



Children's Christmas Program
Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025
9:30 am



**DIAMOND
LAKE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

Facility Guide:

Accessibility

Hearing devices, noise-reduction earmuffs, and large print bulletins are available for worship services—please see the ushers for assistance. Automatic door openers are present on the main doors and restroom doors in the Commons Area. An elevator that accesses all floors can be found in the hallway to the right when entering from the main glass doors. Please feel free to borrow a walker or wheelchair (found in the entryway) for your time in our building.

Restrooms

Men's, women's, and all-gender restrooms are located in the Commons Area. They are to the left of the Lakeview Room entrance (or directly to your left when entering through the main glass doors).

Emergency and First Aid

A first aid kit, automated external defibrillator (AED), and fire extinguisher are located on the left when entering through the main doors. Other fire extinguishers can be found in the Narthex (the back of the sanctuary), the Vestry (front left of the sanctuary), and throughout the building.

Lost and Found

Missing something? Our Lost and Found is in the Commons Area coat room. Stop by anytime to check for items that may belong to you.

Notice of Filming and Photography

During worship services and church events at Diamond Lake Lutheran Church, photography and video recording may occur. These images and recordings may be used in church publications, social media, and other communications to share and celebrate our ministry. If you prefer not to be included in photos and video, please let an usher or staff member know. Thank you for your understanding and for being part of our community life together.

Welcome to Diamond Lake Lutheran Church!

We are so glad you are here! If you'd like more information about this community of faith, please fill out a Welcome card (found in the pew pockets near the hymnals) and place it in the offering plate or hand it to Pastor Andrea or an usher following worship. Take the Grow card with you if you wish! We invite you to enjoy coffee and Bogart's Doughnuts in the Commons before and after worship. Please wear your name tag each Sunday—it helps us welcome guests, get to know one another, and support those with memory concerns. If you don't yet have one, visit the Commons Area name tag station to make yours. We encourage adding pronouns to name tags!

Children in Worship

Children are encouraged to be present for worship—build-your-own activity bags are located in the narthex, along with children's bulletins. Children are invited to use the Pray-Ground at the front of the sanctuary. A nursery is located on the lower level if you need it. Please ask an usher for directions. If you are a nursing parent, you are welcome to nurse anywhere. If you would like privacy, there is a nursing room in the nursery downstairs.

Participating in Today's Service

Pastor: Rev. Andrea Roske-Metcalfe
Assisting Minister: Joe Plummer
Organist/Pianist: Dr. Kevin Hobbs
Acolyte: Lacy Tooker-Kirkevold
Greeters: Harley and Lana Hanson
Communion Baker: Sue Nelson
Communion Leader: Nancy Zemske

Communion Servers: Carol Anderson,
Louis Campbell
Ushers: Julie Schmidt
A/V Tech: Frank Anderson, John Nelson
Nursery: Mary Teurman
Coffee Hosts: Sophia Herrera
Pray-ground Cleanup:
Pursers: Bob Gustafson, Russ Michaletz

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

In this liminal time, there are so many reasons not to say YES. Even the small YESes in our daily lives feel riskier. Decisions about where we put our money, our time, our energy, our confidence, and our faith feel more important than ever. We come from a history of people who said YES—everyday people, brave and faithful, who said YES to God. In Advent, these YESes are even more significant. This story that we tell isn't just on a page, but one that lives in our bones, and prompts us to say our own YES when we are called into what God is doing now.

We invite you to rise in body or in spirit each time the ‡ symbol appears.

PRELUDE

Gesu Bambino, Yon

WORDS OF WELCOME

TRINITY CHIMES

LITANY FOR LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

We light one candle for one God,
The one who comes to us as a baby, swaddled and wailing.
We light one candle for one hope, one light, one salvation.
We light one candle to say YES to the invitation
to participate in the story of God's people.

We light two candles for two people: you and me.
The way of Jesus is not often the easy one,
And so we walk it together.
We light two candles to say YES to the invitation
to walk the way of Jesus together.

We light three candles for the mystery of the Trinity:

Creator, Christ, and Spirit.

We light three candles as we worship that which we cannot ever fully name.

We light three candles to say YES to the invitation
to look for the holy in the most surprising of places.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: MARY SAID YES!

Director: Lacy Tooker-Kirkevold

Kids Club Leaders: James Powell and Jessie Jones

Costume Manager: Felecia Schmidt

Stage Manager: Sabrina Falk

Cast:

- Narrators – Cecie Campbell, Harper Schmidt, Clementine Roske-Metcalf
- Elizabeth – Indie Schmidt
- Zechariah – Samuel Schleicher
- Mary – Minerva Spring
- The Angel Gabriel (Gabbie) – Summer Schleicher
- Joseph – Max Spring
- Shepherds – Fritz and Franny Werth
- Angel – Madelyn Falk
- Wise Ones – Aurora Schleicher and Emelia Pedersen
- King Herod – Emmett Miller
- Sheep and barnyard animals – Lars Lunder, Stella Hobbs

The congregation is invited to sing along with the hymns included in the program.

