



Welcome to
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Baptism of Our Lord
January 12, 2025



The Baptism of Christ (1475)

Andrea del Verrocchio (1435-1488) and Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519)

St. John baptizes Jesus, holding a scroll reading ECCE AGNIUS DEI, "Behold the Lamb of God". Verrocchio's depiction shows Jesus in a realistic Biblical landscape and the Jordan River as little more than a trickle. And yet, in the midst of this ordinary space, angels dressed in silk attend to Jesus and the hands of God the Father release the Holy Spirit onto God the Son. Leonardo painted the angel on the left as a part of his tutelage under Verrocchio.

WELCOME TO TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

FOUNDED IN 1751

*The Rev. Hans E.
Becklin*
SENIOR PASTOR

*Deaconess Deborah
Matern Graf*
DEACON FOR
FORMATION
AND SERVICE

*Dr. Cameron
Lee Wentz*
CANTOR

Matthew Mellen
DIRECTOR OF
TECHNOLOGY AND
COMMUNICATION

John McKeon
PROPERTY MANAGER

Pam Wasmuth
BOOKEEPER

Peter Graf
FINANCIAL
ADMINISTRATOR

Rachel Gambone
CONGREGATIONAL LIFE
COORDINATOR

Dave Troche
SEXTON



*The Rev. Fred S.
Opalinski*
PASTOR EMERITUS

*Karen S.
Eddinger*
MINISTER OF MUSIC
EMERITA



THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY as we worship God through word and sacrament in this landmark building, home to our congregation since 1791. Our liturgy is rooted in tradition; all are welcome to participate as they feel comfortable.

TRINITY IS A VIBRANT CONGREGATION with members from around Berks County and beyond. If you are interested in learning more about membership, speak with a member of our staff.



DURING WORSHIP, we pray, sing, listen, chant, read, and move our bodies. Please silence your cell phone so as not to disturb this rich experience for yourself or others.

THE HIGHLIGHT OF OUR WORSHIP is receiving the Eucharist, the true Body and Blood of Christ. All who trust that Jesus is present in this holy meal are invited to receive Him with us today. Detailed instructions for communion can be found on page 19 of the bulletin.



CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS WELCOME in our worship! A changing table can be found in the all-gender restroom on the first floor. Our Meditation Room has space for nursing or a sensory break. Restrooms can be found on the first floor and are accessible by elevator. Our AED is mounted on the wall in the stairway next to the baptismal font.



WE WELCOME ALL LGBTQ+ people as full participants in our common life. We're proud to proclaim this publicly in our city and wider church as a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

OUR WORSHIP IS AN ACT OF OFFERING. By being here, we present ourselves and our time to God.

WE ALSO PRESENT our tithes and monetary offerings to God. During the offertory procession, they are brought forward along with the bread and wine used for the Eucharist.

WE NO LONGER pass an offering plate in the pew. However, an offering plate for cash or checks is available in the narthex. You can also share your offering electronically using this QR code.



THE HOLY EUCHARIST AT 10:00 AM

Congregational words are in bold print.

*Stand in body or
spirit and face the
processional cross.*

*All may make the
sign of the cross, the
sign that is marked
at baptism, as the
presiding minister
begins.*

*Silence is kept for
reflection.*

INTROIT

Heavens, Pour Down Your Waters

Weston Priory

Hans E. Becklin, bass

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation,
come to the help of your people,
turning us from our sin
to live for you alone.
Give us the power of your Holy Spirit

that we may confess our sin,
receive your forgiveness,
and grow into the fullness
of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

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

Most merciful God,
**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.**

In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake
God forgives us all our sins.
As a called and ordained minister
of the church of Christ,
and by his authority,
I therefore declare to you
the entire forgiveness of all your sins,
in the name of the Father,
and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

*Continue to face the
processional cross,
turning when
it passes you.*

GATHERING HYMN

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

ELW 445



- 1 Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow.
- 2 We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed.
- 3 Oh, how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways!



Text: Ruth Duck,
b. 1947

Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread.
To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise!

Music: BEACH
SPRING, The
Sacred Harp,
Philadelphia, 1844



Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares,
We your people stand before you, water-washed and Spirit-born.

Text© 1989 The United
Methodist Publishing
House, admin. The
Copyright Company,
Nashville, TN.



Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.
one with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.
By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

All rights reserved.
International copyright
secured. Used by
permission.

