

Muddy Creek Lutheran Church

11 South Muddy Creek Rd., Denver, PA 17517

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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.

6th Sunday After Epiphany, February 16, 2025, 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: *More Love to Thee, O Christ*.....J. Evanovich

*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: “God is Here!”#526

1. God is here! As we you people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.
2. Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace; here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place. Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in in speech, here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.
3. Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd’s flock and fold; here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.
4. Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt, keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work our purpose out. Here, in this day’s dedication, all we have to give, receive; we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

*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 Praisepage 204

1. Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.
Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth;
we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.
Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.
2. Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;
on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.
Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.
3. Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;
Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:
Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.
For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high.

*Prayer of the Day: Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Christ our Savior and Lord. C: **Amen**

Choir Anthem: *Blessed Assurance*.....J. N. Beck

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:7-8

⁷Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. ⁸They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.

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

Psalm 1 (Congregational responses in bold)

- ¹Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel ¹ of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats ¹ of the scornful!
- ²**Their delight is in the law ¹ of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching ¹ day and night.**
- ³They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,
with leaves that ¹ do not wither;
everything they ¹ do shall prosper.
- ⁴**It is not so ¹ with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind ¹ blows away.**
- ⁵Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when ¹ judgment comes,
nor the sinner in the council ¹ of the righteous.

**⁶ For the LORD knows the way ^l of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall ^l be destroyed.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

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 6:17-26 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹⁷ Jesus came down with the twelve and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. ²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.” L: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children’s Message

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: “Blest are They”#728

1. Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God.

Blest are they, full of sorrow, they shall be consoled. (Refrain)

Refrain: Rejoice and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!

Rejoice and be glad! Yours in the kingdom of God!

2. Blest are they, the lowly ones; they shall inherit the earth.

Blest are they, who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill. (Refrain)

3. Blest are they who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.
Blest are they, the pure of heart; they shall see God. (Refrain)
4. Blest are they who seek peace; they are the children of God.
Blest are they who suffer in faith; the glory of God is theirs. (Refrain)
5. Blest are you who suffer hate, all because of me.
Rejoice, be glad, yours is the kingdom; shine for all to see. (Refrain)

*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 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.

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

*Sending Song: "Sent Forth By God's Blessing".....#547

1. Sent forth by God's blessing, our true faith confessing,
the people of God from this dwelling take leave.

The supper is ended. Oh, now be extended the fruits of this service to all who believe. The seed of Christ's teaching, receptive souls reaching, shall blossom in action for God and for all. Your grace shall incite us, your love shall unite us to work for your kingdom and answer your call.

2. With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living, the tasks of our everyday life we will face - our faith ever sharing, in love ever caring, embracing God's children, the whole human race. With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead us; unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honor to Christ and his name that we bear.

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

Postlude: *We Magnify Our Father God*.....J. Peterson
 Immediately following the 10:15 a.m. service, you are invited to stay in the sanctuary for a time of fellowship and refreshments, courtesy today of Roger and Audrey Noll and Pat Brendle.

Thanks!

Announcements

Notes for Online Participants:

We are so glad you are participating in worship online! Welcome!

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.

The monthly newsletter can be found on the church website under "What's Happening".

Welcome and Thank You Today to Pastor Bonnie Oplinger for preaching and leading the worship services. Welcome, Pastor Oplinger!

Pastor Peter Is On Vacation until tomorrow, Monday, Feb. 17. In case of a pastoral emergency during this time, please contact Pastor Sandy Gideon at 717-484-1172.

From Pastor Peter and the Muddy Creek Council - Retirement Announcement:

With deep appreciation for the people of Muddy Creek, Pastor Peter wishes to announce his retirement at the end of May. For the next four months, I will continue in what has been a truly great honor and privilege of serving as the pastor of Muddy Creek for the past 11 years. This is a wonderful, generous and friendly congregation with exceptional leaders! After retirement, I plan to be actively involved with child care for my grandchildren on both the East Coast and West Coast.

The Church Council has already begun initial preparations for the transition process. Thankfully, the congregation had the exceptional foresight to complete a "Planning for the Future" process in anticipation of the retirement and of other possible future needs, and so this will make the transition considerably smoother and easier. Looking forward, you may be assured in the near future that all worship services and activities will continue to occur as they have been. We appreciate the congregation's support as we all pitch in and work together for the joint ministry and mission of Muddy Creek during this transition time and in the future.

You Are Invited to the Parish Life and Social Ministry Committee Meeting Today immediately following the 10:15 a.m. service. All volunteers are greatly appreciated!

There Will Be No Adult Forum This Month.

Scout Recognition Sunday Next Week: Next Sunday, we will have Scout Recognition Sunday at the 10:15 a.m. service. We will honor the scouts of Adamstown Cub Scout Family Pack #3204 led by Kevin Grant, the scouts of Boy's Troop 4318 led by Mike Marti, and the scouts of Girl's Troop 6759 led by Korry Stokrp. Also present will be Committee Chairperson Kim Rossanese.

Thank You to everyone who submitted their Redner receipts. The Good Samaritan Fund at Muddy Creek was recently benefitted with a check from Redner's for \$121.00. Please continue to bring your Redner's Save A Tape receipts and put them in the boxes at the entrances. Please do not cut the tapes. Thank you!

The Altar Flowers Today are given by Dave and Marliese Emrhein in honor of Julie Emrhein's birthday. "Happy Birthday, Julie! Love, Dave and Marliese".

The Bulletins Today are given by Peggy Leid in memory of Jeffrey Leid.

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, Jane Enck, Charlie Fisher, Ken Frazer, Molly Fritz, Elaine Gehman, Jane Gehman, Larry Gehman, Carl Gerhart, Hollie Kemper on her Mission Trip, Betsy Klink, Jessica Mancini, the Martin family, Katie McCalicher, Audrey Opra, Brad and Doris Rauch at the death of Brad's brother Doug Rauch on Sunday, Tom Riggie, Clarence Rutt, Mark and Joanne Saylor, Mary Ann Seidel, Walt Siegel, Bruce Spangler, Donald Steinmetz, Becky Thunberg, Pastor Dennis Trout

Attendance and Giving:

Feb. 9: 8:00 a.m. - 8 , 10:15 a.m. - 36, Online Participants (includes livestream) - 76

Received through Jan.: \$8,987.06 Expenses through Jan.: \$16,398.18

Received on Feb. 9: \$1,455.16 Received Feb. to date: \$6,965.07

10:15 AM Worship Helpers Today

Acolyte - Mason Sheaffer

Lay Reader - Brenda Berger

Cantor - Gail Bare

Money Counters - Brenda Berger, Jane Wenger

10:15 AM Worship Helpers Next Sunday, Feb. 23:

Acolyte -

Lay Reader - Nancy Beck

Cantor - Greg Gehman

Money Counters - June and Neal Leid