

EPIPHANY

Epiphany of Our Lord
January 11, 2026

The Evangelical Lutheran Church of the Holy Trinity
Holy Communion 9:00 AM
Sunday School 10:30 AM

The feast of Epiphany ("manifestation") concludes the Christmas season with a celebration of God's glory revealed in the person of Jesus Christ. In Isaiah and Ephesians, that glory is proclaimed for all nations and people. Like the light of the star that guided the magi to Jesus, the light of Christ reveals who we are: children of God who are claimed and washed in the waters of baptism. We are sent out to be beacons of the light of Christ, sharing the good news of God's love to all people.

Welcome in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Our worship follows a traditional order inspired by scripture and rooted in ancient patterns. The full order for worship (liturgy) is found in this bulletin.
*Please stand as you are able. Spoken congregational responses are in **Bold**.

GATHERING

Worship begins with the organ prelude. It's a time for silent meditation as we turn our hearts and minds to God.

ORGAN PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

***GATHERING**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, [†] one God, who calls us by name and draws near to us with grace and love. **Amen.**

***CONFESSİON AND FORGIVENESS**

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. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us.** We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins, in the name of the Father, and of the [†] Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

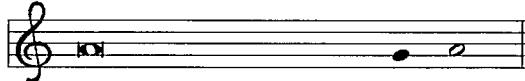
***GATHERING HYMN -**

Shall We Gather at the River Hymn 423

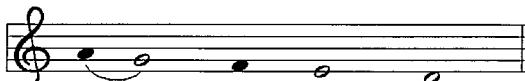
***GREETING**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

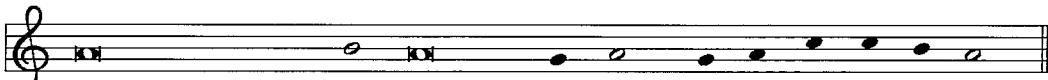
*KYRIE - Lord Have Mercy page 147



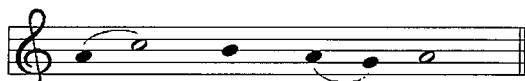
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



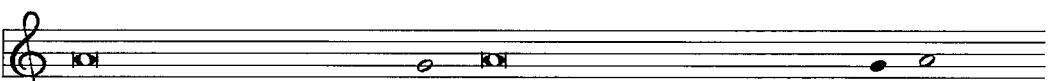
Lord, have mer - cy.



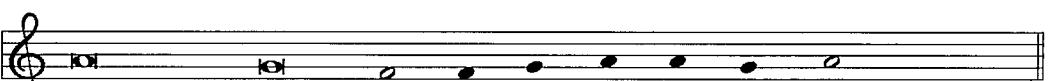
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



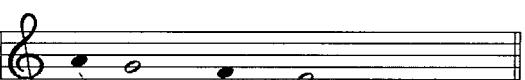
Lord, have mer - cy.



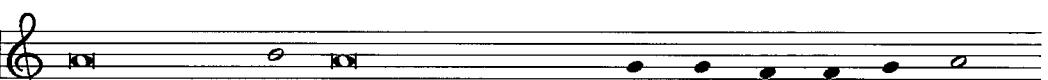
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.

A - men.

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading: First Reading: Isaiah 60:1-6

Jerusalem is assured that nations will make a pilgrimage to her because the light of God's presence is in her midst. The bountiful food of the sea and the profits of international trade will come streaming to Jerusalem and thereby declare God's praise.

¹ Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ² For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples, but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³ Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together; they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms. ⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you; the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD. The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 29 (*spoken responsively*)

¹ Ascribe to the LORD, you gods,
 ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.

² **Ascribe to the LORD the glory due God's name;**
 worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness.

³ The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;
 the LORD is upon the mighty waters.

⁴ **The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice;**
 the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.

⁵ The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees;
 the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

⁶ **the LORD makes Lebanon skip like a calf,**
 and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

⁷ The voice of the LORD
 bursts forth in lightning flashes.

