

Muddy Creek Lutheran Church

11 South Muddy Creek Rd., Denver, PA 17517

Church Office: 717-336-2770, office@mcchurch.org Pastor Peter: 717-598-5095, peter@mcchurch.org
Website: www.mcchurch.org, Follow us on Facebook and our Muddy Creek Lutheran YouTube channel.
The 10:15 a.m. service will be livestreamed and posted today on our YouTube channel and Facebook Page.

3rd Sunday in Lent, March 12, 2023, 10:15 a.m. (Daylight Savings Time)– Online Bulletin
** = Please stand as you are able All congregational responses are in bold*

Welcome to Muddy Creek! Masks are optional for worship.
Announcements, Waving Hello
Prelude – *A Lenten Prelude*.....J. Battishill

*Confession and Forgivenesspages 94 – 96

L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. C: **Amen.**
L: 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.**
L: 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.**
L: 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.**

*Opening Hymn: “Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”.....#623

- 1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee; let the water and the blood, from thy riven side which flowed, be of sin the double cure; cleanse me from its guilt and pow’r.
- 2. Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law’s demands; could my zeal no respite know, could my tear forever flow, all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.
- 3. Nothing in my hand I bring; simply to thy cross I cling. Naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the fountain, fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.
- 4. While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyelids close in death, when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on they judgment throne. Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

*Greeting - L: 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**page 203

*Kyrie.....page 203

- 1. Have mercy on us, Lord, and hear our solemn prayer.
We come to hear your living word, it saves us from despair.

2. Have mercy on us, Christ, and wash away our sin.
Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may begin.
3. Have mercy on us, Lord, make sin and shame depart.
Renew us in your saving pow'r; create in us new hearts!

*Canticle of Praisepage 204

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. 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 **C: Amen**

Choir Anthem: "*He Grew the Tree*"C. Lawrence

First Bible Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

L: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 95 (Congregational responses in bold)

¹Come, let us sing ¹ to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of ¹ our salvation.

²**Let us come before God's presence ¹ with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the ¹ LORD with psalms.**

³For you, LORD, ¹ are a great God,
and a great ruler a- ¹ bove all gods.

⁴**In your hand are the caverns ¹ of the earth;
the heights of the hills are ¹ also yours.**

⁵The sea is yours, ¹ for you made it,
 and your hands have molded ¹ the dry land.
⁶**Come, let us worship ¹ and bow down,
 let us kneel before the ¹ LORD our maker.**
⁷For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and
 the sheep ¹ of God's hand.
 Oh, that today you would ¹ hear God's voice!
⁸**“Harden ¹ not your hearts,
 as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah ¹ in the desert.**
⁹There your ancestors ¹ tested me,
 they put me to the test, though they had ¹ seen my works.
¹⁰**Forty years I loathed that gener- ¹ ation, saying,
 ‘The heart of this people goes astray; they do not ¹ know my ways.’**
¹¹Indeed I swore ¹ in my anger,
 ‘They shall never come ¹ to my rest.’

Second Bible Reading: Romans 5:1-11

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. ⁹Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. ¹¹But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

L: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God**

*Gospel Acclamation:page 205
**(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: John 4:5-29, 39-42 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁵Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. ⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is

deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water."

¹⁶Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband'; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." ²⁶Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" ²⁸Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹"Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" ³⁰Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

L: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Message

Sermon

*Hymn: "Come to Me, All Pilgrims Thirsty" v.1-4.....#777

1. "Come to me, all pilgrims thirsty; drink the water I will give.

If you knew what gift I offer, you would come to me and live." (Refrain)

Refrain: Jesus, everflowing fountain, give us water from your well.

In the gracious gift you offer there is joy no tongue can tell.

2. "Come to me, all trav'lers weary; come that I may give you rest.

Drink the cup of life I offer, at this table by my guest." (Refrain)

3. "Come to me, believers burdened; find refreshment in this place.

Come, receive the gift I offer, turn to me and seek my face." (Refrain)

4. "Come to me, repentant sinners; leave behind your guilt and shame.

