

First Sunday of Advent
November 29, 2026
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: Royce Graydon
Organist/Pianist: Dr. Kevin Hobbs
Special Music: Anna Koopmann
Door Monitor: Sean Laird
Head Usher: Natalie Remus
Usher: Sue Nelson
Coffee Host: Sue Nelson
Greeter: Julie Schmidt
Acolyte: Lyle Dean
Reader: Sam Schleicher
Communion Baker: Sue Nelson
Communion Leader: Nick Schmidt
Communion Servers: Julie Schmidt, Felecia Schmidt, Indie Schmidt
A/V Tech: John Nelson, Gary Milne
Pursers: Anne Groskreutz, Lisa Ritzinger

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Across the stories of Advent and Christmas, angels show up and say "Do not be afraid"—not because there's nothing to fear, but because in fact, the opposite is true: there is much to be afraid of. But fear never gets the final word. In this season, we learn that courage is not the absence of fear, it is being afraid and doing the scary thing anyway. Through stories of ordinary people finding their courage and doing scary things, we discover the good news that was there all along.

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

PRELUDE *Manger Medley,* Hayes

WORDS OF WELCOME

TRINITY CHIMES

LITANY FOR LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

In the temple, an old priest was told, "Do not be afraid"— and still, he did not believe.

We light this candle for everyone who has ever doubted a promise too good to be true.

His silence was not the end of the story. Something was still growing.

We light this candle for the waiting that feels like nothing, but hides something more.

(Candle is lit)

Fear did not get the final word for Zechariah. It will not get the final word for us.

Come, Lord Jesus. We are waiting—afraid, and yet, hoping.

CANDLE HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.....ELW 257 (vs 1)

‡ REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

Dear ones, in the beginning, in the water,
God said to you what the angels keep saying, all season long:
Do not be afraid!

You were washed in the waters of baptism not because you had it all figured out,
but because you were loved before you even glimpsed your belovedness.
That water still holds you—through every wilderness, every scandal,
every dream, every silent waiting.

You are named. You are claimed.
We are named by God.
We are claimed as beloved!

You belong to the one who is not finished with you yet.
Remember your baptism, and be not afraid.
May it be so. Amen!