⁸ **The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;**
 the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

⁹ The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.
 And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"

¹⁰ **The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;**
 the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.

¹¹ O LORD, give strength to your people;
 give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.

SECOND READING: Acts 10:34-43

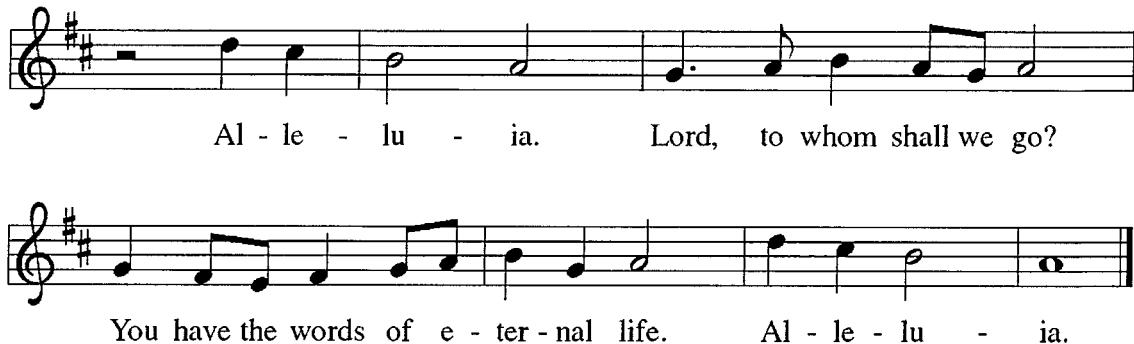
Peter crosses the sharp religious boundary separating Jews from Gentiles and proclaims the good news of God's inclusive forgiveness in Jesus' name to Cornelius, a Roman centurion. As a result of Peter's preaching, Cornelius and his family become the first Gentiles to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

³⁴ Peter began to speak to [Cornelius and his household]: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality,³⁵ but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him.³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all.³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced:³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree,⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear,⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead.⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM RINGERS -

Joyeuse Karen Buckwalter

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - Page 151



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

*GOSPEL - Matthew 2:1-12

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 2nd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

God's promise shines bright in the night as magi follow a star to honor a new king. Strangers from a faraway land, they welcome the long-awaited messiah of Israel.

¹ In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, ² asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage.” ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶ ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’ ”

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the

star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road. The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON The Rev. Althea Seidel

Hymn of the Day -
When Jesus Came to Jordan Hymn 305

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Response: Merciful God, receive our prayer. (After the prayer) Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

OFFERING - (*Offering plates are located in the narthex as you exit the sanctuary.*)

*OFFERTORY HYMN - What Child Is This Hymn 296, verse 3

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby;
joy, joy, for Christ is born,
the babe, the son of Mary!

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Let us pray. God our provider, **by your merciful hand abundance springs up from the earth. Receive and bless these gifts of your own bounty. Let them be a sign of your steadfast love and faithfulness for all people, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*PREFACE

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty and Everliving God. So, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***SANCTUS** - Holy, Holy, Holy Page 153

