

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 our website.

5th Sunday after Epiphany, February 4, 2024, 10:15 a.m. - Online Edition
* = Please stand as you are able All congregational responses are in **bold**

Welcome to Muddy Creek!

Announcements, Determination of Quorum, Waving Hello

Prelude: *As We Gather at Your Table*.....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: “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty”#858

- 1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Let all who hear now to his temple draw near, joining in glad adoration!
- 2. Praise to the Lord, who o’er all things is wondrously reigning
and, as on wings of an eagle, uplifting, sustaining.
Have you not see all that is needful has been sent by his gracious ordaining?
- 3. Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do if with his love he befriend you.
- 4. Praise to the Lord! Oh, let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again. Gladly forever adore him!

*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

First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31

²¹Have you not known? Have you not heard? Has it not been told you from the beginning? Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth? ²²It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in; ²³who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing. ²⁴Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.

²⁵To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One. ²⁶Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing. ²⁷Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? ²⁸Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. ²⁹He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. ³⁰Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; ³¹but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint. L: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 147:1-11. 20c (Congregational responses in bold)

¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises¹ to our God!

How pleasant it is to honor¹ God with praise!

²**The LORD re-¹ builds Jerusalem,
and gathers the ex-¹ iles of Israel.**

³The LORD heals the¹ brokenhearted

and binds | up their wounds.

⁴**The LORD counts the number | of the stars
and calls them all | by their names.**

⁵Great is our LORD and might- | y in power;
there is no limit | to God's wisdom.

⁶**The LORD lifts | up the lowly,
but casts the wicked | to the ground.**

⁷Sing to the LORD | with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp | to our God,

⁸**who covers the heav- | ens with clouds
and prepares rain for the earth, making grass to grow up- | on the mountains.**

⁹God provides food | for the cattle
and for the young ravens | when they cry.

¹⁰**God is not impressed by the might | of a horse,
and has no pleasure in the speed | of a runner,**

¹¹but finds pleasure in those who | fear the LORD,
in those who await God's steadfast love. ^{20c} Hallelujah!

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23

¹⁶If I proclaim the gospel, this gives me no ground for boasting, for an obligation is laid on me, and woe to me if I do not proclaim the gospel! ¹⁷For if I do this of my own will, I have a reward; but if not of my own will, I am entrusted with a commission. ¹⁸What then is my reward? Just this: that in my proclamation I may make the gospel free of charge, so as not to make full use of my rights in the gospel. ¹⁹For though I am free with respect to all, I have made myself a slave to all, so that I might win more of them. ²⁰To the Jews I became as a Jew, in order to win Jews. To those under the law I became as one under the law (though I myself am not under the law) so that I might win those under the law. ²¹To those outside the law I became as one outside the law (though I am not free from God's law but am under Christ's law) so that I might win those outside the law. ²²To the weak I became weak, so that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that I might by all means save some. ²³I do it all for the sake of the gospel, so that I may share in its blessings. 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 1:29-39 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁹As soon as Jesus and the disciples left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them. ³²That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. ³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his

companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.” ³⁸He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.” ³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

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

Children’s Message
Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: “On Eagle’s Wings”#787

1. You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in this shadow for life,
say to the Lord: “My refuge, my rock in whom I trust!”

Refrain: And he will raise you up on eagle’s wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

2. The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear;
under God’s wings your refuge, with faithfulness your shield. (Refrain)

3. You need not fear the terror of the night, nor the arrow that flies by day;
though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come. (Refrain)

4. For to the angels God’s given a command to guard you in all of your ways;
upon their hands they will bear you up, lest you dash your foot against a stone.

Closing Refrain: And he will raise you up on eagle’s wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,
make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.

And hold you, hold you in the palm of his hand.

*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. 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: “God, Whose Almighty Word”.....#673

1. God, whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard and took their flight:

hear us, we humbly pray, and where the gospel day sheds not its glorious ray, let there be light.

2. Christ, who once came to bring, on your redeeming wing, healing and sight;

health to the troubled mind, sight where illusions blind; oh, now to humankind let there be light.

3. Spirit of truth and love, lifegiving holy dove, speed forth your flight;

move on the water's face bearing the lamp of grace, and in earth's darkest place let there be light.

4. Holy and blessed three, glorious Trinity, Wisdom, Love, Might: boundless as ocean's tide, rolling in fullest pride, through the earth far and wide, let there be light.

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

Postlude: *The Solid Rock*.....W. Bradbury

Congregational Annual Meeting

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!

Invitation to Communion for Online Participants:

You are invited to participate in Holy Communion as you follow along online. If you would like to pick up prefilled home communion kits of wafers and grape juice in order to participate online in Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month, please contact Pastor Peter or pick them up yourself from the box on the table under the church mailboxes. Or, feel free to use your own wine/juice and bread from home.

Offering may be contributed online through the church website (mclchurch.org) “Give Online” button on the home page.

Today, Following the 10:15 A.M. Worship Service, We Will Have Our Congregational Annual Meeting and Luncheon. All are invited to stay for the Annual Congregational Meeting immediately after the 10:15 a.m. service, followed by a Congregational Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall downstairs.

The 2023 Giving Statements and 2024 Offering Envelopes are in the Church Mailboxes:

For those who use offering envelopes to contribute to Muddy Creek, don’t forget to check your church mailboxes for your 2023 giving statement and 2024 envelopes. If you did not receive a 2023 giving statement but would like one, please contact Nedra Bearinger. Reminder: Your mailbox is below your name.

Sign Up to Help Pack Food at Blessings of Hope on Saturday morning, Feb. 24. The sign up sheet is on the clipboard on the table under the mailboxes. The Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring this serving event.

Thank you to All Who Brought in Food Items for Peter’s Porch Today (the first Sunday of the month). Items for our local food pantry may be placed in the marked bins in the entrances.

On Super Bowl Sunday, Next Sunday, Feb. 11, you may wear your favorite sports jersey from any team to worship. Also, we will be collecting spare change to give to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

Ash Wednesday Worship will be on Feb. 14 at 7:00 p.m. Come out for this very moving service which includes communion and the giving of ashes.

The Altar Flowers Today are given in memory of Jeffrey Leid by the family.

The Sign Up for Flower Sponsorships on Sundays 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.

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

Attendance and Giving:

Attendance Jan. 28, 8:00 a.m. – , 10:15 a.m. -

Received through end of Dec.: \$182,759.35

Received on Jan. 28:

Expenses thru Dec.: \$199,662.03

Received Jan. to date:

Worship Helpers Today:

Bread Baker - Marliese Smith 8:00 am Communion Assistant - Scott Strickland

10:15 a.m. Communion Assistant and Acolyte - Sophia Dimitris?

10:15 am Lay Reader – Doris Rauch? 10:15 am Cantor - Greg Gehman

10:15 am Money Counters - David and June Sloat

10:15 A.M. Worship Helpers Next Sunday, Feb. 11:

Acolyte - Cannon Youndt?

Lay Reader - Lynn Breidenstein

Cantor - Pastor Peter

Money Counters - Jere and Joan Shimp