

Muddy Creek Lutheran Church

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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.

15th Sunday After Pentecost, September 1, 2024, 9:00 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.)

Welcome to Muddy Creek!
Announcements, Good Morning/Waving Hello
Prelude: *It is Well With My Soul*.....J. Linker
*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: “O Jesus, I Have Promised”#810

1. O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; remain forever near me, my master and my friend. I shall not fear the battle if you are by my side, nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.
2. Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ever near. I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear. My foes are ever near me, around me and within; but, Jesus, then draw nearer to shield my soul from sin.
3. Oh, let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still above the storm of passions, the murmurs of self-will. Now speak to reassure me, to hasten or control; now speak and make me listen, O Guardian of my soul.
4. O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you that where you are in glory your servant shall be too. And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end; oh, give me grace to follow, my master and my friend.

*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 (“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 L: O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in all its need with the life that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. C: **Amen**

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

First Reading: Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

¹So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the LORD, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. ²You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the LORD your God with which I am charging you. ⁶You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!” ⁷For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the LORD our God is whenever we call to him? ⁸And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today? ⁹But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children’s children.

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

Psalm 15 (Congregational responses in bold)

¹LORD, who may dwell in your ¹ tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your ¹ holy hill?

²**Those who lead a blameless life and do ¹ what is right, who speak the truth ¹ from their heart;**

³they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil ¹ to their friends; they do not cast discredit up- ¹ on a neighbor.

⁴In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who | fear the LORD.

They have sworn upon their health and do not take | back their word.

⁵They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes a- | gainst the innocent.

Those who do these things shall never be | overthrown

Second Reading: James 1:17-27

¹⁷Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures. ¹⁹You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; ²⁰for your anger does not produce God's righteousness. ²¹Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls. ²²But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. ²³For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; ²⁴for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. ²⁵But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. ²⁶If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. ²⁷Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

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: Mark 7:1-8, 14-15 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

¹Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around Jesus, ²they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. ³(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; ⁴and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) ⁵So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" ⁶He said to them, "Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honors me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me; ⁷in vain do they worship me, teaching human precepts as doctrines.' ⁸You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition." ¹⁴Then he called the crowd again and said to them, "Listen to me, all of you, and understand: ¹⁵there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile. L: The gospel of the Lord. C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Children's Message

Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: "Change My Heart, O God"#801

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

You are the potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

You are the potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me; this is what I pray.

Change my heart, O God; make it ever true. Change my heart, O God, may I be like you.

*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 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.

Distribution of Communion/ Participating from home

(Note for online followers – Prefilled grape juice and wafer kits are available from Pastor Peter at any time for use at home as you follow along with Communion from home. Just email, call, or talk to Pastor Peter to get some. Or, if you wish, you may use wine/grape juice and bread from your home.)

*Post Communion Blessing

*Communion Sending Prayer

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

*Sending Song: "Savior, Again to Your Dear Name".....#534

1. Savior, again to your dear name we raise with one accord our parting hymn of praise;

once more we bless you ere our worship cease, then, lowly bending, wait your word of peace.
 2. Grant us your peace upon our homeward way; with you began, with you shall end the day;
 guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame, that in this house have called upon your name.
 3. Grant us your peace, Lord, through the coming night; for us transform its darkness into light.
 Keep us from harm and danger till the dawn; your evening presence promise to your own.
 4. Grant us your peace throughout our earthly life, our balm in sorrow, and our stay in strife;
 then, when your voice shall bid our conflict cease, call us, O Lord, to your eternal peace.

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

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

Announcements

Happy Labor Day Weekend!

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 plate 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, melchurch.org, "Give Online" button on the home page.

Collection of School Supplies (Notebooks, Pens and Rulers) and Soap Bars Ends Next Sunday: Please bring in school supply items and bars of soap for the Lutheran World Relief Ingathering and place them in the marked bin by church mailboxes. Due to your past generosity and surplus leftovers, this year will only be focusing on collecting spiral notebooks, pens and rulers. The collection ends next Sunday, Sept. 8th. We will be assembling the school kits after the 10:15 a.m. service on Sept. 15. Thanks for bringing in items!