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

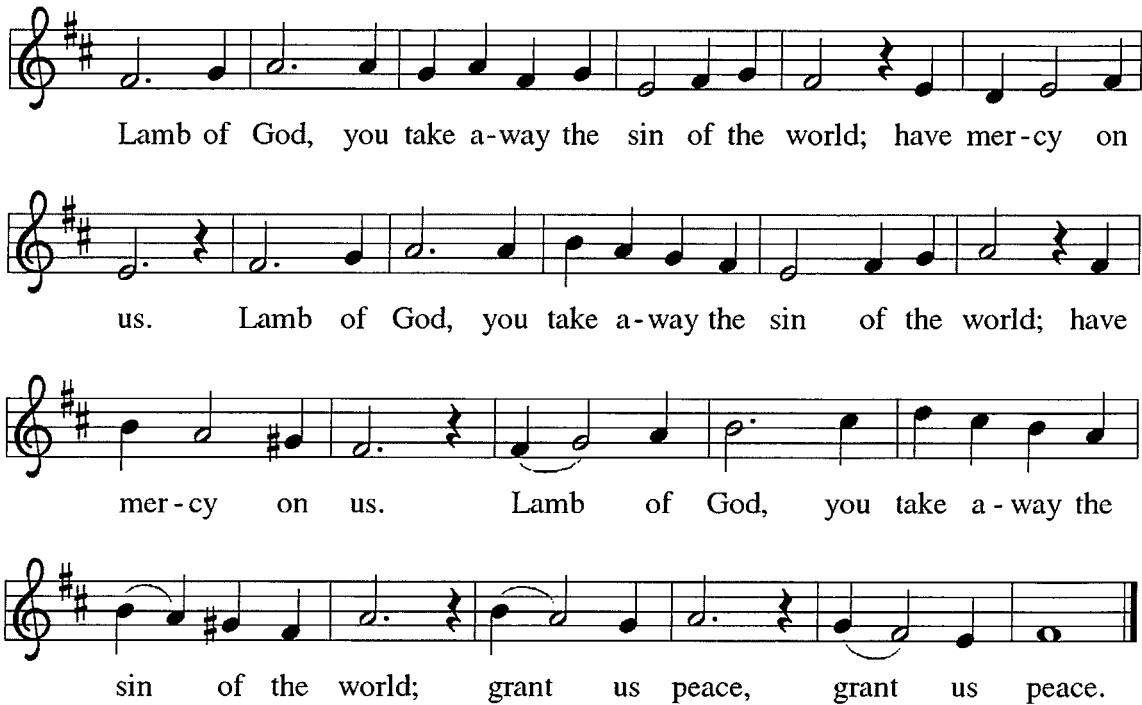
***THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Here is the Messiah who has come to save the world. Come to the table; taste and see the Lord. **Amen**

***AGNUS DEI** - Lamb of God Page 154



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

EVERYONE IS INVITED to come forward to receive Communion. If you are unable to come forward, you may remain seated and the pastor will bring you communion at your seat. Children may come forward to receive a blessing. After receiving Communion, please do not hesitate to come forward to the altar for a time of prayer.

*POST COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Radiant God, we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. In the sacrament of his body and blood you have drawn us to your heart. Send us from this table with delight, that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love, and bear witness to all we have seen and heard, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE SENDING

***SENDING BLESSING**

Almighty God, Father, [†] Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. Amen.

***SENDING HYMN -**

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise Hymn 310

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Worship Texts from Sundays & Seasons © 2016 Augsburg Press Song Select, For use solely with the Song Select Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com, CCLI License #2639318 ** For use solely with the OneLicense.net Terms of Use. OneLicense.net License #A-725456.

PARTICIPANTS

The Rev. Althea Seidel - Pastor

Paul Copenhaver - Minister of Music

Dan Dietzel - Organist

Heather Buffington - Bell Choir Director

Neal Galbraith - Lay Assistant

Barry Thompson - Lector

Emily Engle - Acolyte

Heidi Gerver - Greeter

Denise Rhoade - Greeter

❖ Elevator access to upper and lower levels is located at rear entrance of church.

❖ Remember to silence cell phones & other electronic device

A GIFT HAS BEEN PRESENTED IN LOVING [†] MEMORY OF:

In memory of Cookie Rothermel by Jim & Kitty Logan

In memory of Bill Godlevski by Jim & Kitty Logan

In memory of "Uncle" Bill Godlevski by Rick & Denise Rhoade

In memory of all the members we lost this year by Tom Ryland

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY:

Monday, January 12 - Praise Ringers 6 p.m.; Psalm Ringers 7 p.m.

Tuesday, January 13 - Senior Choir 7 p.m.; Quittapahilla Audubon Society
Board Meeting 7 p.m.

