

# Muddy Creek Lutheran Church

11 South Muddy Creek Rd, Denver, PA 17517

*Baptism of Our Lord – January 11, 2026*

*10:15am Service*

*Online Bulletin*



## TODAY'S READINGS

ISAIAH 42:1-9

PSALM 29

ACTS 10:34-43

MATTHEW 3:13-17

[www.mclchurch.org](http://www.mclchurch.org) 717-336-2770 [office@mclchurch.org](mailto:office@mclchurch.org)

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 “Fairest Lord Jesus” ..... J. Raney

#### \*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: “As with Gladness Men of Old” ..... #302

1 As with gladness men of old  
did the guiding star behold;  
as with joy they hailed its light,  
leading onward, beaming bright;  
so, most gracious Lord, may we  
evermore be led by thee.

2 As with joyful steps they sped,  
 Savior, to thy lowly bed,  
 there to bend the knee before  
 thee, whom heav'n and earth adore;  
 so may we with willing feet  
 ever seek thy mercy seat.

3 As they offered gifts most rare  
 at thy cradle, rude and bare,  
 so may we with holy joy,  
 pure and free from sin's alloy,  
 all our costliest treasures bring,  
 Christ, to thee, our heavenly King.

4 Holy Jesus, ev'ry day  
 keep us in the narrow way;  
 and when earthly things are past,  
 bring our ransomed souls at last  
 where they need no star to guide,  
 where no clouds thy glory hide.

5 In the heav'nly county bright  
 need they no created light;  
 thou its light, its joy, its crown,  
 thou its sun which goes not down;  
 there forever may we sing  
 alleluias to our king.

**\*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. 203

Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.

We come to hear your living word, it saves us from despair.

Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.

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** ..... PG. 204

Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth.  
 Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth;  
 we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise.  
 Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love.  
 Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above;  
 on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand.  
 Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.

Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call;  
 Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:  
 Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright.  
 For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high.

**\*Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

C: **Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** "Lord, Here Am I" ..... J. Althouse

**Children's Message****THE WORD****First Reading:** Isaiah 42:1-9

- <sup>1</sup> Here is my servant, whom I uphold,  
 my chosen, in whom my soul delights;  
 I have put my spirit upon him;  
 he will bring forth justice to the nations.
- <sup>2</sup> He will not cry out or lift up his voice  
 or make it heard in the street;
- <sup>3</sup> a bruised reed he will not break,  
 and a dimly burning wick he will not quench;  
 he will faithfully bring forth justice.
- <sup>4</sup> He will not grow faint or be crushed  
 until he has established justice in the earth,  
 and the coastlands wait for his teaching.
- <sup>5</sup> Thus says God, the LORD,  
 who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
 who spread out the earth and what comes from it,  
 who gives breath to the people upon it  
 and spirit to those who walk in it:

<sup>6</sup> I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness;  
 I have taken you by the hand and kept you;  
 I have given you as a covenant to the people,  
 a light to the nations,

<sup>7</sup> to open the eyes that are blind,  
 to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon,  
 from the prison those who sit in darkness.

<sup>8</sup> I am the LORD; that is my name;  
 my glory I give to no other,  
 nor my praise to idols.

<sup>9</sup> See, the former things have come to pass,  
 and new things I now declare;  
 before they spring forth,  
 I tell you of them.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

**Psalm 29** (sung responsively)

<sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the | Lord, you gods,  
 ascribe to the Lord glo- | ry and strength.

<sup>2</sup> **Ascribe to the Lord the glory | due God's name;  
 worship the Lord in the beau- | ty of holiness.**

<sup>3</sup> The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of | glory thunders;  
 the Lord is upon the | mighty waters.

<sup>4</sup> **The voice of the Lord is a pow- | erful voice;  
 the voice of the Lord is a | voice of splendor.**

<sup>5</sup> The voice of the Lord breaks the | cedar trees;  
 the Lord breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;

<sup>6</sup> **the Lord makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,  
 and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup> The voice | of the Lord  
 bursts forth in | lightning flashes.

<sup>8</sup> **The voice of the Lord | shakes the wilderness;  
 the Lord shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh.**

<sup>9</sup> The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe and strips the | forests bare.  
 And in the temple of the Lord all are | crying, "Glory!"

<sup>10</sup> **The Lord sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;  
 the Lord sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.**

<sup>11</sup> O Lord, give strength | to your people;  
 give them, O Lord, the bless- | ings of peace.

**Second Reading:** Acts 10:34-43

<sup>34</sup> Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy

Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

**\*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** ..... PG. 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 Reading:** Matthew 3:13-17

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

<sup>13</sup> Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup> John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” <sup>15</sup> But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. <sup>16</sup> And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him, and he saw God’s Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup> And a voice from the heavens said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord,

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

**Sermon**

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY:** “Baptized in Water” .....#456

1 Baptized in water,  
sealed by the Spirit,  
cleansed by the blood of Christ our king:  
heirs of salvation,  
trusting his promise,  
faithfully now God's praise we sing.

