

# MUDDY CREEK LUTHERAN CHURCH

11 South Muddy Creek Rd, Denver, PA 17517

*Third Sunday of Easter – April 19, 2026*

*9:30am Service*

*Online Bulletin*



<https://rosaryreflections.com/meeting-jesus-at-emmaus/>

## TODAY'S READINGS

ACTS 2:14a, 36-41

PSALM 116:1-4, 12-19

I PETER 1:17-23

LUKE 24:13-35

[www.mclchurch.org](http://www.mclchurch.org)

717-336-2770

[office@mclchurch.org](mailto: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** "The Strife is O'er" ..... arr. N. Johnson

#### \*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!" ..... #373

1 "Christ the Lord is ris'n today!"

All on earth and angels say;  
raise your joys and triumphs high;  
sing, O heav'ns; and earth, reply.

2 Love's redeeming work is done,  
fought the fight, the battle won.

Lo! The sun's eclipse is o'er.

Lo! He sets in blood no more.

3 Vain the stone, the watch, the seal;  
 Christ has burst the gates of hell.  
 Death in vain forbids his rise;  
 Christ has opened paradise.

4 Lives again our glorious king!  
 Where, O death, is now your sting?  
 Once he died our souls to save;  
 where your victory, O grave?

**\*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.**

**Special Music:** "Lift High the Cross" .....S. Nicholson (Greg Gehman, piano)

**Children's Message**

## THE WORD

### First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

<sup>14a</sup> Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed [the crowd]: <sup>36</sup>“Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.” <sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” <sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.”

<sup>40</sup> And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” <sup>41</sup> So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

### Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19(sung responsively)

<sup>1</sup> I love the Lord, who has | heard my voice,  
and listened to my | supplication,

<sup>2</sup> **for the Lord has given | ear to me  
whenever | er I called.**

<sup>3</sup> The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave | came upon me;  
I came to | grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup> **Then I called upon the name | of the Lord:  
“O Lord, I pray you, | save my life.”**

<sup>12</sup> How shall I re- | pay the Lord  
for all the good things God has | done for me?

<sup>13</sup> **I will lift the cup | of salvation  
and call on the name | of the Lord.**

<sup>14</sup> I will fulfill my vows | to the Lord  
in the presence of | all God’s people.

<sup>15</sup> **Precious in your | sight, O Lord,  
is the death | of your servants.**

<sup>16</sup> O Lord, truly I | am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me | from my bonds.

<sup>17</sup> **I will offer you the sacrifice | of thanksgiving  
and call upon the name | of the Lord.**

<sup>18</sup> I will fulfill my vows | to the Lord  
in the presence of | all God’s people,

<sup>19</sup> **in the courts of | the Lord’s house,  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. | Hallelujah!**

**Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23**

<sup>17</sup> If you invoke as Father the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in fear during the time of your exile. <sup>18</sup> You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold <sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. <sup>20</sup> He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. <sup>21</sup> Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God.

<sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. <sup>23</sup> You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

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: Luke 24:13-35**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

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

<sup>13</sup> Now on that same day two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, <sup>14</sup> and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. <sup>15</sup> While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, <sup>16</sup> but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. <sup>17</sup> And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. <sup>18</sup> Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" <sup>19</sup> He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, <sup>20</sup> and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. <sup>21</sup> But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. <sup>22</sup> Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, <sup>23</sup> and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. <sup>24</sup> Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him."

<sup>25</sup> Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! <sup>26</sup> Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" <sup>27</sup> Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

<sup>28</sup> As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. <sup>29</sup> But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. <sup>30</sup> When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. <sup>31</sup> Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. <sup>32</sup> They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?"

<sup>33</sup> That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. <sup>34</sup> They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” <sup>35</sup> Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

## Sermon

\*HYMN OF THE DAY: “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus” .....#802

1 Let us ever walk with Jesus,  
follow his example pure,  
through a world that would deceive us  
and to sin our spirits lure.  
Onward in his footsteps treading,  
travelers here, our home above,  
full of faith and hope and love,  
let us do our Savior's bidding,  
Faithful Lord, with me abide,  
I shall follow where you guide.

