

# 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.

*14<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Pentecost, September 3, 2023, 9:00 a.m. - Online Edition*  
*\* = Please stand as you are able      All congregational responses are in bold*

*Welcome to Muddy Creek!*

Announcements, Waving Hello

Prelude: *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*.....Spanish Melody

\*Confession and Forgiveness .....pages 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 and Thanksgiving”.....#689

1. Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer for all things living, you have made good: harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard, hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.
2. God, bless the labor we bring to serve you, that with our neighbor we may be fed. Sowing or tilling, we would work with you, harvesting, milling for daily bread.
3. Father, providing food for your children, by Wisdom’s guiding teach us to share one with another, so that, rejoicing with us, all others may know your care.
4. Then will your blessing reach ev’ry people, freely confessing your gracious hand. Where you are reigning, no one will hunger; your love sustaining showers the land.

\*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 (“This is the feast...”).....page 140

**Refrain:** This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.

(Refrain)

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his. (Refrain)

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)

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. (Refrain)

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

First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

<sup>15</sup>O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult.

<sup>16</sup>Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. <sup>17</sup>I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. <sup>18</sup>Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail.

<sup>19</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. <sup>20</sup>And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. <sup>21</sup>I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

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

Psalms 26:1-8 (Congregational responses in bold)

<sup>1</sup>Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived | with integrity;  
I have trusted in the LORD and | have not faltered.

<sup>2</sup>**Test me, O | LORD, and try me;**  
**examine my heart | and my mind.**

<sup>3</sup>For your steadfast love is be- | fore my eyes;  
I have walked faithful- | ly with you.

<sup>4</sup>**I have not sat | with the worthless,**  
**nor do I consort with | the deceitful.**

<sup>5</sup>I have hated the company of | evildoers;  
I will not sit down | with the wicked.

<sup>6</sup>**I will wash my hands in inno- | cence, O LORD,**  
**that I may go in procession | round your altar,**

<sup>7</sup>singing aloud a song<sup>l</sup> of thanksgiving  
and recounting all your won-<sup>l</sup>derful deeds.  
<sup>8</sup>**LORD, I love the house in<sup>l</sup> which you dwell  
and the place where your glo-<sup>l</sup>ry abides.**

Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

<sup>9</sup>Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; <sup>10</sup>love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. <sup>11</sup>Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. <sup>13</sup>Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

<sup>14</sup>Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. <sup>15</sup>Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. <sup>16</sup>Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. <sup>17</sup>Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. <sup>18</sup>If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. <sup>19</sup>Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." <sup>20</sup>No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." <sup>21</sup>Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

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 16:21-28 C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>21</sup>From that time on, after Peter confessed that Jesus was the Messiah, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup>But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. <sup>25</sup>For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. <sup>26</sup>For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? <sup>27</sup>"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. <sup>28</sup>Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

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

Children's Message  
Sermon

\*Hymn of the Day: "Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said" .....#667  
1. "Take up your cross," the Savior said, "if you would my disciple be:-; forsake the past, and come this day, and humbly follow after me."

2. Take up your cross; let not its weight pervade your soul with vain alarm; his strength shall bear your spirit up, sustain your heart, and nerve your arm.
3. Take up your cross, nor heed the shame, nor let your foolish heart rebel; for you the Lord endured the cross to save your soul from death and hell.
4. Take up your cross and follow Christ, nor think till death to lay it down; for those who humbly bear the cross one day will wear the glorious crown.

\*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](http://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**

#### 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 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.**

#### Distribution of Communion

(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 home kits.)

\*Post Communion Blessing

\*Communion Sending Prayer

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

\*Sending Song: “Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways”.....#772

1. Oh, that the Lord would guide my ways to keep his statutes still!

Oh, that my God would grant me grace to know and do his will!

2. Order my footsteps by your word and make my heart sincere;  
let sin have no dominion, Lord, but keep my conscience clear.

3. Assist my soul, too apt to stray, a stricter watch to keep;  
and should I e’er forget your way, restore your wand’ring sheep.

4. Make me to walk in your commands, ‘tis a delightful road;  
nor let my head or heart or hands offend against my God.

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

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

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.

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

**Fall Worship Schedule Resumes Next Sunday:** Beginning next Sunday, Sept. 10, the Fall Schedule will begin again with a worship service at 8 am, Sunday School at 9 am, and worship at 10:15 a.m.

**School Kit Item Collection - Deadline is Next Sunday:** 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. Next Sunday, Sept. 10. is the last Sunday to bring in items. Please see the newsletter for items. Items may be placed in the marked bins in the sanctuary by the mailboxes.

**Sunday School, Jesus 'n Me Playgroup Resume Next Sunday:** Sunday School resumes next Sunday, Sept. 10 at 9 a.m. Also next Sunday 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."

**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.

**Food Collection for Peter's Porch, Harvest Home:** Thanks to all who brought in food items today (the first Sunday of the month) for our local food pantry, Peter's Porch. Also, please bring in food items until Sunday, Sept. 17 for the Harvest Home Display (on Sept. 24). These items will also all be given to Peter's Porch following Harvest Home. All items may be placed in the bins in the entryways.

#### **Upcoming Events:**

\*Sunday, Sept. 17 - At 9 am in the Fellowship Hall, all are invited to the Adult Forum about the Blessings of Hope food ministry.

\*Sunday, Sept. 17 - "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday": Following the 10:15 a.m. service, all are invited to help assemble school kits for Lutheran World Relief. It will be in the sanctuary.

\*Thursday, Sept. 21 at 6:30 p.m. in the Choir Loft - First choir practice of the school year. All are invited to join the choir!

**The Cookies and Beverages After The 9 AM Service This Morning** are provided by Nedra Bearinger. 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 Altar Flowers Today** are given by Linda and Brenda Berger in loving memory of Kathryn Berger.

**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 [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. 27, 8:00 a.m. – 23, 9:00 a.m. – 40, Online Views – 43

Received through end of July: \$100,878.76      Expenses thru July: \$119,762.35

Received on Aug. 27: \$3,397.48      Received Aug. to date: \$14,015.22

**Worship Helpers Today**

8 am Communion Assistant - ,      9 a.m. Communion Assistant and Acolyte - Kelby Weaver

Bread Baker - Marliese Smith

9 am Lay Reader – Brad Rauch      9 am Cantor - Pastor Peter

9 am Money Counters - Nick Duong and Thai Phan, Pat Brendle

**Worship Helpers Next Sunday, Sept. 10**

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