LITURGY OF HOLY EUCHARIST

The Second Sunday of Christmas

January 4, 2026

C - Celebrant D - Deacon A - Assistant L - Lector R - Response

Please be aware that worship is being filmed, photographed, and live streamed on our Facebook/YouTube channel. Your likeness and/or voice may be captured by our equipment. It is best to sit in the balcony or in the last four pews to not be seen on camera. Holy Communion can be brought to you in your seat so that you are not filmed receiving the Sacrament. Please alert an usher at the entrance if you have any concerns. Selections from this live stream may be used on our website and in our public relations materials.

GATHERING

WELCOME

PRELUDE "The First Noel" Shells Bells

*GATHERING HYMN "Love Has Come" Hymn #292

*INVOCATION

We make the sign of the cross in remembrance of our Baptism.

C: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

R: Amen.

*APOSTOLIC GREETING

C: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

R: And also with you.

*PENITENTIAL RITE

C: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

C: Most merciful God,

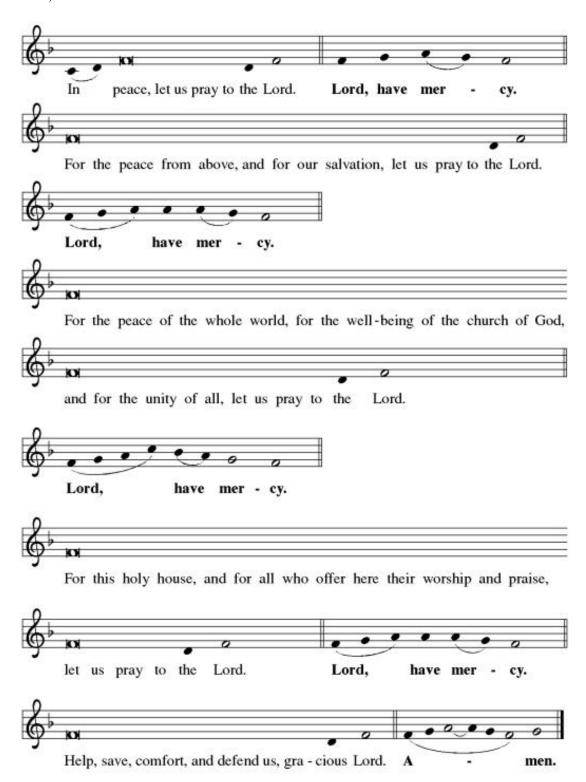
R: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus 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.

C: God, the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins; through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, + and of the Holy Spirit.

We make the sign of the cross as God forgives us this day.

R: Amen.

*LORD, HAVE MERCY



*GLORY TO GOD



*PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: Let us pray. Almighty God, you have filled us with the new light of the Word who became flesh and lived among us. Let the light of our faith shine in all that we do; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever and ever.

R: Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING Jeremiah 31:7-14

L: A reading from Jeremiah.

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,

This is the Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 147: 12-20 (sung responsively)

But the LORD has pleasure in | those who fear him,* in those who await his | gracious favor.

Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion;

for he has strengthened the bars | of your gates;* he has blessed your chil- | dren within you.

He has established peace on your borders;*
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

He sends out his command | to the earth,* and his word runs | very swiftly.

He gives | snow like wool;*

he scatters hoar-| frost like ashes.

He scatters his | hail like bread crumbs.*
Who can stand a- | gainst his cold?

He sends forth his | word and melts them;*
he blows with his wind, and the | waters flow.

He declares his | word to Jacob,*

his statutes and his judg- | ments to Israel.

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:3-14

L: A reading from Ephesians.

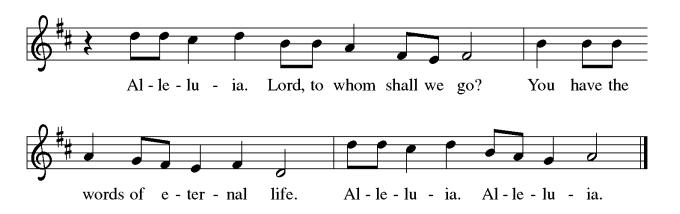
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

This is the Word of the Lord.

R: Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able in honor of the Gospel.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



C: The Lord be with you.

R: And also with you.

C: A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

R: Glory to you, O Lord.

We make the sign of the cross with our right thumb on our forehead, lips, and heart to symbolize the gospel being present in our minds, on our lips, and in our hearts.

*GOSPEL READING

John 1:[1-9] 10-18

[In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.] He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

R: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

HOMILY

Please stand as you are able.

*HYMN OF THE DAY

"The First Noel"

Hymn #300

*NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven

We bow our heads in honor of the mystery of the Incarnation.

and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man;

Our heads are raised.

and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.

