

2nd Sunday of Advent

December 8, 2024



Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church

1742 Dinkey Road

Lehighon, PA 18235

610-377-4242

www.dmlcashfield.com

Zoom ID: 586 370 219



Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

*To all who are lonely and need fellowship; to all who are discouraged and need good news; to all who mourn and need comfort; to all who are tempted and need help; to all who are sinners and need forgiveness; to all who are complacent and need disturbing; to all who thirst for the water of life; to all who love Christ and would follow Christ, Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church opens its arms and bids you **welcome!***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
alive in the world,
reviving creation,
arriving soon.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,
we confess that we have sinned.
We trust earthly powers and human authority alone.
We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

God of might,
we confess that we have sinned.
We have turned away from our neighbors.
We have trusted false promises.

God in our midst,
we confess that we have sinned.

We plead: come to us.

Bring your mercy to birth in us.

A righteous branch springs forth:
it is Christ the Lord, our Savior,
in whom we have forgiveness, life, and mercy.

By the power of the Holy Spirit,
receive the grace and forgiveness of God

through † Christ Jesus,
whose day draws near.

Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

GATHERING SONG *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!* (ELW 246)

GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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

And also with you.

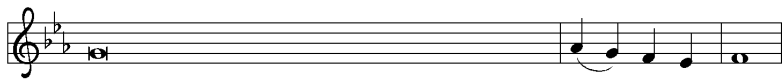
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



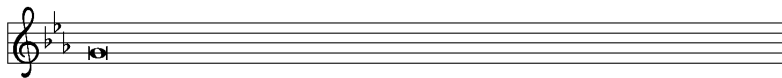
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



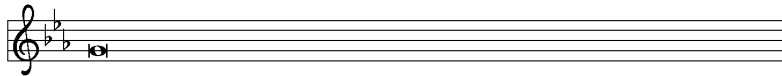
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

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.
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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

ADVENT WREATH *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah* (ELW 240, verse 2)

HOLY BAPTISM (page 227)

WORD

FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Malachi.

God announces a covenant with Israel. A messenger like Malachi (his name means “my messenger”) will prepare the way for the coming of the Lord by purifying and refining God’s people, as silver and gold are refined.

¹ See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Luke 1:68-79

In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us. (*Lk. 1:78*)

⁶⁸ Blessed are you, Lord, the | God of Israel,
you have come to your people and | set them free.

⁶⁹ **You have raised up for us a | mighty Savior,
 born of the house of your | servant David. R**
⁷⁰ Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us | from our enemies,
⁷¹ from the hands of | all who hate us,
⁷² **to show mercy | to our forebears,
 and to remember your | holy covenant.**
⁷³ This was the oath you swore to our | father Abraham:
⁷⁴ to set us free from the hands of our | enemies,
**free to worship you | without fear,
⁷⁵ holy and righteous before you, all the days | of our life. R**
⁷⁶ And you, child, shall be called the prophet of | the Most High,
 for you will go before the Lord to pre- | pare the way,
⁷⁷ **to give God's people knowledge | of salvation
 by the forgiveness | of their sins.**
⁷⁸ In the tender compassion | of our God
 the dawn from on high shall | break upon us,
⁷⁹ **to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shad- | ow of death,
 and to guide our feet into the | way of peace. R**

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:3-11

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Philippians.

The apostle Paul was the pastor of many new churches. He writes in this letter about his joy to be in partnership with the Christians of Philippi. Listen to how tender-hearted Paul, sometimes a stern preacher, is with his friends as he encourages them to grow in love and knowledge.

³ I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶ I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. ⁷ It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. ⁸ For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. ⁹ And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight ¹⁰ to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, ¹¹ having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL: Luke 3:1-6

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John the Baptist is a herald of Jesus, whose way is prepared by “repentance for the forgiveness of sins.” As we hear the careful record of human leaders, we sense the spectrum of political and religious authority that will be challenged by this coming Lord.

¹ In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness.

³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.’”

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* (ELW 254)

PRAYER

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God’s presence.

A brief silence.

