

# 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.

**First Sunday in Lent, February 18, 2024, 10:15 a.m. - Online Edition**

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

*Welcome to Muddy Creek!*

Announcements, Waving Hello

Prelude: *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*.....F. Maker

\*Confession and Forgiveness .....pages 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: “Beneath the Cross of Jesus”.....#338

1. Beneath the cross of Jesus I long to take my stand;  
the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land,  
a home within a wilderness, a rest upon the way,  
from the burning of the noontide heat and burdens of the day.
2. Upon the cross of Jesus, my eye at times can see  
the very dying form of one who suffered there for me.  
And from my contrite heart, with tears, two wonders I confess:  
the wonder of his glorious love and my unworthiness.
3. I take, O cross, your shadow for my abiding place;  
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of his face;  
content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,  
my sinful self my only shame, my glory all, the cross.

\*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 .....page 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

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-17

<sup>8</sup>God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.” <sup>12</sup>God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

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

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

<sup>1</sup>To | you, O LORD,

I lift | up my soul.

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

<sup>3</sup>Let none who look to you be | put to shame;

rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.

**<sup>4</sup>Show me your | ways, O LORD,  
and teach | me your paths.**

<sup>5</sup>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.

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

<sup>7</sup>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.

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

<sup>9</sup>You lead the low- | ly in justice  
and teach the low- | ly your way.

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

Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

<sup>18</sup>Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

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: Mark 1:9-15 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” <sup>12</sup>And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. <sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.” L: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children’s Message  
Sermon

\*Hymn of the Day: “Lord Jesus, Think on Me” .....#599

1. Lord Jesus, think on me, and purge away my sin;  
from selfish passion set me free and make me pure within.

2. Lord Jesus, think on me, by anxious thoughts oppressed;  
let me your loving servant be and taste your promised rest.
3. Lord Jesus, think on me, nor let me go astray;  
through darkness and perplexity point out your chosen way.
4. Lord Jesus, think on me, that, when the flood is past,  
I may the eternal brightness see and share your joy at last.

\*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](http://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 art 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: "Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling".....#608

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

1. Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling, calling for you and for me.

See, on the portals he's waiting and watching, watching for you and for me.

**Refrain:** "Come home, come home! You who are weary, come home."

Earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling, calling, "O sinner, come home!"

2. Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading, pleading for you and for me?

Why should we linger and heed not his mercies, mercies for you and for me? (Refrain)

3. Oh, for the wonderful love he has promised, promised for you and for me!

Though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon, pardon for you and for me. (Refrain)

Postlude: *Postlude in D Minor*.....C. Ett  
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 Marie Buohl and Connie Hoover. Thanks!

## 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!

**Today, You Are Invited to the Adult Forum** at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Lynn Redcay from Muddy Creek will present about the book she has written, Take Care of Today. It is the story of the late William Brossman from Muddy Creek and his daughters Bertha and Anne who founded and led the Denver & Ephrata Telephone and Telegraph Co.

**Wednesday Evening Cluster Lenten Services Begin This Week:** All are invited to Lenten services, held together with other local Lutheran churches in our cluster. Following this year's theme of "Open My Life, Lord", the schedule will be as follows:

\*This Wed. Feb. 21, 7 p.m. at Faith United Lutheran Church, Denver. Pastor Scott Brubaker from Swamp Lutheran will preach on "Open My Eyes, Lord".

\*Wed. Feb. 28, 7 p.m. at Bergstrasse Lutheran Church, Ephrata. Pastor Marissa Becklin from Faith United Lutheran will preach on "Open My Hands, Lord".

\*Wed. March 6, 7 p.m. here at Muddy Creek. Pastor Jim Goodyear from Bergstrasse Lutheran will preach on "Open My Ears, Lord".

\*Wed. March 13, 7 p.m. at Mellingers Lutheran Church, Schoeneck. Pastor Sandy Gideon from St. Paul Lutheran will preach on "Open My Heart, Lord".

