

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 9:00 a.m. service will be livestreamed and posted today on our YouTube channel and our website.

7th Sunday After Pentecost, July 16, 2023, 9:00 a.m. – Online Edition
** = Please stand as you are able All congregational responses are in bold*

Welcome to Muddy Creek!
Announcements, Waving Hello
Prelude: *We Gather Together to Ask the Lord’s Blessing*.....Netherlands Melody

*Gathering Hymn: “We Plow the Fields and Scatter”#681

1. We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered by God’s almighty hand,
who sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain. (Refrain)
Refrain: All good gifts around us are sent from heav’n above.
We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.
2. You only are the maker of all things near and far.
You paint the wayside flower, you light the evening star.
The winds and waves obey you, by you the birds are fed;
much more to us, your children, you give our daily bread. (Refrain)
3. We thank you, our creator, for all things bright and good,
the seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food.
No gifts have we to offer for all your love imparts,
but what you most would treasure – our humble, thankful hearts. (Refrain)

*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 (“Glory to God in the highest...”).....page 139

L: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth.
C: **Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated**

at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*Prayer of the Day C: **Amen**

Special Music: *Stand Up, Stand Up For Jesus*.....performed by the Men's Chorus

First Reading: Isaiah 55:10-13

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, ¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. ¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

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

Psalm 65:9-13 (Congregational responses in bold)

⁹You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very plenteous; the river of God is ¹ full of water.

You prepare the grain, for so you provide ¹ for the earth.

¹⁰**You drench the furrows and smooth ¹ out the ridges; with heavy rain you soften the ground and ¹ bless its increase.**

¹¹You crown the year ¹ with your goodness, and your paths over- ¹ flow with plenty.

¹²**May the fields of the wilderness be ¹ rich for grazing, and the hills be ¹ clothed with joy.**

¹³May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak them- ¹ selves with grain; let them shout for ¹ joy and sing.

Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit

of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

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: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!"

¹⁸"Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

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

Children's Message

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: "On What Has Now Been Sown".....#550

1. On what has now been sown your blessing Lord, bestow;
the pow'r is yours alone to make it sprout and grow.
O Lord, in grace the harvest raise, and yours alone shall be the praise!

2. To you our wants are known, from you are all our pow'rs;
accept what is your own and pardon what is ours.
Our praises, Lord, and prayers receive and to your word a blessing give.

3. Oh, grant that each of us, now met before you here,
may meet together, thus when you and yours appear,
and follow you to heav'n our home. E'en so, Amen! Lord Jesus, come!

*The Apostles' Creed.....p. 105

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.

*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 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.

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

*Sending Song: "Praise and Thanksgiving".....#689

1. Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer for all things living, you have made good: harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard, hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.
2. God, bless the labor we bring to serve you, that with our neighbor we may be fed. Sowing or tilling, we would work with you, harvesting, milling for daily bread.
3. Father, providing food for your children, by Wisdom's guiding teach us to share one with another, so that, rejoicing with us, all others may know your care.
4. Then will your blessing reach ev'ry people, freely confessing your gracious hand. Where you are reigning, no one will hunger; your love sustaining showers the land.

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

Postlude: *Higher Ground*.....C. Gabriel

You are invited to stay for a time of fellowship, cookies and beverages in the sanctuary immediately following the service.

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!

Men's Chorus Today: At the 9 a.m. service today, all men are invited to come forward to sing a hymn in a Men's Chorus. No practice or singing experience is necessary, just come on up when Greg invites you!

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. We have a brand-new supply that just came in.

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

The Cookies and Beverages After The 9 AM Service This Morning are provided by Nedra Bearinger. Thanks so much!!

9 AM Fellowship Time/Coffee Ministry: You are invited to stay after the 9 am service today to enjoy cookies and beverages in the sanctuary!

Volunteers are needed to host future fellowship times. If you can help, please sign up on the sheet over at the fellowship table in the sanctuary. In a modified and easier format, we are suggesting you bring a light snack of cookies and a cold drink for the congregation to enjoy after the service. As well, you would be in charge of putting water into the Keurig coffee maker and turning it on. If you have any questions, please contact Audrey Noll at 717-336-3592.

Celebrating Children at Muddy Creek - Young Families: There is an “activity box” for children located under the ushers’ bench at the rear of the sanctuary. Children are always very welcome in worship here at Muddy Creek. We know that God put the wiggle in little children – don’t feel like you have to suppress it in God’s house! In the same manner, we also love to hear the voices of children during the service! So, please don’t worry about that either. If you have to leave with your child in the middle of the service, feel free to do so, but please come back! You are welcome to make use of the unstaffed nursery located on the lower level. It has lots of toys, a changing table, and you can also hear the audio from the service on the overhead speakers there. The presence of children is a gift to the church, and a reminder that Jesus proclaimed, “Let the children come unto me!”

Summer Family Fun and Ice Cream Evening: On Tuesday, July 25, from 5:45 p.m. – 7:15 p.m., all families with young children and elementary-aged children are invited to Muddy Creek for Summer Family Fun and Ice Cream Evening! Friends, families of friends, and grandparents are invited, too! We will start out in Fellowship Hall with hot dogs and ice cream. And then we’ll enjoy songs, a story, parachute play and coloring pages. We’ll end in the church Grove with outdoor play on the playground, including bubbles and water brushes.

Please let Pastor Peter (peter@mclchurch.org, 717-598-5095) know that you are coming and if you can bring any of the following: ice cream, cones, sprinkles, small bottles of water, or bubbles. See you for Summer Family Fun!

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. Contact: Yvonne Weaver at 717-371-6453. All are invited!

In our Prayers: Gloria Aseli, Dorothy Beam, Lydia Bearinger, Curtis Beck, Penny Bender, Pat Kagarise, Cecelia Lausch, Bill Lausch, Tina Lavrenchuk, Diane Leed, the Martin family, Katie McCalicher, Mary Miller, Charles Moyer, Jean Moyer, Paul Moyer, Betty Ramsey, Tom Riggie, Susan Siegel, Becky Thunberg, Lisa Yohn

Attendance and Giving:

Attendance July 9, 8:00 a.m. – 20, 9:00 a.m. – 43, Online at Muddy Creek YouTube - 14

Received through end of June: \$87,176.07

Expenses thru June: \$104,579.36

Received on July 9: \$4,326.00

Received July to date: \$6,067.30

Worship Helpers Today:

9 am Acolyte - Mason Sheaffer

9 am Lay Reader - Will Wood

9 am Cantor - Greg Gehman

9 am Money Counters - Linda Gerhart, Hollie Kemper

Worship Helpers Next Sunday, July 23

9 am Acolyte -

9 am Lay Reader - Doris Rauch

9 am Cantor - Hollie Kemper

9 am Money Counters - June and Neal Leid