And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and Giver of Life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.
Amen.

*PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

C: Once "the Word was made flesh" people could pray in a new way, "through Jesus Christ our Lord." So we come to our Father through his Son, our brother in flesh.

A brief silence.

A: That, through the ministry of sacrament and word, the Church may reveal Christ who lives among us, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For those engaged in the Catechumenate Process here at Shells – Douglass, Anna, Lauren, Lucas, Lexi, Emma, Evelyn, Julia, and Nora, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For our law enforcement officers, first responders, and service women and men, especially Matt, Nikolas, Sam, John, Dominic, Blake, Keegan, Michael, Stephen, Chris, and John, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For the nations and places where Christ is not known, that the Holy Spirit may bring them to trust the Good News of Jesus Christ. We pray especially for our missionaries: Richard, Emily, Ben & Courtney, Stephen & Jodi, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For the leaders who guide the future of nations, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For Christians making spiritual retreats, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For final perseverance when Christ calls us "to himself", let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For those who suffer in any way, especially – Diana B., Sam D., Betty E., Crist E. Cristin E., Nadine E., Mim F., Ed F., Herb F., Diane G., Peter H., Shirley H., Nancy I., Keira K., Blaine M., Iva R., Rena S., Amber S., Lucas S., Larry S., Don W., Bev U. and Jack U., our homebound members and those we name out loud or in the silence of our hearts (a brief silence), let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

A: For the gentle repose of the faithful departed, especially, Barbara, Dorothy, Mildred, Thelma, Charlie, Edith, and Ethel, let us pray to the Lord.

R: O God, hear us.

C: Almighty God, as we make these prayers we come to do your will. Accept us in your beloved Son, who lives and reigns forever and ever.

R: Amen.

Please be seated while the bread and wine are brought forward for consecration and the offering is collected for the ministry of Christ's Church.

MEAL

OFFERING/OFFERTO

"In the Bleak Midwinter"

Roberta Anderson, Pianist

Please stand as you are able.

*OFFERTORY HYMN

"What Feast of Love"

Hymn #487

*OFFERING PRAYER

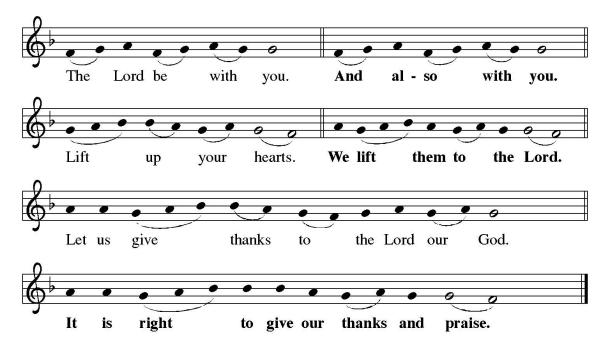
C: Pray brothers and sisters that my sacrifice of praise and yours may be acceptable to God the almighty Father.

R: May the Lord accept our sacrifice of praise for the glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his holy Church.

C: Lord, make holy these gifts through the coming of your Son, who shows us the way of truth and promises the life of your kingdom. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

R: Amen.

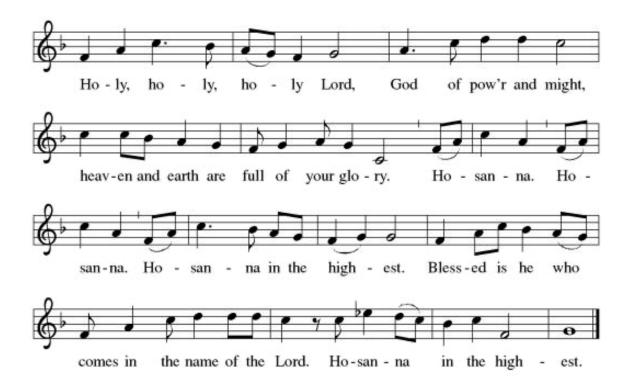
*DIALOGUE



*PREFACE



*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



*EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

C: We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will. He is your Word, inseparable from you. Through him you created all things, and in him you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a Virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

It is he who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:

Take and eat; this is my body, which will be given up for you.

When supper was ended, he took the cup.

Again he gave you thanks and praise,
gave the cup to his disciples, and said:

Take this, all of you, and drink from it: this is the cup of my blood,
the blood of the new and everlasting covenant.

It will be shed for you and for many so that sins may be
forgiven. Do this in memory of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



C: Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we lift this bread and cup before you, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill + us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth,

We make the sign of the cross asking God to fill us with the Holy Spirit. that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, forever and ever.