Refining God, move through your church. Root out practices that harm your people, and kindle a fire for sharing the gospel among bishops, pastors, deacons, and all the baptized. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Renewing God, transform your creation. Steer us from habits that harm what you have made, and guide us in practices that preserve and restore creatures and habitats. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Ruling God, teach the nations your ways. Strengthen organizations and communities that broker peace and care for refugees, immigrants, and all caught in the center of conflict. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Rescuing God, restore your people who are in any need. Heal all who are suffering. Provide comfort and strength, and nurture sustained wholeness for the future. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Reforming God, fill this congregation with your presence. Enrich our seasonal preparations, and bless the efforts by worship committees, music ensembles, staff, clergy, and lay leaders as they work in the weeks ahead. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Reassuring God, we remember those who have died and rest in you. Guide us in deep gratitude for their life, and allow us to learn from their faithful witness. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen.

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.**

PRAYER

MUSICAL SELECTION

OFFERING

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.
Give thanks with a grate - ful heart, give thanks to the Ho - ly One,
give thanks be - cause he's giv - en Je - sus Christ, his Son.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am
rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. And
now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am
rich," be - cause of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

Last time

Text: Henry Smith
Music: GIVE THANKS, Henry Smith

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OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God,
you made the whole world,
even the farthest stars,
and you draw near to nurture us.
Fill us with anticipation and hope
that we may live in expectation
for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

God of endings and beginnings,
God in the darkness and the light,
God, our hope for the journey,
✠ bless and keep you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* (ELW 631)

DISMISSAL

The worship has ended, let the service begin.
Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.
Thanks be to God.

From *Sundays & Seasons*, © 2023 Augsburg Fortress.

DINKEY MEMORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 8, 2024

The Altar Flowers are not sponsored today.

The Bulletins are sponsored today by Irene Wenner in memory of husband, Jim Wenner.

Flower and bulletin charts for **2024 and 2025** are on the bulletin board above the stairs. You may either sign up on the charts or by calling the office at 610-377-4242. It is appreciated if you pay for your sponsorship by the end of the month that you have sponsored. **All weeks are open for the Memorial Bowl. It is very important for flower sponsors to return the cans and plastic gold bowls that they take the flowers home in. Thank you very much for your cooperation.**

Office Hours:

Monday, Thursday, Friday: 9:00AM to 2:00PM
(610)377-4242

The Week Ahead:

Today	9:00AM	2nd Sunday of Advent Worship
	12:30PM	Confirmation (D)
Monday	10:00AM	Palmer House Hymn Sing
Wednesday	9:00AM	Morning Prayer
	6:00PM	Advent Worship (SJ)
Thursday	9:30AM	Bible Study
	6:30PM	Choir
Sunday	9:00AM	3rd Sunday of Advent Worship
	12:30PM	Confirmation ; Christmas Caroling

Today we celebrate the baptism of Leo Oliver Price, son of Timothy Price and Kyrsten Solt. We pray for God's blessings on Leo throughout his life in Christ.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY December 8 to December 14

12/08 Elizabeth Rosko
12/09 Quinton Heiland
12/10 Kandice Barachie
12/11 Susan Wilkinson
12/12 Leisa Ahner

12/12 Logan Biegly
12/12 Angela Rothermel
12/13 Linda Arndt
12/13 Lori German

Thank you: Thank you to all who helped our five churches with the free Community Drive Thru Thanksgiving meal. Two hundred meals were made available to local families by those who made monetary donations, food donations (especially Lehighon Ford for the free turkeys), and all the volunteers who helped. It was greatly appreciated by Ben Salem UCC (Lehighon), Dinkey Memorial (Ashfield), St. John's (Mahoning), St. Peter's (West Penn), and Zion's Stone Church (West Penn).

2025 Flower & Bulletin Chart: The flower and bulletin charts for 2025 are on the bulletin board at the top of the stairs for anyone interested in sponsoring a date. There are also a few dates open in December 2024.

Giant Gift Cards: If you would like to purchase any Giant Gift Cards please see Kathy Steigerwalt. We receive 5% from each gift card sold.

Anniversary Celebration: In 2026 Dinkey Memorial will be celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the founding of the congregation in 1851. A team is being formed to coordinate the celebration and we are looking for people interested in sharing the history of the congregation and having some fun while doing so. The initial meeting will be January 8, 2025 at 6:30PM. If you are interested, please speak with Pr. Tony for more information.