2 Let us suffer here with Jesus,  
and with patience bear our cross.  
Joy will follow all our sadness;  
where he is there is no loss.  
Though today we sow no laughter,  
we shall reap celestial joy:  
all discomforts that annoy  
shall give way to mirth hereafter.  
Jesus, here I share your woe;  
help me there your joy to know.

3 Let us gladly die with Jesus.  
Since by death he conquered death,  
he will free us from destruction,  
give to us immortal breath.  
Let us mortify all passion  
that would lead us into sin;  
and the grave that shuts us in  
shall but prove the gate of heaven.  
Jesus, here with you I die,  
there to live with you on high.

4 Let us also live with Jesus.  
 He has risen from the dead  
 that to life we may awaken.  
 Jesus, you are now our head,  
 we are your own living members;  
 where you live, there we shall be  
 in your presence constantly,  
 living there with you forever.  
 Jesus, let me faithful be;  
 life eternal grant to me.

**\*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.*

Living Savior, just as you journeyed with the disciples to Emmaus, accompany us on our journey of faith. Gather us at your table, that we recognize you in the breaking of the bread. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Almighty God, you provide for the needs of all creation. Bless the fields that are being prepared for planting, and send favorable weather so that the soil may yield an abundant harvest. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of justice, where leaders abuse power, confront them and call them to repentance. Where there is corruption, bring integrity; where there is violence, sow peace.

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

Healing Savior, your resurrection brings hope to a hurting world. *(Together aloud, we pray...)*

**Heal those who are sick. Strengthen the weary, give courage to the despairing, and comfort the dying.** Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious One, you have made us your own through the gift of baptism. Unite us in genuine love for one another and uphold this community in your name.

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

Eternal Light, we give thanks for all who have nurtured your church's life in ages past. Bring us at last with them to the brightness of 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: "In the Cross of Christ I Glory" .....#324**

1 In the cross of Christ I glory,  
tow'ring o'er the wrecks of time.  
All the light of sacred story  
gathers round its head sublime.

2 When the woes of life o'ertake me,  
hopes deceive, and fears annoy,  
never shall the cross forsake me;  
lo, it glows with peace and joy.



## 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!

### Upcoming

- **AED Training – April 26<sup>th</sup> - 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.
- **Outdoor Cleanup (Contd.) – May 2<sup>nd</sup> - 8am**  
We'll be continuing outdoor grounds cleanup with a workday—come lend a hand! Please bring wheelbarrows, shovels, and rakes. **Rain Date: May 9<sup>th</sup>**

### 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 30th (Thursday) “Some Enchanted Evening,” Hunterdon Hills Playhouse
- May 7, 2026 (Thursday) - Winterthur & Longwood Gardens when the tulips & azaleas are blooming (and other flowers and flowering trees, as well)  
*For more information, contact Brenda Berger (717) 336-6886 or [berger@dejazzd.com](mailto:berger@dejazzd.com)*

### East Cocalico Lions Club

#### **Senior Citizens Banquet – May 9<sup>th</sup>, 12:30pm – Reamstown Fire Hall**

Join the Lions Club for a special afternoon together. Doors open at 12:30pm, with the meal served at 1pm, followed by entertainment featuring a chalk artist at 2pm. This free event is open to anyone age 55 and over. **Registration required!** Contact Tim at 717-475-3530.

**APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup> ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

<b>Attendance</b>		<b>Offerings</b>	
8am	26	Weekly	\$1,830
10:15am	46	Month-to-Date	\$7,859
Online	44		

**General Fund plus Mission Support**

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

**This Weeks Office Hours:**

Monday	April 20 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am-11:30am
Tuesday	April 21 <sup>st</sup>	9:30am-12:30pm
Wednesday	April 22 <sup>nd</sup>	9:30am-12:30pm
Thursday	April 23 <sup>rd</sup>	9:30am-12:30pm
Friday	April 24 <sup>th</sup>	9:30am-11:30am