Wednesday, January 14—Executive Committee 6:30 p.m.; Church Council
Meeting 7 p.m.

PRAYER CONCERNS: If you no longer wish to be included in the prayer update list, please let the Church Office know to remove your name.

PRAYER UPDATE: We have been asked to keep Barb Atwood, Terry Clearwater, Deb Dobson, Donna, Susie Eckert, Dan Fox, The Family of Bill Godlevski, Mike and Nancy Hentz, Patty Hess, The Family of Joette Hollinger, Jim & Judi Light, Janice Peiffer, Rachel, Ed Ream, The Family of Cookie Rothermel, Marie Smith, Nancy Warner, and Mary Yeagley.

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY: If Church is going to be cancelled due to weather, it will be posted on our website page: www.trinityleb.org. Don't forget to refresh your browser when viewing the website. You can also find information on our Facebook page: facebook.com/htlclebanonpa. The decision will be made by 7 p.m. the Saturday prior to service.

SOUP FOR SALE: There are still limited amounts of both Vegetable and Chicken Noodle soup available! They are frozen. The cost is \$7 each. If you are interested, please contact the Church Office or see Denise Rhoade or Neal Galbraith.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Our neighborhood ministry needs your help! Volunteers are needed to stock the Share & Care box and hang clothing. The hours and commitment level are up to you! Prayerfully consider helping with this ministry. Please contact Stephanie for more information, 717-273-8567.

CLEANING & HOUSEHOLD PRODUCTS FOR AGAPE FAMILY SHELTER 2026: The Women of the ELCA's first service project for 2026 is collecting cleaning and household products for the Agape Family Shelter in the city of Lebanon from January 4, 2026 to February 18, 2026. Donations to be collected during this campaign include: paper towels, toilet tissue, Clorox wipes, 13 gallon tall kitchen trash bags, 33 gallon black drawstring trash bags, Lysol disinfectant spray (unscented, white can preferred), Pine Sol, Comet cleanser, dish detergents, sponges, scouring pads, paper plates, tea towels and HE laundry detergent. These "in kind" donations help to defray the shelter's maintenance costs thereby freeing up money for use to support programs to help their guests. The Agape Family Shelter provides a Christ-centered sanctuary for single women, pregnant women and mothers with children. Each woman who crosses their threshold is guided through an individualized plan for her future. From goal-setting and financial planning to parenting education and informal counseling, Agape Family Shelter empowers women with the life skills they need. We would like to invite the congregation to participate in this endeavor. Donations can be placed in the WELCA barrel located in The Giving Place through Sunday, February 15. All donations are greatly appreciated. Thank you. Karen Weaver, WELCA Projects Chair

GAME DAY: Grab your favorite game and snack to share and join us on Saturday, January 31 at 2 p.m. BINGO will be played!!! For more information, please contact the Church Office at 717-273-8567.

CARE PACKAGE: We have one student in college this year, London Seiders. We will be collecting goodies to send to her around Valentine's Day. If you would like to contribute, please place your donation in the bin marked "Care Package." Please bring your donation by February 8. THANK YOU!



Sunday, January 25

The meeting will be held following worship in the Social Room.

This is a constitutionally mandated meeting.
All members are welcomed and encouraged to attend. We do need a quorum in order to conduct the business of the meeting.

We will be voting on an update to our constitution.

Copies of the budget are available at either Welcome Table.



Every January, Holy Trinity highlights a ministry of the Global Church. This year's focus is on our ELCA missionaries.

Today, the Global Church has over 72 million Lutheran congruent in Europe and North America as well as Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Our church's expansion is due to the work of Lutheran missionaries.

Holy Trinity has experienced the capabilities of our missionaries through Pastor Kate Warn. She helped us through our transition between pastors as our interim pastor from the summers of 2012 and 2015, while she waited a new call as missionary in Africa. She previously served in South Sudan and Sierra Leone.

