Messiah Lutheran Church

3 South Third Street Mifflintown, PA 17059 Church Office / 436-6213 Dial-A-Prayer / 436-2100

The Reverend William N. Esborn Bob St. Clair Andrea Cameron Linda Leister Linda Leister Jared Hutchinson Tai Kepler & Nate Swailes Pastor Organist Choir Director Lector Altar Guild Crucifer Acolytes

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT December 14, 2014 – 10:30 a.m.

*Please Stand as YOU Are Able

PEOPLE TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER TODAY

<u>SHUT-INS</u>: Marian G., Reba S., Kitty W., Flo B., Ethel B., Jean M., Helen K., Sis S., Jane M., Fay M., Dorothy P., Ruth C., Ray B.

<u>**OTHERS</u>**: Sarah S., Rick W., Avonel W., Jesse K., Jim W., Ed F., Jackie A., Sara Ann A., Sarah D., Heidi W., Layton J., Allison S., Miriam B., Charlene A., Kelly Y., Dave P., Ralph G., Dottie S., Doug W., Nancy P., Ellie R., Grace M., Luella M., Bob G., Ray B., Shirley & Denton R., Bill C., Marti G.</u>

PREPARATION

CHIMES: CALL TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

"Come, Let Us Meet Him"

L. Smith

[A Time for Meditation and Prayer]

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTRODUCTION

"Rejoice always," begins the reading from First Thessalonians. Isaiah and the psalmist make clear that God is turning our mourning into laughter and shouts of joy. "All God's children got a robe," go the words of the spiritual. It is not so much a stately, formal, pressed outfit as it is a set of party clothes, clothes that make us feel happy just to put on. We receive that robe in baptism, and in worship we gather for a foretaste of God's party.

John of the Cross, renewer of the church, died 1591 – John was a member of the Carmelite monastic order, and worked to reform it. His writings reflect a deep interest in mystical thought and meditation.

* CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who shapes the whole creation, who comes with might and mercy, who fills the hungry with good things.
- C Amen
- P Let us approach the throne of grace with repentant hearts.

Silence is kept for reflection

- P Faithful God,
- C we confess that we have been unfaithful to you. Like dry leaves and withered grass, our lives are blown about by our sins and the powers of evil around us. Restore us, O God; let the light of your face shine on us, and we shall be saved. Amen
- P God is patient, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. In the name of + Jesus Christ, I bring you this good news: You are free from all that imprisons you; your sins are forgiven; God heals your broken hearts. Live in peace and harmony as you wait for the day of God

C Amen

GATHERING

ENTRANCE HYMN *

"Joy to the World"

- GRFFTING
 - P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the refining fire of the Holy Spirit, and the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, be with you all.
 - C And also with you.
- * KYRIE
 - P Lord, have mercy upon us.
- C Lord, have mercy upon us.
- P Christ, have mercy upon us. C Christ, have mercy upon us.
 - C Lord, have mercy upon us.
- P Lord, have mercy upon us.

"It Came upon the Midnight Clear" (vs. 3)

And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low, who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow; look now, for glad and gold - en hours come swiftly on the wing; oh, rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!

- P Lord, have mercy upon us.
- C Lord, have mercy upon us.
- P Christ, have mercy upon us. C Christ, have mercy upon us. C Lord, have mercy upon us.
- P Lord, have mercy upon us.
- SALUTATION AND RESPONSE (spoken) *
 - P The Lord be with you
- C And al-so with you.
- PRAYER OF THE DAY (spoken in unison)
 - P Let us pray...
 - C Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

WORD

Though the people had returned to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon, they continued to face hardship and oppression. In the language of the jubilee year described in Leviticus 25, the prophet, moved by the spirit of the Lord, announces deliverance for those who are oppressed and comfort for those who mourn.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The First Lesson is from the 61st chapter of Isaiah.

THE LESSON READS:

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; ²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. ⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. ⁸For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

Lector: Here ends the reading. Cong: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 126

L – The LORD has done great things for us. (Ps. 126:3)

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, then were we like those who dream.

²Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

³The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

⁴Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.

⁵Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.

⁶Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

All – The LORD has done great things for us.

