

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 20, 2026



Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church

1742 Dinkey Road
Lehigh, 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!***

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NOISY OFFERING – to benefit CROP Walk

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,
who pours love into our hearts
and healing upon the earth.

Amen.

Confident that God justifies us by grace through faith,
let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,
**we confess that we struggle to embody your goodness
in the world and in our own hearts.**

Creation groans from overuse.

Jealousy and bitterness strain our relationships.

Indifference keeps us from seeking justice.

**Divisions disrupt your call to show genuine love
to others.**

Turn our hearts back to you.

**Restore our world and reconcile us to one another.
Renew us to live as your holy people,
following the way of Jesus Christ.**

Amen.

Hear this good news:

We have peace with God through ✝ Jesus Christ,
in whom there is no condemnation,
but only forgiveness and the promise of eternal life.
Receive freely this healing gift of grace.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

GATHERING SONG *Lord of Light* (ELW 688)

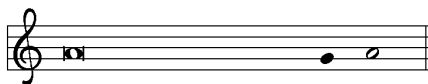
GREETING

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 a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



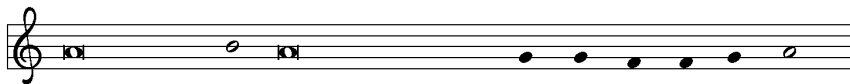
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



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 wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. 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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WORD

FIRST READING: Jonah 3:10—4:11

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Jonah.

After Jonah's short sermon in 3:4, the Ninevites all repented and God decided to spare the city. Jonah objected to this and became even more angry when God ordered a worm to destroy a plant that was providing shade. The book ends with a question that challenges any who are not ready to forgive: You, Jonah, are all worked up about a bush, but shouldn't I be concerned about a hundred and twenty thousand Ninevites?

¹⁰ When God saw what [the people of Ninevah] did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them, and he did not do it.

^{4:1} But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. ² He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. ³ And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." ⁴ And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" ⁵ Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city.

⁶ The LORD God appointed a bush and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort, so Jonah was very happy about the bush. ⁷ But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. ⁸ When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live."

⁹ But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." ¹⁰ Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush,

for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. ¹¹ And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?”

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 145:1-8

The LORD is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. (*Ps. 145:8*)

¹ I will exalt you, my | God and king,
and bless your name forev- | er and ever.

² **Every day | will I bless you
and praise your name forev- | er and ever.**

³ Great is the LORD and greatly | to be praised!
There is no end | to your greatness.

⁴ **One generation shall praise your works | to another
and shall de- | clare your power. R**

⁵ I will speak of the glorious splendor | of your majesty
and all your | marvelous works.

⁶ **They shall tell of the might of your | wondrous acts,
and I will re- | count your greatness.**

⁷ They shall publish the remembrance of | your great goodness;
they shall sing joyfully | of your righteousness.

⁸ **The LORD is gracious and full | of compassion,
slow to anger and abounding in | steadfast love. R**

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:21-30

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Philippians.

Paul writes to the Philippians from prison. Though he is uncertain about the outcome of his imprisonment, he is committed to the ministry of the gospel and calls on the Philippians to live lives that reflect and enhance the gospel mission.

²¹ For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. ²² If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me, yet I cannot say which I will choose. ²³ I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better, ²⁴ but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. ²⁵ Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, ²⁶ so that, by my

presence again with you, your boast might abound in Christ Jesus because of me.

²⁷ Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel ²⁸ and in no way frightened by those opposing you. For them, this is evidence of their destruction but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. ²⁹ For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ but of suffering for him as well, ³⁰ since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about God's generosity, challenging the common assumption that God rewards people according to what they have earned or deserve.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹ "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ² After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius for the day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³ When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴ and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. ⁵ When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. ⁶ And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around, and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' ⁷ They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' ⁸ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last

and then going to the first.’⁹ When those hired about five o’clock came, each of them received a denarius.¹⁰ Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius.¹¹ And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner,¹² saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’¹³ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a denarius?’¹⁴ Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you.¹⁵ Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’¹⁶ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Take My Life, That I May Be* (ELW 685)

APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reminded of God’s gracious and abundant love, we offer our prayers, confident that God hears us.

