

MUDDY CREEK LUTHERAN CHURCH

11 South Muddy Creek Rd, Denver, PA 17517

Fifth Sunday of Easter – May 3, 2026

10:15am Service

Online Bulletin



TODAY'S READINGS

ACTS 7:55-60

PSALM 31:1-5,15-16

1 PETER 2:2-10

JOHN 14:1-14

<https://bible.art/p/2pkQJXHqzHmzhYArHrPi/john-14-6-jesus-answered-i-am>

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/Birthdays/Anniversaries

Passing the Peace

P: The Peace of the Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PRELUDE “How Can I Say Thanks” A. Crouch

*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: “Morning Prayer” Text by D.Sensenig

Sung to tune ELW #323 (Rockingham Old)

1 Another morning has arrived
 Lord, guide me toward Your will today
 Thank you for one more day of life
 Please keep Your hand on me, I pray.

2 I praise You, O Creator God
Whose warm, bright sunrise lights my way
Please open wide my eyes to see
The beauty of Your world this day.

3 I thank you, Lord, for all I have
So many gifts You've given me
Make mine a heart that's generous
To share Your gifts with those in need.

4 Though I'm deserving of Your wrath
Through Jesus, please forgive my sins
Although I've strayed far from Your path
You wipe my slate clean yet again.

5 I ask that You increase my faith
Too many times I don't believe
Please bless my fam'ly and my friends
So that their burdens are relieved.

6 I hope today to please You, Lord
In everything I say and do
And that I'll hear the words "Well done"
If this day I return to You.

***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. 140

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

***Prayer of the Day**

P: Let us pray.

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

Children's Message

THE WORD

First Reading: Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God**

Psalms 31:1-5, 15-16 (sung responsively)

¹ In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be ¹ put to shame; deliver me ¹ in your righteousness.

² **Incline your ¹ ear to me;**
make haste to de- ¹ liver me.

³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag ¹ and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead ¹ me and guide me.

⁴ **Take me out of the net that they have secretly ¹ set for me,**
for you are my tow- ¹ er of strength.

⁵ Into your hands I com- ¹ mend my spirit, for you have redeemed me, O LORD, ¹ God of truth.

¹⁵ **My times are ¹ in your hand;**
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who ¹ persecute me.

¹⁶ Let your face shine up- ¹ on your servant; save me in your ¹ steadfast love."

Second Reading: 1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵ like living stones let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in scripture:

“See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.”

⁷ This honor, then, is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,

“The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,”

⁸ and “A stone that makes them stumble
and a rock that makes them fall.”

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the excellence of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (sung)**

Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

***Gospel Reading: John 14:1-14**

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

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

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. ² In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. ⁴ And you know the way to the place where I am going.” ⁵ Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” ⁶ Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. ⁷ If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

⁸ Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” ⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? ¹⁰ Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. ¹¹ Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, but if you do not, then believe because of the works themselves.

¹² Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. ¹³ I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴ If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

Sermon

***HYMN OF THE DAY:** “You Are the Way”#758

1 You are the way; to you alone
from sin and death we flee;
all those who search for God, you find
and by your grace set free.

2 You are the truth; your word alone
true wisdom can impart;
you only can inform the mind
and purify the heart.

3 You are the life; the rending tomb
proclaims your conqu'ring arm;
and those who put their trust in you
not death nor hell shall harm.

4 You are the way, the truth, the life;
grant us that way to know,
that truth to keep, that life to win,
whose joys eternal flow.

*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.*

God of glory, you have built your church on Christ the cornerstone. Inspire lay leaders, deacons, pastors, and bishops to proclaim forgiveness and your steadfast love to all whom they encounter. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of majesty, you bring forth plants and animals, skies and seas, mountains and valleys. Protect all you have made from the ravages of pollution and climate disaster. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of mercy, you intend governments and social service agencies to be instruments of peace and justice. Guide political leaders and organizations to be agents of compassion and raise up advocates for those who seek refuge and assistance. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

(Together aloud, we pray...) **God of well-being, you soothe those in distress, console all who grieve, provide for any in need, and comfort those who are sick Instill caregivers with a sense of purpose to be your healing hands in this world. We pray for George and Jeanne Lorah and others we lift up silently or aloud before you now...
 Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

