

SENDING HYMN

ELW #650

In Christ There Is No East or West



1 In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,
2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-'ry-where their high com-mu-nion find;
3 Join hands, dis-ci-ples of the faith, what-e'er your race may be.
4 In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;



but one com-mu-ni-ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.
his ser-vice is the gold-en cord close bind-ing hu-man-kind.
All chil-dren of the liv-ing God are sure-ly kin to me.
all Christ-ly souls are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.

Text: John Oxenham, 1852–1941, alt.
Music: MCKEE, African American spiritual; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1866–1949

DISMISSAL

Go now in the power of the Spirit!
Let your heart burn with the fire of God’s love!
Thanks be to God!

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TRINITY
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

5:00 PM

AUGUST 2,
2025

Jeffery Gramza
Senior Pastor

Tim Jordan
Intern Pastor

**Jonathan
Lonsway**
Dir. of Music

Trinity Lutheran Church - Time after Pentecost

3701 Jefferson Ave Midland, MI 48640

August 2, 2025, 5:00 pm

PRELUDE

Charly Sly, piano

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Welcome, beloved of God,
to this time of worship—

**where we set aside the things that weigh us down
and lift our eyes to what is above.**

Here, we are not defined by what we own,
where we've been, or what we've done,

**but by the grace of Christ,
who clothes us in mercy, humility, and love.**

In a world chasing after more,
Jesus calls us to a life that is rich in God—

a life rooted in community, compassion, and truth.

So come—whether you are filled with faith or searching for hope,
whether you feel close to God or far away—

there is a place for you here.

Christ is all, and in all.

Let us worship the God who makes us new.



Feast - ing to - geth - er, strang - er turns to friend,
For an - y place where jus - tice is de - nied,
When we em - brace com - pas - sion more than fear,
So must our ta - bles wel - come those who roam.



Christ breaks walls to piec - es; false di - vi - sions end.
Christ will breach the jail wall, free - ing all in - side.
Christ tears down our fenc - es; all are wel - come here.
None can be ex - clud - ed; all must find a home.

Text: David Bjorlin, b. 1984

Music: NOËL NOUVELET, French carol

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BENEDICTION

Go now, as people made new in Christ:

Clothed in compassion, grounded in grace, and rich in the things that last.

May the Creator set your mind on things above—

filling you with vision, purpose, and peace.

May Christ lead you away from greed and fear—

teaching you to love, to share, and to live with open hands.

May the ☩ Holy Spirit breathe through you—

uniting all people in one body,

and making you bold to bear witness to the life that never fades.

Go in peace, with hearts set on heaven

and lives rooted in God.

Amen.

Break Now the Bread of Life



1 Break now the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, as once you
2 Bless your own word of truth, dear Lord, to me, as when you
3 You are the bread of life, dear Lord, to me, your ho - ly



broke the loaves be - side the sea. Be - yond the sa - cred page
blessed the bread by Gal - i - lee. Then shall all bond-age cease,
word the truth that res - cues me. Give me to eat and live



I seek you, Lord; my spir - it waits for you, O liv - ing Word.
all fet - ters fall; and I shall find my peace, my All - in - All!
with you a - bove; teach me to love your truth, for you are love.

Text: Mary A. Lathbury, 1841–1913, alt.
Music: BREAD OF LIFE, William F. Sherwin, 1826–1888

Build a Longer Table



1 Build a long - er ta - ble, not a high - er wall,
2 Build a saf - er ref - uge, not a larg - er jail;
3 Build a broad - er door - way, not a long - er fence.
4 When we lived as ex - iles, ref - u - gees a - broad,



feed - ing those who hun - ger, mak - ing room for all.
where the weak find shel - ter, mer - cy will not fail.
Love pro - tects all peo - ple, spar - ing no ex - pense.
Christ be - came our door - way to the reign of God.

GATHERING HYMN

ELW #655

Son of God, Eternal Savior



1 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,
2 As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for oth - ers live.
3 Come, O Christ, and reign a - mong us, King of love and Prince of peace;
4 Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and truth and grace,



Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race,
Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed; free - ly may your ser - vants give.
hush the storm of strife and pas - sion, bid its cru - el dis - cords cease.
Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us hal - lows all our hu - man race:



you our head, who, throned in glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead:
Yours the gold and yours the sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea;
By your pa - tient years of toil - ing, by your si - lent hours of pain,
by your pray - ing, by your will - ing that your peo - ple should be one,



fill us with your love and pit - y, heal our wrong, and help our need.
we but stew - ards of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.
quench our fe - vered thirst of plea - sure, stem our self - ish greed of gain.
grant, oh, grant our hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