Paul concludes his letter to the Thessalonians by encouraging them to live lives of continual joy, prayer, and thanksgiving. The closing blessing is grounded in the hope of Christ's coming.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

The Second Lesson is from the 5th chapter of 1 Thessalonians.

THE LESSON READS:

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil. ²³May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Lector: Here ends the reading. Cong: Thanks be to God.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

PLACING THE CRECHE FIGURES

* THE VERSE "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (vs. 3)

O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on Si – nai's height in an – cient times you gave the law in cloud, and maj – es – ty, and awe.

Refrain

Re-joice! Re-joice! Em - man - \cup - el shall come to you, O ls - ra - el.

John's gospel describes Jesus as the "light of the world." John the Baptist is presented as a witness to Jesus, one who directs attention away from himself to Christ, the true light.

- * GOSPEL: John 1:6-8, 19-28
 - P The Holy Gospel according to John, the 1st chapter.
 - C Glo ry to you, O Lord. (sung)

THE GOSPEL READS:

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²²Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,"

as the prophet Isaiah said.²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ. (sung)

SERMON

Pastor Esborn

- * HYMN OF THE DAY "Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!"
- * APOSTLES' CREED (all)

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
 - P With longing and hopeful expectation, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.
 - A brief silence.
 - P That the people of God prepare the way of the Lord by bearing witness to the light and giving thanks in all circumstances. Let us pray.
 - C Have mercy, O God.
 - P That governments, political leaders, and social service agencies will work together to free all those held captive by poverty, oppression, and disease. Let us pray.
 - C Have mercy, O God.
 - P That from the garden of this earth praise and righteousness will spring forth, and fruitful harvests will provide bread to feed all who are hungry. Let us pray.
 - C Have mercy, O God.
 - P That you teach us to pray without ceasing as we commend into your care all who are brokenhearted, lonely, grieving, or ill (especially all of our shut-ins [both at home and in nursing homes], and for Dorothy Patterson, Sarah Shellenberger, Rick Waller, Sr., Avonel Waller, Jesse Kint, Jim Woltman, Ed Forney, Jackie Abate, Jean McNaight, Sara Ann Aurand, Sarah Dressler, Heidi Woltman, Layton Jury, Allison Saner, Miriam Sowers Bolton, Charlene Aughey, Kelly Yorks, Dave Phelan, Ralph Goss, Dottie Smith, Doug Wagner, Nancy Peters, Ellie Ritzman, Grace Miller, Luella McLaughlin, Bob Gill, Ray Baker, Shirley and Denton Ritzman, Bill Crimm, Fay McCormick, and Marti Geise). Let us pray.
 - C Have mercy, O God.

P That you strengthen the hands of all who serve in this congregation as teachers, musicians, worship leaders, and volunteers. Let us pray.

C Have mercy, O God.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

- P That you clothe us with the garments of salvation, until with (John of the Cross and) all your saints we behold the fullness of your glory. Let us pray.
- C Have mercy, O God.
- P Receive our prayers, faithful God, as we watch and wait for your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen
- * SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE
 - P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

Congregational sharing: "Peace be with you."

OFFERING

OFFERTORY

"O Holy Child"

M. Bartlett

[Please pass the Friendship Pad down your pew for all to sign and then back to the center aisle so everyone has the opportunity to read the names. We request that our guests also give us their home address. Thank you].

ANTHEM

- * SUNG OFFERTORY "Let All Together Praise Our God" (revised wording)
 Let all to geth er praise our God Be fore his glo rious throne;
 For he will o-pen heav'n a bove To give us his own Son, To give us his own Son.
- * OFFERING PRAYER
 - P God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.
 - C Amen

MEAL

- * ADVENT DIALOG
 - P We have come with great expectation to meet the coming Messiah.
 - C All creation waits with longing for the Son of God.
 - P As John the Baptist cried in the wilderness, "Prepare the way for the Lord."
 - C We prepare a place in our hearts and in the world for his coming.
 - P O come to us, Emmanuel!
 - C God, be with us and save us from our sins.
- * EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life: Blessed are you for the birth of creation. Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light. Blessed are you for your promise to your people. Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and

dreams. Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will. Blessed are you for your Son Jesus, the Word made flesh.