\*Wed. March 20, 7 p.m. at St. John Center Lutheran Church, East Earl. Pastor Peter Schwabe-Fry from Muddy Creek will preach on "Open My Life, Lord".

\*Thurs. May 9, 7 p.m. at Swamp Lutheran Church, Reinholds. Pastor Tim Craven from Mellingers Lutheran will preach at the cluster Ascension Day service.

The offering will go to support this year's Disaster Relief Mission Trip which will be in Port Charlotte, Florida. April 28 - May 4. Checks may be made out to: "Disaster Relief Trip, North Lancaster Conference Dean's Fund"

### **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](http://melchurch.org), "Give Online" button on the home page.

**Thank You to Everyone Who Signed Up to Help Pack Food at Blessings of Hope** this coming Saturday morning.

**Also, Thank You to Everyone Who Took a Tag to Help a Newly-Arrived Refugee Family From the Congo!** The donated items may be placed in the marked box near the mailboxes.

**You are Invited to a Congregational Forum on Muddy Creek's Planning for the Future Committee Report and Recommendations** on Sun. March 3 at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The report was sent out to the congregation this past week. All are invited to the forum!

**Easter Flower Sponsorships are now available.** You may give daffodils, tulips or lilies to adorn the church on Easter, and take them home following the Easter services on March. 31. Use the form located at the end of this bulletin or on the table under the mailboxes. The deadline is March 10th. Please place your orders and money in the marked box under the mailboxes.

**In our Prayers:** Linny Ansel, Pat Artz, Gloria Aseli, Dorothy Beam, Tom Carretta, Darla Hackman, Joyce Keith, Anne Kinnamon, Pastor David Klepper, the Martin family, Helen Martin, Katie McCalicher, Charles Moyer, Jean Moyer, Paul Moyer, Betty Ramsey, Tom and Audrey Riggle, Joanne Saylor, the Saylor family, Mary Ann Seidel, Becky Thunberg, Jim Weber, Sharon Weinhold, Sev Yerger

**Attendance and Giving:**

Attendance Feb. 11, 8:00 a.m. – 19, 10:15 a.m. - 62, Online Views (includes livestream) -39	
Received through end of Jan.: \$14,993.48	Expenses thru Jan.: \$17,853.37
Received on Feb. 11: \$1,844.30	Received Feb. to date: \$7,336.80

**Worship Helpers Today:**

Acolyte - Mason Sheaffer	Lay Reader - Brenda Berger
Cantor - Pastor Peter	Money Counters - Michelle Dimitris, Jim Weber, Jane Wenger

**10:15 A.M. Worship Helpers Next Sunday, Feb. 18:**

Acolyte -	Lay Reader - Nancy Beck
Cantor - David Sensenig	Money Counters - Julie and Dave Emrhein, Kim Eshleman

## *Easter Flowers*

If you wish to order any flowers to decorate the church on Easter (March 31, 2024), please give the money and order form to Jane Wenger, or put the money and form in an envelope and place it in the marked box under the sanctuary mailboxes (or you may mail your order in to the church office with your check.) Lilies, Tulips and Daffodils are available. Deadline for ordering is Sunday, March 10.



**Cost is:**      \$6.50 per 6.5” pot of Daffodils  
                     \$6.50 per 6” pot (5-6 bulbs) of Tulips  
                     \$8.00 per pot of Lilies (white) (3-4 blooms per pot)

Checks are preferred (please note on check “Easter Flowers”) but, if you choose to use cash, exact amount of money is needed.

1 order per form, please

**YOUR NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Number and type of plants:** # \_\_\_\_\_ Type \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like “in honor of” or “in memory of” included in the bulletin, please fill in the appropriate lines.

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

by \_\_\_\_\_

(optional)

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

by \_\_\_\_\_

(optional)

(Optional) Do not include in bulletin \_\_\_\_\_

Any questions, please contact Jane Wenger @ [jlwredjet@gmail.com](mailto:jlwredjet@gmail.com) or (717) 471-0556

**\*\*All flowers ordered can be picked up following the service.**

**Deadline for ordering is March 10.      Please PRINT CLEARLY. Thank you.**