Text: Somerset C. Lowry, 1855–1932
Music: IN BABILONE, *Oude en Nieuwe Hollandse Boerenlities en Contradansen*, 1710



PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of unity and glory, your Son prayed that we may be one, as you are one. Unite us by your Spirit, fill us with your love, and make us living signs of Christ’s presence in the world. Let our unity reflect your glory, so that all may come to believe in your saving grace. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

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The teacher of wisdom who wrote Ecclesiastes sees that working for mere accumulation of wealth turns life into an empty game, a “vanity of vanities.” Nevertheless, he asserts in the next verse, it is good to find enjoyment in one’s work because such enjoyment is a gift from God.



The reading is concluded:
Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 49:1-12

- ¹ Hear this, all you peoples;
give ear, all you who dwell in the world,
- ² **you of high degree and low,
rich and poor together.**
- ³ My mouth shall speak of wisdom,
and my heart shall meditate on understanding.
- ⁴ **I will incline my ear to a proverb
and set forth my riddle upon the harp.**

LAMB OF GOD

Musical notation for the hymn "Lamb of God". The notation is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are: "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." The music is written in a simple, melodic style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Communion will be distributed by coming forward and receiving the bread and wine. The center cups (white) are non-alcoholic grape juice. Upon receiving, please put empty cups in baskets provided. If you prefer gluten free, please ask Pastor who is distributing. Please proceed up the center aisle returning to your seat via the side aisles.

COMMUNION HYMNS

- Break Now the Bread of Life* ELW #515
- Build a Longer Table*

Hymn music next page

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, you have blessed us with new life in Christ and called us to seek treasures that do not fade. As we bring these gifts, we offer more than what is in our hands—we offer grateful hearts, open lives, and a desire to be rich in love and mercy. Use these offerings to clothe your world in compassion, justice, and hope, that all may know the abundance of your grace, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & LORD’S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
**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.**

⁵ Why should I be afraid in evil days,
when the wickedness of those at my heels surrounds me,
⁶ **the wickedness of those who put their trust in their own prowess,
and boast of their great riches?**
⁷ One can never redeem another,
or give to God the ransom for another’s life;
⁸ **for the ransom of a life is so great
that there would never be enough to pay it,**
⁹ in order to live forever and ever
and never see the grave.
¹⁰ **For we see that the wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish
and leave their wealth to those who come after them.**
¹¹ Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation
to generation, though they had named lands after themselves.
¹² **Even though honored, they cannot live forever;
they are like the beasts that perish.**

SECOND READING: Colossians 3:1-11 Page 156

Life in Christ includes a radical reorientation of our values. Just as the newly baptized shed their old clothes and put on new garments, so Christians are called to let go of greed and take hold of a life shaped by God’s love in Christ.

The reading is concluded:
Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 12th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 12:13-21

In God's reign, the "rich will be sent away empty." Jesus uses a parable to warn against identifying the worth of one's life with the value of one's possessions rather than one's relationship with God.



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

SERMON

Jeff Gramza

HYMN OF THE DAY

Faith Begins By Letting Go



1 Faith be - gins by let - ting go, giv - ing up what had seemed sure,
2 Faith en - dures by hold - ing on, keep - ing mem-'ry's roots a - live
3 Faith ma - tures by reach - ing out, stretch - ing minds, en - larg - ing hearts,



tak - ing risks and press - ing on, though the way feels less se - cure:
so that hope may bear its fruit; prom - ise - fed, our souls will thrive,
shar - ing strug - gles, liv - ing prayer, bind - ing up the bro - ken parts;



pil - grim - age both right and odd, trust - ing all our life to God.
not through mer - it we pos - sess but by God's great faith - ful - ness.
till we find the com - mon - place ripe with wit - ness to God's grace.

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who makes all things new, whose mercy endures forever. Let us confess our sin, trusting in the abundant grace of God.

Silence for reflection

God of new life, we confess that we have set our hearts on things that do not last.

**We have chased after wealth, status, and control,
and forgotten what it means to be rich in you.**

**We have clung to what divides,
instead of embracing the unity we share in Christ.**

**Forgive us. Clothe us with compassion,
renew us in your image,
and lead us in the way of life everlasting. Amen.**

In Christ, we are made new. In his mercy, our sins are forgiven. By the power of the Spirit, we are raised to new life—clothed in grace, united in love, and sent forth to seek the things that are above. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Offer a sign of peace with those around you

GATHERING OF GIFTS FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY

OFFERTORY