

# Muddy Creek Lutheran Church

11 South Muddy Creek Rd, Denver, PA 17517

*23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost - November 16, 2025*  
*10:15am*

## *Online Bulletin*



### TODAY'S READINGS

MALACHI 4:1-2A

PSALM 98

2 THESSALONIANS 3:6-13

LUKE 21:5-19

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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** “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” ..... R. Parks

#### \*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:** “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”..... #834

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise!

2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,  
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all laud we would render; oh, help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!

**\*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, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy.

Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

**\*PARAMENT / BANNER DEDICATION**

P: The paraments that have been lovingly placed on the altar areas and the banners that have hung on the walls of this sanctuary have marked the seasons of the Christian calendar and have helped us to remember that we are surrounded by a "great cloud of witnesses. We thank God for those who presented these paraments, who took such loving care of them, and who work weekly to prepare this Sanctuary for worship.

Today another parament is presented to be added, consecrated and commissioned into service in Muddy Creek Lutheran Church in loving memory of Betty and Lester Ramsey, who were married for 66 and were members of Muddy Creek for over 70 years. *Rock of Ages* was one of Betty's favorite hymns and a Rock of Ages plaque that adorned Betty's childhood home, later hung in the Ramsey family home for 70 years; it now hangs in the Emrhein home. The Ramseys and Emrheins wish to dedicate this plaque to Muddy Creek Lutheran Church as a lasting memory of how much this church and congregation mean to the family.

We accept this banner as a sacred trust and will use it with reverence and with respect. In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we consecrate this banner to the Glory of God. Let us pray:

**C: Loving and gracious God, grant us your blessing as we consecrate this parament to your glory. Let it be an enduring witness before all of your people, and a reminder of your steadfastness, faithfulness, and love. We pray this in the name of our Risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. AMEN.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** "Soon and Very Soon" ..... arr. C. Berry (Greg Gehman, piano)

### Children's Message

### THE WORD

#### First Reading: Malachi 4:1-2a

<sup>1</sup> See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2a</sup> But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God**

#### Psalm 98 (sung responsively)

<sup>1</sup> Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done | marvelous things,  
whose right hand and holy arm have | won the victory.

<sup>2</sup> **O LORD, you have made | known your victory,  
you have revealed your righteousness in the sight | of the nations.**

<sup>3</sup> You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the | house of Israel;  
all the ends of the earth have seen the victory | of our God.

<sup>4</sup> **Shout with joy to the LORD, | all you lands;  
lift up your voice, re- | joice, and sing.**

<sup>5</sup> Sing to the LORD | with the harp,  
with the harp and the | voice of song.

<sup>6</sup> **With trumpets and the sound | of the horn  
shout with joy before the | king, the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup> Let the sea roar, and | all that fills it,  
the world and those who | dwell therein.

<sup>8</sup> **Let the rivers | clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to | judge the earth.**

<sup>9</sup> The LORD will judge the | world with righteousness  
and the peo- | ples with equity.

**Second Reading:** 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

<sup>6</sup> Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. <sup>7</sup> For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, <sup>8</sup> and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. <sup>9</sup> This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. <sup>11</sup> For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. <sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. <sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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 21:5-19

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

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

<sup>5</sup> When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, <sup>6</sup> “As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

<sup>7</sup> They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” <sup>8</sup> And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

<sup>9</sup> “When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” <sup>10</sup> Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; <sup>11</sup> there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup> “But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. <sup>13</sup> This will give you an opportunity to testify. <sup>14</sup> So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, <sup>15</sup> for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup> You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup> You will be hated by all because of my name. <sup>18</sup> But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup> By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord,  
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### Sermon

\***HYMN OF THE DAY:** "Rock of Ages" .....#623

1 Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee;  
let the water and the blood  
from thy riven side which flowed,  
be of sin the double cure;  
cleansing me from guilt and pow'r.

2 Not the labors of my hands  
can fulfill thy law's demands;  
could my zeal no respite know,  
could my tears forever flow,  
all for sin could not atone;  
thou must save, and thou alone.

3 Nothing in my hand I bring;  
simply to thy cross I cling.  
Naked, come to thee for dress;  
helpless, look to thee for grace;  
foul, I to the fountain fly;  
wash me, Savior, or I die.

4 While I draw this fleeting breath,  
when mine eyelids close in death,  
when I soar to worlds unknown,  
see thee on thy judgment throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
let me hide myself in thee.

### \*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: Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence is held for reflection.*

God of roots and branches, defend the leaders of your church as they proclaim the gospel using discernment, wisdom, and brave testimony. Keep all the baptized on righteous paths in response to Christ's call.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of roaring seas, in a world of earthquake, famine, and plague, use your mighty power to nurture the land and all that lives upon it. Restore peoples and places experiencing natural disasters (especially). Strengthen organizations who provide aid to any in crisis.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of victory, among quests for power, guide those in government, courts, law enforcement agencies, and the military. Turn them from war and violence to actions of care that build up the common good. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of healing, where injustice and exploitation result in populations that are marginalized or underserved, accompany those abandoned by friends, hurt by family, and harmed by violence or oppression. Care for all who are ill, anxious, or in pain of any kind. As we remember those on the Prayer Ministry list, we lift these following loved ones (please repeat after me):

Diane Weinhold Grube, Clarence Rutt, Sandra Schutter, the people of Jamaica, the children and adults at the New Vision Home, and those we name silently or aloud before you now...

