

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 a.m. service will be livestreamed and posted today on our YouTube channel and our website.

3rd Sunday of Easter, May 4, 2025, 10:15 a.m. - Online Edition

** = Please stand as you are able All congregational responses are in **bold***
(Young Families: There are two “activity boxes” for children located under the ushers’ bench at the rear of the sanctuary. There is also an unstaffed nursery located downstairs with an audio feed for your convenience at any time).

Welcome to Muddy Creek!

Announcements, Good Morning/Waving Hello

Prelude: *All Glory to Jesus* J. Peterson

*Confession and Forgiveness pages 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: “A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing!” #393

1. A hymn of glory let us sing! New hymns throughout the world shall ring: Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ, by a road before untrod, ascends unto the throne of God.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2. The holy apostolic band upon the Mount of Olives stand, Alleluia! Alleluia! and with his faithful foll’wers see their Lord ascend in majesty.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

3. To whom the shining angels cry, “Why stand and gaze upon the sky? Alleluia! Alleluia! “This is the Savior!” thus they say, “this is his glorious triumph day!”

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

4. “You see him now ascending high up to the portals of the sky.” Alleluia! Alleluia! “Hereafter Jesus you shall see returning in great majesty.”

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

5. O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to you let earth accord: Alleluia! Alleluia!

You are, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

*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 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, alleluia, 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

First Reading: Acts 9:1-6

¹ Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

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

Psalm 30 (Congregational responses in bold)

¹ I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lift-¹ed me up
and have not let my enemies triumph¹ over me.

² **O LORD my God, I cried¹ out to you,
and you restored¹ me to health.**

³ You brought me up, O LORD, ¹ from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down¹ to the grave.

⁴ **Sing praise to the LORD, ¹ all you faithful;
give thanks in ho-¹ly remembrance.**

⁵ God's wrath is short; God's favor¹ lasts a lifetime.

Weeping spends the night, but joy comes¹ in the morning.

⁶ **While I felt se-¹cure, I said,**

“I shall never | be disturbed.

⁷ You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong | as the mountains.”

Then you hid your face, and I was | filled with fear.

⁸ **I cried to | you, O LORD;**

I pleaded with | my Lord, saying,

⁹ “What profit is there in my blood, if I go down | to the pit?

Will the dust praise you or de- | clare your faithfulness?

¹⁰ **Hear, O LORD, and have mer- | cy upon me;**

O LORD, | be my helper.”

¹¹ You have turned my wailing | into dancing;

you have put off my sackcloth and clothed | me with joy.

¹² **Therefore my heart sings to you | without ceasing;**

O LORD my God, I will give you | thanks forever.

Second Reading: Revelation 5:11-14

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands,

¹² singing with full voice, “Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!” ¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, “To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!” ¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” And the elders fell down and worshiped.

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 21:1-19 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹ After he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem, Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.”

⁶ He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.” ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time

that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

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

Children's Message

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"#742

1. What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry ev'rything to God in prayer!

Oh, what peace we often forfeit; oh, what needless pain we bear -

all because we do not carry ev'rything to God in prayer!

2. Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged - take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness - take it to the Lord in prayer.

3. Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?

Precious Savior, still our refuge - take it to the Lord in prayer.

Do your friends despise, forsake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer.

In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.

*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**

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 the table under the mailboxes for use at home as you follow along with Communion. Please contact Pastor Peter if you'd like them delivered to you. Or, feel free to use your own wine/juice and bread from home.)

*Post Communion Blessing

*Communion Sending Prayer

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

*Sending Song: "Blessing and Honor".....#854

1. Blessing and honor and glory and pow'r, wisdom and riches and strength evermore,
be to the Lamb who our battle has won, whose are kingdom, the crown, and the throne;
whose are kingdom, the crown, and the throne!

2. Let all the heavens sound forth Jesus' name; let all the earth sing his glory and fame.
Ocean and mountain, stream, forest and flow'r echo his praises and tell of his pow'r;
echo his praises and tell of his pow'r.

3. Ever ascending the song and the joy, ever descending the love from on high;
blessing and honor and glory and praise - this is the theme of the hymns that we raise;
this is the theme of the hymns that we raise.

4. Give we the glory and praise to the Lamb! Take we the robe and the harp and the palm;
sing we the song of the Lamb who was slain, dying in weakness and rising to reign;
dying in weakness and rising to reign.

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

Postlude: *Christ the Lord is Ris'n Today*.....R. S. Morrison
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 Marie Buohl. 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.

