1st Sunday of Advent December 1, 2024



Dinkey Memorial Evangelical Lutheran Church

1742 Dinkey Road Lehighton, 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

SILENT 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.

GATHERING SONG People, Look East (ELW 248)

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



CANTICLE OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

ADVENT WREATH Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah (ELW 240, verse 1)

WORD

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

The reading may be announced:

A reading from Jeremiah.

In the Old Testament, "righteousness" often has to do with being faithful in relationship. God acts righteously both in punishing Israel for its sin and in having mercy. In today's reading, Jerusalem's future name—"The LORD is our righteousness"—proclaims that God is even now working salvation for Israel.

¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 25:1-10

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. (Ps. 25:1)

¹ To ¹ you, O LORD, I lift ¹ up my soul.

² My God, I put my trust in you; let me not be | put to shame, nor let my enemies triumph | over me.

- ³ Let none who look to you be | put to shame; rather let those be put to shame | who are treacherous.
- ⁴ Show me your | ways, O LORD, and teach | me your paths. R
- ⁵ Lead me in your | truth and teach me,

for you are the God of my salvation; in you have I trusted all | the day long.

- ⁶ Remember, O LORD, your compas- | sion and love, for they are from | everlasting. R
- ⁷ Remember not the sins of my youth and ¹ my transgressions; remember me according to your steadfast love and for the sake of your good- ¹ ness, O LORD.
 - 8 You are gracious and up-1 right, O LORD; therefore you teach sinners 1 in your way.
 - ⁹ You lead the low- 1 ly in justice and teach the low- 1 ly your way.
 - ¹⁰ All your paths, O LORD, are steadfast | love and faithfulness to those who keep your covenant and your | testimonies. R

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

The reading may be announced:

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

Upon Timothy's report from the congregation at Thessalonica, Paul is exuberant with gratitude for them. In this passage from his letter, Paul voices overflowing thanks, joy, and blessings for the people of this growing church.

- ⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.
 - $^{\mbox{\tiny 11}}$ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you.
- ¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³ And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

The reading may be concluded:

The word of the Lord.

The assembly responds:

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

GOSPEL: Luke 21:25-36

The gospel is announced.

The holy gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

God will fulfill God's purposes and, already, hidden signs of that fulfillment abound. On that great day there will be dismay, perplexity, confusion, and terror, but God's people shall be given strength to stand boldly and receive God's promised redemption.

[Jesus said:] ²⁵ "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near.

- ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place.
- ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.
- ³⁴ "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

The gospel concludes:

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY O Lord, How Shall I Meet You (ELW 241)

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation

he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

in accordance with the scriptures;

he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,* who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

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 of righteousness, your people live in hopeful expectation of your coming. Fill your church with renewed passion for our shared mission, and deepen our relationships with other Christians and other faith traditions in our local community and across the world. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God of the cosmos, all creation shows that your presence is near. Help us sense your goodness and love in the sun and moon, in sprouting leaves and bare branches, in the roaring sea and quiet breeze. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God of the nations, your reign extends over all principalities and powers. Give leaders and all in authority hearts for justice and peace. Encourage efforts to enact policies that benefit the common good. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God of change, you accompany us through life's transitions. Be near to all who are changing jobs, moving, welcoming children, or facing the loss of loved ones. Sustain those who are ill or suffering. In times of change, remind us of your steadfast love. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

God of community, your Spirit holds us together. Sustain our care for one another. Inspire us to seek new ways to live together and to embrace the diversity of thought and identity in our communities. Lord, in your mercy,

receive our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

God of memory, we give you thanks for faithful ones who have died. Tend to our grief and sorrow with renewed trust in your promise of abundant and eternal life. 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.

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.

MEAL

MUSICAL SELECTION

OFFERING

Give Thanks



Text: Henry Smith

Music: GIVE THANKS, Henry Smith

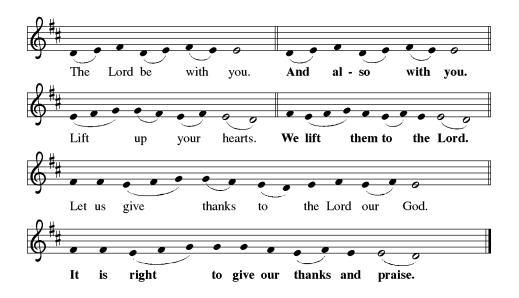
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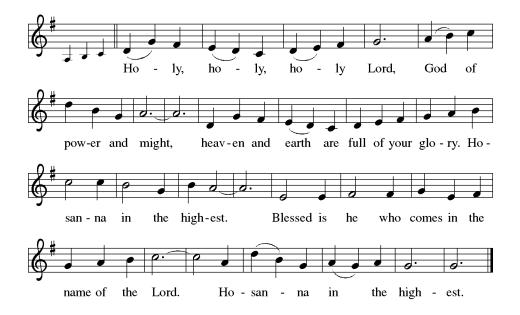
OFFERING PRAYER

