

# Muddy Creek Lutheran Church

11 South Muddy Creek Rd., Denver, PA 17517

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Website: www.mcchurch.org, Follow us on Facebook and our Muddy Creek Lutheran YouTube Channel.  
The 10:15 am service will be livestreamed and posted today on our YouTube channel and our website.

***The Second Sunday of Easter, April 7, 2024, 10:15 a.m. - Online Edition***

*\* = Please stand as you are able      All congregational responses are in bold*  
*(Young Families: There is an "activity box" for children located under the ushers' bench at the rear of the sanctuary.)*

*Welcome to Muddy Creek! Announcements, Good Morning/Waving Hello*

*Prelude: A Resurrection Fanfare.....L. Smith*

*\*Gathering Hymn: "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain" .....#363*

- 1. Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!  
God has brought forth Israel into joy from sadness,  
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters;  
led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.
- 2. 'Tis the spring of souls today: Christ has burst his prison,  
and from three day's sleep in death as a sun has risen.  
All the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying  
from the Light to whom we give laud and praise undying.
- 3. Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor,  
and the royal feast of feasts comes its joy to render;  
come to glad Jerusalem, who with true affection  
welcomes in unwearied strain Jesus' resurrection!
- 4. Neither could the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal,  
nor the watchers, nor the seal, hold you as a mortal:  
but today, among your own, you appear, bestowing  
your deep peace, which evermore passes human knowing.
- 5. Alleluia! now we cry to our Lord immortal,  
who triumphant burst the bars of the tomb's dark portal;  
Alleluia! with the Son God the Father praising;  
Alleluia! yet again to the Spirit raising.

*\*Greeting C: **And also with you** .....page 138*

*\*Kyrie.....page 138*

*L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. C: **Lord, have mercy.***

*L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. C: **Lord, have mercy.***

*L: 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. C: **Lord, have mercy.***

*L: For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. C: **Lord, have mercy.***

*L: Help, save, comfort and defend us , gracious Lord. C: **Amen.***

\*Hymn of Praise (“This is the feast...”).....page 140

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

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

2. Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his. (Refrain)

3. 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. (Refrain)

4. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. (Refrain)

\*Prayer of the Day     C: **Amen**

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

<sup>32</sup>Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. <sup>33</sup>With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup>There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. <sup>35</sup>They laid it at the apostles’ feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

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

Psalms 133 (Congregational responses in bold)

<sup>1</sup>How good and how pleasant it is,  
when kindred live together in unity!

<sup>2</sup>**It is like fine oil upon the head, flowing down upon the beard,  
upon the beard of Aaron, flowing down upon the collar of his robe.**

<sup>3</sup>It is like the dew of Hermon flowing down upon the hills of Zion.  
For there the LORD has commanded the blessing: life forevermore.

Second Reading: 1 John 1:1 - 2:2

<sup>1</sup>We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup>this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us—<sup>3</sup>we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup>This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup>If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup>but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup>If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup>If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup>If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. <sup>2:1</sup>My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup>and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

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

\*Gospel Acclamation: .....page 142  
**(Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia)**

\*Gospel: John 20:19-31      C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." <sup>24</sup>But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup>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."

<sup>26</sup>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." <sup>27</sup>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." <sup>28</sup>Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" <sup>29</sup>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." <sup>30</sup>Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

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

Children's Message  
 Sermon

\*Hymn of the Day: "Hallelujah! Jesus Lives!".....#380

1. Hallelujah! Jesus lives! He is now the Living One; from the gloomy halls of death Christ, the conqueror, has gone, bright forerunner to the skies of his people yet to rise.
2. Jesus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and mournful sigh? Christ who died our brother here, lives our brother still on high, lives forever to bestow blessings on his church below.
3. Jesus lives! And thus, my soul, life eternal waits for you; joined to Christ, your living head, where he is, you shall be too; with the Lord, at God's right hand, as a victor you shall stand.
4. Jesus lives! Let all rejoice. Praise him, ransomed of the earth. Praise him in a nobler song, cherubim of heav'nly birth. Praise the victor king, whose sway sin and death and hell obey.
5. Hallelujah! Angels, sing! Join with us in hymns of praise. Let your chorus swell the strain which our feebler voices raise: Glory to our God above and on earth his peace and love!

\*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](http://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**

### Holy Communion

Great Thanksgiving.....page 144

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

L: Lift up your hearts. C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

Proper Preface

Holy, Holy, Holy.....page 144

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

Lord's Prayer.....page 145

**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.**

Distribution of Communion

(Note for online followers – Prefilled grape juice and wafer kits are available from Pastor Peter at any time for use at home as you follow along with Communion from home. Just email, call, or talk to Pastor Peter to get some. Or, if you wish, you may use wine/grape juice and bread from your home).

\*Post Communion Blessing

\*Communion Sending Prayer

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

\*Sending Song: "Thine is the Glory".....#376

1. Thine is the glory, ris'n 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 graveclothes 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**

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

Postlude: *Highland Cathedral*.....Scottish Melody  
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 Karen Oglesby and Judy Dengler. 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 plate 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](http://mclchurch.org), "Give Online" button on the home page

**Thank you to Everyone Who Brought in Food Items for Peter's Porch Today** (the first Sunday of the month). Items for our local food pantry may be placed in the marked bins in the entrances.

**Next Sunday is the Jesus 'n Me Playgroup** for all babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their parents at 9:00 a.m. in the nursery. The theme is "Thank You God for Ladybugs" (we will have real live ladybugs!)

#### **At the 10:15 AM Service on Sunday, April 21, We Will Celebrate Scout Recognition**

**Sunday.** Adamstown Cub Scout Pack 3204 and their leaders, whom we host in our church every Sunday evening, will be recognized at the 10:15 a.m. service on April 21.

**The Prayer Shawl Knitting Group** meets at Yvonne Weaver's house, on the second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. The next gathering is April 9. There will be no gathering on April 23. Contact: Yvonne Weaver at 717-371-6453. All are invited!

**Everyone is Invited Today at 3:00 p.m. to a Concert** at Peace U.C.C, 37 Swartzville Road, Denver. The concert, "Traveling to the Resurrection" features soloist Donna Danielski and Organist/Pianist Phyllis Sands.

**The Altar Flowers Today** are given to the glory of God by Judy Nichol.

**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, Pat Kagarise, 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 Riggle, Joanne Saylor, Jared Schutter, Mary Ann Seidel, Susan Siegel, Becky Thunberg

**Attendance and Giving:**

Attendances: Maundy Thursday - 34, Online - 29; Good Friday - 21, Online - 22

Easter, Mar. 31: 6:30 am Sunrise service - 34

7:30 a.m. – 43, 10:15 a.m. - 90, Online Views (includes livestream) - 72

Received through end of Feb.: \$34,861.49

Expenses thru Feb.: \$32,230.80

Received through Mar. 31: \$4,201.02

Received Mar. to date: \$17,595.35

**Worship Helpers Today:**

Bread Baker - Marliese Smith, 8:00 am: Communion Assistant - Scott Strickland

10:15 am: Communion Assistant and Acolyte - Zach Sheaffer, Cantor - Gail Bare

Lay Reader - Fred Hainley, Money Counters - Brad and Doris Rauch

**10:15 am Worship Helpers Next Sunday, April 14:**

Acolyte - Lay Reader – Lynn Breidenstein

Cantor - Greg Gehman Money Counters - Brenda Berger, Judy Nichol, Audrey Noll