

**TRINITY
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

9:30 AM

AUGUST 31,
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 31, 2025, 9:30 am

PRELUDE

Gather Us In

stg. Jeffrey Honoré
Charly Sly, organ

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

Come, beloved people of God, you who hunger for grace and thirst for truth.
Come to the table where the humble are honored, and strangers become family.
We come to worship the One who welcomes the outcast and lifts up the lowly. We come to praise Jesus Christ, the same yesterday, today, and forever.

Here, love is not just spoken—it is lived. Here, hospitality is not just offered—it is practiced. Here, we remember those in need and offer sacrifices of praise that please God.
Let us open our hearts to God's presence, and our lives to God's people. With gratitude and joy, let us worship the Lord!

GATHERING HYMN

ELW #532

Gather Us In



1 Here in this place the new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness

2 We are the young, our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old who

3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the

4 Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en,

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Toccata

Johann Pachelbel
Charly Sly, organ

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Let Streams of Living Justice

1 Let streams of liv - ing jus - tice flow down up - on the earth;
2 For heal - ing of the na - tions, for peace that will not end,
3 Your ci - ty's built to mu - sic; we are the stones you seek;

give free - dom's light to cap - tives, let all the poor have worth.
for love that makes us lov - ers, God grant us grace to mend.
your har - mo - ny is lan - guage; we are the words you speak.

The hun - gry's hands are plead - ing, the work - ers claim their rights,
Weave our var - ied gifts to - geth - er; knit our lives as they are spun;
Our faith we find in ser - vice, our hope in oth - ers' dreams,

the mourn - ers long for laugh - ter, the blind - ed seek for sight.
on your loom of time en - roll us till our thread of life is run.
our love in hand of neigh - bor; our home - land bright - ly gleams.

Make lib - er - ty a bea - con, strike down the i - ron pow'r;
O great weav - er of our fab - ric, bind church and world in one;
In - scribe our hearts with jus - tice; your way—the path un - tried;

a - bol - ish an - cient ven - geance: pro - claim your peo - ple's hour.
dye our tex - ture with your ra - diance, light our col - ors with your sun.
your truth—the heart of strang - er; your life—the Cru - ci - fied.

van - ished a - way; see in this space our fears and our dream - ings
yearn for your face; we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
light years a - way— here in this place the new light is shin - ing,

brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
now is the king - dom, and now is the day.

Gath - er us in, the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in, the
Gath - er us in, the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and

blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
proud and the strong; give us a heart, so meek and so low - ly,
bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,

we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire . . of love in our flesh and our bone.

Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950
Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen
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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.

Song of Praise

Thank You, Lord

Verse 1
I come before you today
and there's just one thing that I want to say
Thank you Lord thank you Lord
for all you've given to me
for all the blessings that I cannot see
Thank you Lord thank you Lord

Pre-Chorus
With a grateful heart
with a song of praise
with an outstretched arm
I will bless your name

Chorus
Thank you Lord
I just want to thank you Lord
Thank you Lord
I just want to thank you Lord
Thank you, Lord

Verse 2
For all you've done in my life
You took my darkness
and gave me your light
Thank you Lord thank you Lord
You took my sin and my shame
you took my sickness
and healed all my pain
Thank you Lord thank you Lord

Pre-chorus

Chorus 2x

Don Moen, Paul Baloche
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In the Singing ELW #466

1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,
2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,

in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,
in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,

Refrain
Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;
Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

Text: Shirley Erena Murray, b. 1931
Music: BREAD OF PEACE, Carlton R. Young, b. 1926
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BENEDICTION

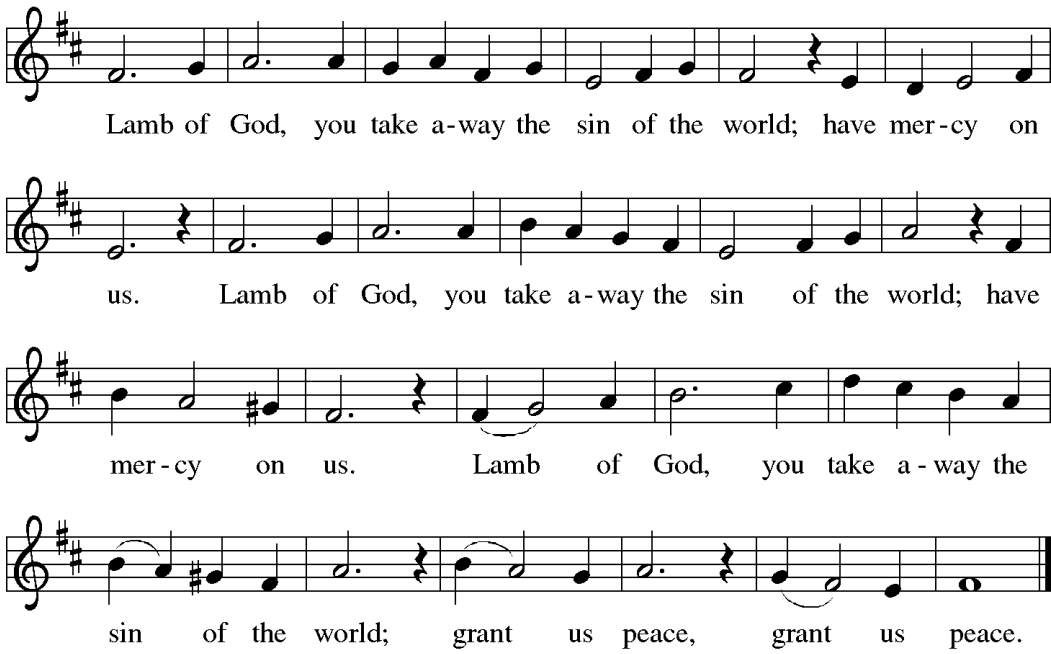
Go now with hearts made bold by grace, and hands made ready to serve.

