

Fourth Sunday of Advent
December 22, 2024



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 worship and in the Lakeview Room following worship. Please leave your nametag on during the fellowship time.

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.

Special Assistance

Hearing devices and large print bulletins are available. Please see the ushers for assistance.

Participating in Today's Service

Pastor Andrea Roske-Metcalf

Assisting Minister: Jan Michaletz

Acolyte: Lyle Dean

Baptism Congregational Representative: John Pedersen

Greeter: Julie Schmidt

Reader: Kirk Gallup

Communion Servers: Kirk Gallup, Joe Plummer

Ushers: Sean Laird

A/V Tech: Nick Schmidt, Frank Anderson

Pianist/Organist: Dr. Kevin Hobbs

Senior Choir Director: Dr. Bruce Gleason

Nursery: Mary Teurman

Pray-ground Clean Up:

Pursers:

Coffee Host: Kathi Gallup

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

God sent prophets to the peoples of Israel and Judah, often bringing words of warning and condemnation for idolatry and injustice, calling the people to get back on the right path. However, in times of suffering, the prophets gave God's people words of hope—that God would rescue them from their troubles. God delivered Daniel from the lions' den. Joel spoke of a hope that comes out of repentance, and Isaiah prophesied of the hope that comes through the Messiah—the one who will deliver humanity from suffering and oppression. Finally, the Messiah's birth is foretold to his mother by an angel and confirmed by her cousin Elizabeth.

We invite those who are able to stand each time the † symbol appears.

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

TRINITY CHIMES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding!

arr. Monk

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

L: In this Advent season, the herald in the wilderness calls out,
“Prepare the way of the Lord!”
and the prophets call us to righteousness.
We live in a world that trades in isolation and comparison,
competition and fear.

C: ***We are waiting for the One
who will turn the world around,
causing us to live in connection and compassion,
mutual support and liberation.**

L: We live in a world that races for money and success,
that worships busyness and productivity,
that hoards and consumes.

C: ***We are waiting for the One
who will turn the world around,
so we will know that there is enough
and that we are enough,
and so we can be still and rest.**

L: We live in a world that tries to hide from death
by pursuing eternal youth.

C: ***We are waiting for the One
who will turn the world around,
and bring new life from places we would call
dead and worthless.**

L: We live in a world that is broken and hurting.

C: ***We are waiting for the One
who will turn the world around,
to heal and comfort all people.**

L: God, restore our hope in this time of watching and waiting.
Give us a spirit of wisdom and understanding,
counsel and might,
knowledge and reverent trembling in your presence.
Reveal to us that our stories are woven together,
that we will be healed and whole
when all people are fed and free.
Gather us together in the shelter of your righteousness.

C: **Amen.**

**indicates where each of the four candles are lit*

‡ GATHERING HYMN

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers

#244, vs. 1,4

‡ GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

‡ PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

C: **God our Parent, as we prepare for the coming of your son, Jesus, create in us new life. Transform us so that we may reflect the light of your son, and become beacons of goodness, kindness, compassion, generosity, honesty, patience, and peace, for the sake of the one whose name brings light and life to all the world, Jesus Christ, infant king. Amen.**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM: Svea James Nestingen

Parents: Jenna & Per Nestingen

Sponsors: Kaitie Laube Ward and Abe Ward

Hans and Rosie Nestingen

Mikaelah and Mitch Vander Baan

Ben and Lindsey Laube

CANTICLE OF WELCOME

You Belong to Christ

You be - long to Christ, in whom you have been bap - tized.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

SERMON ON THE STEPS

‡ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al-le-lu - ia, al - le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia.

‡ GOSPEL

Luke 16:26-56

R: The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 16th chapter.

C: **Glory to you, Lord.**

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David.

³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” ³⁵ The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸ Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

³⁹ In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹ When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit ⁴² and exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord.”

⁴⁶ And Mary said,
“My soul magnifies the Lord,
⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
⁴⁸ for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant.
Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed,
⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name;
⁵⁰ indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
⁵² He has brought down the powerful from their thrones
and lifted up the lowly;
⁵³ he has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty.
⁵⁴ He has come to the aid of his child Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
⁵⁵ according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”
⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

R: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

Rev. Andrea Roske-Metcalfe

HYMN OF THE DAY

Canticle of the Turning

#723

‡ PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

L: 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.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: Lord, in your mercy,

C: receive our prayer.

L: Savior of the nations, come, and receive these prayers and the pleas of our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

‡ SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you all.

C: And also with you.

You may share the peace with those around you.

DIAMOND LAKE LUTHERAN CHURCH MATTERS TO ME

Natalie Remus

OFFERING

O Hearken Ye

Wihla Huston/ Alfred Burt
Senior Choir

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: Sanctuary Supply Depot

Sanctuary Supply Depot is a Minneapolis-based mutual aid collective dedicated to collecting and distributing essential survival supplies to unhoused neighbors. Volunteers with Sanctuary Supply Depot listen to the needs of those living in the encampments and provide tents, tarps, fresh water, portable phone chargers, or even makeshift camp toilets. Donations are vital to helping Sanctuary Supply Depot keep people safe and alive in the harsh Minnesota weather.

A winter supply drive is also currently underway. The following items are being collected at Diamond Lake Lutheran and will be dropped off for distribution.