APOSTOLIC 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.

HYMN OF PRAISE

*We praise God using
this ancient prayer
from Setting One in
Evangelical Lutheran
Worship.*

Glo - ry to God in the high -
est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and
Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we
praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

*Continues on
the next page...*

HYMN OF PRAISE



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -



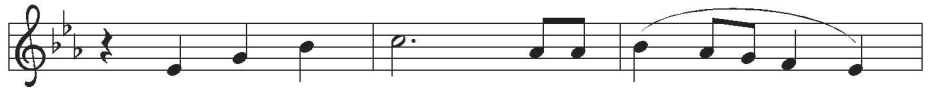
lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,



Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men.



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

*This prayer relates
to the readings
appointed for the day
and asks for God's
help in applying them
to our lives.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God,

through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

But now thus says the Lord,
he who created you, O Jacob,
he who formed you, O Israel:
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by name, you are mine.
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,
and the flame shall not consume you.
For I am the Lord your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
I give Egypt as your ransom,
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.
Because you are precious in my sight,
and honored, and I love you,
I give people in return for you,
nations in exchange for your life.
Do not fear, for I am with you;
I will bring your offspring from the east,
and from the west I will gather you;
I will say to the north, "Give them up,"
and to the south, "Do not withhold;
bring my sons from far away
and my daughters from the end of the earth—
everyone who is called by my name,
whom I created for my glory,
whom I formed and made."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*The choir introduces
the refrain.*



*The congregation
repeats the refrain
and sings the refrain
where indicated with
the symbol **R**.*



*The choir and
congregation sing
alternating verses.*

Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.

**Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name;
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.**

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

**The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor. **R****

The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;
the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;

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

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

**The voice of the LORD | shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilder- | ness of Kadesh. **R****

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!"

**The LORD sits enthroned a- | bove the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king for- | evermore.**

O LORD, give strength | to your people;
give them, O LORD, the bless- | ings of peace. **R**

SECOND READING

Acts 8:14-17

Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them.

The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus).

Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

TEACHING TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Please stand
in body or spirit.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia

A voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, | the Beloved,
with whom I | am well pleased.”

GOSPEL

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

The Holy Gospel according to Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the

wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Pastor Hans E. Becklin

*Please stand
in body or spirit.*

HYMN OF THE DAY

Baptized in Water

ELW 456

1 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, cleansed by the
2 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, dead in the
3 Bap-tized in wa - ter, sealed by the Spir - it, marked with the

Text: Michael
Saward, b. 1932

Music:
BUNESSAN.
Gaelic tune; arr.
hymnal version

blood of Christ our king: heirs of sal - va - tion, trust - ing his
tomb with Christ our king: one with his ris - ing, freed and for -
sign of Christ our king: born of the Spir - it, we are God's

Text© 1982 Jubilate
Hymns. admin. Hope
Publishing Company.
Carol Stream. IL 60188.
All rights reserved. Used
by permission.

prom - ise, faith - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
giv - en, thank - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.
chil - dren; joy - ful - ly now God's praise we sing.

Arr.© 2006 Augsburg
Fortress.

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.**

*After a brief silence
each petition
concludes:*

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

*After the final
petition:*

Into your hands we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy, through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

IN OUR PRAYERS

IN IMMEDIATE NEED

- ♦ Peg Coleman
- ♦ Ed Coleman
- ♦ Rachel Gambone
- ♦ Barbara Lykens

TRINITY HOUSEHOLDS

- ♦ Tom & Amy Reinsel
- ♦ E. Russell Richards
- ♦ Allison & Joe Rogers
- ♦ Matthew Rohrbach
- ♦ Laura Rohrbach-McGettigan & Neil McGettigan

ONGOING NEEDS

- ♦ Celia Constantino
- ♦ Tina Koch (friend of Jenn Smith)
- ♦ the Sawyer family
- ♦ David Unruh (brother of Ralph Unruh)
- ♦ Harry Feinauer
- ♦ Craig Poole
- ♦ Linda Motley
- ♦ Walter Schur
- ♦ Christine Wells (friend of Jan Opalinski)
- ♦ Darryl Jeffries
- ♦ Nancy Souders-Negri and Fred Negri

PEACE

*Please greet one
another and then
be seated.*

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

Jesus Went to Jordan's Stream

Johannes Pleg

The Trinity Choir

*The offering, bread,
and wine are
brought forward
and the altar is set.*

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful

ELW181

*Please stand
in body or spirit.*

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence,
and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