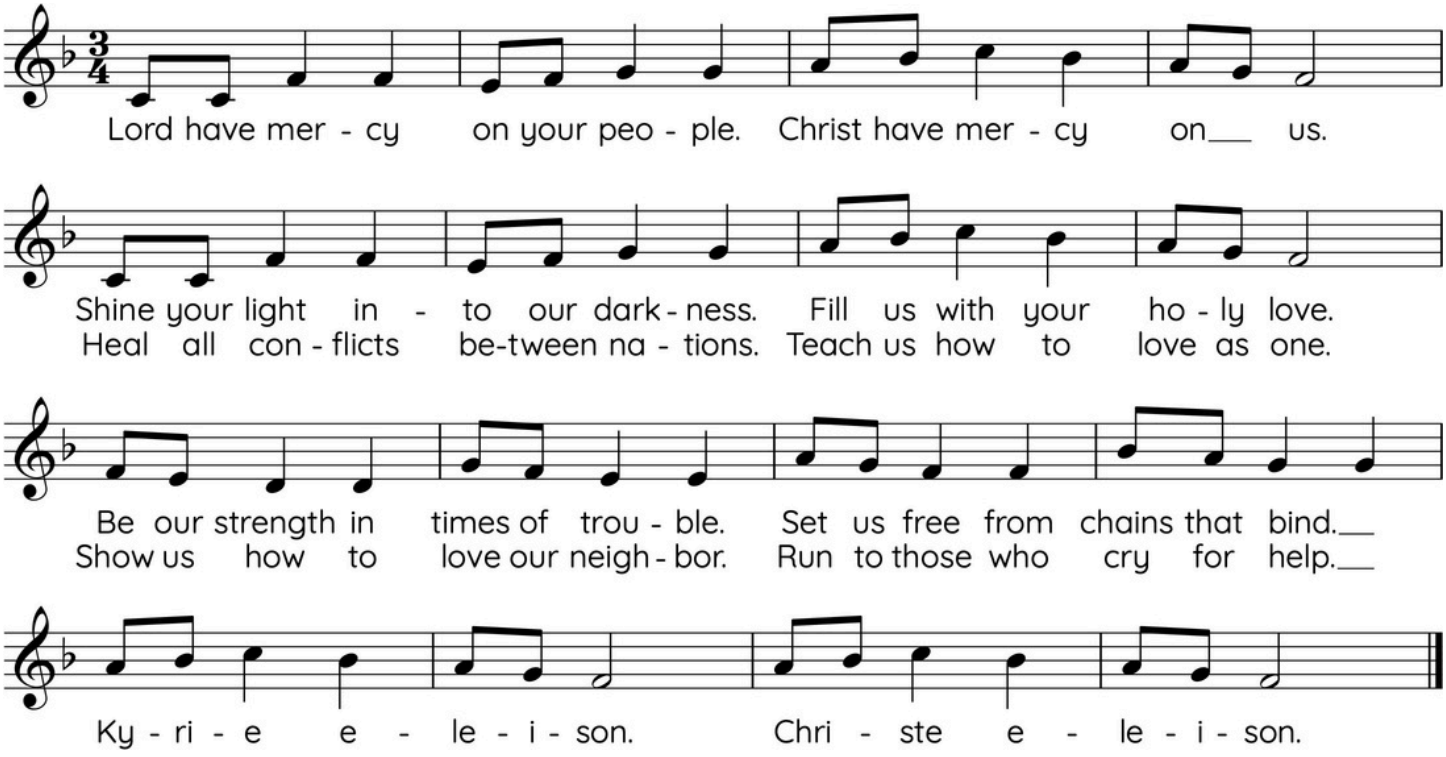
‡ GATHERING HYMN

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers.....ELW 244 (vs. 1, 4)

