

Muddy Creek Lutheran Church

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Website: www.mcchurch.org. Follow us on Facebook and our Muddy Creek Lutheran YouTube Channel.
The 10:15 a.m. service will be livestreamed and posted today on our YouTube channel and our website.

15th Sunday After Pentecost, September 10, 2023, 10:15 a.m. - Online Edition
** = Please stand as you are able All congregational responses are in bold*

Welcome to Muddy Creek!

Announcements, Waving Hello

Prelude: *Tocatta on "Built on the Rock"*arr. G. Young
*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: "Built on a Rock" v. 1-4.....#652

1. Built on a rock the church shall stand, even when steeples are falling;
crumbled have spires in ev'ry land, bells still are chiming and calling -
calling the young and old to rest, calling the souls of those distressed,
longing for life everlasting.
2. Surely, in temples made with hands God the Most High is not dwelling -
high in the heav'ns his temple stands, all earthly temples excelling.
Yet God who dwells in heav'n above deigns to abide with us in love,
making our bodies his temple.
3. Christ builds a house of living stones: we are his own habitation;
he fills our hearts, his humble thrones, granting us life and salvation.
Where two or three will seek his face, he in their midst would show his grace,
blessings upon them bestowing.
4. Yet in his house, an earthly frame, Jesus the children is blessing;
hither we come to praise his name, faith in our Savior confessing.
Jesus to us his Spirit sent, making with us his covenant,
granting his children the kingdom.

*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: *Blessed Assurance* (Piano/Organ Duet by Greg Gehman).....arr. J. Linker

First Reading: Ezekiel 33:7-11

⁷So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. ⁸If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. ⁹But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

¹⁰Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” ¹¹Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel? L: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 119:33-40 (Congregational responses in bold)

³³Teach me, O LORD, the way^l of your statutes,
and I shall keep it^l to the end.

³⁴**Give me understanding, and I shall^l keep your teaching;
I shall keep it with^l all my heart.**

³⁵Lead me in the path of^l your commandments,
for that is^l my desire.

³⁶**Incline my heart to^l your decrees**

and not to | unjust gain.

³⁷Turn my eyes from be- | holding falsehood;
give me life | in your way.

³⁸**Fulfill your promise | to your servant,
which is for | those who fear you.**

³⁹Turn away the reproach | that I dread,
because your judg- | ments are good.

⁴⁰**Behold, I long for | your commandments;
by your righteousness en- | liven me.**

Second Reading: Romans 13:8-14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; ¹³let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

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 18:15-20 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus said to the disciples: ¹⁵“If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. ¹⁶But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

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

Sermon

Children’s Message

*Hymn of the Day: “Blest Be the Tie That Binds”.....#656

1. Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the unity of heart and mind is like to that above.
2. Before our Father’s throne we pour our ardent prayers;

our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

3. We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear,
and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

4. From sorrow, toil and pain, and sin we shall be free;
and perfect love and friendship reign through all eternity.

*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, or you can scan the following QR code with the camera on your cellphone as an easy way to give offering to Muddy Creek or Disaster 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 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: "Let All Things Now
Living".....#881

1. Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God the creator triumphantly raise, who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, who still guides us on to the end of our days. God's banners are o'er us, God's light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night, till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished, as forward we travel from light into light.

2. God rules all the forces: the stars in their courses and sun in its orbit obediently shine; the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine. We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing; with glad adoration a song let us raise

till all things now living unite in thanksgiving: “To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!”

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

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

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!

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.

Fall Worship Schedule Resumes Today: Today, the Fall Schedule begins again with a worship service at 8 am, Sunday School at 9 am, and a worship service at 10:15 a.m.

Sunday School, Jesus ‘n Me Playgroup Resume Today: Sunday School resumes today at 9 a.m. Also, today at 9 am, the Jesus ‘n Me Playgroup for all babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their parents will meet in the nursery to have its first monthly playgroup of the school year. The theme is “The Little Lost Lamb.”

10:15 AM Fellowship Time/Coffee Ministry: You are invited to stay after the 10:15 am service today to enjoy cookies and beverages in the sanctuary! **Thank you** today to Brenda Berger and Pat Brendle for providing the refreshments. If you would be willing to provide refreshments following an upcoming service, please sign up on the pad on the table. If you have questions, please contact Audrey Noll at 717-3367-3592.

School Kit Item Collection Deadline Today: Thank you to all who have been bringing in items for the school kit collection to send to children in the developing world through Lutheran World Relief. Today is the deadline to bring in items.

School Kit Assembly Next Sunday: As part of “God’s Work, Our Hands” Sunday next week, Sept. 17, you are invited to stay in the sanctuary following the 10:15 a.m. service to help assemble the school kits which we are sending to Lutheran World Relief.

Adult Forum Next Sunday: At 9 am next Sunday, Sept. 17, you are invited to an Adult Forum in the Fellowship Hall. It will showcase the local “Blessings of Hope” food ministry, started by excommunicated Amish families. It has now blossomed into a ministry which repackages perfectly good food which would all normally go directly into landfills, utilizing 30,000 local volunteers, and giving the equivalent of 2 million meals a month to food banks and disaster relief. Come and learn about this fascinating ministry!

Sign Up to Volunteer Repackaging Food at “Blessings of Hope” on Sat. Sept. 23: Sign up now on the clipboard under the mailboxes to volunteer with Muddy Creek at the Blessings of

Hope Warehouse on Saturday, Sept. 23. Group size is limited to 20 people. We will carpool from Muddy Creek leaving at 8 am, or else you may meet directly at 500 Becker Rd at 8:15 am. Our shift is 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. This volunteer opportunity is sponsored by our Social Ministry Committee.

Next Sunday: Food Collection for Harvest Home: Please bring in food items next Sunday, Sept. 17, for the Harvest Home Display on Sept. 24. Any canned food items are appreciated, and additional items are listed in the September newsletter. These items will all be given to the local Peter's Porch Food Bank following Harvest Home. All items may be placed in the bins in the entryways.

You Are Invited to the First Choir Practice of the Year on Thursday, Sept. 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Loft. All are invited to sing in the choir!

The Altar Flowers Today are given in memory of J. Stanley and Arwilda Leid by Peggy Leid and the Leid family.

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.

Free Trophies Downstairs: Beginning today through the end of the month, feel free to take home any of the trophies that have been on display in the downstairs hallway outside the Archive 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? Anyone is welcome to take any trophy.

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 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 Sept. 3, 8:00 a.m. – 16, 9:00 a.m. – 40, Online Views – 39

Received through end of July: \$100,878.76

Expenses thru July: \$119,762.35

Received on Sept. 3: \$5,158.05

Received Sept. to date: \$5,158.05

Worship Helpers Today

10:15 am Acolyte - Grace Youndt

10:15 am Lay Reader - Will Wood

10:15 am Cantor - David Sensenig

10:15 am Money Counters - Jeanette and Mike Leid

Worship Helpers Next Sunday, Sept. 17

10:15 am Acolyte -

10:15 am Lay Reader - Lynn Breidenstein

10:15 am Cantor - Gail Bare

10:15 am Money Counters - Marie Buohl, Connie Hoover, David Sensenig