



# Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

***God's purpose for our congregation is to faithfully witness God's Word in our community and throughout the world.***

***December 24, 2025; 10:00PM  
Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Eve  
Holy Communion***



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*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!***

### ***GATHERING***

#### **Prelude**

#### **Proclamation of the Birth of Christ**

#### **Gathering Hymn: Angels, from the Realms of Glory (#275)**

#### **Confession & Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\ddagger$  one God,  
Wonderful Counselor,  
Mighty Savior,  
Prince of Peace.

**Amen.**

Trusting in God's steadfast love and faithfulness,  
let us confess our sin.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Reconciling God,

**we yearn for your presence to transform  
our grief, pain, and despair.**

**We confess that we have not always prepared  
room in our hearts for your love;  
we have not always recognized  
your presence among us;  
we have not always embraced your message of peace.  
We cry out, weary with the burden of violence,  
oppression, and fear.**

**We confess our failure to make room  
for those seeking refuge;  
our participation in violent systems  
that harm your innocent ones;  
our reluctance to embody your good news.**

**Be born in us today  
and teach us to sing the joyful song of your salvation.  
Amen.**

God's grace upon grace flows over you.

 Christ's presence redeems the whole creation.

Your sins are forgiven. Let the earth rejoice and be glad!

**Amen.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

The true light that enlightens everyone has come into the world.  
God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray,

**Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

## ***WORD***

### **First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-7**

- <sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness  
    have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
    on them light has shined.
- <sup>3</sup> You have multiplied the nation,  
    you have increased its joy;  
they rejoice before you  
    as with joy at the harvest,  
    as people exult when dividing plunder.
- <sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden,  
    and the bar across their shoulders,  
    the rod of their oppressor,  
    you have broken as on the day of Midian.
- <sup>5</sup> For all the boots of the tramping warriors  
    and all the garments rolled in blood  
    shall be burned as fuel for the fire.
- <sup>6</sup> For a child has been born for us,  
    a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders;  
    and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

<sup>7</sup> His authority shall grow continually,  
and there shall be endless peace  
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it  
with justice and with righteousness  
from this time onward and forevermore.  
The zeal of the **LORD** of hosts will do this.

### **Psalm: 96**

<sup>1</sup> Sing to the **LORD** a new song;  
sing to the **LORD**, all the earth.

<sup>2</sup> **Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;**  
**proclaim God's salvation from day to day.**

<sup>3</sup> Declare God's glory among the nations  
and God's wonders among all peoples.

<sup>4</sup> **For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,**  
**more to be feared than all gods.**

<sup>5</sup> As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;  
but you, O **LORD**, have made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup> **Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;**  
**power and splendor are in your sanctuary.**

<sup>7</sup> Ascribe to the **LORD**, you families of the peoples,  
ascribe to the **LORD** honor and power.

<sup>8</sup> **Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;**  
**bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.**

<sup>9</sup> Worship the **LORD** in the beauty of holiness;  
tremble before the **LORD**, all the earth.

- <sup>10</sup> Tell it out among the nations: “The <sup>1</sup> LORD is king!  
The one who made the world so firm that it cannot be moved  
will judge the peoples with equity.”
- <sup>11</sup> Let the heavens rejoice, and let the <sup>1</sup> earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and  
all that <sup>1</sup> is therein.
- <sup>12</sup> Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy at your  
coming, O LORD,  
for you come to <sup>1</sup> judge the earth.
- <sup>13</sup> You will judge the <sup>1</sup> world with righteousness  
and the peoples <sup>1</sup> with your truth.

### **Second Reading: Titus 2:11-14**

<sup>11</sup> The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup> training  
us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age  
to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup> while we  
wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our  
great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup> He it is who gave himself for us  
that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a  
people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

### **Hymn: Once in Royal David's City (#269)**

### **Gospel: Luke 2:1-20**

*Response after the announcement: Glory to you, O Lord.*

<sup>1</sup> In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the  
world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This was the first registration and was  
taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> All went to their own  
towns to be registered. <sup>4</sup> Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth  
in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he  
was descended from the house and family of David. <sup>5</sup> He went to be

registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. <sup>6</sup> While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup> In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. <sup>10</sup> But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: <sup>11</sup> to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. <sup>12</sup> This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” <sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

<sup>15</sup> When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup> So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. <sup>17</sup> When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; <sup>18</sup> and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. <sup>19</sup> But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

*Response after the conclusion: Praise to you, O Christ.*

## Sermon

### Hymn: Angels We Have Heard on High (#289)

## 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.

## ***TABLE***

### Prayer of Intercession

Empowered by the news of Christ's birth, let us pray boldly for the church, creation, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Gathering God, you bring your people from every corner of the earth together before the manger that you have made a throne. Unite the church in love as we rejoice in the news of your coming. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Creating God, you brought forth the earth and all that is in it. Join our voices with the roaring seas, the exulting fields, and the trees of the forest singing for joy on this holy night. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Transforming God, the world trembles amid violence and war.

