

The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! In today's readings both Paul and Jesus challenge us to wake from sleep, for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain and there will be no more war or suffering. Though we vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation, we wait for what we already have: Christ comes among us this day as the word and meal that strengthens our faith in the promises of God.

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.**

*CONFESSION 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.

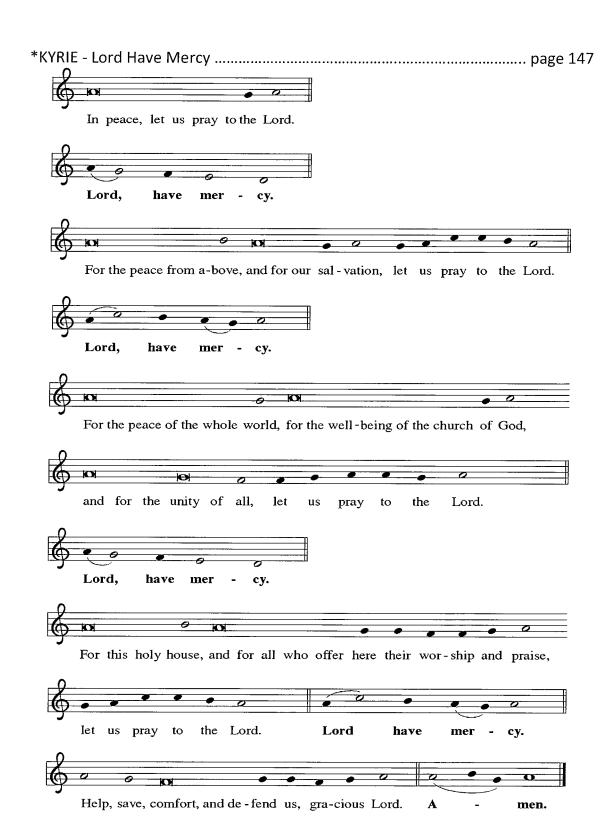
In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Φ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

*GATHERING HYMN -

He Came Down Hymn 253

*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**.



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING - The Lintner Family

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (verse 1) #240



ADVENT PRAYER

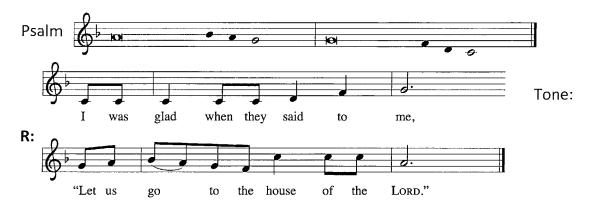
We praise you, O God, for this evergreen crown that marks our days of preparation for Christ's advent. As we light the first candle on this wreath, rouse us from sleep, that we may be ready to greet our lord when he comes with all the saints and angels. Enlighten us with your grace, and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near. **Amen.**

THE WORD OF GOD

First Reading: Isaiah 2:1-5

The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

¹The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem. ² In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³ Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth Instruction and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴ He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more. ⁵ O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD! The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**



PSALM: Psalm 122

¹I was glad when they ^I said to me, "Let us go to the house ^I of the LORD."

² Now our ¹ feet are standing within your gates, ¹ O Jerusalem.

³ Jerusalem is built ¹ as a city that is at unity ¹ with itself;

⁴ to which the tribes go up, the tribes [|] of the LORD, the assembly of Israel, to praise the name [|] of the LORD. R

⁵ For there are the ¹ thrones of judgment, the thrones of the ¹ house of David.

⁶ Pray for the peace [|] of Jerusalem:
"May they pros- | per who love you.

⁷ Peace be with- ¹ in your walls and quietness with- ¹ in your towers.

⁸ For the sake of my kindred | and companions, I pray for | your prosperity.

⁹ Because of the house of the ¹ LORD our God, I will seek to ¹ do you good." **R**

SECOND READING: Romans 13:11-14

Paul compares the advent of Christ to the coming of dawn. We live our lives today in light of Christ's coming in the future.

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

*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 24:36-44

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew the 24th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord. (spoken)

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

[Jesus said to the disciples,] ³⁶ "About that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³⁷ For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ³⁸ For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, ³⁹ and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. ⁴⁰ Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴¹ Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. ⁴² Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. ⁴³ But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁴ Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect." The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

INSTALLATION OF NEW MEMBERS

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS

Dear friends, we give thanks for the gift of baptism and for these brothers and sisters in Christ, one with us in the body of Christ, whom we welcome as new members into the life and ministry of this congregation.