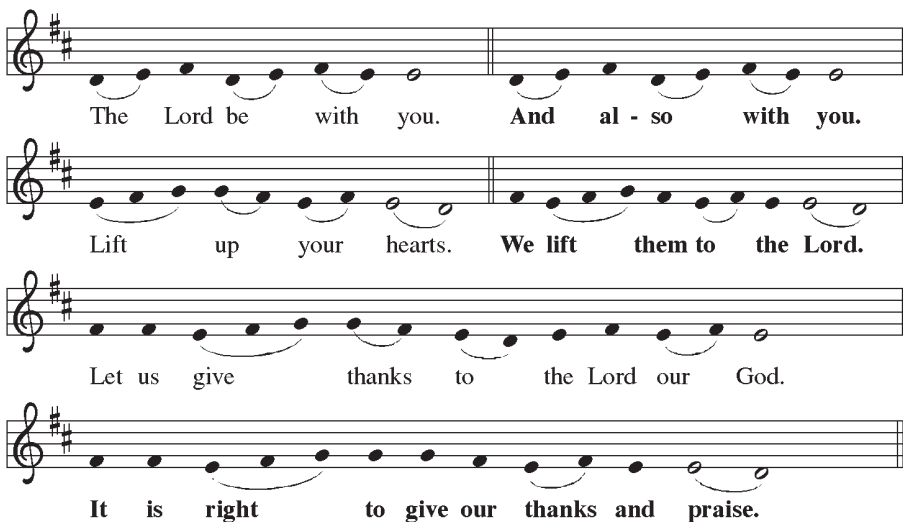
Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any

way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presider greets the assembly and invites all to give thanks.



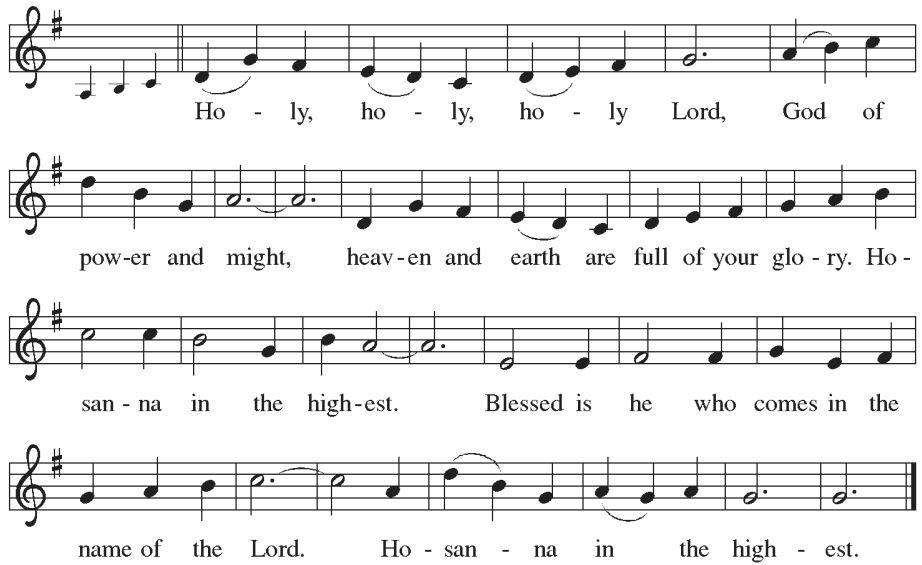
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ.

By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations;
in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son;
and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS




Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

During the Words of Institution, the bread and wine are elevated for the congregation to revere and adore Christ's presence in our midst.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy...
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Christ has died. Christ is ris - en. Christ will come a - gain.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion...

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



A - men, a - men, a - men.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

*Silence is kept as the
bread is broken.*

Please be seated.

*Detailed instructions
for communion can
be found on page 19.*

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

LAMB OF GOD

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.

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

And Everything is Still

Andy Scott

Benjamin Small, Soprano Saxophone

*This hymn can be
found in the red
hymnal.*

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

ELW 470

TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread
of life and cup of salvation you have
united us with Christ, making us one
with all your people. Now send us forth
in the power of your Spirit, that we

may proclaim your redeeming love to
the world and continue forever in the
risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

*As a sign of God's
blessing, you may
make the sign
of the cross.*

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.