God of community, you call us together as your people for mutual support and to witness to your love in the world. Make your presence known among those unable to attend worship today. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of eternal life, you have prepared dwelling places for your people, so that we are never separated from you. We give you thanks for the faithful departed who witnessed to your mighty acts in word and deed. 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 EUCHARIST

***The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
 Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
 Let us give our thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

***Proper Preface and Sanctus**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection, open to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

***Words of Institution**

You are indeed Holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life. We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: take and eat, this is my body given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying;
This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me. For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: To you, oh God, father, son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

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.**

P: Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

C: Amen

*Everyone is invited to participate in Communion.
Children will receive communion or a blessing according to parental wishes.
Gluten-free wafers and juice are offered as alternatives.*

***Post Communion Blessing**

P: God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation, you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your spirit, that we may proclaim the redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: **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 3x)

***SENDING HYMN: "Lord, Be Glorified".....#744**

1 In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.

In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

2 In our song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.

In our song, Lord be glorified today.

3 In your Church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.

In your Church, Lord, be glorified today.

4 In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.

In your world, Lord, be glorified today.

***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

	Pastor	Rev. Stacy Chavis
	Music Director	Greg Gehman
Acolyte.....	Barb Yerger	
Cantor	Greg Gehman	
Communion Assistants	8am Scott Strickland, Judy Dengler 10:15am - Nancy Beck	
Counters	Brad & Doris Rauch	
Lector	Nancy Beck	

Today's altar flowers were donated in memory of Ralph Beringer by his family.
Pat Buohl donated the refreshments for the Fellowship Hour.

MAY 10TH WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

Acolyte.....	Malia Mancini	
Cantor	Hollie Kemper	
Counters	Brenda Berger, Judy Nichol, Audrey Noll	
Lector	Pat Buohl	

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!

Prayers: Our prayers are with George and Jeanne Lorah, and loved ones on our Prayer List.

Upcoming

- **Outdoor Cleanup (Contd.) – May 2nd - 8am**
We'll be continuing outdoor grounds cleanup with a workday—come lend a hand! Please bring wheelbarrows, shovels, and rakes. *Rain Date: May 9th*
- **Annual Veterans Wreath Project – Donations in honor of Memorial Day**
We will be collecting donations to help offset the cost of 247 wreaths for veterans for the annual Veterans Wreath Project for Nov/Dec. Donation containers will be available starting May 1st. Please include a note indicating that your contribution is designated for the wreath project. *Checks payable to Muddy Creek Lutheran Church.*
- **Grounds Care Team – Volunteers Needed**
Last year, many church members volunteered to help weed and water the flower beds. Information and a summer sign-up schedule will be sent out in the coming weeks to last year's volunteers, as well as any new participants. The flowers are already planted and ready for care—more helpers make lighter work! If you didn't participate but would like to help this summer, *contact Judy Nichol at 717-484-1447 or text 717-947-0802.*

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.

PARTNER MINISTRY EVENTS

“Brenda and Friends” Bus Trips

- May 7, 2026 (Thursday) - May 7, 2026 (Thursday) - Winterthur & Longwood Gardens when the tulips & azaleas are blooming (and other flowers and flowering trees, as well)
- May 30, 2026 (Saturday) - 1-Day Mystery Trip
For more information, contact Brenda Berger (717) 336-6886 or berger@dejazzd.com

East Cocalico Lions Club

Senior Citizens Banquet – May 9th, 1:30pm – Reamstown Fire Hall **TIME CHANGE**

Join the Lions Club for a special afternoon together. Doors open at 1:30pm, with the meal served at 2pm, followed by entertainment featuring a chalk artist at 3pm. This free event is open to anyone age 55 and over. **Registration required!** *Contact Tim at 717-475-3530.*

Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central PA

Considering a summer job as a camp counselor? The Lutheran Camping Corporation is seeking faithful individuals to help build a welcoming camp community.

Counselors must be at least 18 or a High School graduate this June. Training is provided. Learn more at <https://www.lutherancamping.org/employment/>

This Weeks Office Hours:

Monday	May 4 th	9:30am-1:30pm
Tuesday	May 5 th	9:30am-1:30pm
Wednesday	May 6 th	9:30am-10:30am

APRIL 26TH ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Attendance		Offerings	
8am	24	Weekly	\$ 1,062
10:15am	36	Month-to-Date	\$11,000
Online	22		

General Fund plus Mission Support

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