Robert D. Moore, Jr. Ingrid Sperber Minnie Sperber

APOSTLES' CREED

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

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,

In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth.

Sisters and brothers in Christ, do you intend to continue in the covenant of your baptism among God's people in this place?

New members: I do, and I ask God to help and guide me.

People of God, do you promise to support and pray for these new members in their life in Christ?

We do, and we ask God to help and guide us.

Let us welcome these sisters and brothers in Christ to this community of faith.

We rejoice with you in the life of baptism. Together we will give thanks and praise to God and proclaim the good news to all the world.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

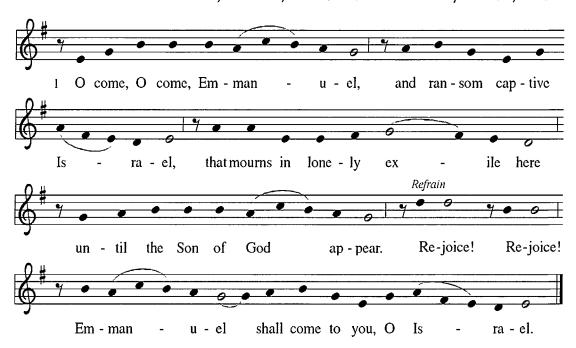
Response: God of grace, hear our prayer. (After the prayer) Amen.

*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 - O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Hymn 257, verse 1



*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

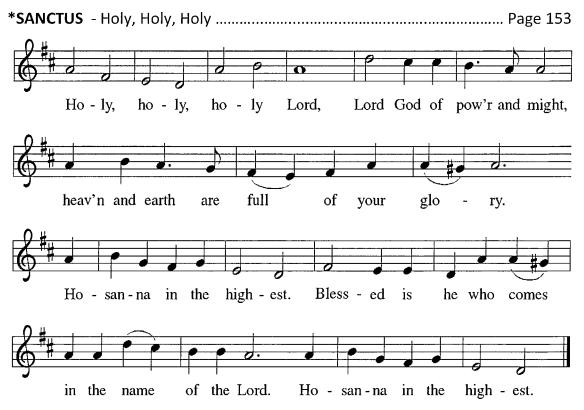
The Lord be with you. And also with you.

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. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new on the day when he comes again to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

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.

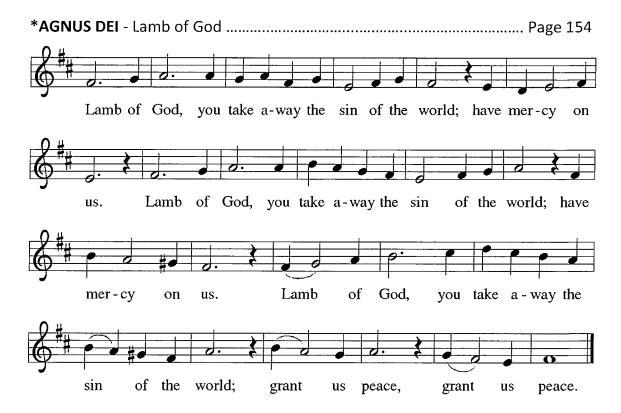
To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

*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

Come to the banquet of Christ. All are welcome. Amen



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

Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your goodness. You are our hope and joy. Strengthen us by this food, and send us to share with the world your love and welcome others to your house, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE SENDING

*SENDING BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ♀ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

Amen

*SENDING HYMN -

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers Hymn 244

*DISMISSAL

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

ORGAN POSTLUDE

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PARTICIPANTS

The Rev. Althea Seidel

Paul Copenhaver - Minister of Music Heather Buffington - Bell Choir Director Neal Galbraith - Lector Christine Paradise - Organist PJ Copenhaver - Lay Assistant

Alizah Engle - Acolyte

Lynn Kern & Denise Rhoade - Greeters

- & 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 THE MEMORY OF:

In memory of Janice Copenhaver by Lebanon Chapter, No. 115, Order of the Eastern Star

In memory of our departed family & friends by Pam & Tom Gainer
In memory of Joette Hollinger by Marian & Corey Brandt, and Denise
Rhoade