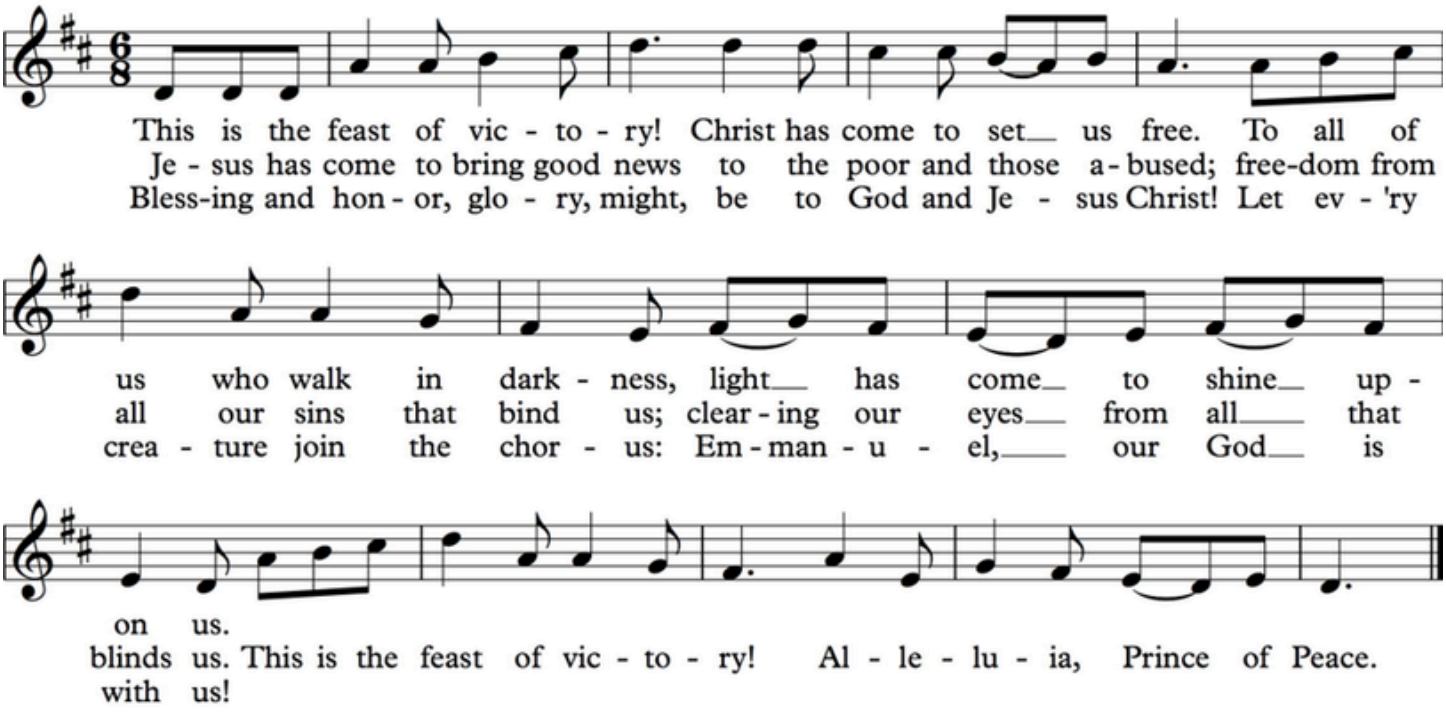
‡ GREETING

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** (Sung to the tune of "Infant Holy, Infant Lowly")



‡ **CANTICLE OF PRAISE** (Sung to the tune of "People Look East")



‡ PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.
Faithful God,
who spoke through an angel in the temple
and left Zechariah silent with wonder and doubt:
quiet in us the voices that tell us hope is foolish,
and the fears that keep us from believing your promises.
Give us the courage of Elizabeth, who welcomed new life
when the world had stopped expecting it from her.
Teach us to wait as she waited—not in silence alone,
but in silence that is making room for song.
We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, the Word who was coming
even before we had words for him,
Amen.

SERMON ON THE STEPS

‡ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (sung to the tune of "Once in Royal David's City")

Alleluia! Lord and Savior;
open now your saving Word.
Let it burn like fire within us;
speak until our hearts are stirred!
Alleluia! Lord, we sing
for the good news that you bring.

‡ GOSPEL: LUKE 1:5-25

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was descended from the

daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

Once when he was serving as priest before God during his section's turn of duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord to offer incense. Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense. When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified, and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord."

Zechariah said to the angel, "How can I know that this will happen? For I am an old man, and my wife is getting on in years." The angel replied, "I am Gabriel. I stand in the presence of God, and I have been sent to speak to you and to bring you this good news. But now, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time, you will become mute, unable to speak, until the day these things occur."

Meanwhile the people were waiting for Zechariah and wondering at his delay in the sanctuary. When he did come out, he was unable to speak to them, and they realized that he had seen a vision in the sanctuary. He kept motioning to them and remained unable to speak. When his time of service was ended, he returned to his home.

After those days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she remained in seclusion. She said, "This is what the Lord has done for me in this time, when he looked favorably on me and took away the disgrace I have endured among my people."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Rev. Andrea Roske-Metcalfe

HYMN OF THE DAY

Hark, the Glad Sound!.....ELW 239 (vs. 1, 3, 4)

‡ PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In hope and expectation, we bring to God our prayers for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God, in your mercy,
recieve our prayer.

We entrust these and the prayers of our hearts to you, most holy God, in the name of Christ Jesus our Savior,
Amen.

‡ SHARING OF THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

You may share the peace with those around you.

OFFERING Anna Koopmann

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.

Fifth Sunday: Angel Fund Donations

During every month with five Sundays we take one Sunday off from our Mission of the Month donations in order to stock the Diamond Lake Lutheran Angel Fund. This fund is intended to provide a meal or a tank of gas or a small financial cushion when a situation feels desperate for someone in our church community. If you'd like to contribute gift cards for gas or groceries, rather than cash, please see Director of Community Outreach John Pedersen. If you find yourself in need of help from the Angel Fund, please contact Pastor Andrea.

Give to the General Fund or the Angel Fund via:

Cash – Use a "Give Back" envelope from the pew pocket to designate a fund for your donation. Loose cash without an envelope will go towards the General Fund.
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.
Thank you!

Scan to Give

‡ 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 who gave without holding back—a promise to Zechariah, a child to Mary, a dream to Joseph, a sky to the shepherds—we bring these gifts, small as they may seem beside such abundance. Take our fear along with our offering, and make of both something we could not make alone. In the name of the one who was given first to us,
Amen.

