

# Muddy Creek Lutheran Church

11 South Muddy Creek Rd., Denver, PA 17517

*10<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost, August 17, 2025, 9:30am*

## *Online Bulletin*



### TODAY'S READINGS

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Psalm 82

Hebrews 11:29—12:2

Luke 12:49-56

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

The second 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 Great Thou Art” .....J. Linker

#### \*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,<sup>†</sup> 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: “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God Almighty” .....#413

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,  
though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,  
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,  
perfect in pow'r, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

**\*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** .....pg. 138

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** .....pg. 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 God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal  
for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and,  
following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your  
Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**Special Music:** "Wonderful Words of Life" ..... (Gail Bare, Hollie Kemper - duet)

**Children's Message**

## THE WORD

### First Reading: Jeremiah 23:23-29

<sup>23</sup> Am I a God near by, says the LORD, and not a God far off? <sup>24</sup> Who can hide in secret places so that I cannot see them? says the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? says the LORD. <sup>25</sup> I have heard what the prophets have said who prophesy lies in my name, saying, “I have dreamed! I have dreamed!” <sup>26</sup> How long? Will the hearts of the prophets ever turn back—those who prophesy lies and who prophesy the deceit of their own heart? <sup>27</sup> They plan to make my people forget my name by their dreams that they tell one another, just as their ancestors forgot my name for Baal. <sup>28</sup> Let the prophet who has a dream tell the dream, but let the one who has my word speak my word faithfully. What has straw in common with wheat? says the LORD. <sup>29</sup> Is not my word like fire, says the LORD, and like a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

### Psalm 82 (sung responsively)

<sup>1</sup> God stands to charge the divine council assembled,  
giving judgment in the midst of the gods:

<sup>2</sup> **“How long will you judge unjustly,  
and show favor to the wicked?”**

<sup>3</sup> Save the weak and the orphan;  
defend the humble and needy;

<sup>4</sup> **rescue the weak and the poor;  
deliver them from the power of the wicked.**

<sup>5</sup> They do not know, neither do they understand; they wander about in darkness;  
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.

<sup>6</sup> **Now I say to you, ‘You are gods,  
and all of you children of the Most High;**

<sup>7</sup> nevertheless, you shall die like mortals,  
and fall like any prince.’”

<sup>8</sup> **Arise, O God, and rule the earth,  
for you shall take all nations for your own.**

### Second Reading: Hebrews 11-29, 12:2

<sup>29</sup> By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. <sup>30</sup> By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. <sup>31</sup> By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace.

<sup>32</sup> And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, <sup>33</sup> who through faith conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup> quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. <sup>35</sup> Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. <sup>36</sup> Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. <sup>37</sup> They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats,

destitute, persecuted, tormented<sup>38</sup> of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground.

<sup>39</sup> Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, <sup>40</sup> since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.

<sup>12:1</sup> Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup> looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of 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 12:49-56**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

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

[Jesus said:] <sup>49</sup> “I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! <sup>50</sup> I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! <sup>51</sup> Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! <sup>52</sup> From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; <sup>53</sup> they will be divided:

father against son  
and son against father,  
mother against daughter  
and daughter against mother,  
mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law  
and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.”

<sup>54</sup> He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. <sup>55</sup> And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. <sup>56</sup> You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

P: The Gospel of the Lord,

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

**Sermon**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY: "How Great Thou".....#856**

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
how great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,  
how great thou art! How great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,  
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; [Refrain]

But when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
he bled and died to take away my sin; [Refrain]

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!" [Refrain]

**\*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**

**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: Let us pray for the church, the creation, and the whole people of God, for God is near.

