

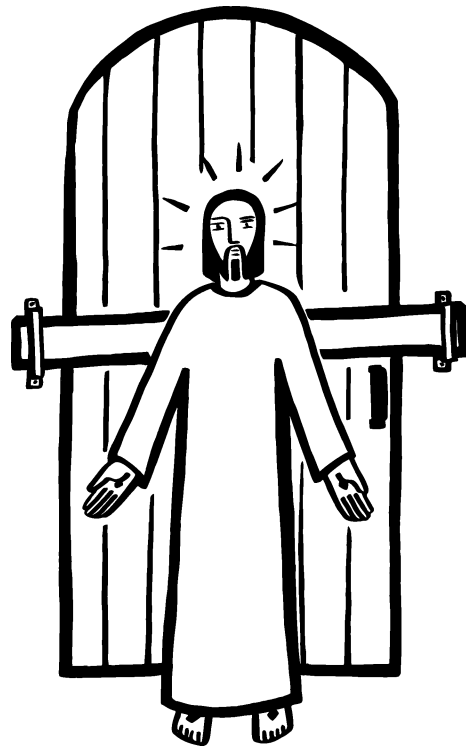
MUDDY CREEK LUTHERAN CHURCH

11 South Muddy Creek Rd, Denver, PA 17517

Second Sunday of Easter – April 12th, 2026

10:15am Service

Online Bulletin



TODAY'S READINGS

ACTS 2:14A, 22-32

PSALM 16

I PETER 1:3-9

JOHN 20:19-31

www.mclchurch.org

717-336-2770

office@mclchurch.org

Follow us on Facebook and YouTube

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 "A Resurrection Fanfare" L. Smith

*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: "Christ the Lord is Risen Today; Alleluia!" #369

1 Christ the Lord is ris'n today; Alleluia!
Christians, hasten on your way; Alleluia!
offer praise with love replete, Alleluia!
at the paschal victim's feet. Alleluia!

2 For the sheep the Lamb has bled, Alleluia!
sinless in the sinner's stead. Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

3 Christ, the victim undefiled, Alleluia!
God and sinners reconciled, Alleluia!
when contending death and life, Alleluia!
met in strange and awesome strife. Alleluia!

4 Christians, on this holy day, Alleluia!
all your grateful homage pay; Alleluia!
Christ the Lord is ris'n on high; Alleluia!
now he lives, no more to die. Alleluia!

***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.
Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt,
may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
C: **Amen.**

Children's Message

THE WORD

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

^{14a} Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]:

²² “Fellow Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know ²³ this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law.

²⁴ But God raised him up, having released him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵ For David says concerning him,

‘I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken;

²⁶ therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;
moreover, my flesh will live in hope.

²⁷ For you will not abandon my soul to Hades
or let your Holy One experience corruption.

²⁸ You have made known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with your presence.’

²⁹ “Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying,

‘He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.’

³² “This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses.”

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 16 (sung responsively)

¹ Protect me, O God, for I take ref- | uge in you;

I have said to the Lord, “You are my Lord, my good a- | bove all other.”

² **All my delight is in the godly that are | in the land,
upon those who are noble a- | mong the people.**

³ But those who run after | other gods
shall have their troubles | multiplied.

⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings | to such gods,
never take their names up- | on my lips.**

⁵ O Lord, you are my portion | and my cup;
it is you who up- | hold my lot.

⁶ **My boundaries enclose a | pleasant land;
indeed, I have a | rich inheritance.**

⁷ I will bless the Lord who | gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night | after night.

⁸ **I have set the Lord al- | ways before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall | not be shaken.**

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir- | it rejoices;
my body also shall | rest in hope.

¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me | to the grave,
nor let your holy one | see the pit.**

¹¹ You will show me the | path of life;

in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for- | evermore.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead ⁴ and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, ⁵ who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. ⁶ In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, ⁷ so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. ⁸ Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, ⁹ for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (sung)

**We are turning, Lord, to hear you; you are merciful and kind –
slow to anger, rich in blessing, and with love to us inclined.**

***Gospel Reading:** John 20:19-31

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

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

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”

²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** "Thine is the Glory"#376

1 Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment
rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes
where thy body lay.

Refrain:

Thine is the glory,
risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry
thou o'er death hast won!

2 Lo, Jesus meets thee,
risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee,
scatters fear and gloom;
let his church with gladness
hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth;
death hath lost its sting! [Refrain]

3 No more we doubt thee,
glorious Prince of life;
life is naught without thee;
aid us in our strife;
make us more than conqu'rors,
through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan
to thy home above. [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.



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!

***HYMN OF REFLECTION**

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: Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation. *A brief silence is held for reflection.*

Almighty God, you give life to the dead and call into existence things that do not exist. Breathe your Spirit upon us, that our faith may be renewed day by day.

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

Maker of heaven and earth, your mercies are new every morning. Open us to the wonders of creation, from the beauty of flowers to the complexity of subatomic particles.

