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”.....#283

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem;  
come and behold Him, born the King of angels:

*Refrain*  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

2. The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,  
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing. *Refrain*

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, in the highest: *Refrain*

4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be glory given!  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: *Refrain*

Responsive Reading (Congregational responses are in bold)  
L: Joy to the world! The Lord is come.  
**C: Let every heart receive our Savior.**  
L: Glory to God in the highest!  
**C: Peace to God’s people on earth!**  
L: Emmanuel - God is with us.  
**C: He came as a baby to a manger.**  
L: May Christ, by his incarnation fill us with his grace and truth  
**C: Rejoice!**

\*Prayer of the Day    **C: Amen**

Choir Anthem: *The Newborn King*.....D. Sensenig

First Bible Reading: Isaiah 62:6-12

<sup>6</sup>Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the LORD, take no rest, <sup>7</sup>and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. <sup>8</sup>The LORD has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; <sup>9</sup>but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the LORD, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts.

<sup>10</sup>Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. <sup>11</sup>The LORD has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." <sup>12</sup>They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the LORD"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

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

Psalm 97 (Congregational responses in bold)

<sup>1</sup>The LORD reigns; let the | earth rejoice;  
let the multitude of the | isles be glad.

<sup>2</sup>**Clouds and darkness sur- | round the LORD,  
righteousness and justice are the foundations | of God's throne.**

<sup>3</sup>Fire goes be- | fore the LORD,  
burning up enemies on | every side.

<sup>4</sup>**Lightnings light | up the world;  
the earth | sees and trembles.**

<sup>5</sup>The mountains | melt like wax  
before the Lord of | all the earth.

<sup>6</sup>**The heavens declare your righteous- | ness, O LORD,  
and all the peoples | see your glory.**

<sup>7</sup>Confounded be all who worship carved images and delight | in false gods!  
Bow down before the LORD, | all you gods.

<sup>8</sup>**Zion hears and is glad, and the cities of Ju- | dah rejoice,  
because of your judg- | ments, O LORD.**

<sup>9</sup>For you are the LORD, most high over | all the earth;  
you are exalted far a- | bove all gods.

<sup>10</sup>**You who love the | LORD, hate evil!  
God guards the lives of the saints and rescues them from the hand | of the wicked.**

<sup>11</sup>Light dawns | for the righteous,  
and joy for the hon- | est of heart.

<sup>12</sup>**Rejoice in the | LORD, you righteous,  
and give thanks to God's | holy name.**

Second Bible Reading: Titus 3:4-7

<sup>4</sup>When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through

the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. <sup>6</sup>This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. L: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God**

\*Gospel: Luke 2:1-20 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup>This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup>All went to their own towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup>Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup>He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup>While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup>And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup>In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup>Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup>But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup>to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup>This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup>And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, <sup>14</sup>“Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

<sup>15</sup>When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup>So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup>When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup>and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup>But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup>The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

Children’s Message

Sermon

\*Hymn: “Joy to the World” .....#267

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;  
let ev’ry heart prepare him room, and heav’n and nature sing,  
and heav’n and nature sing, and heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
3. No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;  
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,  
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.
4. He rules the world with truth and grace and make the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

\*Apostles' Creed.....page 105

**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 to heaven, he is seated at the right hand of God 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 may be placed anytime in the wooden boxes on the entry tables.)

Choir Anthem: *Were You There on That Christmas Night?*.....N. Sleeth

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

Lord's Prayer.....page 208

**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.**

\*Sending Hymn: "Angels, From the Realms of Glory" .....#275

1. Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:

*Refrain:*

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

2. Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light. *Refrain*

3. Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great desire of nation, you have seen his natal star. *Refrain*

4. All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son,  
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One. *Refrain*

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

Postlude – *Today in Bethlehem*.....R. Parks

## 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!

**Services on New Year's Day:** There will be one service at **9 a.m.** next Sunday on New Year's Day (Sun. Jan. 1). We will celebrate communion.

**The Altar Flowers This Morning** are given by Brad and Doris Rauch to celebrate the birth of Christ. Merry Christmas!

**Altar Flower Sponsorships in 2023:** Beginning Jan. 1, we will be using a new florist for our altar flowers, since our old florist, Roxanne's, went out of business. The new florist is Denise Beavens of Schaefferstown, with her florist company, Designed by Denise. The cost for altar flower sponsorships will increase slightly to \$45 per Sunday. Bulletin sponsorships are also available for \$15. If you would like to sponsor altar flowers or bulletins on any Sunday (they can also be given in honor or memory of someone), please sign up in the binder outside Pastor Peter's office. Payment can be given to Muddy Creek Lutheran Church.

**In our Prayers:** Gloria Aseli, Lesia Aungst, Dorothy Beam, Curtis Beck, Elsie Becker, Fred Hainley, Alex Harding, Pat Kagarise, Tina Lavrenchuk, the Martin family, Mary Miller, David Moodhart, Charles Moyer, Jean Moyer, George Nagle, Betty Ramsey, the Riggle family, Walt Siegel, Lucy Snader, Becky Thunberg, Harold Weinhold, Michael Weinhold.

### **Attendance and Giving:**

Attendance Dec. 18: 8:00 a.m. – 25, 10:15 a.m. - 56, YouTube and Facebook – 36  
 Received through end of Nov.: \$148,931.63      Expenses thru Nov.: \$188,947.67  
 Received on Dec. 18: \$3,355.55      Received Dec. to date: \$11,782.10  
 Air Conditioning Fund Total as of Dec. 18 (donations still gratefully accepted): \$11,513.10

### **Worship Helpers Today:**

9:00 a.m. Acolyte: Cannon Youndt      9:00 a.m. Lay Reader: Brad Rauch  
 9:00 a.m. Cantor: Greg Gehman  
 9:00 a.m. Money Counters: Brenda Berger, Audrey Noll

### **Worship Helpers Next Sunday (Jan. 1, 9:00 a.m.):**

9:00 a.m. Acolyte and Communion Assistant: Grace Youndt  
 9:00 a.m. Lay Reader: Lynn Breidenstein  
 9:00 a.m. Cantor: Hollie Kemper  
 9:00 a.m. Money Counters: Ray and Susan Sweigart