- Adult-sized clothing (new or used in good condition)
- Winter coats, snow pants, and boots in all sizes
- Socks
- Emergency blankets
- Hot hands/feet/body warmers
- All kinds of new batteries
- Lighters

Give to the Mission of the Month

To make a financial gift to Sanctuary Supply Depot, you may write a check payable to Diamond Lake Lutheran Church with "Mission of the Month" in the memo line and drop in an offering plate. Alternately, you may visit "Give Back" page at www.dllc.org or scan the QR Code and choose "Mission of the Month" from the drop-down menu.

To contribute to either of these funds, use the QR code, visit <https://dllc.breezechms.com/give/online>

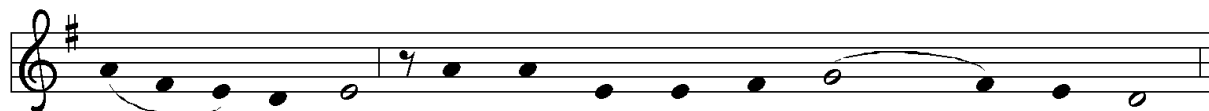


‡ OFFERTORY

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, vs.1 & 4



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 3 O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on
 4 O come, O Branch of Jes - se, free your own from Sa - tan's



Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 Si - nai's height in an - cient times you gave the law
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell your peo - ple save,



Refrain

un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 teach us your will and guide our way. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 in cloud, and maj - es - ty, and awe.
 and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave.



Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

‡ OFFERING PRAYER

L: Let us pray.
Creator God,
you made the whole world,
even the farthest stars,
and yet you draw near to sustain us.
We praise you for your gifts,
and the invitation to share what we receive,
as we await the advent of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

‡ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

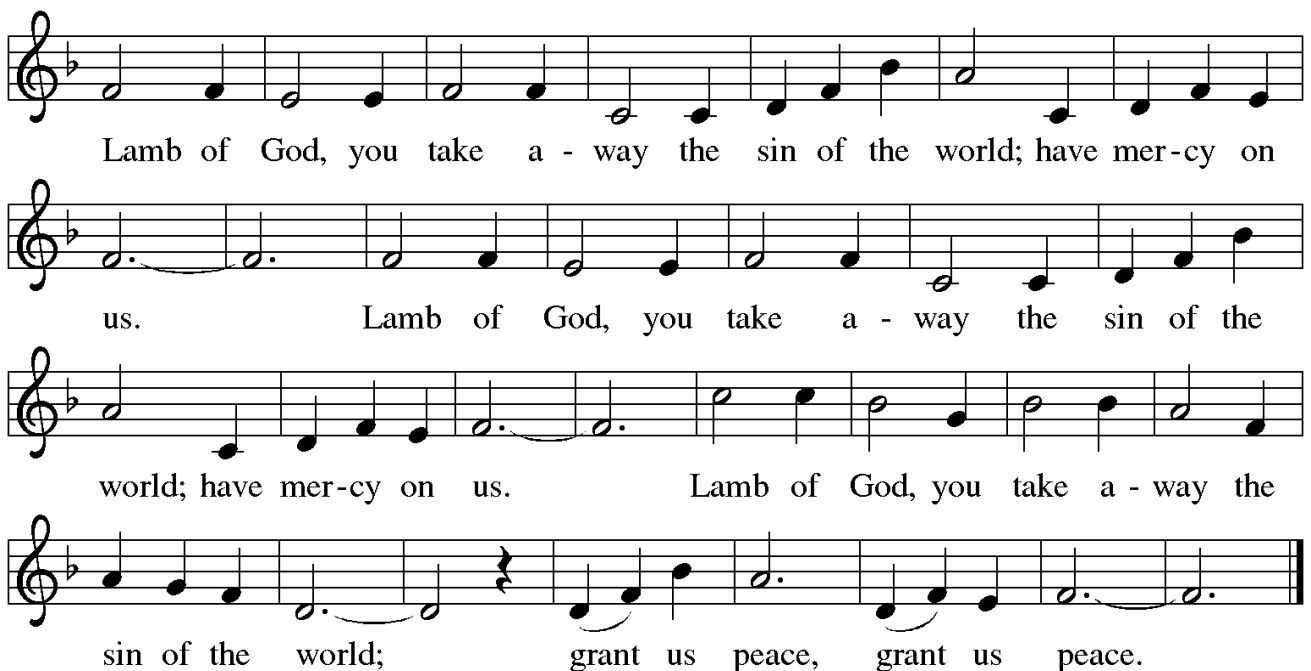
‡ LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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

P: God feeds us with tender mercy. Come to the table, all who are hungry!
There is more than enough for all.

LAMB OF GOD



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

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 from the pastor instead, 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 HYMN

What Feast of Love

#487

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Generous God,
We thank you for coming among us,
for giving us the bread of salvation,
for leading us into peace.
Come, Lord Jesus, and go with us
as we seek the work of justice and joy in your name.

C: Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

‡ BLESSING

P: May the God of endings and beginnings,
May the God of the darkness and of the light,
May God, our hope for the journey,
bless and keep you now and forever.

C: Amen.

‡ SENDING HYMN

Joy to the World

#267, vs. 1,4

‡ DISMISSAL

L: Go in peace. Prepare the way for Emmanuel.

C: **Thanks be to God!**

‡ CHORAL AMEN *(Please remain in place until the choir is finished.)*

POSTLUDE

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*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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