Come and know divine compassion, turn to me, I call your name. (Refrain)

Holy Baptism of Emmett Charles Weaver and Scarlett Kathleen Weaver.....page 227
 L: People of God, do you promise to support Emmett and Scarlett and pray for them in their new life in Christ? C: **We do.**

Apostles' Creed:

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 to heaven, he is seated at the right hand of God 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

L: The Lord be with you. C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. C: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

L: Let us welcome our newly baptized brother and sister.

C: **We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share; join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

*Thanksgiving for Offering C: **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.**

(Offering may be contributed online through the church website, mclchurch.org, "Give Online" button on the home page.)

*Hymn #752 ("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 the Church P: Lord, in your mercy C: **Hear our prayer**

*Lord's Prayer.....page 208

Our Father, who are in heaven, hallowed by 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.

*Blessing: C: **Amen** (sung)

*Sending Hymn: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"#807

1. Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;

streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.

While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,

teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.

2. Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come;

and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;

he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

3. Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for they courts above.

*Dismissal P: Go in Peace, Serve the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude – *Postlude in F Minor*.....H. Oberhoffer

Announcements

Welcome to everyone, especially all visitors and guests! If you are visiting today, it would be really appreciated if you would fill out the yellow card in your pew and put it in the offering plate or give it to the pastor. Welcome!

Today We Are Delighted to Celebrate Holy Baptism! At the 8 a.m. service, we rejoice to celebrate the baptism of Tierney Rose Ueberroth, daughter of Richard and Mackenzie Ueberroth and little sister of Remie. At the 10:15 a.m. service, we rejoice to celebrate the baptisms of Emmett Charles Weaver and Scarlett Kathleen Weaver, son and daughter of Philip and Molly Weaver and little brother and little sister of Harrison. Welcome Tierney, Scarlett and Emmett!

Today is Prayer Shawl Sunday. Please take a shawl to give to anyone you know who could use the blessed warm embrace of God in their lives right now. After worship, come select one or more shawls and sign the clipboard.

Our Lenten Book Study Continues Today! The book is Reaching Out: The Three Movements of Spiritual Life by Henri Nouwen. The Book Study is on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Today's topic is Reaching Out to our Fellow Human Beings – Chapters 4-6. The final session is March 26 (Reaching Out to our God – Chapters 7-9). You may also read the book on your own, if you wish. Free books are still available on the table by the mailboxes.

Your Help with the Following Collections is Very Much Appreciated! Thank You!

*Please bring in small wrapped chocolates and candy and plastic Easter eggs for the upcoming **Community Easter Egg Hunt** in our Grove on April 2. Collection ends March 26. Items can be placed in the marked bin by the mailboxes.

*Please bring in cookies, chips, candies, crackers and snacks to send to **College Students and Military Members** from the congregation. Collection ends March 26. Items can be put in any of the marked bins at the entrances.

Easter Services Yard Signs are available by the mailboxes. Please consider placing one in your lawn to let your neighborhood know of our Easter Service Schedule. Signs can be returned to the church after Easter. Thank you for your help!

Cluster Lenten Services 2023: The theme this year for our local Lutheran Cluster Lenten Services is "Turning Toward God's Abundance". All services are at 7 p.m., and they will also be available online. The offering will go to the conference Disaster Relief Mission Trip to Houston, Texas, April 16-22. (Checks may be made out to North Lancaster Conference Dean's Fund).

This Wed. March 15, 7 p.m.: Pastor Peter Schwabe-Fry will be preaching at Bergstrasse, Ephrata. Theme: Compassion – Luke 13:1-9 (The Barren Fig Tree). Bergstrasse will also stream the service on their Facebook page (Facebook - Bergstrasse Lutheran Church).

Wed. March 22, 7 p.m.: Pastor Scott Brubaker will be preaching **here at Muddy Creek**. Theme: Forgiveness – Luke 15:1-3, 11-32 (The Prodigal Son). We will also stream the service on our YouTube channel (youtube.com, muddycreeklutherande4004).