Empower our hands, feet, and hearts with your Spirit to shatter the rod of the oppressor and turn swords into plowshares. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Shepherding God, you lead us to your love in the face of our neighbor. Send us into the world to find your Word made flesh in one another, especially those who are sick or struggling (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Nurturing God, you dwell with us in humble places. Sustain housing and clothing ministries in this community, that all find shelter and warmth. We pray especially for youth seeking safety and care. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Abiding God, you remain at the side of all the departed. Grant all who mourn hope in the resurrection and peace in Christ Jesus. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

With the joy of Christ's birth in our hearts, we commend our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your boundless mercy and eternal love; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

## Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.*

## Offering

*At this time an offering is collected to support the ongoing ministries of the church. Please join in singing **What Child Is This (#296)**.*

### Offering Hymn: Away in a Manger (#277)

#### Offering Prayer

God of glory,  
Great are your wonders among us  
and many are the blessings you bestow.  
Use us and these your gifts for the needs of the world,  
that all the ends of the earth may rejoice in your saving grace,  
through Christ our Savior.

**Amen.**

### Great Thanksgiving: Sung to "Good Christian Friends Rejoice"

Oh, may the good Lord be with you.  
**And may the Lord be with you too.**

Lift your hearts to him in praise.  
**To the Lord our hearts we raise.**

Let us offer praises true.  
**It is fitting so to do.**

Gratefully we sing... to the Lord, our King.

*The minister continues:*

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,  
that we should at all times and in all places  
give thanks and praise to you,  
almighty and merciful God, through our Savior, Jesus Christ.  
In the wonder and mystery of the Word made flesh,  
you have opened the eyes of faith  
to a new and radiant vision of your glory,  
that, beholding the God made visible,  
we may be drawn to love the God whom we cannot see.  
And so, with all the choirs of angels,  
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,  
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Sanctus: Sung to “As With Gladness Men of Old”**

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,  
God of hosts by all adored:  
Heav’n and earth cannot contain  
all the glory of Your name!  
With the heav’nly host we sing  
highest praises to our King.**

**Hail! Hosanna! Endless fame  
be to him who, in God’s name,  
now draws nigh with us to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel!  
Hail! Hosanna! Praises be  
to the Lord eternally!**

*The minister continues:*

Holy God, Creator of all and Source of life,  
at the birth of time your word brought light into the world.  
In the fullness of time, you sent your Word, born of Mary,  
to shine in our darkness and to make us your daughters and sons.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his birth and life among us,  
his death and resurrection,  
we await his coming again when all things will be restored in him.

By your Spirit bless us and this bread and cup, that,  
held and nourished by you,  
we may live as your children, shining with the light of your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father,  
with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

**Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer: Sung to "Away in a Manger"**

**Our Father in heaven, all praise to your name!  
Your kingdom among us, your will done the same  
by mortals and angels. Come Lord, reign alone.  
Oh, hear us and bless us from heaven's high throne.**

**The bread that we yearn for provide us each day.  
As we forgive others, our sins take away;  
in times of temptation, to lead us be near;  
from evil deliver your children most dear.**

**For yours is the kingdom, o'er all things you reign.  
And yours is the power; all things you maintain.  
To you be the glory, resounding again  
from all of creation, forever! Amen.**

*Please be seated following the prayer.*

### **Communion**

*As a member of the ELCA, Dinkey Memorial celebrates open communion. All baptized Christians are welcome to share in communion. When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:*

The body of Christ, given for you.  
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond*

**Amen.**

### **Distribution**

*During the distribution, please join in singing the following hymns:*

**270, 276, 279, 282, 283, 288, 290, 293, 300**

*Following the distribution, the minister blesses the assembly.*

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

### **Prayer after Communion**

Incarnate God, you are among us at this table.  
May we treasure this gift and ponder in our hearts  
the mystery of your presence.

Move us to discover the wonders of your love  
in the everyday moments of our lives,  
through Christ born in us.

**Amen.**

### ***SERVICE OF THE LIGHT***

*During the lighting of the candles, we ask that the lit candles be held upright while the unlit candles are turned on their side for lighting.*

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light.

**The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.**

Those who dwelt in the land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

**We have beheld Christ's glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father.**

For to us a child is born, to us a Son is given.

**In him was life, and the life was the light of all.**

### **Hymn: Silent Night, Holy Night**

***Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright  
round yon virgin mother and child.***

***Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.***

***Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heav'nly hosts sing alleluia!***

***Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!***

*Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light  
radiant beams from your holy face,  
with the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.*

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## ***SENDING***

### **Blessing**

The triune God,  
glorious Mystery,  
holy Incarnate One,  
abiding Comforter,  
☩ bless with endless grace, peace, and joy.  
Amen.

