

Muddy Creek Lutheran Church

11 South Muddy Creek Rd, Denver, PA 17517

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany – February 8, 2026

SCOUT SUNDAY

10:15am Service

Online Bulletin



TODAY'S READINGS

ISAIAH 58:1-9

PSALM 112:1-10

1 CORINTHIANS 2:1-12

MATTHEW 5:13-20

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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 “More Love to Thee, O Christ” arr. J. Evanovich

*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 Savior, Precious Savior” #820

1 O Savior, precious Savior,
whom yet unseen, we love;
O name of might and favor,
all other names above:
we worship thee; we bless thee,
to thee alone we sing;
we praise thee and confess thee,
our holy Lord and King.

2 O bringer of salvation,
 who wondrously hast wrought,
 thyself the revelation
 of love beyond our thought:
 we worship thee; we bless thee;
 to thee alone we sing;
 we praise thee and confess thee,
 our gracious Lord and King.

3 In thee all fulness dwelleth,
 all grace and pow'r divine;
 the glory that excelleth,
 O Son of God, is thine.
 We worship thee; we bless thee;
 to thee alone we sing;
 we praise thee and confess thee,
 our glorious Lord and King.

4 Oh, grant the consummation
 of this our song above,
 in endless adoration
 and everlasting love;
 then shall we praise and bless thee
 where perfect praises ring,
 and evermore confess thee,
 our Savior and 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.

Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do; and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC: "Shine, Jesus, Shine" arr. T. Fettke

Scout Recognition**Children's Message****THE WORD****First Reading:** Isaiah 58:1-9a

¹ Shout out; do not hold back!

Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
 to the house of Jacob their sins.

² Yet day after day they seek me
 and delight to know my ways,
 as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
 and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
 they ask of me righteous judgments;
 they want God on their side.

³ "Why do we fast, but you do not see?
 Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?"
 Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day
 and oppress all your workers.

⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight
 and to strike with a wicked fist.

- Such fasting as you do today
will not make your voice heard on high.
- ⁵ Is such the fast that I choose,
a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
a day acceptable to the LORD?
- ⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of injustice,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
- ⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
- ⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you;
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.
- ^{9a} Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 112:1-10 (sung responsively)

- ¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the LORD
and have great delight in | God's commandments!
- ² **Their descendants will be mighty | in the land;
the generation of the upright | will be blessed.**
- ³ Wealth and riches will be | in their house,
and their righteousness will | last forever.
- ⁴ **Light shines in the darkness | for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion.**
- ⁵ It is good for them to be gener- | ous in lending
and to manage their af- | fairs with justice.
- ⁶ **For they will nev- | er be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlast- | ing remembrance.**
- ⁷ They will not be afraid of any | evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting | in the LORD.
- ⁸ **Their heart is established and | will not shrink,
until they see their desire up- | on their enemies.**
- ⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands | fast forever;
they will hold up their | head with honor.
- ¹⁰ **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and | pine away;
the desires of the wick- | ed will perish.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

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 5:13-20

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

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

[Jesus said:] ¹³ “You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

¹⁷ “Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.”

L: The Gospel of the Lord,

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

Sermon

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** “Lord, Speak to Us, That We May Speak”#676

1 Lord, speak to us, that we may speak
in living echoes of your tone;
as you have sought, so let us seek
your straying children, lost and lone.

2 Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead
the wand'ring and the wav'ring feet;
oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed
your hung'ring ones with manna sweet.

3 Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach
the precious truths which you impart;
and wing our words, that thy may reach
the hidden depths of many a heart.

4 Oh, fill us with your fullness, Lord,
until my very hearts o'erflow
in kindling thought and glowing word,
your love to tell, your praise to show.

***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.

Your church does ministry in many and various ways. Keep the baptized true to the mind of Christ, that our works and witness bring hope to a troubled world.

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

Your marvelous creation cries out to you. Restore polluted air, soil, and water sources to wholeness. Guard honeybees, elephants, great whales and songbirds from harm, and renew the face of the earth. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your people in every nation suffer injustice, poverty, and the threat of violence. Guide those in authority to govern with compassion, and bring peace to the many war zones all across the world. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your blessings are poured out for all in need. Help and heal any who experience trauma, discrimination, disease, hunger, abuse, or persecution. Comfort those who are sick or grieving (*Together aloud, we pray*) **Lord, as ask for covering and healing for members of Muddy Creek who have transitioned, people facing housing insecurity and those we lift silently or aloud to you now....** Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your wisdom guides this congregation and its ministries. Sustain our leaders, staff, and volunteers. Form us to be salt and light for the neighbors we serve, following the example of Christ. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Your saints rejoice at your heavenly banquet. We give thanks for their lives of faith, trusting that we also will be embraced by your eternal love. 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: "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"#536

1 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.

2 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]

3 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 God and one another in Faith.
 C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: "We Magnify Our Father God" J. Peterson

Today's Service

Rev. Stacy Chavis	Interim Pastor
Acolyte	Russel Beck
Cantor	Greg Gehman
Counters	Jere & Joan Shimp
Lector	Doris Rauch

Nedra Beringer donated today's altar flowers in honor of February birthdays.

We are pleased to host the Adamstown Cub Scout Family Pack #3204 led by Kevin Grant, the scouts of Boy's Troop 4318 led by Mike Marti, and the scouts of Girl's Troop 6759 led by Korry Stokrp. The Scouting program teaches youth about the outdoors, and provides fun, fellowship, and training to youth in our community. But the success of Scouting depends on volunteers who serve in a variety of leadership roles. We salute the youth and the volunteers who serve as Cubmasters, Scoutmasters, Advisors, and in other positions of leadership.

Worship Assistants for February 15th

Acolyte	Barb Yerger
Cantor	Hollie Kemper
Counters	Kim Eshleman, Ray & Susan Sweigart
Lector	Hollie Kemper

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.

New Year, New Ways to Serve – The Worship and Music Team are looking for a few extra volunteers to assist by being an Acolyte, Lector, or Usher, or working on the Altar Guild Team. Agreeing to serve just once a month or even once a quarter will help enhance the worship service and will be a tremendous help to our worship leaders. See Hollie Kemper or Jane Wanger to sign up or ask questions. Where are you being called to serve?

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

With Gratitude

“Thank you for your contributions to Peters Porch. Your faithfulness and commitment have been a blessing, enabling us to continue sharing God's love and serving our community in meaningful ways. May God bless you and your family in the year ahead. Thank you for being part of this community and for helping us make a lasting impact in our ministry and in the lives of those we serve. With gratitude, Peter's Porch, Zion Lutheran Church.”

*On behalf of Good Samaritan and the individuals and families we serve, we would like to **thank you** for your recent donation of paper supplies and more on December 26th, 2025. Your gift is transforming lives. We're deeply grateful for your generosity. Your support helps transform lives... and helps our neighbors facing hardship feel seen valued and care for, especially when they might otherwise feel overlooked. Thank you for making a lasting difference. With gratitude, Nate Hoffer, CEO and Mikaela Poteako, CAO, Good Samaritan Services”*