‡ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

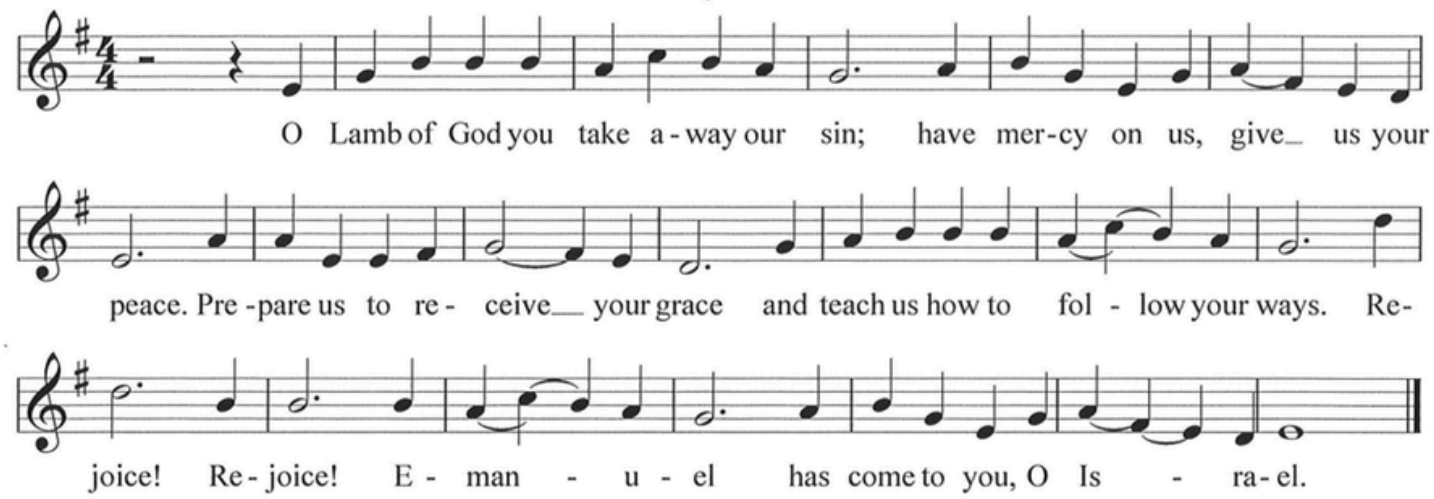
‡ LORD'S PRAYER

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

Fear not! God is with us.
Come, receive what God has promised.

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



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

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus.....ELW 254
What Feast of Love.....ELW 487

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
Providing God,
you feed your flock like a shepherd
and gather your people into your arms.
We praise you for the care and sustanance
you give at this meal and always.
As we leave your table, carry us near your heart,
and send us with courage in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior,
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

‡ BLESSING

Go into the world where angels still say, "Do not be afraid"—
to the doubting, the overlooked, the wild-voiced, the obedient, the unannounced.
May you recognize the holy in what unsettles you,
and find that courage is not the absence of fear
but rather its companion.
Go, carrying the fearsome, holy thing you have been given in this moment.
Amen.

‡ SENDING HYMN

Blessed Be the God of Israel.....ELW 250 (vs. 1, 3)

‡ DISMISSAL

Whether you go in peace or in fear,
above all, go with the knowledge that God goes with you;
that God will never leave you;
that God has always called you "beloved."
Thanks be to God! Amen.

POSTLUDE *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen,* arr. Alexander

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.

Cover: Segment from “A Visit” by John August Swanson, (1995 CE).
Litany for Advent Candles, Remembrance of Baptism, Prayer of the Day, Offering Prayer, and Blessing © 2026 Church Anew. Used with Permission. Dismissal by Rev. Andrea Roske-Metcalfe. Kyre, Canticle of Praise, Gospel Acclamation, Offertory, and Lamb of God music from “Everlasting Light” liturgy written and/or adapted by Pastor David Eck, Abiding Savior Lutheran Church, Fairview, NC. Copyright 2011. Used with permission.
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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.

5760 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55417 + 612-866-2579 + www.dllc.org

Diamond Lake Lutheran Staff

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Parker Webster (he/him) - Parish Nurse - parker.webster@dllc.org

Dr. Kevin Hobbs (he/him) - Organist/Pianist

Dr. Bruce Gleason (he/him) - Diamond Lake Lutheran Choir Director

Chuck Linderkamp (he/him) - Handbell Choir Director

Mary Teurman (she/her) - Nursery Coordinator

Pete Anderson (he/him) - Kitchen Coordinator

Julie Sarff (she/her) - Wedding Coordinator

John Nelson (he/him) - Technology Coordinator

Lucía Salazar-Davidson (she/he) - Artist-Activist in Residence