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

God of peace, in every place where conflict rages, sow seeds of calm and openness to reconciliation. Strengthen the resolve of leaders and citizens to work for peace in their nations.

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

Healing God, come alongside all who are doubting, fearful, or suffering in any way. Reveal to them your presence and assure them of the inheritance you have prepared for them (*Together aloud, we pray...*) **God, provide comfort and reassurance to families and nations impacted by war, and those we lift silently or aloud to you now.** Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Giver of joy, let this assembly be a place of genuine love and mutual affection. Deepen our care for one another and help us to embody your forgiving and sacrificial love.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Eternal One, we give thanks for saints who were faithful unto death and have joined the church triumphant. Inspire us by their witness and bring us with them into your glorious presence. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of resurrection power, use us and these prayers to proclaim the good news of new life to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen 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.**

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: "That Easter Day with Joy was Bright"#384**

1 That Easter day with joy was bright;
the sun shone out with fairer light
when, to their longing eyes restored,
the apostles saw their risen Lord!

2 O Jesus, king of gentleness,
with constant love our hearts possess;
to you our lips will ever raise
the tribute of our grateful praise.

3 O Christ, you are the Lord of all
in this our Easter festival,
for you will be our strength and shield
from ev'ry weapon death can wield.

4 All praise, O risen Lord, we give
to you, once dead, but now alive!
To God the Father equal praise,
and God the Spirit, now we raise!

***Dismissal**

P: Go in peace. Serve God and one another in faith.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE: "Highland Cathedral" Scottish Melody

TODAY'S SERVICE

Supply Pastor Rev. Newell Embley III
Music Director Greg Gehman

Acolyte..... Russel Beck
Cantor Hollie Kemper
Counters Nick Duong and Thai Phan, Pat Brendle
Lector Lynn Breidenstein

Today's altar flowers were donated by Dave & Julie Emrhein in honor of Marleise Emrhein's birthday.
Sandy Schutter and Kathleen Ebling donated the refreshments for the Fellowship Hour.

APRIL 19TH WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolyte..... **Volunteer Needed**
Cantor..... David Sensenig
Counters Jeanette & Mike Leid
Lector Doris Rauch

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND UPCOMING EVENTS

Welcome! If you're visiting with us today, we're glad you're here. At your convenience, you are welcome to fill out the yellow card in your pew and share a little about yourself or let us know how we can be praying for you. We're happy you chose to spend today with us!

Gratitude: Many thanks to everyone who helped clean church grounds. Volunteers cleared branches and debris, pruned shrubs, raked and mulched leaves, edged beds, and spread seven yards of mulch. The grove was also prepared for Sunday's egg hunt. Your hard work made a big difference in keeping our church property looking its best.

Today

- **College/Military Goodie Boxes**

We are collecting snack donations for our College and Military Goodie Boxes!

Today is the last day to place donations in the designated collection boxes located at all church entrances.

- **AED Training – 8:45am and 11:30am after services**

Julie Emrhein will be training the members of our congregation on proper usage of the AED in the event of a cardiac emergency.

Ongoing

- **Bulletin and Flower Sponsorship**

You can sponsor a bulletin (\$15) or altar flowers (\$45) using the sign-up sheet on the table outside the rear sanctuary doors.

- **Communion Kits for Home Use**

Prefilled communion kits (wafers and grape juice) are available on the table under the mailboxes for those who are not able to be in the church for the Sacrament of Communion.

- **Redner's Save-A-Tape Program**

Support the Muddy Creek Good Samaritan Fund by placing your entire (uncut) Redner's receipts in the Redner's containers at church entrances. Thanks for your support!

PARTNER MINISTRY EVENTS

“Brenda and Friends” Bus Trips

- April 16-18 (Thurs-Sat) “The International Tattoo”, Norfolk, VA
Includes: Canal Cruise, Military Aviation Museum, Oceanfront Lodging -VA Beach, Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel, & Marvel Carriage Museum
- April 30th (Thursday) “Some Enchanted Evening”, Hunterdon Hills Playhouse
For more information, contact Brenda Berger (717) 336-6886 or berger@dejazzd.com
- May 7, 2026 (Thursday) - Winterthur & Longwood Gardens when the tulips & azaleas are blooming (and other flowers and flowering trees, as well)

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Attendance		Offerings	
4/2 Maundy Thursday	23	Weekly	\$6,029
4/3 Good Friday	27	Month-to-Date	\$6,029
4/5 Easter Sunday			
6:30am	21		
8am	51		
10:15am	81		
Online	47		

General Fund plus Mission Support

Received through February	\$37,898
Expenses through February	\$48,460

This Weeks Office Hours:

Monday	April 13 th	9:30am-1:30pm
Tuesday	April 14 th	9:30am-1:30pm
Wednesday	April 15 th	9:30am-1:30pm
Friday	April 17 th	9:30am-1:30pm