

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

9th Sunday After Pentecost, July 30, 2023, 9:00 a.m. – Online Edition
** = Please stand as you are able All congregational responses are in bold*

Welcome to Muddy Creek!

Announcements, Remarks by Terry Burkholder representing Peter’s Porch Food Bank,
Waving Hello

Prelude: *Come We That Love the Lord*.....A. Williams

*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: “My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”#597

1. My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness;
no merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus’ name. (Refrain)

Refrain: On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand.

2. When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
in ev’ry high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil. (Refrain)

3. His oath, his covenant, his blood sustain me in the raging flood;
when all supports are washed away, he then is all my hope and stay. (Refrain)

4. When he shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in him be found,
clothed in his righteousness alone, redeemed to stand before the throne! (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: *Give of Your Best to the Master*.....C. Barnard
Performed by Greg Gehman

First Reading: Isaiah 43:1, 4-7

But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine. ⁴Because you are precious in my sight and honored and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶I will say to the north, “Give them up,” and to the south, “Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—
⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

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

Psalm 119:129-136 (Congregational responses in bold)

¹²⁹Your de- | crees are wonderful;

therefore I obey them with | all my heart.

¹³⁰**When your word is opened | it gives light;**
it gives understanding | to the simple.

¹³¹I open my | mouth and pant
because I long for | your commandments.

¹³²**Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,**
as you always do to those who | love your name.

¹³³Order my footsteps | in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion | over me.

¹³⁴**Rescue me from those | who oppress me,**
and I will keep | your commandments.

¹³⁵Let your face shine up- | on your servant
and teach | me your statutes.

¹³⁶**My eyes shed | streams of tears,
because people do not | keep your teaching.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

²⁶The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

³¹What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³²He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. ³⁵Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ³⁶As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." ³⁷No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. 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 13:31-33, 44-52 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³¹Jesus put before the crowds another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;³²it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches."

³³He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened."

⁴⁴"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

⁴⁷"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹"Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." ⁵²And he said to

them, “Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

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

Children’s Message
Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: “O Savior, Precious Savior”.....#820

1. O Savior, precious Savior, whom yet unseen we love; O name of might and favor, all other names above; we worship thee; we bless thee; to thee alone we sing; we praise thee and confess thee, our holy Lord and King.
2. O bringer of salvation, who wondrously hast wrought, thyself the revelation of love beyond our thought: we worship thee; we bless thee; to thee alone we sing; we praise thee and confess thee, our gracious Lord and King.
3. In thee all fullness dwelleth, all grace and pow’r divine; the glory that excelleth, O Son of God, is thine. We worship thee; we bless thee; to thee alone we sing; we praise thee and confess thee, our glorious Lord and King.
4. Oh, grant the consummation of this our song above, in endless adoration and everlasting love; then shall we praise and bless thee where perfect praises ring, and evermore confess thee, our Savior and our King!

*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: “Go, My Children, with My Blessing”.....#543

1. “Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone. Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own. In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.”
2. “Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure. Here you learned how much I love you, you are my own. Here you heard my dear Son’s story, here you touched him, saw his glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure.”
3. “Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me. Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free. Here my Spirit’s power filled you, here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.”

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

Postlude: *Praise Him Now*.....J. Peterson
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!

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.

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

New: Scan this QR Code to Donate Offering to Muddy Creek

Muddy Creek now has a new QR code that you can scan to easily connect and give offering to the church. Here it is:



Today 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. Welcome, Terry!

Next Sunday, (the first Sunday of the month), we are collecting food for our local Peter's Porch Food Bank. Items may be placed in the marked bins at the entryways. Thanks!

Special Music Today: At the 9 a.m. service today, Greg Gehman will be performing special music. Thank you, Greg!

The Cookies and Beverages After The 9 AM Service This Morning are provided by Russ and Nancy Beck. 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.

The Sign Up for Flower Sponsorships on Sundays 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.

Trophies on Display Downstairs: During the month of August, historic trophies are on display in the downstairs hallway outside the history room. These trophies were all won by teams from Muddy Creek competing in church leagues in Bowling, Softball, and Dartball (throwing darts at a picture of a baseball diamond to score runs). Maybe you even competed on one of these teams? A listing of the trophies is found on each table downstairs and in the sanctuary on the table under the mailboxes.

Beginning in September, you are free to take any trophy that you'd like (first come, first serve). The trophies have been photographed for posterity. Our thanks to Judy Nichol, the Cemetery Board and our janitors Linda and Brenda Berger for cleaning up the history room!

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 23, 8:00 a.m. – 30, 9:00 a.m. – 51, Online Views (YouTube, Facebook) – 44

Received through end of June: \$87,176.07

Expenses thru June: \$104,579.36

Received on July 23: \$2,145.00

Received July to date: \$10,392.85

Worship Helpers Today:

9 am Acolyte -

9 am Lay Reader - Brenda Berger

9 am Cantor - Pastor Peter

9 am Money Counters - David and June Sloat

Worship Helpers Next Sunday, August 6

8 am Communion Assistant - Scott Strickland

9 am Communion Assistant and Acolyte - Stacy Aungst

9 am Lay Reader – Nancy Beck 9 am Cantor - David Sensenig

9 am Money Counters - Michelle Dimitris, Jim Weber, Jane Wenger

Bread Baker - Marliese Smith