Thank You to All Who Brought in Food Items Today (the First Sunday of the Month) for our Local Food Pantry, Peter's Porch! You may place your donations in the marked bins at any of the church entrances.

The Fall Worship Schedule Begins Next Sunday with services at 8:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. and Christian Education and Sunday School at 9:00 a.m.

Volunteer Fair and Muddy Creek T-Shirt Sunday Next Sunday! After each service next service, we will have a Volunteer Fair in the sanctuary to give you more information about volunteer opportunities at Muddy Creek. Each committee will have a booth. Also, please wear your Muddy Creek t-shirt on this Sunday if you have one. Free ones will be provided for anyone who doesn't have one and would like one!

Sunday School, Jesus ‘n Me Playgroup Begins Next Sunday! All children are invited to Sunday School, which begins at 9:00 a.m. in the Sunday School Room. Also next Sunday, babies, toddlers and preschoolers and their parents are invited to the Jesus ‘n Me Playgroup at 9:00 a.m. in the nursery for the theme “God Made Me”. On Sundays when there is no Jesus ‘n Me Playgroup (it is only on the 2nd Sunday of the month), all preschoolers and toddlers are invited to join the K-6th kids in the Sunday School class!

Adult Forum on Sunday, September 15: “Prophets of Justice” - All adults are invited to come to the Fellowship Hall on Sun. Sept. 15 at 9 a.m. for an Adult Forum. Led by Pastor Peter, we will have a Bible Study on Amos and Micah, the “Prophets of Justice”. We will explore these famous books as they speak God’s word of justice and compassion to us about the poor and the oppressed in society!

Check Out the Updated History Display Case in the Sanctuary! Thank you to the Archive Task Force of Gail and Ted Bare, Julie and Dave Emrhein, Marleise Emrhein and Pastor Peter for updating the history display case in the sanctuary by the church mailboxes. The Task Force is continuing to catalog and organize the items in the Archive Room, and is also working on an additional history display case in the downstairs hallway across from the Archive Room.

Coming Up in September:

Sunday, Sept. 8 - Fall Worship Schedule begins with services at 8:00 and 10:15 a.m.

- Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. begins
- Volunteer Fair at Muddy Creek after both services
- Muddy Creek T-Shirt Sunday (wear yours if you already have one, free ones available for those who have not yet received one)
- Jesus ‘n Me Playgroup: “God Made Me”
- Last day of collection of school kit supplies and soap

Sunday, Sept. 15 - School Kit Assembly after the 10:15 a.m. service

- Adult Forum: “Prophets of Justice”

Sunday, Sept. 22 - Harvest Home Sunday

In-Person Meetings of the Prayer Shawl Knitting Group have been suspended for the time being. Knitters will continue to make prayer shawls from their homes. Thank you, knitters!

The Altar Flowers Today are given in memory of Kathryn Berger by Linda and Brenda Berger.

The Sign Up for Altar Flower Sponsorships 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.

In Our Prayers: Gloria Aseli, Linny Ansel, Dorothy Beam, Addison Butch Ebbert, Charlie Fisher, Sara and Ken Frazer, Molly Fritz, Helen Martin, Josephine Martin, the Martin family, Katie McCalicher, Charles Moyer, Paul Moyer, Tom and Audrey Riggie, Joanne Saylor, Mary Ann Seidel, Susan Siegel, Donald Steinmetz, Becky Thunberg

Attendance and Giving:

Received through end of July: \$146,295.75

Expenses thru July: \$119,134.00

Worship Helpers Today:

8 am Communion Assistant - Scott Strickland

9 am Communion Assistant and Acolyte -

9 am Lay Reader – Lynn Breidenstein 9 am Cantor - Greg Gehman

9 am Money Counters - Linda and Tim Fritz Bread Baker - Marliese Smith

9 AM Worship Helpers Next Sunday, Sept. 8th:

Acolyte - Jack Lammey Lay Reader - Fred Hainley

Cantor - Pastor Peter Money Counters - Julie and David Emrhein, Kim Eshleman