

Muddy Creek Lutheran Church

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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 our website.

Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 17, 2024, 10:15 a.m. - Online Edition

** = Please stand as you are able All congregational responses are in bold*

Welcome to Muddy Creek!

Announcements, Waving Hello

Prelude: *Were You There?*arr. H. DeCou

*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.**

*Gathering Hymn: “Just As I Am, Without One Plea”#592

- 1. Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me, and that thou bidd’st me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 2. Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt, fightings and fears, within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 3. Just as I am, thou wilt receive, wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve; because thy promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 4. Just as I am, thy love unknown has broken ev’ry barrier down, now to be thine, yea, thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

*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

First Reading: Jeremiah 31:31-34

³¹The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more. L: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 51:1-12 (Congregational responses in bold)

¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your ¹steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out ¹my offenses.

²**Wash me through and through ¹from my wickedness,
and cleanse me ¹from my sin.**

³For I know ¹my offenses,
and my sin is ev- ¹er before me.

⁴**Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil ¹in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right ¹in your judgment.**

⁵Indeed, I was born ¹steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my ¹mother's womb.

⁶**Indeed, you delight in truth ¹deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom ¹deep within.**

⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I ¹shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur- ¹er than snow.

⁸**Let me hear | joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken | may rejoice.**

⁹Hide your face | from my sins,
and blot out | all my wickedness.

¹⁰**Create in me a clean | heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- | it within me.**

¹¹Cast me not away | from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.

¹²**Restore to me the joy of | your salvation
and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit.**

Second Reading: Hebrews 5:5-10

⁵Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, “You are my Son, today I have begotten you”; ⁶as he says also in another place, “You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.” ⁷In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek. 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 12:20-33 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁰Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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

Children’s Message
Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: “Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”#659

1. Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

2. We are pilgrims on a journey, we are trav’lers on the road;
we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

3. I will hold the Christ-light for you in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

4. I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I’ll laugh with you.

I will share your joy and sorrow till we’ve seen this journey through.

5. Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

*The 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 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

*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 to Muddy Creek or Disaster Relief 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 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.

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

*Sending Song: “The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve”#551

1. The Spirit sends us forth to serve; we go in Jesus’ name
to bring glad tidings to the poor, God’s favor to proclaim.

2. We go to comfort those who who mourn and set the burdened free;
where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.

3. We go to be the hands of Christ, to scatter jpy like seed
and, all our days, to cherish life, to do the loving deed.

4. Then let us go to serve in peace, the gospel to proclaim.

God’s Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus’ name.

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

Postlude: *Postlude in A Minor*.....J. Rinck
Immediately following the 10:15 a.m. service, you are invited to stay in the sanctuary for a time of fellowship and refreshments, courtesy today of Sandy Schutter and Kathleen Ebling. Thanks!

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 box or give it to the pastor. Welcome!

Notes for Online Participants:

If you would like to pick up prefilled home communion kits of wafers and grape juice in order to participate online along with Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month, please contact Pastor Peter or pick them up from the box on the table under the church mailboxes. Or, if you wish, you may use bread and grape juice/wine from your own home.

Offering to Muddy Creek or Disaster Relief may be contributed online through the church website, mclchurch.org, "Give Online" button on the home page.

You are Invited to Help Stuff Easter Eggs Today in the sanctuary immediately following the 10:15 am service. Thank you to everyone who so generously donated candy and plastic eggs!

The Easter Egg Hunt is Next Sunday at 11:30 a.m. in the Grove. Everyone from the community is invited! Thanks to the Evangelism Committee for sponsoring this event.

Palm Sunday is Next Sunday! We will also have a dramatic reading of the narrative about Jesus' last days ("passion narrative") from the Gospel of Mark at both services.

Holy Week and Easter Services:

Thursday, March 28: 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Communion Service

Friday, March 29: 7:00 p.m. Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Sunday, March 31 (Easter):

6:30 a.m. Easter Dawn Outdoor Service in the Cemetery (assemble in front of the church)

7:30 a.m. Easter Service with Communion

8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast in the Fellowship Hall (all invited)

10:15 a.m. Easter Service with Communion

Wednesday Evening Cluster Lenten Services: All are invited to Lenten services, held together with other local Lutheran churches in our cluster. This year's theme is "Open My Life, Lord".

*The final Lenten Service is this Wed. March 20, 7 p.m. at St. John Center Lutheran Church, East Earl. Pastor Peter will preach on "Open My Life, Lord". The offering will go to support this year's Disaster Relief Mission Trip which will be in Port Charlotte, Florida. April 28 - May 4. Checks may be made out to: "Disaster Relief Trip, North Lancaster Conference Dean's Fund"

Until March 31 (Easter), We are Collecting Snack Items for Goodie Boxes to be sent to Muddy Creek participants who are college students or serving in the military. Snack items may include cookies, chips, candies or crackers. Items may be placed in the marked collection bins in the entrances. This is being sponsored by the Social Ministry Committee.

Easter Breakfast is Easter Morning, at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All are invited to the Easter Breakfast sponsored by our Parish Life Committee. You can help by bringing in breakfast casseroles and breakfast food items. Please sign up on the clipboard by the mailboxes and let us know what you can bring. Contacts: Audrey Noll, 717-336-3592, aan7@ptd.net., and Pat Brendle, 717-799-2591, pattigb@ptd.net.

Easter Yard Signs: Easter yard signs are available at the front of the sanctuary to take home and put in your front yard to help let your neighbors and friends know about the Easter services at Muddy Creek! Please take one, and return it after Easter.

Everyone is Invited to a Meeting of the Evangelism Committee Next Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The Altar Flowers Today are given in memory of Susan Crum by Lauren and Mark Gallagher.

The Sign Up for Altar Flower Sponsorships is on the table outside Pastor Peter's office. If you wish, you may sponsor flowers in honor or in memory of someone. Cost is \$45.

In our Prayers: Linny Ansel, Gloria Aseli, Dorothy Beam, Tom Carretta, Ken Frazer, Elaine Gehman, Greg Gehman, Darla Hackman, Jean Hummel at the death of her sister Sharon King, Anne Kinnamon, Pastor David Klepper, Betty Kramer, the Martin family, Helen Martin, Katie McCalicher, Charles Moyer, Jean Moyer, Paul Moyer, George Nagle, Betty Ramsey, Tom and Audrey Riggles, Joanne Saylor, the Saylor family, Jared Schutter, Mary Ann Seidel, Becky Thunberg, Jim Weber, Sharon Weinhold

Attendance and Giving:

Attendances: Mar. 10, 8:00 a.m. – 16, 10:15 a.m. - 60, Online Views (includes livestream) - 44	
Received through end of Feb.: \$34,861.49	Expenses thru Feb.: \$32,230.80
Received on Mar. 10: \$1,934.30	Received Mar. to date: \$8,323.40

Worship Helpers Today, March 17:

Acolyte -	Lay Reader - Joe Sanchez
Cantor - Hollie Kemper	Money Counters - Nick Duong and Thai Phan, Pat Brendle

10:15 a.m. Worship Helpers Next Sunday, March 24:

Acolyte - Cannon Youndt	Lay Reader - Lynn Breidenstein
Passion Narrative Readers 8 am & 10:15 am – Lynn Breidenstein, Hollie Kemper, Will Wood	
Cantor - Pastor Peter	Money Counters - Jeanette and Mike Leid