Again, we are called to help support our missionaries by being part of the ELCA missionaries' story as they serve in Jesus' name around the world. Missionaries accompany neighbors as teachers, pastors, doctors, and more. God calls us into the world – together. Your gift makes possible the life-changing ministry of sharing God's love.

Global Church special offering envelopes can be found in your yearly envelope box, at one of the Welcome Tables, and/or in the pews. You can also make a donation by marking your offering. Thank you for your generosity.

YOUR GIVING MATTERS!

There are many ways that we, as a congregation and as individuals, give back to the Lord. Many of us share our gifts, talents, and money in order to have our many ministries flourish. Your support, in whatever ways it is shared, is always appreciated.

Scan to donate online:



Church Treasurer's Financial Summary - November 2025

	Month of November	Actual Year to Date	Budget Year to Date
Income	\$25,566	\$258,462	\$283,943
Expenses	\$(20,953)	\$(281,133)	\$(282,940)
Net Income	\$4,613	\$(22,672)	\$1,003



I am in the process of organizing the next disaster response trip, the 26th trip of the Lower Susquehanna Synod LDR Team. It will take place April 26 – May 2, 2026. It will be a return to the western North Carolina region devastated by Hurricane Helene last fall. There will be a trip planning meeting on Sunday, February 1st, at 4:00 p.m. in the Community Room at Luther Acres, 250 St. Luke Drive, Lititz.

The second opportunity is an invitation to anyone interested in hearing about our most recent trip to North Carolina. Also on February 1st, our disaster response team will be gathering to tell our stories and show our pictures from the work we did and the experiences we had in North Carolina in November. The presentation will take place in the Community Room at 7:00 p.m. We thank everyone who supported our work and invite them to come and see what they helped make possible. If you have any questions, please let me know!

	<p>Rev. Glenn A. Beard, Jr., MDiv, BCC Vice President, Church Relations & Spiritual Care Coordinator, Lower Susquehanna LDR Network Phone 717.626.1171 ext. 1669</p> <p>LutherCare 600 East Main Street, Lititz, PA. 17543 LutherCare.org</p>
--	--

How many small stars can you find?



JOY TO THE WORLD



BIBLE QUIZ!

What city was Jesus born in?
a) Jerusalem b) Bethlehem c) Nazareth

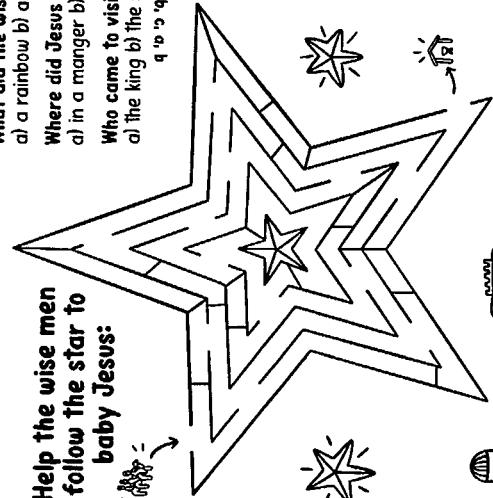
What did the wise men follow to find Jesus?
a) a rainbow b) a dove c) a star

Where did Jesus sleep when he was born?
a) in a manger b) in a basket c) in a cradle

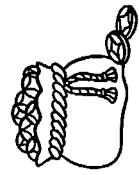
Who came to visit baby Jesus first?
a) the king b) the shepherds c) the wise men

q 19 : 14 : 18 : 16 : 15 : 14 : 13 : 12 : 11 : 10 : 9 : 8 : 7 : 6 : 5 : 4 : 3 : 2 : 1 : 0

Help the wise men follow the star to baby Jesus:



Fill in the blanks! What gifts did the wise men bring Jesus?



Are you as wise as the wise men that visited Jesus? Unscramble the words!