A brief silence.

Hold your church accountable for our unwillingness to share your good news and our anger at your generosity to others. Nourish us by your grace to be witnesses to your love. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Guide scientists and researchers studying responses to the climate crisis so that all your creation may inspire us to give thanks for your great goodness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Show employers the benefits of equal pay standards for all their employees. Reconcile conflicts between employees. Fill places of employment with camaraderie, and bring an end to employment disparity. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Encourage any who cannot work or who cannot work a full day with the truth that their value comes from your everlasting love for them. Provide for those who are injured, ill, and for all in any need (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Strengthen all those in this congregation whose labor serves the needs of others in the community. Inspire all in this congregation to support community endeavors with our time and talents. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Comfort us with the promise of the resurrection as we remember all our loved ones whose desire to be with Jesus is fulfilled. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Grant the prayers we have offered, what we have forgotten to ask, and whatever else you see that we need. We ask this in Jesus' name.

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: “Will You Let Me be Your Servant” – Dinkey “Voices in Song”

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

God of creation,
you send rain and the earth springs forth abundantly.
All blessings are from you;
make us generous with what we have.
Use our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts
in service to you and in love to our neighbors,
today and always.
Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The God of love
draw you into full accord and one mind,
in the body of Christ Jesus.
Amen.
The God of hope
grant you strength and joy in all circumstances

through the interceding of the Spirit.
Amen.
The God of grace
✝ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING SONG *Be Thou My Vision* (ELW 793)

DISMISSAL
The worship has ended. Let the service begin.
Go out in joy. Be led forth in peace.
Thanks be to God.

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DINKEY MEMORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS
September 20, 2026

The Altar Flowers are sponsored today by Bill & Donna Johnson in honor of their 42th wedding anniversary.
The Bulletins are not sponsored today.

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

The Week Ahead:

Today	9:00AM	17 th Sunday after Pentecost Worship
	10:15AM	Sunday School
Monday	10:00AM	Palmer House Hymn Sing
Wednesday	9:00AM	Morning Prayer
	6:00PM	Fermenting our Faith (Beacon 443)
Thursday	5:00PM	Sunday School Kickoff (Yenser’s)
Sunday	9:00AM	18 th Sunday after Pentecost Worship

Pastor Tony will be on vacation from September 24, 2026 through October 5, 2026. Please contact Kim Gerhard LLM (484)464-3295 for pastoral needs during Pastor's vacation.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! September 20 to September 26

09/20 Kelsey McCandless
09/20 Lavona Schleicher
09/20 Savannah Stuckley
09/21 Terri Andrews

09/24 Stephen Vayda
09/25 Trisha Buck
09/25 Erica Pagotto
09/26 Levi Steward

Confirmation: Pr. Tony will once again offer confirmation classes for those in 7th grade or higher that are not yet confirmed. If you are interested for yourself or someone else, please contact him at prdinklc@ptd.net or 610-377-4242

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.

Cookbooks: The Dinkey cookbooks have arrived and are ready for purchase, \$15 per cookbook. Please see Karen Schleicher.

Fundraising: Dinkey is selling Boscov's cards for \$5. On October 21, 2026, you will get 25% off everything you buy in store or online. Please see Karen Schleicher

Yenser's Tree Farm: There will be a Sunday School Kick Off for Dinkey and St John's families on Thursday, September 24, 2026 from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Sunday School children & parents are invited. Please call Becky McFadden (610)462-6329 with any questions.

Blessing of the Animals: Join us at St John's on Saturday, October 10, 2026 at 11:00 AM for Blessing of the Animals.

Crop Walk: The Carbon County Crop Walk will be held October 11, 2026 at 2:00 PM beginning at 600 Riverview Road, Lehighton.