Opening Hymn: *Here Am I*, by Hannah C. Brown & Kate Williams



1. Ga - briel said, "do not fear;" I felt
 2. Who am I, that your grace should soar
 3. Some may say that my worth's not e -

glo - ry com - ing near! I was trou - bled and I
 in and find a space, grow - ing jus - tice for the
 nough to give you birth but your fa - vor rests up -

won - dered, could this be? God, your right - eous - ness and
 world with - in my frame? But my bod - y and my
 on me none - the - less. Yes, my ba - by will be

pow'r give me strength to brave this hour, to take
 soul are both read - y to ex - tol; I will
 great, and my heart can bear this weight, gen - er -

cour - age and pro - claim that I a - gree!
 mag - ni - fy your love and praise your name!
 a - tions yet to come will call me blessed!

Here am I, here am I with a heart pre - pared to
 serve, let it be to me ac - cord - ing to your word.

Here am I, here am I with a heart pre - pared to serve,
 let it be to me ac - cord - ing to your word.

Prologue: Elizabeth, Zechariah, and John the Baptist

Hymn: *O Magnify the Lord With Me* by Chris Shelton (To the tune of *God Rest ye Merry Gentlemen*)

O magnify the Lord with me, and let us praise God's name!
For God looks on our lowliness and loves us just the same;
God's mercy is from age to age, and justice is God's aim.
Oh, tidings of justice and joy, justice and joy!
Oh, tidings of justice and joy!

O lift your hearts, you hungry ones, God fills you with good things!
God turns away the rich and proud, and breaks the power of kings;
God's promise is for evermore – each generation sings:
Oh, tidings of justice and joy, justice and joy!
Oh, tidings of justice and joy!

Now sing unto the Ageless One throughout the human race,
and with true love and unity each other now embrace,
for Christ is born, Emmanuel – and endless is God's grace!
Oh, tidings of justice and joy, justice and joy!
Oh, tidings of justice and joy!

Act 1: Mary

Hymn: *Canticle of the Turning*.....ELW 723 (vs 1, 2, 3)

Act 2: Joseph

Hymn: *Away in a Manger*.....ELW 277

Act 3: The Shepherds

Hymn: *Go Tell It on the Mountain*.....ELW 290

Act 4: The Wise Ones

Hymn: *The First Noel*.....ELW 300

Epilogue: All the Rest of Us

Hymn: *Joy to the World*.....ELW 267 (vs 1, 2, 4)

‡ **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

In our waiting and watching, we come to you in prayer, O God, trusting your promise to renew the church, the nations, and the whole of creation.

A brief silence.

God of grace,
receive our prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, as we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy through Jesus Christ, Emmanuel.

Amen.

‡ **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

You may share the peace with those around you.

OFFERING

“Away in a Manger” played by Indie Schmidt

“Go Tell It on the Mountain” played by Emelia Pedersen

General Fund

We give thanks for all the ways members and friends of Diamond Lake Lutheran Church contribute to the mission and vision of this congregation—gifts of time, gifts of participation and expertise, as well as finances. Financial gifts to the general fund help to make possible both in-house and outreach ministries, as well as sharing of our resources with the wider community.

December Mission of the Month: The Minnesota Indian Women’s Resource Center

The Minnesota Indian Women’s Resource Center (MIWRC) is a nonprofit social and mental health services organization committed to traditional ways of being and support of Native women and their families. Founded in 1984, MIWRC provides a broad range of programs designed to educate and empower Native women and their families, and to inform and assist those who work providing services to the

a community. Programs are developed to address issues that significantly affect the well-being of Indigenous women and their families such as affordable housing, chemical dependency, mental health care, cultural resilience and healing, and other family and community issues.

Give to the General Fund or Mission of the Month via:

Cash – Use a “Give Back” envelope from the pew pocket to designate a fund for your donation.

Check – Write the name of the designated fund in the memo line.

Phone – Scan the QR code to visit the Give Back page of www.dllc.org and select a fund from the drop-down menu. Repeat the process if giving to both funds.



Scan to Give

Thank you!

‡ **OFFERTORY** (sung to the tune of “Away in a Manger”)

Oh, what shall I render in thanks to my Lord
for all the good gifts by which I am restored?
No treasure I tender could ever repay
God’s mercy and faithfulness, new every day.
My hands take the cup of salvation you give;
I’ll praise you, O God, for as long as I live.
My thanks will rise up as I call on your name,
with all of your people your goodness proclaim.

‡ **OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pray.
God of every good gift,
We offer what we have back to you,
knowing that your son is the greatest gift we will ever receive.
Grant us glad and generous hearts,
ever and always,
Amen.

‡ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

‡ LORD'S PRAYER

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

Even as we wait and watch this season,
Good News is here already, hosting this meal.
Come, join in this feast of abundance

LAMB OF GOD (Sung to the tune of “O Come, O Come, Emanuel”)



O Lamb of God you take a-way our sin; have mer-cy on us, give_ us your
peace. Pre -pare us to re - ceive_ your grace and teach us how to fol - low your ways. Re-
joice! Re- joice! E - man - u - el has come to you, O Is - ra-el.