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of new songs, in a congregation of faithful believers, energize us for compassionate service and delight us through worship and inspired prayer. Encourage your people in building equitable community where all are valued. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of every generation, we remember the saints with steadfast love and faithfulness. Confident in Christ's victory over death, may we be inspired by the example of the faithful. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**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: "On Our Way Rejoicing" .....#537**

1 On our way rejoicing  
gladly let us go.  
Christ our Lord has conquered;  
vanquished is the foe.  
Christ without, our safety;  
Christ within, our joy;  
who, if we be faithful,  
can our hope destroy?

Refrain:

On our way rejoicing,  
as we homeward move,  
hearken to our praises,  
O blest God of love!

2 Unto God the Father  
joyful songs we sing;  
unto God the Savior  
thankful hearts we bring;  
unto God the Spirit  
bow we and adore,  
on our way rejoicing  
now and evermore. [Refrain]

**\*Dismissal**

P: Go in Peace. Serve God and one another in Faith.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE: "On Our Way Rejoicing" ..... F. Havergal**

### Today's Service

Rev. Stacy Chavis	Interim Pastor
Acolyte	Russel Beck
Cantor	David Sensenig
Counters	Nedra Bearinger, Judy Dengler, Karen Oglesby
Lector	Brenda Berger

Mark, Lauren, Christopher, and Hannah Gallagher  
donated the altar flowers in memory of Harold Crum.

Judy Dengler and Karen Oglesby provided the refreshments for fellowship after the 2<sup>nd</sup> service

### Announcements

**Welcome:** Visitors and guests - thank you for being with us today! We'd love to know more about you. Please use the yellow card in your pew

**Prayers:** Our Prayer Ministry is in continual prayer for many members, their families, and loved ones. In addition to those persons, we pray for Diane Weinhold Grube, Clarence Rutt, Sandra Schutter, the people of Jamaica, and the children and adults at the New Vision Home.

**Thank You!** From Sandy Schutter

*Thank you to everyone for the cards, flowers, and prayers I received after my recent surgery. I really appreciated them. God bless you.*

#### **Goodie Bags for Thanksgiving!**

On 11/23/25, we invite you to take one or more goodie bags (addresses provided) to members who are over 80 years of age. Let's make their Thanksgiving season a little more special!

**Poinsettia Time!** – This year, we will again order poinsettias for the congregation and loved ones. From November 9<sup>th</sup> through November 30<sup>th</sup>, you can place an order (\$7.50 each). They will be delivered to the church on December 20<sup>th</sup>. Sign up sheets are on the last page of the online bulletin or in the Sanctuary under the mailboxes.

**Thrivent Members** – We are grateful to all who direct their Thrivent Choice Dollars<sup>®</sup> to Muddy Creek Lutheran Church. Each year, the money we receive from Thrivent helps fund many programs. Please consider directing your Choice Dollars<sup>®</sup> to Muddy Creek through your online account or by calling Thrivent at 800-847-4836. Thank you for your continued support!

**Wreath Laying for Muddy Creek Cemetery** - During November containers will be provided by the Muddy Creek Cemetery Board for donations to the veteran's wreath fund for those who would like to contribute. Checks can be made out to Muddy Creek Lutheran Church and marked with "Cemetery Veteran's Wreaths". A current list of veterans and plot locations will be available near the donation container. See November Newsletter for additional details!

## Ministries in Partner Organizations

**Holiday Bazaar and Pancake Breakfast** Saturday, November 22, 2025, at Luther Acres  
Join us for the annual Breakfast (8-10am) and the Holiday Bazaar (8am-2pm). There will be handmade crafts, gifts, and decorations. See flyer outside of Pastor's Study!

**"Brenda and Friends" Bus Trips** – Saturday, November 29, 2025 – We will host our annual trip to Lewisburg to Purity Candy and The Street of Shops.

*For more information, contact Brenda Berger: (717) 336-6886 or [bergerb@dejazzd.com](mailto:bergerb@dejazzd.com)*

## CHURCH NOTES

**Next Week's Worship Assistants** (November 23<sup>rd</sup>):

Acolyte	Russel Beck
Cantor	Gail Bare
Counters	Hollie Kemper, Jane Wenger
Lector	Judy Nichol

**Attendance** – November 9<sup>th</sup>

8:00 am - 30

10:15am - 50

### **Giving**

Received Nov 9<sup>th</sup> \$3,311

Month to date: \$5,459

**October Year-to-date** General Fund plus Mission Support

Received: \$ 129,629

Expenses: \$ 151,719



**‘Tis the Season!**  
**It’s time to Order**  
**Christmas Poinsettias**



The Poinsettias

- Are red or white – your choice!
- are 6 ½ “ with 5 blooms/buds each
- they will be placed in the Sanctuary on December 20<sup>th</sup>
- are only \$7.50 each
- must be ordered on or before November 30<sup>th</sup>
- can be taken at Christmas Eve service or soon thereafter

Complete the form below, attach the money or check (put “poinsettia” in the check’s memo field), and put it all in the box on the table under the mailboxes.

\*\*\*\*\*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Total # Ordered \_\_\_\_\_ = # Red \_\_\_\_\_ + # White \_\_\_\_\_

Do you want your name to appear in the bulletin? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Are the poinsettias purchased in Honor or in Memory of a person (or persons) or of an event? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

If Yes, please list the names or events below (please print clearly):

**In Honor of:**

**In Memory of:**

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