Creator God,
you made the whole world,
even the farthest stars,
and you draw near to feed us.
We praise you for these gifts of bread and wine.
Strengthen us with this food
that we may live in expectation
for the advent of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ...praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

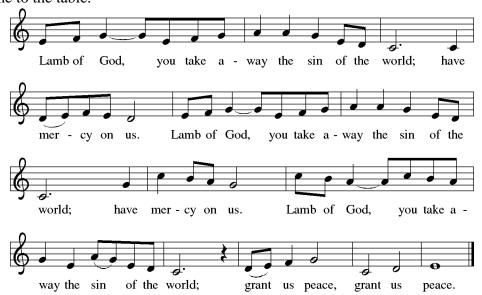
LORD'S PRAYER

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table.



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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Generous God,
we thank you for the gift of life,
for the bread of salvation.
We thank you for coming among us,
for leading us into peace.
We thank you for showering us with mercy,
for sending us into the world.
Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us
as we feed the hungry in your name.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

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

SENDING SONG Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending (ELW 435)

DISMISSAL

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

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DINKEY MEMORIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS December 1, 2024

The Altar Flowers are not sponsored today. **The Bulletins** are not sponsored today.

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 8:00AM to 1:00PM, Thursday, Friday: 9:00AM to 2:00PM (610)377-4242

The Week Ahead:

Today	9:00AM	1st Sunday of Advent Worship
Monday	6:00PM	Grief Share (SJ)
Wednesday	9:00AM	Morning Prayer
	6:00PM	Advent Worship (SJ)
Thursday	9:30AM	Bible Study
	6:30PM	Choir
Sunday	9:00AM	2nd Sunday of Advent Worship
	12:30PM	Confirmation (D)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY December 1 to December 7

12/03 Devin Biegley 12/06 Sierra Frankhouse	
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12/03 Ayden Hand 12/07 Owen Ruth	
12/03 Mitchell Reinheimer 12/07 Carl Schleicher	
12/04 Dennis Cunfer 12/07 William Watkins	Ш

Today's silent offering to benefit Always on Mission.

<u>Thank you</u>: 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 Lehighton Ford for the free turkeys), and all the volunteers who helped. It was greatly appreciated by Ben Salem UCC (Lehighton), 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.

<u>Giant Gift Cards</u>: 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.

<u>Fundraising</u>: 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.

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 prediction-needed.

<u>Fermenting our Faith</u>: 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.

<u>Advent Toiletree</u>: 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 Lehighton, Palmerton, and Jim Thorpe school districts. Please help those in need.

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.

<u>Trees for Troops</u>: We will be collecting monetary donations for Trees for Troops on Sunday, December 1, 2024. The donation boxes are located on the back pews. Send a fresh Christmas Tree to military families to say thank you for your service. You can make a world of difference to a military family this Christmas.





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

Joseph Gorman Lukas Schleicher Eli Bowland Family of Pinky Green Steve Bowman Todd Schleicher Sonny Hack Mackenzie DeLuca Madalin Smale Willard Doll Stephen Hoffman **Sherry Smith** Lauren Dugan **Hurricane Victims** Patti Walck Candy Everett Joe Kluk Betty Weber

Family of Edward Deb Lilly

Pastor:

Finney Kenny Schleicher

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

<u>Ministers</u>: The Congregation

Music Director: Bridgette Gorman

Greeters: Bierman

Acolytes: Bryn Schleicher

Mason Spitzer

Reverend Anthony Pagotto

Lector: Brad Kuehn

<u>Communion Assistants</u>: Joanne Koons

Elijah Pagotto

Worship Participants for December 8, 2024:

<u>Greeters</u>: Everett

Acolytes: Alexis Keller

Jordyn Albert

Lector: Nora Oswald

People, Look East



Text: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881–1965
Music: BESANÇON, French carol; arr. Barry Rose, b. 1934
Text @ Miss E Farjeon Will Trust, by permission of David Higham Associates.
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O Lord, How Shall I Meet You



Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607-1676; tr. composite Music: WIE SOLL ICH DICH EMPFANGEN, Johann Crüger, 1598-1662

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Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Music: HELMSLEY, Thomas Olivers, 1725–1799

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