*A brief silence is held for reflection.*

Raise up faithful leaders for your church around the world. Inspire global missionaries with a spirit of accompaniment, as they walk alongside our partners in the gospel in solidarity, interdependence, and mutuality. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Safeguard rivers and lakes from pollution. Sustain the work of conservationists, policy makers, and advocacy groups seeking to protect fresh water sources. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Bridge divisions across partisan lines. Strengthen cooperative efforts among lawmakers who enact policies that protect our neighbors who are most vulnerable. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Embrace all who suffer in isolation: for those who are incarcerated or detained, those who are fleeing from unsafe environments, and those who are sick or homebound. Our hearts are with those listed with the Prayer Ministry, and the following loved ones we now lift in prayer. Lord, we pray for.....and all those we name silently or aloud before you now...  
Reassure them of your care in all times and places. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Reassure them of your care in all times and places. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Guide the leaders of this congregation. In these late summer weeks, inspire their planning for a new program year ahead. Kindle in us a spirit of collaboration and support for their work.  
Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

With thanksgiving, we remember the cloud of witnesses who surround us. By the example of their faith, enable us to run with perseverance the race set before us, until that day when we join their unending praise. Lord in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Confident in God's presence and promise, we entrust our prayers to the one who always receives them; through Jesus Christ, our wisdom and companion. **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: "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" .....#536

God be with you till we meet again;  
 by good counsels guide, uphold you,  
 with a shepherd's care enfold you:  
 God be with you till we meet again.

#### Refrain:

Till we meet, till we meet,  
 till we meet at Jesus' feet;  
 till we meet, till we meet,  
 God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;  
 holy wings securely hide you,  
 daily manna still provide you;  
 God be with you till we meet again. [Refrain]

God be with you till we meet again;  
 when life's perils thick confound you,  
 put unfailing arms around you;  
 God be with you till we meet again. [Refrain]

#### \*Dismissal

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

#### POSTLUDE: "Praise My Soul the King of Heaven" .....J. Goss

Today's altar flowers were sponsored in memory of Kathryn & Harting Leid

by the family.

After service, all are invited to fellowship with us in the sanctuary.  
We thank Audrey & Roger Noll for providing refreshments today!

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Welcome:** Visitors and guests - thank you for being with us today! Using the yellow card in your pew, fill in as much as you'd like; please let us know how we can pray for you.

**Prayers:** Our Prayer Ministry is in continual prayer for many members, their families, and loved ones. In addition to persons listed there, we pray for Molly Fritz, Diane Weinholt Grube, Mike Leid, Clarence Rutt, and Waltraut Wegner.

**Memorial Funds:** Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of Leroy Berger, Ken Frazer, and Joane Saylor. Memorial accounts have been set up in their honor.

#### **Brenda & Friends Tours: Virginia Beach, VA SEP 7-10th**

Tour includes First Landing State Park Visitor Center, Military Aviation Museum, Virginia Aquarium and the Marine Science Center with a Dolphin Watch Cruise. There will also be free time to go on the beach and explore the boardwalk. Included: 2 meals each day, deluxe motor coach and a tip for the driver. See signup sheet for more details.

#### **Back-to-School Blessing – TODAY August 17<sup>th</sup>**

We will pray over backpacks, book bags, and any desired items for students, educators, drivers, librarians, nurses, and all associated with the school system. Bring your items to the altar before service so they can be included in the communal blessing.

#### **Tech Volunteers Needed**

Seeking volunteers for a 3-month project that will help with IT needs. We need to replace certain items (copier, phones, etc.) and we need assistance with the sound and camera systems. This minimal time commitment will have a huge impact on Church operations! If you have interest or expertise in any of these areas, please see Gail Bare, Scott Strickland, or Pastor Chavis.

#### **Today's Worship Assistants**

Acolyte	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
Cantor	Hollie Kemper
Counters	Hollie Kemper and Jane Wenger
Lector	Joe Sanchez

#### **Next Week's Worship Assistants (August 24):**

Acolyte	Barbara Yerger
Cantor	David Sensenig
Counters	Ray and Susan Sweigart
Lector	Brad Rauch

### **CHURCH UPDATES**

**Attendance** on August 10<sup>th</sup>

10:15am – 48 Total Online Views - 29

**Giving**

Received August 10 <sup>th</sup>	\$1,245.00
Total giving to date	\$4,109.00

**Totals** - General Fund plus Mission Support through July

Received	\$88,522.43
Expenses	\$106,678.58