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.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P With this bread and cup we remember your Word dwelling among us, full of grace and truth. We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection. We look with hope for his coming.

C Come, Lord Jesus.

P Holy God, we long for your Spirit. Come among us. Bless this meal. May your Word take flesh in us. Awaken your people. Fill us with your light. Bring the gift of peace on earth.

C Come, Holy Spirit.

P All praise and glory are yours, Holy One of Israel, Word of God incarnate, Power of the Most High, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

- * THE LORD'S PRAYER ['trespasses'] (all)
 - C 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
 - P Come to Christ, who comes to us in this holy supper.

(In hospitality and attempting to meet the needs of individuals, Messiah now offers gluten free communion hosts. If you wish to receive gluten free hosts, please come to the side where Pastor Esborn is serving).

DISTRIBUTION "An Angel to the Shepherds Spoke" E. Broughton ["INTINCTION" – dip your wafer in the wine. Come forward by the center aisle and return by the side aisle. All who wish to stand at the chancel rail after partaking for a time of silent meditation are invited to do so].

- * COMMUNION BLESSING
 - P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
 - C Amen
- * PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION
 - P Lord God, we give you thanks that you have fed us even now with the banquet that is yet to come. Keep us alert for signs of your presence in the world around us. Send us as healing oil and sheltering comfort to those in need, and make us bold in testifying to the light of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
 - C Amen

SENDING

- * BLESSING
 - P God most high, God with us, God poured out on us, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
 - C A-men, A-men, A-men (sung)
- * CLOSING HYMN "Prepare the Royal Highway"
- * DISMISSAL
 - P Go in peace. Remember the poor.

C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

NEXT WEEK'S LECTOR – Bob St. Clair NEXT WEEK'S ALTAR GUILD – Christie Holderman

WELCOME

IF YOU WISH TO USE OR FOLLOW THE LITURGY MUSIC as we proceed through the service today, please use the blue portfolios placed on top of the sound control system. In addition, headsets are available in the narthex for our sound enhancement system for the hearing impaired.

VISITORS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME to worship at Messiah. We invite you to register your visit not only in the Friendship Pads, but also in the guest book provided in the narthex. If you are seeking a church home, please speak to the pastor. Our fellowship in Jesus Christ is open and extended to all persons who confess His Lordship over all life. Thank you for worshiping with us. We invite you to return. Visitors are invited to commune with us if they are baptized and, if with us in our faith, they trust Jesus' promise of the presence of the Body and Blood of Christ.

WE INVITE EVERYONE (members and visitors) worshiping with us today to sign the Friendship Pads during the Organ Offertory. If you are a visitor, please be sure to include your address when signing. Please also place a check mark in the box (beside your name) if you are communing today and have not as yet given us a record of your participation in the sacrament during this quarter. (A new quarter begins in January, April, July, and October). The pads are found on the aisle seat of each pew in the nave, and in each section of the Adult Sunday School Room. ALTAR FLOWERS are presented to the Glory of God and in memory of Denise and Diane Hower by family.

PRAYER REQUESTS will be placed in the weekly bulletin for one month. If you wish to have someone included in the prayer list for more than one month, please call the church office.

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE SUNDAY BULLETIN IS THURSDAY NOON.

DIAL-A-PRAYER (436-2100) IS AVAILABLE 24 HOURS DAILY!

JUST A THOUGHT – George Whitefield, Methodist Evangelist (1714 – 1770): It is an undoubted truth that every doctrine that comes from God, leads to God, and that which does not tend to promote holiness is not of God.

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

PRAYER CHAIN – Any time you wish to add a name to our prayer list, please contact Stacie Kint at <u>dskint@nmax.net</u>. If at any time you would like to receive emails with prayer requests, please also contact Stacie.

ORGANIST NEEDED – If you, or anyone you know might be interested—Messiah has an immediate opening for Church Organist weekly services. Also includes Wednesday evening choir rehearsal, except for summer months. Allen Digital Electric Organ and Kurzweil Electronic Keyboard. Candidates should call Diana Wise at 717-436-6629 evenings for more information, including salary. Possibilities include either Full Time or Half Time employment. Additional information about the church and congregation can be found at www.mlcmifflintown.org.

