

# 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.

*12<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost, August 20, 2023, 9:00 a.m.*

\* = Please stand as you are able      All congregational responses are in **bold**

*Welcome to Muddy Creek!*

(8:55 a.m.) Prelude: *Trumpet Tune*.....P. Fey  
Announcements, Waving Hello

\*Gathering Hymn: “How Great Thou Art” (verses 1 and 2).....#856

1. O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the works thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder, thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed;  
**Refrain:** Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!  
2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander, I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;  
(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.**

\*Canticle 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    L: God of all people, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
C: **Amen**

Special Music - *How Great Thou Art*

Piano and Organ duet performed by Esther Palmateer (piano) and Greg Gehman (pipe organ)

First Reading: Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

1Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. 6And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant— 7these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. 8Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered. L: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 67 (Congregational responses in bold)

1May God be merciful to | us and bless us;  
may the light of God's face | shine upon us.

**2Let your way be known | upon earth,  
your saving health a- | mong all nations.**

3Let the peoples praise | you, O God;  
let all the | peoples praise you.

**4Let the nations be glad and | sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity and guide all the na- | tions on earth.**

5Let the peoples praise | you, O God;  
let all the | peoples praise you.

**6The earth has brought | forth its increase;  
God, our own | God, has blessed us.**

7May God | give us blessing,  
and may all the ends of the earth | stand in awe.

Second Reading: Romans 11, 1-2a, 29-32

Paul writes: 1I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. 2aGod has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. 29For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. 30Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, 31so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. 32For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

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 15:21-28 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

21Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. 22Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." 23But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." 24He answered,

“I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” 25But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” 26He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” 27She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” 28Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

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

### Sermon

\*Hymn of the Day: “There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy” .....#588

1. There’s a wideness in God’s mercy, like the wideness of the sea;  
there’s a kindness in God’s justice which is more than liberty.  
There is no place where earth’s sorrows are more felt than up in heav’n.  
There is no place where earth’s failings have such kindly judgment giv’n.

2. There is welcome for the sinner, and a promised grace made good;  
there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.  
There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this;  
there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.

3. For the love of God is broader than the measures of our mind;  
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.  
But we make this love too narrow by false limits of our own;  
and we magnify its strictness with a zeal God will not own.

4. ‘Tis no all we owe to Jesus; it is something more than all:  
greater good because of evil, larger mercy through the fall.  
Make our love, O God, more faithful; let us take you at your word,  
and our lives will be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.

\*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, [melchurch.org](http://melchurch.org), “Give Online” button on the home page. Or you can scan the following QR code with the camera on your cellphone as an easy way to give to the General Fund or other funds at Muddy Creek, and to Disaster Response and World Relief.)



\*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 art in heaven, hallowed be 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    L: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor, and give you peace.

C: **Amen** (sung response)

\*Sending Song: “God Be with You Till We Meet Again”.....#536

1. God be with you till we meet again; by good counsels guide, uphold you,  
with a shepherd’s care enfold you; God be with you till we meet again. (Refrain)

**Refrain:** Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus’ feet;

till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.

2. God be with you till we meet again; holy wings securely hide you.

daily manna still provide you; God be with you till we meet again. (Refrain)

3. God be with you till we meet again; when life’s perils thick confound you,  
put unfailing arms around you; God be with you till we meet again. (Refrain)

\*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!

**A Special Welcome and Thank You This Morning to Pastor Bob Kramer** for generously being willing to fill in and lead services while Pastor Peter is on vacation. Pastor Peter will be back on Tuesday morning. Pastor Sandy Gideon (717-484-1172) is covering pastoral emergencies until then.

#### **Note 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.

**The Cookies and Beverages After The 9 AM Service This Morning** are provided by Marie Buehl. 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.

**School Kit Item Collection:** From now until Sept. 10, we are collecting items for school kits to send to children in the developing world through Lutheran World Relief. Please see the newsletter for items. Items may be placed in the marked bins in the sanctuary by the mailboxes.

**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.

**Want to Give a Prayer Shawl? Easier Now Than Ever!** A bin of prayer shawls (as well as bags of children's shawls) is now located in the sanctuary under the mailboxes. This is to make it easier to take one at any time to give to someone you know who might need the warm embrace of God's love and our prayers along with it. It is also no longer necessary to sign the clipboard to take a shawl. Just take one or more shawls at any time!

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!

**Free "Live Generously" T-Shirts** from Thrivent are available over by the mailboxes.

**The Bulletins This Morning** are given by Kathleen Ebling in honor of all August birthdays. (P.S. Happy Birthday from us to Kathleen tomorrow for her own birthday!)

**Give to Ephrata Area Social Services (EASS) to Support Families Displaced by Aug. 8 Fire:** EASS is coordinating the response to help the 12 Ephrata families who were displaced by the apartment complex fire on Aug. 8. Financial donations are being requested through the EASS link: <https://www.mygiving.net/campaign/Assist-Fire-Victims>. These funds will go towards assisting with hotel stays, security deposits, clothing and household goods, and short term and long term aid.

**You May Give to Lutheran Disaster Response** to help the victims of the Maui wildfire through “Lutheran Disaster Response” by either indicating on your offering or through the “Give Online” button of the church website (mclchurch.org), followed by clicking on the “Domestic Disaster Response” link. You can also get there by scanning the QR code in this bulletin.

**Three More Volunteers Are Needed** to help on an Outdoor Church Property Team to do occasional light outdoor work at Muddy Creek. Please contact Property Chairperson Tim Fritz at [tfritz1947@gmail.com](mailto:tfritz1947@gmail.com), 717-335-0776 if you can help.

**In our Prayers:** Gloria Aseli, Dorothy Beam, Lydia Bearinger, Curtis Beck, Tom Carretta, Kim Craven, Pat Kagarise, Bill Lausch, Tina Lavrenchuk, the Martin family, Katie McCalicher, Mary Miller, Charles Moyer, Jean Moyer, Paul Moyer, Betty Ramsey, Tom Riggle, Susan and Walt Siegel, Rebecca Thunberg, Sev Yerger, Lisa Yohn

**Attendance and Giving:**

Attendance Aug. 13, 8:00 a.m. – 18, 9:00 a.m. – 49, Online Views (YouTube, Facebook) – 48  
 Received through end of July: \$100,878.76      Expenses thru July: \$119,762.35  
 Received on Aug. 13: \$2,161.00      Received Aug. to date: \$8,381.30

**Worship Helpers Today**

9 am Acolyte - Mason Sheaffer      9 am Lay Reader - Jill Youndt  
 9 am Cantor - Greg Gehman      9 am Money Counters - Linda and Tim Fritz

**Worship Helpers Next Sunday, August 27**

9 am Acolyte - Sophia Dimitris      9 am Lay Reader - Joe Sanchez  
 9 am Cantor - Hollie Kemper      9 am Money Counters - Gail and Ted Bare

**New:** Scan this QR code with the camera on your cellphone to easily donate offering to the General Fund or other funds at Muddy Creek, and to Disaster Response and World Relief. Here it is:

