

Muddy Creek Lutheran Church
11 South Muddy Creek Rd, Denver, PA 17517

August 3, 2025, 9:30 am Online Bulletin



TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

Psalm 49:1-12

Colossians 3:1-11

Luke 12:13-21

www.mclchurch.org 717-336-2770 office@mclchurch.org

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: "How Can I Say Thanks"A. Crouch

*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:** "O Day of Rest and Gladness" #521

O day of rest and gladness,
 O day of joy and light,
 O balm for care and sadness,
 most beautiful, most bright:
 on you the high and lowly,
 through ages joined in tune,
 sing "Holy, holy, holy,"
 to the great God triune.

On you, at earth's creation,
 the light first had its birth;
 on you, for our salvation,
 Christ rose from depths of earth;
 on you, our Lord victorious
 the Spirit sent from heav'n;
 and thus on you, most glorious,
 a three-fold light was giv'n.

Today on weary nations
 the heav'nly manna falls;
 to holy convocations
 the silver trumpet calls,
 where gospel light is glowing
 with pure and radiant beams
 and living water flowing
 with soul-refreshing streams.

New graces ever gaining
 from this our day of rest,
 we reach the rest remaining
 to spirits of the blest.
 We sing to you our praises,
 O Father, Spirit, Son;
 the church its voice upraises
 to you, blest Three in One.

***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**

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**

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

***Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

Children's Message

THE WORD

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

² Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹² I, the Teacher, was king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ I applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to humans to be busy with. ¹⁴ I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun, and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18} I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to my successor, ¹⁹ and who knows whether he will be wise or foolish? Yet he will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰ So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹ because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²² What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³ For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 49:1-12

¹ Hear this, | all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell | in the world,

² **you of high de- | gree and low,
rich and | poor together.**

³ My mouth shall | speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on | understanding.

⁴ **I will incline my ear | to a proverb
and set forth my riddle up- | on the harp.**

⁵ Why should I be afraid in | evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my | heels surrounds me,

- ⁶ **the wickedness of those who put their trust in | their own prowess,
and boast of | their great riches?**
- ⁷ One can never re- | deem another,
or give to God the ransom for an- | other's life;
- ⁸ **for the ransom of a life | is so great
that there would never be e- | nough to pay it,**
- ⁹ in order to live forev- | er and ever
and never | see the grave.
- ¹⁰ **For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stu- | pid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who come | after them.**
- ¹¹ Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation
to | generation, though they had named lands af- | ter themselves.
- ¹² **Even though honored, they cannot | live forever;
they are like the | beasts that perish.**

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

¹ So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ² Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, ³ for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴ When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵ Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶ On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷ These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸ But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹ Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰ and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹ In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

***Gospel Acclamation (sung)**

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

***Gospel: Luke 12:13-21**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

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

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus,] "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." ¹⁴ But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" ¹⁵ And he said to them, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." ¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷ And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' ¹⁸ Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say

to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’²⁰ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

L: The gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** “We Give Thee but Thine Own” #686

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.

May we thy bounties thus
as stewards true receive,
and gladly, as thou blessest us,
to thee our first-fruits give.

The captive to release,
to God the lost to bring,
to teach the way of life and peace -
it is a Christ-like thing.

And we believe thy word,
though dim our faith may be:
whate'er we do for thine, O Lord,
we do it unto thee.

***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**

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 HYMN**

**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 is held for reflection.

Renew in your church a perspective of life beyond worldly pursuits. Build an enthusiasm to embrace life in Christ, so that Christ, the life of the world, is revealed to everyone. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Revitalize and protect the treasures of wild places. Teach all people to value the earth, winds, waters, trees, and animals, the gifts that make life possible on this planet. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Speak wisdom to any in positions of power, that they cease practices of divisiveness, insult, and oppression. Clothe all people in your image, and establish equity and peace. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Reveal your loving presence in the lives of people suffering hunger and need, illness and grief, pain and fear (*As I lift the names of our loved ones, please repeat their names*) Lord we pray for..... Give strength to those who give care, and equip them with compassion as they make your love known. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Store up in this congregation a full measure of gratitude and generosity. Guide the work of treasurers and all who attend to financial matters. Support those whose work in our community is difficult and demanding; make us mindful of the toil that goes unnoticed. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Receive our thanks for the lives of your saints who now rest from their labors. Give us wisdom through their witness and encourage us in love as we continue our lives in the world. 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. Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.
Amen.