GLANE _____

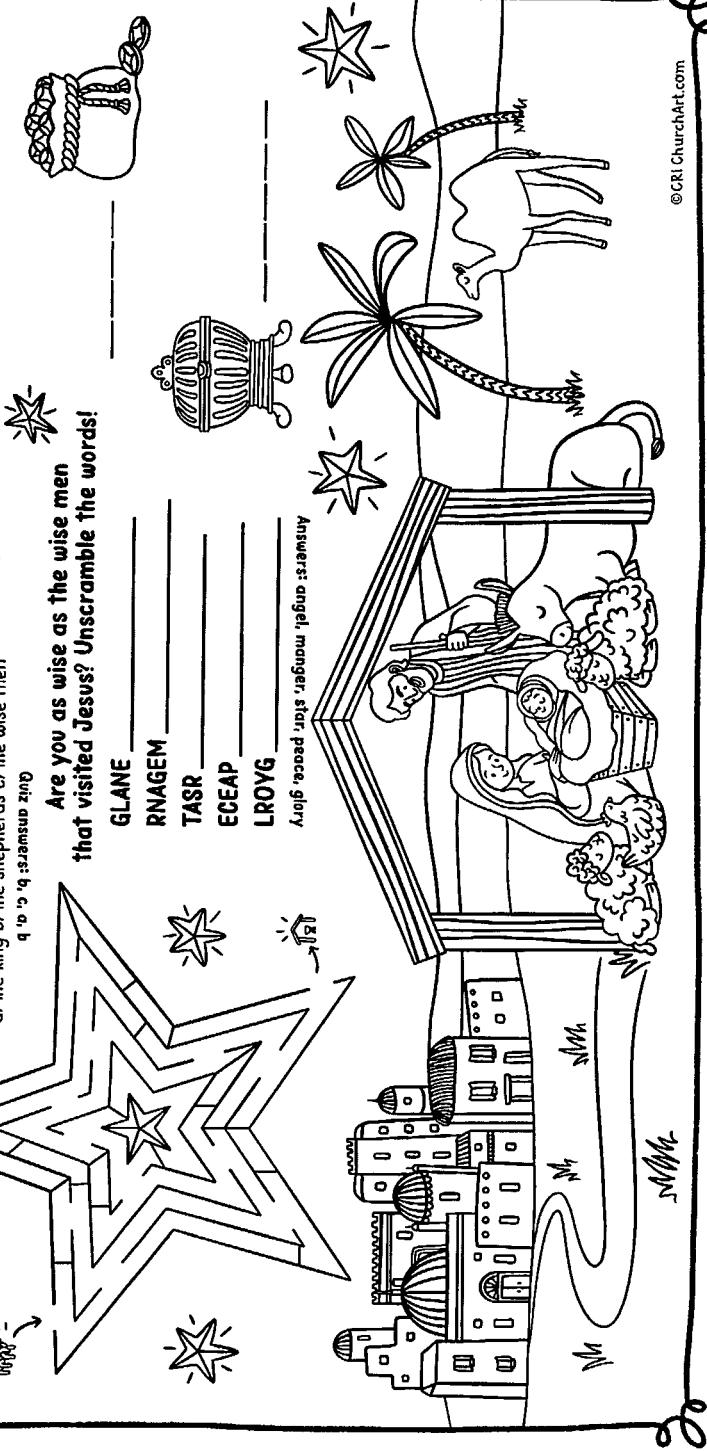
RNAGEM _____

TASR _____

ECEAP _____

LRVOY _____

Answers: manger, manger, star, present, glory





Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

723 Lehman Street, Lebanon, Pennsylvania 17046

Telephone - 717-273-8567 www.trinityleb.org

YouTube: Holy Trinity Lebanon PA www.facebook.com/htlclebanonpa

Pastor Althea Seidel: pastoralthea3@gmail.com • cell: 484-345-0399

Office Hours: Tuesday - Thursday 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.,
also available by phone, email, text message, or appointment

Stephanie Kaylor: stephanie@trinityleb.org

Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.