

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 15, 2024



Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church

1742 Dinkey Road

Lehighon, PA 18235

610-377-4242

www.dmlcashfield.com

Zoom ID: 586 370 219



Dinke 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

NOISY OFFERING

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 *Prepare the Royal Highway* (ELW 264)

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.

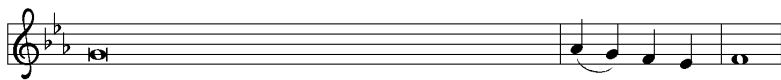
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



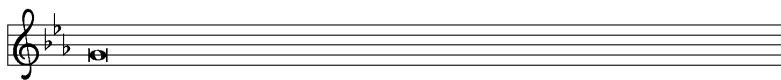
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



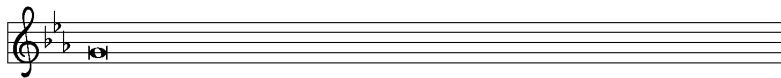
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; 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 3)

WORD

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 3:14-20

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Zephaniah.

The prophet Zephaniah's message is mostly one of judgment for sin. This reading, however, which comes from the conclusion of the book, prophesies joy for Judah and Jerusalem. Judgment has led to repentance, and God's salvation is at hand.

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵ The LORD has taken away the judgments against you,
he has turned away your enemies.

The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;
you shall fear disaster no more.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷ The LORD, your God, is in your midst,
a warrior who gives victory;
he will rejoice over you with gladness,
he will renew you in his love;
he will exult over you with loud singing

¹⁸ as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,

so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹ I will deal with all your oppressors
at that time.

And I will save the lame
and gather the outcast,
and I will change their shame into praise
and renown in all the earth.

²⁰ At that time I will bring you home,
at the time when I gather you;
for I will make you renowned and praised
among all the peoples of the earth,
when I restore your fortunes
before your eyes, says the LORD.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Isaiah 12:2-6

In your midst is the Holy One of Israel. (*Is. 12:6*)

² Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not | be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might, and has become | my salvation.

³ **With joy you | will draw water
from the wells | of salvation. R**

⁴ And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call | on God's name;
make known the deeds of the LORD among the nations; proclaim that this name | is
exalted.

⁵ **Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done | gloriously;
let this be known in | all the earth.**

⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, O | royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy | One of Israel. **R**

SECOND READING: Philippians 4:4-7

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Philippians.

Despite being in prison, Paul is remarkably upbeat as he writes this letter. Here, he urges his friends in Philippi to trust God with all their worries and concerns with the hope that they will experience God's joy and peace.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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.

GOSPEL: Luke 3:7-18

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

John the Baptist heralds the mighty one who is coming. John teaches that preparation for God's reign is not a matter of identity but of bearing fruits of merciful justice, radical generosity, and vocational integrity.

⁷ John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹ Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.”

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” ¹¹ In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” ¹³ He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” ¹⁴ Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to

them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.”

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ 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.”

¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

HYMN OF THE DAY *Hark, the Glad Sound!* (ELW 239)

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.**

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.

God who reforms, fill your church with courage to do your will. Empower your people in taking risks that bear fruit. Raise up leaders who will proclaim the good news. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God who creates, you hold in balance diverse ecosystems. Encourage efforts to protect wild lands from devastation. Care for animals and people in the path of destructive fires, storms, and other disasters. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God who leads, this world cries out for true justice. Guide legislatures, judges, and lawyers in actions steeped in love and restoration. Increase the desire to advocate for all who are confronted with discrimination and oppression based on race, gender, sexuality, class, or age. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God who embraces, help us notice the places where your people are hurting or sick. (*We pray especially for . . .*) Show your compassion and remember your people in love. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God who abides, you dwell among the people of this congregation. Deepen our relationships with one another, and make us aware of the diverse talents and gifts present here. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God who consoles, we thank you for the time we have had with loved ones who have died. Comfort us with the promise of everlasting life in you. 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.**

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 *Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers* (ELW 244)

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 15, 2024

The Altar Flowers are not sponsored today.

The Bulletins are sponsored today by Norm & Karen Wetzel in honor of Norm's dad Norm's birthday.

The noisy offering to benefit the Discretionary Fund.

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:

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

The Week Ahead:

Today	9:00AM	3rd Sunday of Advent Worship
	12:30PM	Confirmation; Christmas Caroling
Monday	6:00PM	Grief Share (SJ)
Tuesday	6:30PM	Choir
Wednesday	9:00AM	Morning Prayer
	6:00PM	Advent Worship (SJ)
Thursday	9:30AM	Bible Study
	3:30PM	Community Food Pantry
Sunday	9:00AM	4th Sunday of Advent Worship

HAPPY BIRTHDAY December 15 to December 21

12/15 Kara Newton
12/15 Jay Reinheimer
12/15 Holly Wilk
12/17 Deegan Berry

12/17 Thomas Steigerwalt
12/18 Donna Miller
12/20 Alice Scitney
12/21 Adam Howard

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.