Amen.

*In a centuries-old
Lutheran tradition,
we conclude our
worship by listening
to Simeon's song of
gratitude to God.*

*Face the processional
cross, turning as it
passes you.*

*You may remain
in the sanctuary
for prayer and
contemplation during
the postlude. If you
depart, please do so
quietly.*

NUNC DIMITTIS

Sung by the Trinity Choir

Now, Lord, you let your ser - vant go in peace: your word has
been ful - filled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion
which you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple:
a light to re - veal you to the na - tions and the glo - ry of your
peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son,
and to the Ho - ly Spir - it, as it was in the be - gin - ning,
is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

In Thee Is Gladness, Setting II

Paul Manz

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS



All who trust that Jesus Christ is present in this holy meal are invited to receive communion.

Please follow the direction of the usher; if your pew is located on one of the side aisles, walk to the rear of the sanctuary. Two lines will form in the center aisle. The left line will commune at the left side of the altar rail; the right line will commune on the right side.



When you reach the front of the sanctuary, there are serving trays located on the tables. Please choose either an empty glass to receive wine, or, if you prefer, a prefilled glass in the center ring containing grape juice. After taking your cup, proceed to the rail. Fill in around the rail from the center to the ends. You may stand or kneel as is your preference.

The pastor will give you a piece of bread; eat it when you receive it. If you prefer a gluten free alternative, please inform the pastor.



Then, an assistant will come to offer wine from a pouring chalice. Please extend your glass to be filled with wine or indicate that you have grape juice. After drinking the wine or juice, you are welcome to remain in place for a moment of meditation.

After you finish your time of reflection, please return to your pew, depositing your empty glass in the trays located on the tables at the head of the side aisles.

LEADING OUR WORSHIP TODAY

PRESIDING MINISTER

Pr. Hans E. Becklin

ASSISTING MINISTER

Albert Pohl

CANTOR

Dr. Cameron Lee Wentz

LECTOR

Hannah Long

COMMUNION ASSISTANT

Ginny Biniek

ACOLYTE

William Norton-Ritz

GREETER

Declan Rosenbaum

USHERS

Anita Dolak, Raye Watson

MEDIA TEAM

Amy Bornhofen, Anna Litvinov,

Jacinda Motley, Jennifer Smith

ALTAR GUILD

Bernadette Ilgen; Jacinda, Josh, and

Linda Motley; Charlene Norton,

Robin Oberholtzer, Beth Welz

WORSHIP PLANNER

Donna Osborne

Attendance Sunday, January 5: 79
Attendance, Wednesday, January 8: 8

SOURCES AND PERMISSIONS

Liturgical components are from Sundays and Seasons © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies. Annual License #22196.

Hymns reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-727586.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

9:00 AM

SUNDAY FORUM - All Saints Room
SUNDAY TIME - Meet in Chapel

10:00 AM

WORSHIP - Nave

11:15 AM

MIXED ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL - Bard House
COFFEE & CONVERSATION - Hintz Room

2:00 PM

COMMON GROUND WORSHIP AND MEAL

MONDAY, JANUARY 13

1:00 PM

PROGRAM STAFF MEETING

TUESDAY, JANUARY 14

9:30 AM

STAFF MEETING

2:00 PM

WOMEN OF TLC BIBLE STUDY
The Highlands at Wyomissing

5:30 PM

NEPA SYNOD/WEST BERKS TOWN HALL
All Saints Room

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15

12:05 PM

MID-WEEK CHAPEL WORSHIP

6:30 PM

TRINITY RINGERS - Bell Room

7:30 PM

TRINITY CHOIR - Hintz Room

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

11:00 AM

WORSHIP AND MUSIC COMMITTEE
Hintz Room

1:00 PM

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND CONCERN
Hintz Room

4:00 PM

PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING
Bard House

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

11:00 AM

DAN SMITH MEMORIAL

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19

9:00 AM

SUNDAY FORUM - All Saints Room
SUNDAY TIME- Meet in Chapel

10:00 AM

WORSHIP - Nave

11:15 AM

MIXED ENSEMBLE REHEARSAL - Bard House
COFFEE & CONVERSATION - Hintz Room

1:00 PM

WBMD YOUTH GAME DAY
Allegheny Evangelical Lutheran Church

2:00 PM

COMMON GROUND WORSHIP AND MEAL