Wed. March 29, 7 p.m.: Pastor Sandy Gideon will be preaching at Mellingers, Schoeneck. Theme: Love – John 12:1-8 (Mary Anoints Jesus). Mellingers will also stream the service on their Facebook page (Facebook - Mellingers Evangelical Lutheran Church).

Jesus ‘n Me Playgroup is this next Sunday at 9 a.m. in the nursery. Theme: Jesus is Alive!

Stuffing Easter Eggs for the Egg Hunt will take place after both services next Sunday.

The Grove and Outdoor Clean Up (to prepare for our upcoming Community Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 2) will be on Saturday, March 25, 8 – 11 a.m. We would really appreciate your help cleaning up fallen tree limbs, sticks, and leaves! Bring your own rake. We especially need anyone with a trailer to help haul the debris to the yard waste facility.

Contact: Tim Fritz, 717-335-0776.

We Will Be Making Blankets for Lutheran World Relief on Sunday, March 26 after both services. You are invited to help!

The Upcoming Choir Practice in March is Wednesday, March 22 before the Cluster Lenten Service (the choir will sing at both the Cluster Lenten Service and on Sun., March 26). All are invited to come sing!

The Altar Flowers Today are given in memory of Nathaniel Berger by Linda and Brenda Berger.

In our Prayers: Elsie Altpeter, Gloria Aseli, Dorothy Beam, Curtis and Faith Beck, Nancy Beck, Alex Harding, Pat Kagarise, Betsy Klink, Tina Lavrenchuk, Roberta Mann, Linda Martin, the Martin family, Ruthie Martin, Mary Miller, Charles Moyer, Jean Moyer, Paul Moyer, Betty Ramsey, Tom Riggie, Dana Sanchez, Susan and Walt Siegel, Lucy Snader, Thelma Sweigart, Becky Thunberg, Philip Webber, Kent Weinhold, Marian Weinhold, Michael Weinhold.

Attendance and Giving:

Attendance Mar. 5: 8:00 a.m. – 34, 10:15 a.m. – 59, YouTube and Facebook – 32	
Received through end of Feb.: \$27,659.00	Expenses thru Feb.: \$34,930.01
Received on Mar. 5: \$1,909.83	Received Mar. to date: \$14,447.36

Worship Helpers Today:

10:15 a.m. Lay Reader: Will Wood	10:15 a.m. Cantor: Greg Gehman
10:15 a.m. Acolyte: Denise Burkhart	10:15 a.m. Money Counters: Jeannette and Mike Leid

Worship Helpers Next Sunday, March 19:

10:15 a.m. Lay Reader: Brenda Berger	10:15 a.m. Cantor: Pastor Peter
10:15 a.m. Acolyte: Jack Lammey	
10:15 a.m. Money Counters: Marie Buohl, Connie Hoover, David Sensenig	

Easter Flowers

If you wish to order any flowers to decorate the church on Easter, please give the money and order form to Jane Wenger, or put the money and form in an envelope and place it in the offering box (or you may mail your order in to the church office with your check.) Lilies, Tulips and Daffodils are available. Deadline for ordering is Sunday, March 26.



Cost is: \$6.00 per 6.5” pot of Daffodils
 \$6.00 per 6” pot (5-6 bulbs) of Tulips
 \$8.00 per pot of Lilies(white) (3-4 blooms per pot)

Checks are preferred (please note on check “Easter Flowers”) but, if you choose to use cash, exact amount of money is needed.

1 order per form, please

YOUR NAME: _____

Number and type of plants: #_____ Type _____

If you would like “in honor of” or “in memory of” included in the bulletin, please fill in the appropriate lines.

In honor of _____

by _____
(optional)

In memory of _____

by _____
(optional)

Do not include in bulletin _____

Any questions, please contact Jane Wenger @ jlwredjet@gmail.com or (717) 471-0556

****All flowers ordered can be picked up following the service.**

Deadline for ordering is March 26.

Please PRINT CLEARLY. Thank you.