

Muddy Creek Lutheran Church

11 South Muddy Creek Rd., Denver, PA 17517

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 10:15 a.m. service will be livestreamed and posted today on our YouTube channel and Facebook Page.

1st Sunday in Lent, February 26, 2023, 10:15 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 – Pastoral on “In the Cross”arr. J. Linker

*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.**

*Opening Hymn: “Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer”#618

- 1. Guide me ever, great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but you are mighty, hold me with your pow’rful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore, feed me now and evermore.
- 2. Open now the crystal fountain where the healing waters flow; let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through. Strong deliv’rer, strong deliv’rer, shield me with your mighty arm, shield me with your mighty arm.
- 3. When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside; death of death and hell’s destruction, land me safe on Canaan’s side. Songs and praises, songs and praises I will raise forevermore, I will raise forevermore.

*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 **C: Amen**

Choir Anthem – *Come Follow Me*.....Albrecht/Althouse

First Bible Reading: Genesis 2:15-17, 3:1-7

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." ^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

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

Psalm 32 (Congregational responses in bold)

¹Happy are they whose transgressions ¹are forgiven,
and whose sin is ¹put away!

²**Happy are they to whom the LORD im-¹putes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there ¹is no guile!**

³While I held my tongue, my bones with-¹ered away,
because of my groaning ¹all day long.

- ⁴**For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer.**
- ⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- | ceal my guilt.
I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.” Then you forgave me
the guilt | of my sin.
- ⁶**Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time of trouble;
when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.**
- ⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts | of deliverance.
- ⁸**“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go;
I will guide you | with my eye.**
- ⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will | not stay near you.”
- ¹⁰**Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust | in the LORD.**
- ¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are | true of heart.

Second Bible Reading: Romans 5:12-19

¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come. ¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man’s trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. ¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man’s sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man’s trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ. ¹⁸Therefore just as one man’s trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man’s act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man’s obedience the many will be made righteous.

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

*Gospel Acclamation:page 205
(**We are turning, Lord, to hear you; you are merciful and kind –
slow anger, rich in blessing, and with love to us inclined.**)

*Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ²He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. ³The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’” ⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, ‘He

will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'”⁷ Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor;⁹ and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.”¹⁰ Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’”¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

Children’s Message

Sermon

*Hymn: “O Lord, Throughout These Forty Days”#319

1. O Lord, throughout these forty days you prayed and kept the fast; inspire repentance for our sin, and free us from our past.
2. You strove with Satan, and you won; your faithfulness endured; lend us your nerve, your skill and trust in God’s eternal word.
3. Though parched and hungry, yet you prayed and fixed your mind above; so teach us to deny ourselves that we may know God’s love.
4. Be with us through this season, Lord, and all our earthly days, that when the final Easter dawns, we join in heaven’s praise.

*The 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 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 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: C: **Amen** (sung)

*Sending Hymn: “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”#504

1. A mighty fortress is our God, a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor’s rod and wins salvation glorious.
The old satanic foe has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dreadful might
arms himself to fight. On earth he has no equal.

2. No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, rejected.
But now a champion comes to fight, whom God himself elected.
You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Jesus, mighty Lord,
God’s only Son, adored. He holds the field victorious.

3. Though hordes of devils fill the land all threat’ning to devour us,
we tremble not, unmoved we stand; they cannot overpow’r us.
Let this world’s tyrant rage; in battle we’ll engage! His might is doomed to fail;
God’s judgment must prevail! One little word subdues him.

4. God’s Word forever shall abide, no thanks to foes, how fear it;
for God himself fights by our side with weapons of the Spirit.
Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched away,
they cannot win the day. The kingdom’s ours forever!

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

Postlude – *Postlude in E Minor*.....G. B. Campodonico

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!

Our Lenten Book Study this year is on Reaching Out: The Three Movements of Spiritual Life by Henri Nouwen. It will be on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. The dates are next Sunday, March 5 (Reaching Out to our Innermost Self – Chapters 1-3), March 12 (Reaching Out to our Fellow Human Beings – Chapters 4-6) and March 26 (Reaching Out to our God – Chapters 7-9). Free books are already available for the first 20 people who sign up. Other free copies will be ordered for people who sign up after that. You may also read the book on your own, if you wish. Sign up on the clipboard by the mailboxes, or email peter@mclchurch.org.

Easter Egg Hunt Donations Begin Today, and other Upcoming Collections:

*Beginning today, we are collecting small wrapped candy and plastic Easter eggs for the upcoming Community **Easter Egg Hunt** in our Grove on April 2. Thank you for your help!

