

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.

8th Sunday After Pentecost, July 23, 2023, 9:00 a.m. – Online Version
** = Please stand as you are able All congregational responses are in bold*

Welcome to Muddy Creek!

Announcements, Waving Hello

Prelude: *Blessed Assurance*.....J. Peterson

*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 a Closer Walk With Thee”#697

Refrain: Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea;
daily walking close to thee, let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

- 1. I am weak, but thou art strong; Jesus, keep me from all wrong;
I’ll be satisfied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee. (Refrain)
- 2. Through this world of toil and snares, if I falter, Lord, who cares?
Who with me my burden shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee. (Refrain)
- 3. When my feeble life is o’er, time for me will be no more;
guide me gently, safely o’er to thy kingdom shore, to thy shore. (Refrain)

*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 (“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: *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* – Mixed Quartet (Gail Bare, Hollie Kemper, Greg Gehman, Dave Sensenig)

First Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first and I am the last; besides me there is no god. ⁷Who is like me? Let them proclaim it, let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. ⁸Do not fear, or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

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

Psalm 86:11-17 (Congregational responses in bold)

¹¹Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk | in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to re- | vere your name.

¹²**I will thank you, O Lord my God, with | all my heart,
and glorify your name for- | evermore.**

¹³For great is your | love toward me;
you have delivered me from the | pit of death.

¹⁴**The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people | seeks my life;
they have not set you be- | fore their eyes.**

¹⁵But you, O Lord, are gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger, and full of kind- | ness and truth.

¹⁶**Turn to me and have mer- | cy on me;
give your strength to your servant, and save the child | of your handmaid.**

¹⁷Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it
and be | put to shame;
because you, LORD, have helped me and com- | forted me.

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—

¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

¹⁸I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; ²⁰for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. 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 13:24-30 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²⁴Jesus put before the crowds another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; ²⁵but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. ²⁶So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹But he replied, ‘No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ” L: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children’s Message

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: “Lead Me, Guide Me”.....#768

Refrain: Lead me, guide me, along the way; for if you lead me, I will not stray.

Lord, let me walk each day with thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

1. I am weak and I need thy strength and pow’r to help me over my weakest hour.

Help me through the darkness thy face to see. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. (Refrain)

2. Help me tread in the paths of righteousness, be my aid when Satan and sin oppress.

I am putting all my trust in thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. (Refrain)

3. I am lost if you take your hand from me, I am blind without thy light to see.

Lord, just always let me thy servant be. Lead me, O Lord, lead me. (Refrain)

*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: "Blessed Assurance".....#638

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine.

Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood. (Refrain)

Refrain: This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long:
this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;

angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. (Refrain)

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,

watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. (Refrain)

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

Postlude: *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*.....A. Geibel

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!

Special Music Today: At the 9 a.m. service today, Gail Bare, Hollie Kemper, Greg Gehman and David Sensenig will be performing special music by singing as a quartet. Thank you Gail, Hollie, Greg and David!

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 Brenda Berger and Sandy Schutter. 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.

Summer Family Fun and Ice Cream Evening this Tuesday: This coming 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!

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!”

Next Sunday at Both Services, Terry Burkholder of Faith United Lutheran Church in Denver will be giving a talk during the announcements to thank the participants of Muddy Creek for our support of the Peter's Porch Food Bank ministry, operated out of Faith United.

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, Kim Craven, Pat Kagarise, Bill Lausch, Tina Lavrenchuk, Diane Leed, the Martin family, Katie McCalicher, Mary Miller, Charles Moyer, Jean Moyer, Paul Moyer, Betty Ramsey, Tom Riggle, Charlotte Shober, Susan Siegel, Rebecca Thunberg, Lisa Yohn

Attendance and Giving:

Attendance July 16, 8:00 a.m. – 21, 9:00 a.m. – 41, Online Views (YouTube, Facebook) – 21

Received through end of June: \$87,176.07

Expenses thru June: \$104,579.36

Received on July 16: \$2,180.55

Received July to date: \$8,247.85

Worship Helpers Today:

9 am Acolyte -

9 am Lay Reader - Doris Rauch

9 am Cantor - Hollie Kemper

9 am Money Counters - June and Neal Leid

Worship Helpers Next Sunday, July 30

9 am Acolyte -

9 am Lay Reader - Brenda Berger

9 am Cantor - Pastor Peter

9 am Money Counters - David and June Sloat