DISTRIBUTION

As Christ offered himself without restriction to those gathered at the last supper, so too he invites all gathered here to partake in this meal. If you wish to receive the sacrament, come forward with your hands outstretched to receive the bread, and dip it either in the red wine or the white grape juice (both offered in each chalice).

If you wish to receive a blessing, come forward with your hands over your heart.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request, and a chalice of grape juice is provided for gluten-free intinction. If it is difficult for you to come forward, please inform an usher, and the pastor will bring the sacrament to you in your seat.

COMMUNION HYMNS

What Child Is This.....ELW 296

Angels We Have Heard on High.....ELW 289

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Christ Jesus,

You have fed us with love incarnate,
and we are utterly changed.

Send us forth from this meal to be forces for change in this world,
as we find the YES within each of us,

Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

‡ BLESSING

May God bless you with courage, as you seek the YES within you;

May Christ be born again in every risk you take for the sake of the world;

And may the Holy Spirit remind you, again and again, that you are never alone,
and that you are loved beyond measure.

Amen.

‡ **SENDING HYMN**

It Came upon the Midnight Clear.....ELW 282 (vs 1, 3, 4)

‡ **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace, and stay awake,
Go in joy, and stay alert,
Go in love, for every neighbor and for yourselves,
As we wait for the birth of Christ.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Little Drummer Boy, arr. Hayes

This congregation traditionally sits and remains in the sanctuary to hear the postlude, which is offered by Dr. Hobbs. If you need to leave early, please feel free to do so quietly.

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Mary Said Yes! Writer's Note:

This pageant has been on my heart since June of 2022. I've been writing for Church Anew for several years now - liturgy and blog posts and the like - and this past summer they invited me to contribute to their Advent series. "We're hoping to include a Christmas pageant this time," they said, "but we're not sure who to----"

"ME ME ME!" I responded. "I'VE ALREADY WRITTEN IT IN MY HEAD AND IT'S CALLED MARY SAID YES!"

And so it was and so here we are. I did my best to write this pageant in such a way that any and every kind of church could make it work, and I'm delighted that our own Children, Youth & Family ministry opted to use it this year (even when I made it really clear they didn't have to). What a gift it is to me to see my own work come alive here this morning, in all its messy glory.

A word, as well, about the Opening Hymn, Here Am I. Again, all the way back in 2022, I was dreaming aloud about this pageant, this time with my good friend, Hannah Brown. She's a UCC pastor, but she also happens to be a prolific hymn writer, and she wrote this one for this very pageant. Lucky ducks, we are, to be able to sing it here this morning.

Blessed Messy Christmas, dear friends.

Pastor Andrea Roske-Metcalf

December Worship



Wednesday Holden Evening Prayer

December 17

6:30 pm

We're gathering in the Sanctuary after dinner on Wednesdays for a time of song, candlelight, poetry, and stillness in the midst of a busy season. Together we'll sing through the Holden service, including Mary's Magnificat, as we wait for the coming of Emmanuel, God-With-Us. All ages are invited to attend; Kids Club will not be running during these services—families are encouraged to worship together.



Blue Christmas Service

Saturday, December 20

6 pm

Christmastime can be hard for those who are grieving, those struggling with depression, those feeling isolated or alone, and those for whom the future seems bleak. This quiet, candlelit service is designed especially for those who need a moment of stillness amid the holiday rush. All are welcome to come and experience God's light and hope on the longest night of the year. A staffed nursery will be provided.



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 21

9:30 am

On the Fourth Sunday of Advent, we gather in hopeful expectation as we light the final candle on the Advent wreath. Worship centers on the nearness of Christ's arrival and the promise of God's love made real in the world. Through scripture, prayer, and song, we reflect on Mary's faithful "yes," the unfolding story of God's redemption, and the love that prepares us to welcome the Christ child. A staffed nursery will be provided.



Christmas Eve Worship

Wednesday, December 24

4 pm

Worship on Christmas Eve is a traditional service, ending with a candlelit singing of *Silent Night*. Come to be grounded in the story we know so well, and to sing your favorite Christmas hymns. This is a family-friendly service – there will be a Sermon on the Steps and battery-operated candles for kids.



You are welcome at Diamond Lake Lutheran Church, a Reconciling in Christ congregation. Your presence makes your journey part of our journey—one we share with people of all ages and abilities, family structures, sexual orientations, gender identities and expressions, races and ethnic backgrounds, and financial circumstances. We affirm that every individual is a member of God's family, uniquely created and worthy of belonging. We are joyfully committed to hearing your stories, engaging your gifts, and working alongside you to strive for racial equity, promote social and economic justice, and heal our broken world. This congregation, like all congregations, is fallible and flawed. We make mistakes. But we are dedicated to building relationships with all who believe, doubt, question, seek, and wonder.



We acknowledge that we gather as Diamond Lake Lutheran Church on the traditional land of the Wahpekute band of the Santee division of the Dakota people past and present.

Our mission: Stirred by the Spirit of Christ to learn, follow, and serve.
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