THE EUCHARIST

*The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
 Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
 Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Proper Preface and Sanctus

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

*Words of Institution

*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.**

P: Taste and see that the Lord is good.

C: **Amen**

*All are invited to participate in Communion. Gluten-free wafers and juice are offered as alternatives.
Children will receive communion or a blessing according to parental wishes.
Please follow the direction of the ushers.*

***Post Communion Blessing**

P: We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift and faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; For the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: **Amen**

***Post-Communion Prayer**

P: Lord God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

C: **Amen.**

***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: "For the Fruit of All Creation" #679**

For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.

For these gifts to ev'ry nation,
thanks be to God.

For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safe-keeping,
thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor,
God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will is done.

In our world-wide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,

most of all, that love has found us,
thanks be to God.

***Dismissal**

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Risen Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: "True-hearted, Whole-hearted" G. Stebbins

After service, all are invited to fellowship with us in the sanctuary.
We thank *Mary Zerbe, Brenda Beger & Fred Hainley* 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, Mike Leid, family of Michael Martin, Audrey Opra, Clarence Rutt, family of Mary Ann Seidel, Donald Steinmetz, Thelma Sweigart, Waltraut Wegner, Philip Webber.

Memorial Funds 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.

Altar Flowers and Bulletins: Today's flowers are sponsored by *Brad & Doris Rauh in honor of family and friends*. To honor your loved one, with flowers (\$45) or through bulletin sponsorship (\$15) use the sign-up sheet on the table outside the Pastor's office.

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 two-hour increments:

August Thursday 8/7 1-3 pm and 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*

Bea Ebersole's 100th Birthday

To celebrate the 100th birthday of Bea Ebersole (August 14), rather than having one big celebratory bash, the family is inviting you to help them celebrate her birthday throughout the week of August 10th to 16th. Consider sending a card, making a call, or stopping by for a visit. Her phone number is 717-682-9696, and her address is Garden Spot Village, MountainView #B14, 433 Kinzer Avenue, New Holland. If you are visiting her, please do so between 2 and

4pm. The family asks that you not bring gifts, but that you feel free to share a cupcake and iced tea with her. *“Thank you for being a valued participant in her life. She has certainly had a Blessed one.”* Craig/Deb Ebersole, Darlene/Jim Heian and families

Muddy Creek’s Church Picnic Join us for **Food, Fun, and Fellowship** Sunday August 10th. After the **10:15am** service. Please bring lawn chairs, lawn games, and a wrapped gift for the “Now you Have It, Now You Don’t” game. Cakes will be provided for the cakewalk. Sign-up sheet is on the table next to the Pastor’s office.

Attendance and Giving:

July 27: 8:00 a.m. - 32, 10:15 a.m. - 49, Online Views (includes livestream) - 50

Received on July 27: \$1676.10. Received July to date: \$10,866.44

Worship Assistants Today:

Communion Assistants 8am Karen Oglesby; 9:30am Audrey Noll & Nancy Beck

Acolyte Grace Youndt

Cantor Gail Bare

Counters June & Neal Leid

Lector Nancy Beck

Bread Baker Marliese Smith

Worship Assistants Next Sunday Aug 10:

Acolyte Jack Lammey

Cantor Greg Gehman

Counters Nedra Bearinger, Judy Dengler, Karen Oglesby

Lector Jill Youndt