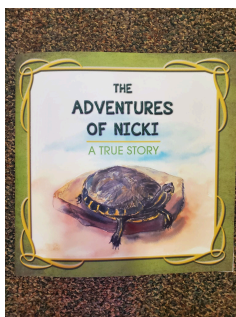
Special Events Happening Next Sunday on Mother's Day, May 11:

***All Women and Children Are Invited to Play A Song on the Colored Bells** at both services.

***Confirmation Sunday:** Wyatt Youndt will be sharing his Faith Statement in place of the sermon at both services. He will be confirmed at the 10:15 a.m. service.

***Recognition of Graduating High School Seniors:** Both services (Need to only come to one.)

***Nicki the (Famous) Turtle Special Event.** At 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, we are holding a very special event for all adults, children and families. Jeannie Aungst, the mother of Matt Aungst, Stacy Aungst and Theresa Trout, will be coming along with her famous 71 year-old turtle, Nicki! The Aungst family got Nicki as a small southern cooter turtle in a bowl many years ago, and she has since grown considerably and aged well! Nicki has since been featured in articles, in online website posts with 28 million views, and in many in-person presentations to groups, schools and pet stores. Her daughter Theresa wrote and published an illustrated childrens' book about the story of Nicki, entitled "The Adventures of Nicki: A True Story". Jeannie will read this story to everyone as well.



Cemetery Veterans Wreaths Project Contributions During May: In celebration of Memorial Day, a collection for the Veterans Wreath project in the Muddy Creek Cemetery will take place during the month of May. Decorated containers are provided for donations on the entryway tables. Wreaths will be purchased and laid on veterans graves in December. Checks can be made out to Muddy Creek Lutheran Church (re: Cemetery Wreaths). Currently there are 247 veterans buried in Muddy Creek Cemetery. Thank you for your donations!

Food Collection for Peter's Porch Today: Today (the first Sunday of the month), we are collecting food items for our local food pantry, Peter's Porch. Items may be placed in the marked bins in the entryways.

Farewell Luncheon For Pastor Peter and Family Next Sunday: Next Sunday, May 18 at 11:30 a.m. following the second service, all are invited to the Fellowship Hall for a Farewell Luncheon for Pastor Peter and his family. A sign up sheet to bring food will be posted on the table under the mailboxes. Pastor Peter will retire on May 31.

Attention Redner's Shoppers: Thank you for bringing in your receipts and placing them in the marked bins in the entryways. Our Good Samaritan Fund will receive \$75.00 for this quarter from Redner's. Please bring in the entire receipt. It cannot be used if it is cut.

Free 55+ Senior Event: The East Cocalico Lion's Club invites senior 55+ to a free afternoon of food and entertainment on Saturday, May 17th from 2-4 p.m. at the Reamstown Fire Hall. Please RSVP to Dwayne Atkinson at 717-676-0905 by Friday, May 9th.

The Altar Flowers Today are given by Dave and Julie Emrhein in honor of their 35th wedding anniversary.

The Sign Up for Altar Flower Sponsorships is on the table outside the Pastor's office. If you wish, you may sponsor flowers in honor or in memory of someone. Cost is \$45. Bulletins may also be sponsored in honor or memory of someone for \$15.

In Our Prayers: Gloria Aseli, Linny Ansel, Sandra Eager, Jane Enck, Ken Frazer, Molly Fritz, Cathleen Fuchs, Larry Gehman, Lisa Gehman, Fred Hainley, Pat Marino, the Martin family, Audrey Opra, Tom Riggle, Joanne Saylor, Mary Ann Seidel, Charlotte Shober, Walt Siegel, Bruce Spangler, Donald Steinmetz, Becky Thunberg, Philip Webber, Adam Wood

Attendance and Giving:

April 27: 8:00 a.m. - 21, 10:15 a.m. - 52, Online Views (includes livestream) - 28

Received through March: \$39,865.58 (includes \$6,103.53 of Qualified Charitable Distributions and \$500 of donations from a congregant's employer)

Expenses through March: \$44,259.96

Received on April 27: \$1,570.71 Received April to date: \$12,128.30

Worship Helpers Today:

8:00 am Communion Assistant - Karen Oglesby Bread Baker - Marliese Smith

10:15 a.m. Communion Assistant - Nancy Beck 10:15 am Acolyte - Malia Mancini

10:15 am Lay Reader – Brenda Berger 10:15 am Cantor - Gail Bare

10:15 am Money Counters - June and Neal Leid

10:15 AM Worship Helpers Next Sunday, May 11:

Acolyte - Malia Mancini

Lay Reader - Doris Rauch

Cantor - David Sensenig

Money Counters - Brad and Doris Rauch, Judy Nichol