Fundraising: Dinkey is selling Streak free cloths; \$5 each. Please contact Jan in the office if interested. Dinkey is also selling Zook's frozen meat pies; chicken & sausage are \$7, beef is \$8; pick up every Sunday from 10:00 – 11:30 in the social hall.

Fundraising: Dinkey is selling Papa Sarge's Homemade Pierogies; orders due by December 15, 2024; pick up , January 15, 2025 from 2:00-6:00PM. Sign up sheet on the back window.

Advent Toiletree: Dinkey will be collecting toilet paper and toiletry items for the Bare Necessities Pantry every Sunday through Advent. Bare Necessities supplies these items to residents in the Lehighon, Palmerton, and Jim Thorpe school districts. Please help those in need.

Fermenting our Faith: Join us on February 12, 2025, 7:00PM at St John's Mahoning to explore our faith in a relaxed setting. We will be ordering pizza and St John's will be providing drinks

Poinsettias: Poinsettias for Christmas Eve can be ordered by December 15, 2024. Cost is \$9.50. Order forms are on the back window for anyone interested or you can call the office (610)377-4242.

Altar Guild: We are in need of people willing to help with the altar guild. Responsibilities include setting up and cleaning up communion, refilling candles, updating the hymn boards, and changing paraments. Our goal is to form altar guild teams that will rotate on a monthly basis. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Pr. Tony (610-377-4242 or prdinklc@ptd.net).

MILITARY PERSONNEL FROM OR ASSOCIATED WITH DINKEY MEMORIAL

Noah K. Kunkel PSC41 Box 6927 APO AE 09464

1st Lt. Benjamin Cordova, 9300 Valencia St., Tucson, AZ 85747

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Tess Hinger

Debbie Meckel

Alice Scitney

Ruth Keck

Gordon Scherer

Debbie Strohl

SICK/HOSPITALIZED/SPECIAL NEEDS MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Eli Bowland

Joseph Gorman

Todd Schleicher

Steve Bowman

Family of Pinky Green

Madalin Smale

Mackenzie DeLuca

Sonny Hack

Sherry Smith

Willard Doll

Stephen Hoffman

Patti Walck

Lauren Dugan

Joe Kluk

Betty Weber

Candy Everett

Deb Lilly

Family of Edward

Kenny Schleicher

Finney

Lukas Schleicher

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

<u>Ministers:</u>	The Congregation
<u>Pastor:</u>	Reverend Anthony Pagotto
<u>Music Director:</u>	Bridgette Gorman
<u>Greeters:</u>	Everett
<u>Acolytes:</u>	Alexis Keller Jordyn Albert
<u>Lector:</u>	Nora Oswald
Worship Participants for December 15, 2024:	
<u>Greeters:</u>	Frey
<u>Acolytes:</u>	Rylee Keller Maggie Bowman
<u>Lector:</u>	Sunday School

Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding!

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing! "Christ is near," we hear it say.
2 Wak-ened by the sol- emn warn-ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 See the Lamb, so long ex-pect-ed, come with par-don down from heav'n.
4 So, when next he comes in glo-ry and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon-or, glo-ry, might, and bless-ing to the Fa-ther and the Son

The first system of music consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lower staff is in bass clef with the same key signature. The music is written in a simple, hymn-like style with block chords and some moving lines.

"Cast a-way the works of dark-ness, all you chil-dren of the day!"
Christ, our sun, all sloth dis-pel-ling, shines up-on the morn-ing skies.
Let us haste, with tears of sor-row, one and all, to be for-giv'n;
he will shield us with his mer-cy and with words of love draw near.
with the ev-er-last-ing Spir-it while un-end-ing a-ges run!

The second system of music also consists of two staves in the same key signature and clefs as the first system. The lyrics are placed between the two staves, with the music continuing above and below the text.

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814-1878
Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823-1889

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Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1 Come, thou long-ex - pect-ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king-dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art,
By thine own e - ter - nal Spir-it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, joy of ev - 'ry long-ing heart.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Music: JEFFERSON, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to
 2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy
 4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less

earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy
 trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us
 life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -
 let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -

faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,
 find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;
 more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing;
 ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,

pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with
 Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as
 serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee
 till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our

thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
 its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788
 Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1811-1887

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