*LORD'S PRAYER

C: Let us pray with confidence to the Father in the words our Savior gave 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,

*PEACE

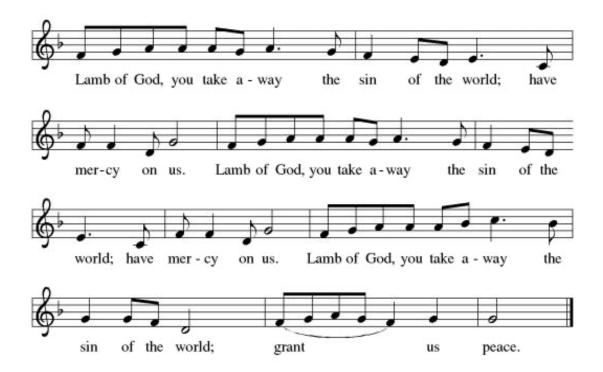
C: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

R: And also with you.

C: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

*LAMB OF GOD



*INVITATION

C: This the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Happy are those who are called to his supper.

R: Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but only say the word and I shall be healed.

Please be seated.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION PRAYER (for those viewing via live-stream)

A: My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Blessed Sacrament. I love you above all things and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there, and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

All baptized Christians who acknowledge the Real Presence of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Bread and Wine are welcome to receive the Sacrament. If you would prefer a blessing come forward and cross your arms over your chest. Beginning with the front pews, form one line and make your way down the center aisle. Please pick up a communion glass from the tray on your right. Receive our Lord Jesus' Body from the Celebrant and, according to where you are seated, receive his Precious Blood from the Assistant and consume both elements. Low-Gluten Hosts are available for those who wish to receive the Lord this way – simply inform the Celebrant. Mustum (sacramental non-alcoholic wine that was not left to ferment) is available for those who wish to receive the Lord this way – simply inform one of the Assistants distributing the chalice. Upon receiving our Lord's Body and Blood, respond Amen. Please place your used communion glass in the tray on the table and return to your seat by the side aisle. Taste and see that the Lord is good!

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"	Hymn #295
"Word of God, Come Down on Earth"	Hymn #510
"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"	Hymn #276

Please stand as you are able at the direction of the Celebrant.

*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

C: Let us pray. Lord, hear our prayers. By this eucharist free us from sin and keep us faithful to your word. Grant this through Christ our Lord.

R: Amen.

SENDING

*BLESSING

C: The Lord be with you.

R: And also with you.

We make the sign of the cross as God blesses us this day.

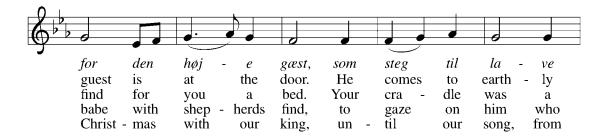
C: May almighty God bless you, the Father, and the Son, + and the Holy Spirit.

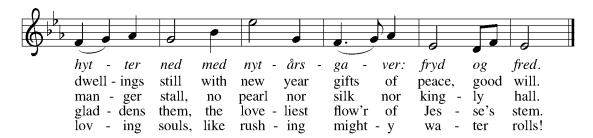
R: Amen.

*SENDING HYMN

"The Bells of Christmas"







- O patriarchs' Joy, O prophets' Song,
 O Dayspring bright, awaited long,
 O Son of Man, incarnate Word,
 great David's Son, great David's Lord:
- 6 Come, Jesus, glorious heav'nly guest, and keep your Christmas in our breast; then David's harpstrings, hushed so long, shall swell our jubilee of song.

Text: Nikolai F. S. Grundtvig, 1783–1872; tr. Charles Porterfield Krauth, 1823–1883, alt. Music: Det kimer nu til julefest, Carl C. N. Balle, 1806–1855

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*DISMISSAL

C: The Worship is ended, go in peace.

R: Thanks be to God.

*POSTLUDE

THOSE SERVING THIS WEEK

Celebrant/Homilist The Rev. W. L. Barnes, III, STS

Assistant Raelene Smith Lector Douglass Howard

Acolyte

Communion Assistant Louise Murphy

Greeters/Ushers
Organist
Diana Budd & Audrey Neiswender
Barbara Dupler

Altar Guild Diana Budd & Carol Gordon

THOSE SERVING NEXT WEEK

Celebrant/Homilist The Rev. W. L. Barnes, III, STS

Assistant Karlene Jaggan

Lector Nadine Espenshade

Acolyte Julia O'Brien (+), Lexi Frye, Lucas Terry Communion Assistant Audrey Newiswender