AGAIN THIS YEAR, the congregation is collecting a monetary Christmas gift for the pastor. If you wish to contribute, you may do so during Advent or Christmas Eve by putting your gift in the special box in the Adult Sunday School Room, or in the offering plate (designated 'Pastor's Christmas Gift'), or to the church office any weekday. (Please make checks payable to the pastor).

THE 2015 FLOWER CHART will be in the Adult Sunday School Room by the end of December. If you wish to place altar flowers in the church on a specific date, please sign-up on the chart. Flower dates are on a first-come-first-served basis.

THE 2015 CHURCH OFFERING ENVELOPES will be available in the Adult Sunday School Room for you to pick up later in December. Anyone who would like a statement of their contributions for 2014 for tax purposes may call the church office and your statement will be mailed to you.

THE CHRISTMAS ENVELOPE in your packet, plus the loose plate offering at the Christmas Eve Service goes to the Matthew 25 Fund to help needy people and situations throughout the year. Please be as generous as you can. CHURCH TREASURER NEED – Messiah has a position opening for church treasurer. Requirements are: the position of church treasurer must be held by an adult member of the congregation. A knowledge in proper accounting procedures is preferred. The following are some but not all of the position duties of the church treasurer:

- 1. Recording the congregational receipts and disbursements.
- 2. Suggest improved methods and systems for financial record keeping.
- 3. Present a written financial report for Voters' Assembly meetings and PPC meetings.
- 4. Submit permanent financial records for an annual audit.
- 5. Pay salaries and bills as authorized by the congregation or Directors of Boards.
- 6. Coordinate the flow of monies from the treasury in a balanced manor.
- 7. Oversee the signing of all checks for payment of bills, salaries or other commitments of the congregation.

Any person interested in more information about this position may contact the church office in order to obtain a complete written job description. Further questions may be directed to PPC Executive Director, Kenneth Mummah or Pastor Esborn. Church office phone number is 436-6213, email address is <u>messiahlutheran@pa.net</u>.

GREETERS/USHERS NEEDED FOR FAMILY SUNDAY – Family Sunday is the first Sunday of each month, and the Youth and Children Committee is looking for children and their families to be Greeters prior to the church service on Family Sundays. The Greeters' responsibilities include welcoming parishioners, handing out bulletins, providing pins to visitors, and inviting visitors to sign the guest book and Friendship Pads. For those who sign-up, please be at the main entrance off Washington Avenue between 10:00 and 10:15 a.m. to start welcoming parishioners. In addition, we would ask the family acting as Greeters to also be Ushers for the service that Sunday. The Ushers' responsibilities include collecting the offering and returning the offering to the Pastor during the Sung Offertory. If your family is willing to act as Greeters and Ushers on any of the Family Sundays, please add your names to the sign-up sheet hanging next to the Altar Flower chart in the Adult Sunday School Room Thank you!

SYNOD ASSEMBLY DELEGATES NEEDED – Two members of Messiah are needed to attend the annual Synod Assembly in June 2015 at Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove. If you are interested in serving, please contact Pastor Esborn or the church office.

POINSETTIAS to decorate the church for Christmas may be placed in honor or in memory of someone, or to the Glory of God. The cost is 8.00 for a $6\frac{1}{2}$ " plant with 3 to 4 blooms. You may order by calling the church office at 436-6213.

HELP AVAILABLE – If you or someone you know needs help with home repairs or yard work, there are volunteers in our community who may be able to help. For more information, contact Michael "Doc" Johnston at 436-9209.

CAN TREE – Donations of gallon-size canned food is again being collected this year, now through December, for the "can tree" in the Adult Sunday School Room to benefit Bethesda Mission. Everyone is encouraged to donate as many cans as you are able. Cans will be delivered to Bethesda Mission later in December.