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.

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.

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 Leighton, 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 Sunday, 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.

FYI: We have changed our mailing address from P O Box 250, Ashfield, PA 18212 to 1742 Dinkey Road, Leighton, PA 18235.

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	Family of Pinky Green	Lukas Schleicher
Sherri Bowman	Sonny Hack	Todd Schleicher
Steve Bowman	Stephen Hoffman	Madalin Smale
Mackenzie DeLuca	Joe Kluk	Sherry Smith
Willard Doll	Deb Lilly	Patti Walck
Lauren Dugan	Family of Larry Markell	Betty Weber
Candy Everett		
Joseph Gorman	Kenny Schleicher	

We are in need of volunteers as greeters/ushers, lectors, communion assistants and altar guild. Please let the office know if you are willing to volunteer.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

<u>Ministers:</u>	The Congregation
<u>Pastor:</u>	Reverend Anthony Pagotto
<u>Music Director:</u>	Bridgette Gorman
<u>Greeters:</u>	Frey
<u>Acolytes:</u>	Rylee Keller Maggie Bowman
<u>Lector:</u>	Sunday School

Worship Participants for December 22, 2024:

<u>Greeters:</u>	Wetzel
<u>Acolytes:</u>	Addisyn Kirkendall Colby Solt
<u>Lector:</u>	Elijah Pagotto

Prepare the Royal Highway



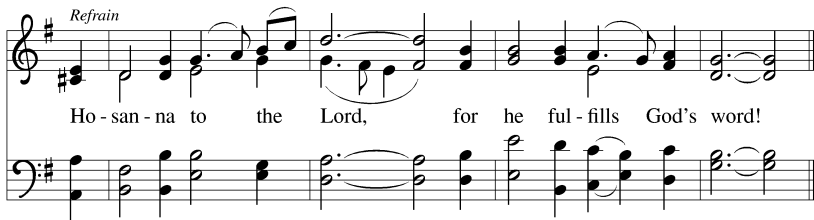
1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing; your own e - ter - nal king!
 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
 Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
 Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
 His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
 God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
 All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
 So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Refrain
 Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Text: Frans Mikael Franzén, 1772–1847; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
 Music: BEREDEN VÅG FÖR HERRAN, Swedish folk tune, 17th cent.
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Hark, the Glad Sound!

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
 2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
 3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
 4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come


prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
 bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
 soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
 shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
 fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
 of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
 arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

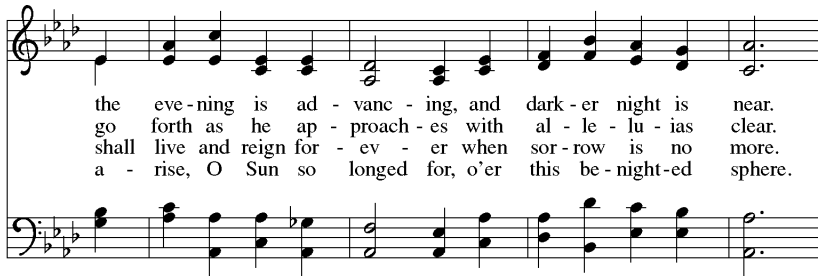
Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751
 Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820

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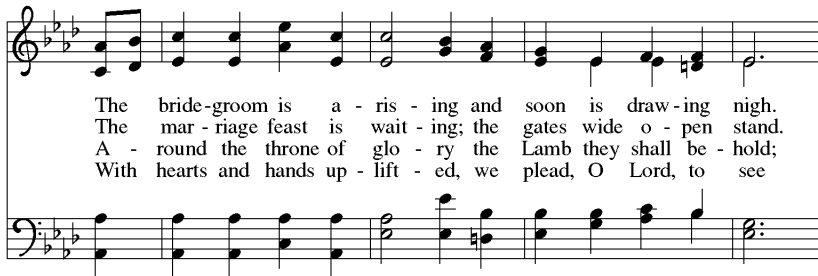
Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers



1 Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear;
 2 The watch - ers on the moun - tain pro - claim the bride - groom near;
 3 The saints, who here in pa - tience their cross and suf - f'ring bore,
 4 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



the eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
 go forth as he ap - proach - es with al - le - lu - ias clear.
 shall live and reign for - ev - er when sor - row is no more.
 a - rise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this be - night - ed sphere.



The bride - groom is a - ris - ing and soon is draw - ing nigh.
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing; the gates wide o - pen stand.
 A - round the throne of glo - ry the Lamb they shall be - hold;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



Up, pray and watch and wres - tle; at mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry; the bride - groom is at hand.
 in tri - umph cast be - fore him their di - a - dems of gold.
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion that sets your peo - ple free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660-1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823-1907
 Music: HAF TRONES LAMPA FÄRDIG, Swedish folk tune

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