In memory of Joette Hollinger by Bob & Jean Keller

In memory of Joette Hollinger by Barbara Klatchko

In memory of Joette Hollinger by Jim & Kitty Logan

In memory of Joette Hollinger by WELCA

In memory of Charles R. Malstrom, beloved husband, father, and grandfather by The Malstrom Family

In memory of Cookie Rothermel by Jim & Kitty Logan In memory of Linda Wolford by Heidi Neiswender

A GIFT HAS BEEN PRESENTED IN LOVING PHONOR OF:

In honor of nurses and caregivers by Pam & Tom Gainer

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.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY:

Sunday, November 30 - Congregational Care Team Meeting 10:15 a.m.; Palm Lutheran Free Noon Meal 12 p.m.

Monday, December 1 - Praise Ringers 6 p.m.; Psalm Ringers 7 p.m.

Tuesday, December 2 - Senior Choir 7 p.m.

Wednesday, December 3 - Social Ministry Committee Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Friday, December 5 - Funeral Services for Lorna "Cookie" Rothermel:

Visitation with Family 9:30 a.m.; Funeral Service 10:30 a.m.; Luncheon 11:30 a.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, Susie Eckert, Dan Fox, Mike and Nancy Hentz, Patty Hess, The Family of Joette Hollinger, Jim & Judi Light, Michael Miele, Janice Peiffer, Rachel, Ed Ream, The Family of Lemoyne Reigle, The Family of Cookie Rothermel, Marie Smith, Nancy Warner, and Mary Yeagley.

SWEETEN UP THE HOLIDAYS: The Social Activities Committee invites you to sweeten someone's holiday! We are asking for cookie donations and participants. We will be gathering on Sunday, December 7 after worship in Luther's Place. Cookies will be bagged, cards will be made, fun will be had! Cookies, cards, and cocoa will be distributed to members of our shut-in list as well as anyone you want to receive a sweet treat! Sign-up sheets for cookies can be found at either Welcome Table. Questions? Please contact the Church Office.

SPREAD THE HOLIDAY CHEER!: Take time today to stop in Luther's Place and fill out a holiday card for one of our members who can't make it into Church as often as they would like. You can grab an address list and mail a card or fill one out and drop it in their bag. Cards will be delivered with sweet treats on December 7. Happy Holidays!

SHARE & CARE: Prayerfully consider making a donation of shelf stable grocery or personal care items. Suggested items: granola or protein bars, snack packs of crackers, cookies, etc., pasta, toothpaste, soap, brushes, shampoo, sanitary items, tuna, peanut butter, and more! **ANY DONATION IS WELCOME!** Items can be place in the tote marked "Share & Care" in Luther's Place. Monetary donations are also needed. If you would like to contribute simply place a note on your donation or use a blank pew envelope and mark it "Share & Care."

COME JOIN THE CAROLING: We will be Christmas caroling on Friday 12/12 at 6:00pm. We will be meeting at the home of Ed and Sue Kulakowski. After we are done you are invited back to the Kulakowski's for some holiday cheer. Please consider joining us this year to bring some holiday cheer to members of our Church. Any questions, please talk to or call PJ Copenmhaver at 717-507-8247.

POINSETTIAS: For those who wish to provide a poinsettia in memory or in honor of a loved one, please use either the envelope included in your November envelope packet or include a note in your donation. \$7.00 provides one poinsettia Please remember to include the name of the person(s) presenting the poinsettia. Place the envelope in the offering plate or in the envelope slot. Deadline for acknowledgement on the Poinsettia List is Sunday, December 14.

ADVENT FOOD DONATIONS: Bags are now available outside Pastor's Office. The list is a suggestion. Please feel free to fill your bag or bags with whatever donations you like. When you are done, please return the bag to Luther's Place. We will be taking the donations to Lebanon County Christian Ministries in January. Thank you for your participation.

DONATIONS NEEDED: As the weather starts to get colder, the Spread the Warmth campaign will begin. Donations of blankets, gloves, scarves, hats, jackets, sweatshirts, and socks are needed. We welcome any donation of clothing or shoes. Please place your donation in The Giving Place in the Spread the Warmth bin. Thank you!

Congregational Care Team: A Wonderful Opportunity for Connection

From Pastor Althea: I hoped to be able to see members more often than I am able to in reality. This is often true of many full time clergy. Hospital visits, emergencies, and funerals have often taken up some of that visitation time. We have had an increase in homebound members as well.