Communion Assistant Audrey Newiswender
Greeters/Ushers Rich & Nadine Espenshade

Organist Barbara Dupler

Altar Guild Raelene Smith & Janet Klos

STEWARDSHIP/GIVING (November 30, 2025)

2025 Approved Budget \$295,815

General Fund Income: \$242,809.57 **Special Funds YTD Contributions**

General Fund Expenses: \$271,045.30 Grantville Food Pantry: \$5,753.74

Capital Improvement Fund: \$42,080

Adult Forum: \$824

ELCA World Hunger: \$2,555

Lutheran Campus Ministry: \$1,695 Lutheran Disaster Response \$3,085

Central PA Food Bank \$1,000

Kid to Kid (VBS): \$600

Love of Family \$5,968

Abiding Memorial Fund: \$52,375 Gotshall Music Memorial \$6,437.25 **Altar flowers** are given to the Glory of God by Karen Lingle in loving memory of Charlie Reddinger.

With thanksgiving, we remember the lives of those who have gone before us in the faith. This month we remember *Barbara Demay*, *Dorothy Espenshade*, *Mildred Gussler*, *Edith Lingle*, *Ethel Lingle Ketner*, *Thelma Price*, *Charlie Reddinger*.

The 2026 Altar Flower chart is in the Narthex. Many dates are still available.

Prayers for healing of body, mind, or spirit: Diana Budd, Sam Dupler, Betty Espenshade, Crist Espenshade, Cristin Espenshade, Nadine Espenshade, Mim Fake, Ed Fake, Herb Fisher, Diane Gotshall, The Rev. Peter Helmers, Shirley Huber, Nancy Iachini, Keira K, Blaine Moreland, Iva Rodemaker, Rena Sattazahn, Amber Sherman, Lucas Smith, Larry Suhr, Bev Ulsh, Jack Ulsh and Don Whitehaus. To have a name added or removed to this Sunday Prayer List please contact the Church Office.

Shells Church Family Fun Event to Hershey Bears Game

Friday, February 20, 2026 @ 7pm \$10 per ticket with \$15 parking pass per car.

The church is paying for a \$5 snack voucher for each person.

You <u>must</u> be able to walk several flights of stairs to sit in our assigned seats. We do have a few handicapped seats available, but they are not above our regular seats.

Please sign up & pay by Sunday, February 1, 2026

(Cash or check to Shells Lutheran Church). Tickets are non-refundable.

A sign up sheet will be posted in the narthex.

Ouestions: Please see or call Kathy at 717-991-3212

SAVE THE DATES:

January 6 @ 7pm - The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord

January 23, 2026 - Family Game Night at Shells
February 20, 2026 - Hershey Bears Hockey Game
March 22, 2026 - Concert at St. Patrick Cathedral Harrisburg
April 18, 2026 - Walk at East Hanover Township Park
May 17, 2026 - Mini Golf
June 20, 2026 - Knoebels

This week at Shells:

January 4 at 9am - Liturgy of Holy Eucharist

The Second Sunday of Christmas

Children in Worship 10:30am Hand Chime Choir 10:45am Adult Forum Brunch at Manada Hill

January 5 at 6:30pm - Bible Study @ St. John Hoernerstown January 5 at 6:30pm - Card Ministry

January 6 at 7pm - Liturgy of Holy Eucharist

The Solemnity of the Epiphany of the Lord
January 7 at 2pm — Grief Support
January 8 at 7pm — Choir Rehearsal

January 11 at 7pm - Liturgy of Holy Eucharist

The Feast of the Baptism of the Lord

9am - Children/Youth Sunday School & Confirmation Food and Fellowship after Worship 10:45am - Adult Forum Lunch at Manada Hill Diner

SHELLS EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

"We are a community of the Triune God, nourished by Word and Sacrament, sent forth by the Holy Spirit into the Grantville community and beyond to share the life-changing news of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed."

287 Shells Church Rd. Grantville, PA 17028 Office phone: 717-469-2586 Church website: www.shellschurch.org

The Rev. W. L. Barnes, III, STS, Pastor

Cell:717-870-4505

Email: fatherbarnes3@gmail.com **Barbara Dupler, Director of Music**

Email: scdbjd@aol.com

Theresa Reidmiller, Administrative Assistant

Email: shells admin@shellschurch.org

Charles Schreiber, Treasurer

Email: charlieschreiber514@gmail.com

Parish Council: Sandy Mader (P), Brenda Frye (VP), Christina Frye (S), Ryan Jaggan (T), Diana Budd, Tom Terry, Steve Espenshade, Mark Stremmel

Visit us on Facebook, YouTube, and Instagram and "like/subscribe" our church page!

We have WiFi!

Network Name: **ShellsLutheran** Password: **GodIsAwesome** (case-sensitive)