

Muddy Creek Lutheran Church

11 South Muddy Creek Rd, Denver, PA 17517

*7th Sunday after Pentecost, July 27, 2025, 9:30 am
Online Bulletin*



READINGS AND PSALM

Genesis 18:20-32

Psalm 138

Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]

Luke 11:1-13

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Follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/mclchurch>)
and YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/@muddycreeklutheranchurchde4004>)

This service is livestreamed and posted on our website and YouTube channel.

Children's activity boxes are in the rear of the sanctuary.

Welcome to Muddy Creek Lutheran Church

* = Please stand as you are able; Congregational responses are **bold**

GATHERING

Welcome

Announcements

Passing the Peace

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRELUDE “Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring” J. S. Bach

*Confession and Forgiveness

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: 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.**

P: Let us confess our sins, in the presence of God and of one another. 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.**

P: 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:** “When Morning Gilds the Skies”#853

1 When morning gilds the skies,
my heart awaking cries:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
When evening shadows fall,
this rings my curfew call:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

2 When mirth for music longs,
This is my song of songs:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

God's holy house of prayer
has none that can compare
with "Jesus Christ be praised!"

3 No lovelier antiphon
in all high heav'n is known
than "Jesus Christ be praised!"
There to the eternal Word
the eternal psalm is heard:
oh, Jesus Christ be praised!

4 Let all of human-kind
in this their concord find:
may Jesus Christ be praised!
Let all the earth around
ring joyous with the sound:
may Jesus Christ be praised!

5 Sing, sun and stars of space,
sing, ye that see his face,
sing, "Jesus Christ be praised!"
God's whole creation o'er,
today and evermore
shall Jesus Christ be praised!

***Greeting**

P: 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**

***KYRIE** page138

In peace, let us pray to the Lord, **Lord have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, For the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of
all, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

For this Holy House, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the
Lord. **Lord have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, Gracious Lord. **Amen.**

***CANTICLE OF PRAISE** ("Glory to God...")page 139

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King almighty God and Father, we worship you.

We give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only son of the father, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us,

you are seated at the right hand of the father: receive our prayer.

For you alone are the holy one, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the father. Amen

***Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Assurance" Knapp/Bach (Greg Gehman, piano/organ)

Children's Message

THE WORD

First Reading: Genesis 18:20-32

²⁰ Then the LORD said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! ²¹ I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me, and if not, I will know."

²² So the men turned from there and went toward Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. ²³ Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴ Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵ Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" ²⁶ And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." ²⁷ Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord, I who am but dust and ashes. ²⁸ Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty-five there." ²⁹ Again he spoke to him, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." ³⁰ Then he said, "Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." He answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." ³¹ He said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to my lord. Suppose twenty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." ³² Then he said, "Oh, do not let my lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." He answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm Reading: (sung responsively) Psalm 138

¹ I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with ¹ my whole heart;
before the gods I will ¹ sing your praise.

² **I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast ¹ love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name and your word a- ¹bove all things.**

³ When I called, you | answered me;
you increased my | strength within me.

⁴ **All the rulers of the earth will praise | you, O LORD,
when they have heard the words | of your mouth.**

⁵ They will sing of the ways | of the LORD,
that great is the glory | of the LORD.

⁶ **The LORD is high, yet cares | for the lowly,
perceiving the haughty | from afar.**

⁷ Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you | keep me safe;
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right | hand shall save me.

⁸ **You will make good your pur- | pose for me;
O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works | of your hands.**

Second Reading: Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]

⁶ As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to walk in him, ⁷ rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

⁸ Watch out that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental principles of the world, and not according to Christ. ⁹ For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰ and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. ¹¹ In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by the removal of the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹² when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. ¹³ And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, ¹⁴ erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵ He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it. [

¹⁶ Therefore, do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food or drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or Sabbaths. ¹⁷ These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the body belongs to Christ. ¹⁸ Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, initiatory visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, ¹⁹ and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and tendons, grows with a growth that is from God.]

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia!

***Gospel Reading: Luke 11:1-13**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ [Jesus] was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples."² So he said to them, "When you pray, say:

Father, may your name be revered as holy.

May your kingdom come.

³ Give us each day our daily bread.

⁴ And forgive us our sins,

for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.

And do not bring us to the time of trial."

⁵ And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread,'⁶ for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.'⁷ And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.'⁸ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

⁹ "So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you.¹⁰ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened.¹¹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for a fish, would give a snake instead of a fish?¹² Or if the child asked for an egg, would give a scorpion?¹³ If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

P: The Gospel of the Lord,

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"#742

1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!

Oh, what peace we often forfeit;
oh, what needless pain we bear --
all because we do not carry
ev'rything to God in prayer!

2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged --
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our ev'ry weakness --
take it to the Lord in prayer.

3 Are we weak and heavy-laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge --
take it to the Lord in prayer.
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.