May the God of welcome open your doors to strangers and your eyes to the forgotten. May Christ Jesus, who took the lowest seat, lift you up to walk in the way of mercy. May the Holy Spirit, fire of generosity and joy, stir in you every good gift for the world.

Go in peace to love and serve—with humility, with courage, and with joy.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the ✝ Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD



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

As We Gather at Your Table ELW #522

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious host of heaven and earth, you set a table in the presence of strangers and lift the lowly to places of honor. Teach us the humility of Christ, who took the lowest seat, that we might be raised to life in him. Shape our hearts with love that welcomes, with mercy that remembers the forgotten, and with praise that rises like incense for your goodness that endures forever. Let our lives become a sacrifice of thanksgiving—open hands, open doors, open hearts—in the name of Jesus Christ, who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.
Amen.

CHILDREN’S SERMON

KIDS’ PRAISE

*At this time children age 3 – grade 5 are now dismissed,
at the parent’s discretion, to the Chapel.*

FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:6-7

Page 471

The book of Proverbs is part of a collection of writings known as wisdom literature. Wisdom literature gave directions to Israel’s leaders and people for the conduct of daily life. Today’s reading is about humility.

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

PSALM: Psalm 112

- ¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD
and have great delight in God's commandments!
- ² **Their descendants will be mighty in the land;
the generation of the upright will be blessed.**
- ³ Wealth and riches will be in their house,
and their righteousness will last forever.
- ⁴ **Light shines in the darkness for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.**
- ⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending
and to manage their affairs with justice.
- ⁶ **For they will never be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.**
- ⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.
- ⁸ **Their heart is established and will not shrink,
until they see their desire upon their enemies.**
- ⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever;
they will hold up their head with honor.
- ¹⁰ **The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth
and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Page 177

The conclusion of the letter to the Hebrews contains suggestions for the conduct of a holy life, all of which are shaped by God's love toward us in Jesus Christ.

The reading is concluded:

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

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.



OFFERTORY

He Is Among Us

Verse 1
You'll find Me with the broken
and the weak
In the spaces in between
You'll hear My voice cry out
with those who weep
Only if you're listening

Chorus
Whatever you do for the least of these
You do it unto Me

Verse 2
You'll find Me with the ones without a voice
The forgotten and ignored
My blessing is on those who love the poor
Will you open up the door

Chorus 2x

Bridge
Hallelujah, hallelujah
He is among us,
He is among us
(REPEAT 4x)

Tag
By this the world
will know the Father's love
We will know the Father's love

Andy Piercy, Isaac Wardell, John Swinton,
Orlando Palmer, Paul Zach
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OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, you welcome the poor to places of honor and fill the humble with good things. With grateful hearts, we bring these gifts—a sacrifice of praise, an offering of thanksgiving, a reflection of your grace at work in us. Use these gifts, and use us, to show hospitality to the stranger, to do good and share what we have, and to lift up those whom the world has cast down. Bless this offering, O God, that it may build tables of welcome, shelters of peace, and communities of justice, in the name of Jesus Christ, our joy, our hope, our ever-faithful Lord. **Amen.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 14th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7-14

Jesus observes guests jockeying for position at the table. He uses the opportunity to teach his hearers to choose humility rather than self-exaltation. Jesus also makes an appeal for hosts to imitate God's gracious hospitality to those in need.

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



SERMON

Jeff Gramza

HYMN OF THE DAY

For Everyone Born

Verse 1

For everyone born,
a place at the table,
for everyone born,
clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space,
a safe place for growing,
for everyone born,
a star overhead,

Chorus

and God will delight
when we are creators of justice
and joy, compassion and peace,
yes, God will delight
when we are creators of justice,
justice and joy!

Verse 2

For woman and man,
a place at the table,
revising the roles,
deciding the share,
with wisdom and grace
dividing the power,
for woman and man,
a system that's fair, (*Chorus*)

Verse 3

For young and for old, a place at the table,
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child
in hands that are wrinkled,
for young and for old,
the right to belong, (*Chorus*)

Verse 5

For gay and for straight, a place at the table,
a covenant shared, a welcoming space,
a rainbow of race and gender and color,
for gay and for straight,
a chalice of grace, (*Chorus*)

Verse 6

For everyone born, a place at the table,
to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out,
to witness and worship,
for everyone born, the right to be free,

Chorus

Shirley Erena Murray
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APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Offer a sign of peace with those around you

GATHERING OF GIFTS FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY