

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.

18th Sunday After Pentecost, September 29, 2024, 10:15 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: *Pastorale on “Christians, We Have Met to Worship”*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: “Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness”#843

1. Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light;
prais the One who frees the pris’ners, turning blindness into sight.
Praise the One who preached the gospel, healing ev’ry dread disease,
calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.
2. Praise the one who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word;
praise the One who drove out demons with a piercing, two-edged sword.
Praise the One who brings cool water to the desert’s burning sand;
from this well comes living water quenching thirst in ev’ry land.
3. Praise the one true love incarnate: Christ, who suffered in our place;
Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace.
Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done.
Praise the one redeeming glory; praise the One who makes us one.

*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 C: **Amen**

First Reading: Jeremiah 11:18-20

¹⁸It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds.

¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, “Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!” ²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause. L: The word of the Lord. C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 54 (Congregational responses in bold)

¹Save me, O God, **by your name;**
in your might, de- **fend my cause.**

²**Hear my prayer, O God;**
give ear to the words of my mouth.

³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have **sought my life,**
those who have no re- **gard for God.**

⁴**Behold, God is my helper;**
it is the Lord who sus- tains my life.

⁵Render evil to those who **spy on me;**
in your faithful- **ness, destroy them.**

⁶**I will offer you a freewill sacrifice**
and praise your name, O LORD, for it is good.

⁷For you have rescued me from **every trouble,**

and my eye looks down¹ on my enemies.

Second Reading: James 3:13 - 4:3, 7-8a

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace. ^{4:1}Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ^{8a}Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

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 9:30-37 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁰Jesus and the disciples went on and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him.

³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

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

Children's Message
Sermon

*Hymn of the Day: "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service".....#712

1. Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of humans need,
who, upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed:
we, your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart;
consecrating to your purpose ev'ry gift which you impart.
2. Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,
by your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.
3. As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light

in its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,
making known the needs and burdens your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.

4. Call by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go,
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in livings deeds to show;
hope and health, goodwill and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know and live.

*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**

*Lord's Prayer.....page 145

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

*Sending Song: "Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing".....#545

1. Lord, dismiss us with your blessing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.

Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us, trav'ling through this wilderness.

2. Thanks we give and adoration for your gospel's joyful sound.

May the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound.

Ever faithful, ever faithful to your truth may we be found.

3. Savior, when your love shall call us from our struggling pilgrim way,

let no fear of death appall us, glad your summons to obey.

May we ever, may we ever reign with you in endless day.

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

Postlude: *Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*.....A. Geibel
Immediately following the 10:15 a.m. service, you are invited to stay in the sanctuary for a time
of fellowship and refreshments, courtesy today of Marie Buohl and Connie Hoover. Thanks!

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 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.

Sign Up to Repackage Food at Blessings of Hope on Mon. Oct. 21: Muddy Creek's Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring a volunteer opportunity on Mon. Oct. 21 from 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. We will repackage food at the Blessings of Hope warehouse, 500 Becker Rd., Leola (actually Brownstown/Oregon). If you are interested, please sign up on the clipboard under the mailboxes or contact Pastor Peter. Our group size is limited to 25 people, so please sign up now! We will meet at the warehouse at 6:15 p.m.! Come volunteer!

Community Hymn Sing with the Lancaster Chapter of the American Guild of Organists - Today at 7:00 PM: You are invited to a Community Hymn Sing today at 7:00 p.m. at Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, 3131 Columbia Ave, Lancaster. Come, sing, and enjoy creative hymn tune arrangements by members of the Lancaster Organist Guild, of which our own Director of Music, Greg Gehman, is a member. Admission is free.

Jesus 'n Me Playgroup Next Sunday: "Thank you God for Pets": You are invited to bring your family pets to the Jesus 'n Me Playgroup next Sunday, Oct. 6 at 9:00 a.m. in the church nursery. All preschoolers, toddlers and babies and their parents and grandparents are invited. We will celebrate the many animal friends God has given us and sing songs such as "God made the fish", and other favorites. Jesus 'n Me will now normally be held on the first Sunday of each month (please note the change). On Nov. 3, we'll celebrate Thanksgiving with "Thank You God for Food."

Sunday School for all preschoolers to Grade 6 continues today and every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. in the Sunday School room.

Our Monthly Food Collection For Peter's Porch Will be Next Sunday, Oct. 6 (the first Sunday of the month). Food items may be placed in any of the marked bins in the entrances. Peter's Porch is our local food pantry, operated out of Faith United Lutheran Church in Denver. Food is distributed and a free hot breakfast is served from 8-10 a.m. on the first Sunday of every month. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Pastor Peter or Faith United Church.

Dave Emrhein to Present on "Medical Ethics" at Oct. 20th Adult Forum: On Sunday, October 20th at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall, Dave Emrhein will present on the topic of "Medical Ethics". Dave, a long-time participant at Muddy Creek, is a medical ethicist at a hospital. We are honored that he is willing to share about his work and about the fascinating and unique challenges posed by everyday medical situations in terms of ethical considerations. Come to the Adult Forum! Everyone is invited!

Pastor Peter Will Be on Vacation This Week: Pastor Peter will be gone on vacation this week from tomorrow (Monday, Sept. 30) until this coming Saturday (Oct. 5th). In case of pastoral emergencies during this time, please contact Pastor Sandy Gideon at 717-484-1172.

Sign Up for the Upcoming Disaster Relief Mission Trip on April 6-12, 2025! Planning Meeting is on Sunday, Nov. 3 at 2 pm at Luther Acres: If you are interested in participating in the upcoming Disaster Relief Mission Trip, April 6-12, 2025, please come to the planning meeting on Sunday, Nov. 3 at 2:00 p.m. in the Community Room at Luther Acres, 600 E. Main St in Lititz (the Community Room is on St. John's Circle - follow the signs), or contact Pastor Glenn Beard at GBeard@luthercare.org. The participants of this yearly mission trip come from local Lutheran (and a few other) churches in Lancaster County and in our synod.

If You Would Like to Donate to Mason Sheaffer's Eagle Scout Project to Upgrade Muddy Creek's Playground, you may do so by going to his GoFundMe page at <https://gofund.me/543e2b2f>, or you may scan the following QR code. Any extra funds will be given back to the church as a donation. Thank you so much, Mason!

Scan to donate



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 by Jane Wenger in honor of Colleen Oberholtzer's birthday.

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.

You are Invited to the Property Committee Meeting on October 23: Everyone is invited to a reorganizational meeting of the Property Committee on Wed. Oct. 23 at 3:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you to the many people who already volunteered to serve on the Property Committee and to the numerous people who volunteered to help with property tasks through the survey and at the Volunteer Fair. We appreciate it so much! All interested people are invited to come on Oct. 23!

Upcoming Choir Practice Schedule: You are invited to come practice with the choir on selected Thursday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the choir loft in the sanctuary. Upcoming practices are:

Thurs. Oct. 10 (singing in church on Sun. Oct. 13)
 Thurs. Oct. 24 (singing in church on Sun. Oct. 27 - Reformation Sunday)
 Thurs. Nov. 7 (singing in church on Sun. Nov. 10)
 Thurs. Nov. 21 (singing in church on Sun. Nov. 24)

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

Attendance and Giving:

Attendance Sept. 22: 8:00 a.m. - 25, 10:15 a.m. - 58, Online views (includes livestream) - 33
 Received through end of August: \$158,166.36 Expenses thru August: \$133,901.02
 Received on Sept. 22: \$2,962.75 Received Sept. to date: \$11,761.55

10:15 AM Worship Helpers Today:

Acolyte - Lay Reader - Nancy Beck
 Cantor - Gail Bare Money Counters - Marie Buohl, Connie Hoover, David Sensenig

Worship Helpers Next Sunday, Oct. 6:

8:00 am Communion Assistant - Judy Dengler
 10:15 am Communion Assistant and Acolyte - Kelby Weaver
 10:15 am Lay Reader – Hollie Kemper
 10:15 am Cantor - Greg Gehman
 10:15 am Money Counters - Brad and Doris Rauch
 Bread Baker - Marliese Smith