Fall Festival & Basket Raffle: Ben Salem UCC is having a Fall Festival on Friday, September 25, 2026 from 5:00 to 7:30 PM and Saturday, September 26, 2026 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Fall Bazaar: St John's Mahoning is having a Fall Bazaar on Friday, October 2, 2026 from 5:00 to 7:30 PM and Saturday, October 3, 2026 from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

Fall Festival & Basket Raffle: Ben Salem UCC is having a Fall Festival on Friday, September 25, 2026 from 5:00 to 7:30 PM and Saturday, September 26, 2026 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

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

Brendan Schleicher 11611 Dyer Street, Apt 1026 El Paso, Texas 79934

Private Seth Koch Cuba

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Darwin Berger

Arlene Bisbing

Sheila Flickinger

Tess Hinger

Stephen Hoffman

Linda Markell

Debbie Meckel

Gordon Scherer

Patty Schleicher

Alice Scitney

Darwin Strohl

Debra Strohl

SICK/HOSPITALIZED/SPECIAL NEEDS MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Faith Beck

Sherri Bowman

Lauren Dugan

Candy Everett

Louise Everett

Ann German

Brenda German

Dick German

Joseph Gorman

Madisynn Hawk

Barbara Niehoff Janco

Sandy Keller

Joe Kluk

Deb Koch

Jim Koch

Deb Lilly

Armell McFarland

Robert Miller

Emily Persinger

Barry Ruth

Karen Schleicher

Kenny Schleicher

Tanner Schleicher

Georgine Shupp

Carol Steber

Kathy Steigerwalt

Patti Walck

Jason Wetzell

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Ministers:

The Congregation

Pastor:

Reverend Anthony Pagotto

Licensed Lay Minister:

Kimberly Gerhard

“Kimberly Gerhard, a Licensed Lay Minister, has been authorized by the Bishop of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod to provide pastoral services in this congregation.”

Assisting Minister:

Bryn Schleicher

Music Director:

Colleen Rudelitsch

Greeters:

Frey

Acolytes:

Alexis Keller

Lectors:

Elijah Pagotto

Worship Participants for September 27, 2026:

Greeters:

Wetzel

Acolytes:

Rylee Keller

Lectors:

Brad Kuehn

Lord of Light

1 Lord of light, your name out - shin - ing all the stars and
 2 By the toil of faith - ful work - ers in some far out -
 3 Grant that knowl - edge, still in - creas - ing, at your feet may
 4 By the prayers of faith - ful watch - ers, nev - er si - lent

suns of space, use our tal - ents in your king - dom
 ly - ing field, by the cour - age where the ra - diance
 low - ly kneel; with your grace our tri - umphs hal - low,
 day or night; by the cross of Je - sus, bring - ing

as the ser - vants of your grace; use us to ful -
 of the cross is still re - vealed, by the vic - to -
 with your char - i - ty our zeal; lift the na - tions
 peace to all and heal - ing light; by the love that

fill your pur - pose in the gift of Christ your Son.
 ries of meek - ness, through re - proach and suf - f'ring won:
 from the shad - ows to the glad - ness of the sun:
 pass - es knowl - edge, mak - ing all your chil - dren one:

Refrain
 Fa - ther, as in high - est heav - en, so on earth your will be done.

Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860–1953, alt.

Music: ABBOTS LEIGH, Cyril V. Taylor, 1907–1991

Text © Union of Welsh Independents.

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Take My Life, That I May Be

The musical score is written for a piano accompaniment. It features a treble and bass staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with chords and bass lines in the bass staff. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;

take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine;
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own;
it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

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Be Thou My Vision



1 Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2 Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3 Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4 Light of my soul, af - ter vic - to - ry won,



naught be all else to me, save that thou art:
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord.
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O heav - en's Sun!



thou my best thought both by day and by night,
 Thou my soul's shel - ter, and thou my high tow'r,
 thou and thou on - ly, the first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,



wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Text: Irish, 8th cent.; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1860–1935, alt.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1880–1931
 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional

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