*Beginning next Sunday, March 5, we will start collecting cookies, chips, candies, crackers and snacks to send to **College Students and Military Members** from the congregation. Collection ends March 26. Items can be put in any of the marked bins at the entrances.

*Next Sunday, March 5 (the first Sunday of the month), we are collecting food items to give to our local food pantry, **Peter’s Porch**. Items can be put in the marked bins at the entrances.

Cluster Lenten Services 2023: The theme this year for our local Lutheran Cluster Lenten Services is “Turning Toward God’s Abundance”. All services are at 7 p.m., and they will also be available online. The offering will go to the conference Disaster Relief Mission Trip to Houston, Texas, April 16-22. (Checks may be made out to North Lancaster Conference Dean’s Fund).

This Wed. March 1, 7 p.m.: Pastor Jim Goodyear will be preaching at Faith United, Denver. Theme: Faithfulness – Luke 15:11-23 (The Temptation of Jesus). Faith United will also stream the service on their YouTube channel (youtube.com, faithunitedevangelicalluth3864).

Wed. March 8, 7 p.m.: Pastor Marissa Becklin will be preaching at St. Paul’s, Adamstown. Theme: Mercy – Luke 13:31-35 (Lament over Jerusalem). St. Paul’s will also stream the service on their Facebook page (Facebook - St. Paul’s Lutheran, Adamstown, PA).

Wed. March 15, 7 p.m.: Pastor Peter Schwabe-Fry will be preaching at Bergstrasse, Ephrata. Theme: Compassion – Luke 13:1-9 (The Barren Fig Tree). Bergstrasse will also stream the service on their Facebook page (Facebook - Bergstrasse Lutheran Church).

Wed. March 22, 7 p.m.: Pastor Scott Brubaker will be preaching at Muddy Creek, Denver. Theme: Forgiveness – Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 (The Prodigal Son). We will also stream the service on our YouTube channel (youtube.com, muddycreeklutherande4004).

Wed. March 29, 7 p.m.: Pastor Sandy Gideon will be preaching at Mellingers, Schoeneck. Theme: Love – John 12:1-8 (Mary Anoints Jesus). Mellingers will also stream the service on their Facebook page (Facebook - Mellingers Evangelical Lutheran Church).

Turkey/Syria Earthquake Donations: You may donate to Lutheran Disaster Relief services specifically for humanitarian aid for the victims of the recent devastating and tragic earthquake in Turkey and Syria by going to the church website, mclchurch.org, and clicking on the “Give Online” button and selecting “Turkey/Syria Earthquake Relief”.

Choir Practices in March are Thurs., March 9 at 6:30 p.m. (the choir will sing on Sun., March 12), and Wednesday, March 22 before the Cluster Lenten Service (the choir will sing at both the Cluster Lenten Service and on Sun., March 26). All are invited to come sing in the choir!

In our Prayers: Gloria Aseli, Dorothy Beam, Curtis and Faith Beck, Nancy Beck, Alex Harding, Darlene Heian, Pat Kagarise, Tina Lavrenchuk, Roberta Mann, Linda Martin, the Martin family, Ruthie Mann, Mary Miller, Charles Moyer, Jean Moyer, Betty Ramsey, Tom Riggie, Dana Sanchez, Susan and Walt Siegel, Lucy Snader, Becky Thunberg, Philip Webber, Kent Weinhold, Marian Weinhold, Michael Weinhold.

Attendance and Giving:

Attendance Feb. 19: 8:00 a.m. – 20, 10:15 a.m. – 62, YouTube and Facebook – 67

Received through end of Jan.: \$13,799.20 Expenses thru Jan.: \$19,394.51

Received on Feb. 19: \$5,038.05 Received Feb. to date: \$12,537.53

Worship Helpers Today:

10:15 a.m. Acolyte: Cannon Youndt 10:15 a.m. Money Counters: Gail and Ted Bare

10:15 a.m. Lay Reader: Doris Rauch 10:15 a.m. Cantor: Gail Bare

Worship Helpers Next Sunday, March 5:

8:00 am Communion Assistant - Scott Strickland 10:15 am Lay Reader – Lynn Breidenstein

10:15 am Acolyte and Communion Assistant– Zach Sheaffer, 10:15 am Cantor - Greg Gehman

Bread Baker - Marliese Smith 10:15 am Money Counters - Nick Duong & Thai Phan, Pat Brendle

Easter Flowers

If you wish to order any flowers to decorate the church on Easter, please give the money and order form to Jane Wenger, or put the money and form in an envelope and place it in the offering box (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 26.



Cost is: \$6.00 per 6.5” pot of Daffodils
 \$6.00 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)

Do not include in bulletin _____

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

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

Deadline for ordering is March 26.

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