### **Sending Hymn: Joy to the World (#267)**

### **Dismissal**

Glory to God in the highest!  
**And peace to God's people on earth!**  
The worship has ended, let the service begin.  
Go in joy. Embody God's redeeming grace.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **Postlude**

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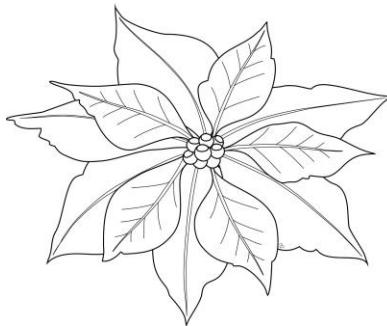
## **WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS**

<u>Ministers:</u>	The Congregation
<u>Pastor:</u>	Reverend Anthony Pagotto
<u>Musician:</u>	Bridgette Gorman
<u>Greeters:</u>	Karen Schleicher Todd Schleicher Kenny Schleicher Eric Solt
<u>Communion Assistants:</u>	Elijah Pagotto Erica Pagotto
<u>Acolyte:</u>	Colby Solt
<u>Lector:</u>	Courtney VanFossen

*May you have a blessed  
Christmas season!!*



## **POINSETTIA SPONSORSHIPS**



**(1-red) Arlene Bisbing and family**

In Memory of Karl Bisbing

**(4-red, 4-pink, 2-white) Mr. & Mrs.**

**Charles N. Eckert**

In Memory of Andreas, Balliet,  
and Nimson ancestors

**(1-red, 1-pink) Kirsten and Sierra  
Frankhouser**

In Loving Memory of our mom,  
Gina Koinski

In Honor of Pr. Tony, Erica, Elijah,  
& Claudia

**(2-white) Bill & Donna Johnson**

In Memory of Bill & Peg Johnson  
In Memory of Dale Rehrig

**(1-red) Joanne Koons**

In Loving Memory of Willard Doll  
and all loved ones

**(1-red) Pr. Tony, Erica, Elijah, &  
Claudia Pagotto**

In Honor of our church family

**(1-red, 1-white) Dan & Jan  
Schwartz**

In Memory of LaMar & Judith  
Schwartz and Lois Adams

In Honor of Elaine Manzo and  
Memory of Phil Manzo

**(1-red) Carol Steigerwalt and family**

In Memory of Philip Steigerwalt

## Angels, from the Realms of Glory

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,  
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God, the Fa - ther, Spir - it, Son,

once you sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant light.  
seek the great de - sire of na - tions, you have seen his na - tal star.  
ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing to the e - ter - nal Three in One.

*Refrain*

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt., sts. 1–3; *Salisbury Hymn Book*, 1857, st. 4  
Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

## Once in Royal David's City

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,  
And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;  
Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,

where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed;  
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;  
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above;  
we shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;

Mar-y was that moth-er mild, Je-sus Christ, her lit-tle child.  
with the poor and meek and low-ly, lived on earth our Sav-ior ho-ly.  
and he leads his chil-dren on to the place where he is gone.  
there his chil-dren gath-er round, bright like stars, with glo-ry crowned.

Text: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895  
Music: IRBY, Henry J. Gounflett, 1805-1876

## Angels We Have Heard on High

1 An - gels we have heard on high, sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,  
2 Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?  
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;

and the moun - tains in re - ply, ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.  
What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heav'n - ly song?  
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born king.

Rhythms

Glo - ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o; glo

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o,

Text: French carol; tr. H. F. Hemy, 75th Crown of Jesus (Austin), 1864  
Music: GLORIA, French carol; arr. Edward S. Barnes, 1887-1958

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## What Child Is This



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?  
2 Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?  
3 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep - ing?  
Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing.  
The King of kings sal - va-tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an - gels sing;  
Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you;  
Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mar - y!  
joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mar - y!



Text: William C. Dix, 1837-1898  
Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

## Away in a Manger



2 The cat-tle are low-ing; the ba-by a-wakes, but lit-tle Lord  
3 Be near me, Lord Je-sus; I ask you to stay close by me for -



Je-sus, no cry-ing he makes. I love you, Lord Je-sus; look  
ev-er and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear chil-dren in



down from the sky and stay by my cra-dle till morn-ing is nigh.  
your ten-der care and fit us for heav-en, to live with you there.



Text: North American, 19th cent.  
Music: AWAY IN A MANGER, James R. Murray, 1841-1905

## Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re -  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their  
3 No more let sin and sor - row grow nor thorns in -  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the

ceive her king; let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare him  
songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and  
fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings  
na - tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous -

room and heav'n and na - ture sing, and heav'n and na - ture  
plains re - peat the sound-ing joy, re - peat the sound-ing  
flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
ness and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

and heav'n and na - ture sing. and

sing, and heav'n, and heav'n and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

heav'n and na - ture sing.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748  
Music: ANTIOCH, English melody, 18th cent.; arr. Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

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