CHALLENGE GRANT ISSUED TO HELP CAMP MT. LUTHER - Due to financial concerns, the camp's Executive Committee took action to furlough the Executive Director one day per week without pay, effective the last quarter of 2014. This action results in a small cost savinas for the camp, as the board tries to close a projected budget deficit for 2014. In the past month, that projected deficit has been reduced from \$57,000 to \$39,000. The deficit is due to smaller income than anticipated. In the last couple of years, the camp has seen a decrease in income from traditional revenue streams. That trend is expected to continue. As news of the current financial state was shared, many camp supporters have taken action. All aifts were appreciated that have been received in the past month, particularly those that came as a result of the annual appeal letter. In addition, an anonymous donor has issued a challenge to other camp supporters. During the months of November and December, all gifts to the camp up to \$25,000 will be matched by this donor-this means for every dollar donated to Camp Mt. Luther in November and December, the camp will receive \$2! For 51 years, this ministry has been supported by individuals, families, and congregations in Central PA. This latest aift in the form of a challenge is just another way that reminds us of the important work that is done at the camp. Please consider giving a financial contribution before the end of this year to help meet the \$25,000 challenge!

WOMEN OF THE ELCA

MESSIAH WOMEN OF THE ELCA continuously collect new bath-size bars of soap (4oz. to 5oz., preferably lvory or unscented Dove) as an on-going project for Lutheran World Relief. Please place soap in the basket on the blue table in the Adult Sunday School Room.

SEAFARERS PROJECT – Women of the ELCA are collecting items for the Seafarers Project. Items needed are: sweatshirts (preferably hooded sizes L-XL), thermal or white gym socks (no dress socks), casual pull-over T-shirts sizes M-L, and heavy knit winter caps. Please place items on the table in the Adult Sunday School Room.

COMMUNITY

MEALS-ON-WHEELS needs volunteer drivers, cooks and people to help assemble meals. If you have some spare time and can8 help, please call Dottie Heck at 436-6002 or 717-348-1950 (cell).

THE FINAL COMMUNITY CHORUS REHEARSAL will be held on Monday, December 15 from 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. in the Juniata High School music room. This year's 18th annual Christmas Cantata performance "A LIGHT STILL SHINES" will be held Sunday, December 21, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. in the Juniata High School auditorium with live tableaux as an enhancement to the overall presentation. Should weather conditions present a need to postpone the December 21st event (December 22nd and 23rd at 7:00 p.m. are available snow dates). A special presentation will also be performed for area senior citizens on Friday, December 19th at 2:00 p.m. in the JHS auditorium.

CHRISTMAS CANTATA – St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Licking Creek will present the Christmas Cantata "Bethlehem's Child" today beginning at 3:00 p.m. at the church. Everyone is invited. Please join us as we share the spirit of the season.

FOOD PANTRY BASIC NEEDS FOR DECEMBER

ALL NON-PERISHABLE FOODS, PERSONAL AND BABY CARE PRODUCTS, PAPER AND CLEANING SUPPLIES

HOLIDAY MEAL NEEDS FOR DECEMBER TURKEYS, HAMS, CANNED FRUITS AND VEGETABLES, GRAVY MIX, CAKE MIX AND READY-MADE ICING

DONATIONS OF CASH AND GIFT CARDS ARE ALSO APPRECIATED!

Address: P.O. Box 44, 114 N. Main St., Mifflintown, PA 17059 Phone #: 717-436-9718 Hours: Tuesday 9-12 & 1-5, Saturday 9-12

*Remember, our vestibule is open to receive <u>non-perishable</u> donations any hour, any day! Cash or gift card donations may be deposited through the mail slot inside the vestibule.

Contact person: Kathy Queitzsch Email: <u>jcfoodpantry@embarqmail.com</u> Visit our **W**ebsite: **www.jcfoodpantry.com**

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THIS WEEK AT MESSIAH

Today:	 -9:15 a.m., Sunday School/Catechetical Class. -Children's practice for Sunday School Christmas Program. -10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church. -3 p.m., Christmas Cantata at St. Stephen's Lutheran Church. -7 p.m., PPC meeting in Youth Area.

Monday: -NEWSLETTER DEADLINE. -8 p.m., AA meeting in Fellowship Hall.

- Wednesday: -7 p.m., Choir rehearsal.
- Thursday: -1 p.m., Dulcimer rehearsal.

Friday: -2 p.m., Christmas Cantata at Juniata High School for Senior Citizens.

Sunday:-9:15 a.m., Children's Sunday School Christmas Program.
-10:30 a.m., Worship/Communion/Jr. Church.
-2 p.m., Christmas Cantata at Juniata High School.