2 Baptized in water,  
sealed by the Spirit,  
dead in the tomb with Christ our king:  
one with his rising,  
freed and forgiven,  
thankfully now God's praise we sing.

3 Baptized in water,  
sealed by the Spirit,  
marked with the sign of Christ our king:  
born of the spirit,  
we are God's children;  
joyfully now God's praise we sing.

**\*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.**



To make an Offering, you can scan this QR code or place your gift in an offering box. Thank you for supporting 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: As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

*A brief silence is held for reflection.*

Steadfast God, give courage to your servant church. Heal our divisions and unite us in mission. Uphold our lay leaders, missionaries, pastors, and bishops, and all who proclaim hope in a broken world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Restoring God, cleanse the life-giving waters of rivers, seas, and springs, revitalize the Susquehanna. Create in us an urgent desire to preserve the beauty and bounty of your good creation. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Righteous God, you guide the nations. Reconcile warring enemies and end cycles of violent retribution. Defend the rights of prisoners, detainees, and all who flee from persecution. Sustain international aid workers and peacemakers. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Compassionate God, you care for all in distress. Provide safety and support for those seeking asylum or in need of shelter. Be near to the dying, and comfort all who are grieving or ill. *(Together, let us say aloud the names of additional loved ones we lift to God.)* **Lord, we pray strength and healing for Brad Rauch, Clarence Rutt, and the family of Roger Noll.**  
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Loving God, awaken the gifts of the Spirit in this congregation, that we may serve Christ by loving one another, our neighbors, and our enemies. We pray for travelers and those who are homebound. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Promising God, in baptism we die and rise with Christ. We give thanks for those who have gone before us, and we trust that we will join them in your everlasting peace.  
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Confident that the Holy Spirit receives our prayers and answers us, we commend all for whom we pray to God's loving-kindness made known to us in Christ Jesus our Savior. **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: "Christ When for Us You Were Baptized" .....#304**

1 Christ, when for us you were baptized,  
God's Spirit on you came,  
as peaceful as a dove and yet  
as urgent as a flame.

2 God called you his beloved Son,  
called you his servant true,  
sent you his kingdom to proclaim,  
his holy will to do.

3 Straightway and steadfast until death  
 you then obeyed his call  
 freely as Son of Man to serve  
 and give your life for all.

4 Baptize us with your Spirit, Lord,  
 your cross on us be signed,  
 that, likewise in God's service we  
 may perfect freedom find.

**\*Dismissal**

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

C: **Thanks be to God.**

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

**Today's Service**

Rev. Stacy Chavis	Interim Pastor
Acolyte	Barb Yerger
Cantor	Hollie Kemper
Counters	Jeanette & Mike Leid
Lector	Jill Youndt

Judy Nichol donated today's altar flowers in honor of January birthdays.

**Announcements and Upcoming Events**

**Welcome:** Visitors and guests - thank you for being with us today! Please use the yellow card in your pew to tell us more about you and 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 those persons, we pray for Brad Rauch, Clarence Rutt, and the family of Roger Noll.

**Giving statements** are in! They have been placed in the members' mailboxes in the sanctuary.

The **2026 General Congregational Meeting** will be held on February 8<sup>th</sup> after the 10:30 service. Please plan to attend to learn more about goals and events for this year. The **Congregational Luncheon** will follow. We will provide food and ask for assistance with side dishes or desserts. Stay tuned for mor details!

**Partner Ministry Events**

**"Brenda and Friends" Bus Trips**

Feb. 26, 2025 (Thursday) - Neil Simon's "The Sunshine Boys" at Hunterdon Hills Playhouse.  
*For more information, contact Brenda Berger (717) 336-6886 or [berger@dejazzd.com](mailto:berger@dejazzd.com)*

### Administrative Notes

#### Attendance – January 4<sup>th</sup>

8am	26
10:15am	45
Online	34

#### Giving

Received Jan 4 <sup>th</sup>	\$ 4,793
Month to date:	\$ 4,793

#### January 18<sup>th</sup> Worship Assistants

Acolyte	Malia Mancini
Cantor	Greg Gehman
Counters	Marie Buohl, Pat Buohl, Connie Hoover
Lector	Joe Sanchez

### With Gratitude

**Thanks** to all who served, helped coordinate, or attended one or both of the Christmas Eve services. What a wonderful time of fellowship and worship!

*“Thanks to my Church Family for all their many acts of kindness, prayers, support, and cards during this exceedingly challenging time – also thank you to all who helped serve the lunch and those who came to the service. A special thank you to Pastor Chavis who visited Roger in the hospital and nursing home – she made him incredibly happy by giving him Communion – her support is appreciated. Sincerely, Audrey Noll.”*

*“On behalf of Good Samaritan Services and the individuals and families we serve, we would like to **thank you** for your recent donation of a new lawn mower on December 8, 2025... Your support helps transform lives and helps our neighbors facing hardship feel seen, valued, and cared for- especially when they might otherwise feel overlooked. Thank you for making a lasting difference. With Gratitude, Nate Hoffer, Chief Executive Officer and Mikaela Potrako, Chief Advancement Officer.”*