There are approximately 40 members who are much less active than they used to be. They truly miss our church! The Care team provides an opportunity to stay connected and keeps Pastor informed of any needs or concerns.

The commitment could be just one person (or two or three if desired) from Pastor's list to call, send a card, or visit once in a while in between Pastor's visits. (Maybe you miss connecting with a family friend or maybe you want to meet someone new.) If you are not comfortable with sharing communion then other forms of connection are still helpful. Anyone willing to try this ministry would be greatly appreciated!

What is it? Congregational Care Team is a small group of members who work closely with Pastor Althea in giving additional care and contact with members who are not able to attend church often.

When is it? Care team meets a few times per year to update one another on the care of members and wishes for Holy Communion, visits, phone calls, or other points of contact.

What kind of commitment is it? Care team is a confidential group of members who are willing to check on other members once per month or so especially if Pastor Althea has not been able to do so because of other ministry emergencies and pastoral care. It is helpful to be trained by Pastor to extend the Lord's Supper to homebound members but not necessary.

Do you have just a bit of time once per month to say hello to a fellow brother or sister in Christ? Pray about it! See what God is saying to your heart.

We will be meeting immediately following worship TODAY in Luther's Place. All are welcome to attend.



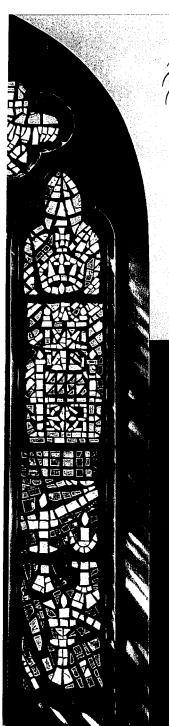
There are many ways that we, as a congregation and as individuals, give back to the Lord. Many of us share our gifts, talents, and money in order to have our many ministries flourish. Your support, in whatever ways it is shared, is always appreciated.

Scan to donate online:



Church Treasurer's Financial Summary - October 2025

	Month of October	Actual Year to Date	Budget Year to Date
Income	\$27,356	\$232,895	\$258,311
Expenses	\$(28,289)	\$(260,180)	\$(259,806)
Net Income	\$(932)	\$(27,285)	\$(1,494)



Lebanon County
CHORAL
SOCIETY

PRESENTS

HANDEL'S

MESSIAH

PARTI

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2025 AT 3:00 PM FRIEDENS LUTHERAN CHURCH 301 W. WASHINGTON AVE. MYERSTOWN

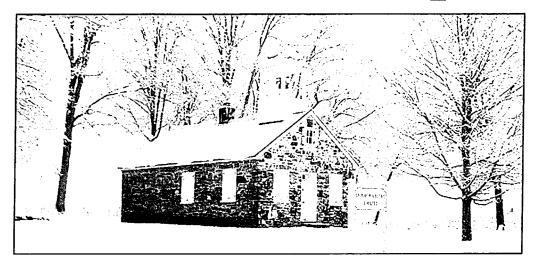
ADULTS: \$15 IN ADVANCE OR \$18 AT THE DOOR STUDENTS: \$3
GROUP DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE

WWW.LCCSMUSIC.ORG

This project was supported by the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency, through the Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts (PPA), its regional arts funding Partnership. State government funding comes through an annual appropriation by Pennsylvania's General Assembly and from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. PPA is administered in this region by The Foundation for Enhancing Communities. Additional support provided by The Presser Foundation



Monroe Valley Chapel Christmas Program Sat Dec. 6th at 7pm



Die Shwadore Schalle Singers

A German - English Christmas Program

&

Long Acre Hollow Bluegrass

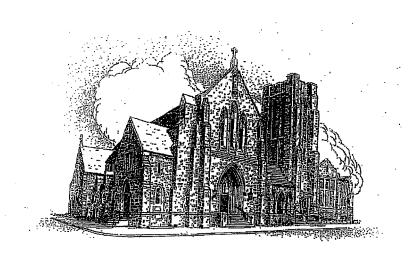
Christmas & Classic Fiddle Tunes

Directions: From Lickdale, go north on Rt 72 approx 9/10 mile, turn right onto Monroe Valley Drive. Travel 1.5 miles to chapel on your left.

GPS - 449 Monroe Valley Dr, Jonestown, PA 17038







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.