***The Apostles' Creed**

P: Together, let us confess our faith through the words of the Apostle's Creed,

C: 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 life everlasting. Amen.

***Thanksgiving for Offering**

**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.**



Feel free to scan this QR code or place an Offering in the wooden boxes on the entry tables. Thank you for your support of the ministries of Muddy Creek!

***OFFERING.....#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 Intercession**

P: In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

Loving God, create in your church a desire for union with you in prayer. Raise up leaders to teach Christ's devotion to prayer and model Christ's way of prayer, until all people experience prayerful intimacy with you. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Reveal to humanity the sacredness of all creation. With the breath of your Spirit, realign the balances of nature. Grant persistence in prayer and action for the sake of the earth, our common home. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Teach rulers of the earth to sing of your ways, caring for the lowly and having no preference for the powerful. Direct the heart of every person to seek your will on earth as in heaven. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

To all whose prayers are cries for help, give your good gifts, and satisfy their deepest needs. (As I lift the names of our loved ones, please repeat their names after me.) Lord we pray for.....Gather them to your constant, loving presence, that they may rest in the confidence of life with you. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Center the ministries of this assembly on prayer and service. Guide our relationships in the wider community, being ready to assist those who seek help. Strengthen feeding, clothing, and housing ministries and community partnerships. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We give thanks for all who have gone before us. May we trust your steadfast love and continue in hope until we are united with all your saints. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.
Amen.

***The Lord's Prayer**

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

C: **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.**

THE SENDING

***Blessing**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.

C: **Amen** (sung)

***SENDING HYMN: Savior, Again to Your Dear Name**#534

1 Savior, again to your dear name we raise
with one accord our parting hymn of praise;
once more we bless you ere our worship cease,
then, lowly bending, wait your word of peace.

2 Grant us your peace upon our homeward way;
with you began, with you shall end the day;
guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
that in this house have called upon your name.

3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the coming night;
for us transform its darkness into light.
Keep us from harm and danger till the dawn;
your evening presence promise to your own.

4 Grant us your peace throughout our earthly life,
our balm in sorrow, and our stay in strife;
then, when your voice shall bid our conflict cease,
call us, O Lord, to your eternal peace.

***Dismissal**

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Risen Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: "We've a Story to Tell to the Nations" H. E. Nicho

After service, all are invited to fellowship with us in the sanctuary.
We thank *Nedra* for providing refreshments today!

Announcements

Welcome - to all visitors and guests; thank you for worshiping with us! We would love to get to know you. Please use the yellow card in your pew to tell us what you'd like us to know about you and how we can pray for you.

In Our Prayers: Linny Ansel, Gloria Aseli, Michael Breidenstein Jr., Jane Enck, Molly Fritz, Cathleen Fuchs, Elaine Gehman, Larry Gehman, Lisa Gehman, Diane Weinhold Grube, Fred Hainley, family of Michael Martin, Audrey Opra, Clarence Rutt, family of Mary Ann Seidel, Donald Steinmetz, Thelma Sweigart, Waltraut Wegner, Philip Webber.

Memorial Fund: Our thoughts and prayers go out to the families of Leroy Berger, Ken Frazer and Joane Saylor. Memorial accounts have been set up in their honor.

First Floor "Housecleaning"

We have scheduled several days to clean out and reorganize the Sunday School rooms. There's something for everyone who wishes to help: sorting boxes of papers and books,

tearing out the theater seats, and reorganizing the kitchen, holiday, and nursery items. Our goal is to be finished by mid-August so we can get a dumpster and prepare the rooms for Sunday School in September. We'll tackle the project in several two-hour increments:

July	Wednesday 7/30	6-8 pm
August	Thursday 8/7	1-3 pm
	Wednesday 8/13	9-11am

Please join us on one or all of these days to help improve the appearance and efficiency of our first-floor areas. *Property Committee*

Altar Flowers and Bulletins: Today's flowers are sponsored by *Richard & Barbara Yerger's 1st Wedding Anniversary*. To honor your loved one, with flowers (\$45) or through bulletin sponsorship (\$15) use the signup sheet on the table outside the Pastor's office.

Today's Worship Assistants

Acolyte	Malia Mancini
Cantor	David Sensenig
Counters	Brenda Berger, Judy Nichol, Audrey Noll
Lector	Hollie Kemper

Next Week's Worship Assistants (August 3):

Communion Assistants	8am Karen Oglesby, 9:30 Audrey Noll
Acolyte	Grace Youndt
Bread Baker	Marliese Smith
Cantor	Gail Bare
Counters	June and Neal Leid
Lector	Nancy Beck

CHURCH UPDATES

Attendance

July 20^h 8:00 am - 18
9:30 am – 44; Total Online Views - 32

Giving

Received on July 20: \$2,321.28
Received July to date: \$9,190.34

Expenses Year-to-date General Fund plus Mission Support:

Received through June: \$75,225.19
Expenses through June: \$92,042.14