

SENDING HYMN

*Joy to the World (Shout for Joy)*

*Verse 1*  
Joy to the world, the Lord is come  
Let earth receive her King  
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven and nature sing  
And heaven and heaven and nature sing

*Chorus*  
Shout for joy, for the Son of God  
Is the Saving One, He's the Saving One  
Shout for joy, see what love has done  
He has come for us, He's the Saving One

*Verse 2*  
Joy to the world, the Savior reigns  
Let men their songs employ  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat the sounding joy  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy

*Chorus*  
  
*Bridge*  
Jesus, Immanuel  
O come let us adore Him  
(REPEAT)

*Chorus 2x*

*Ending*  
Jesus, Immanuel  
O come let us adore Him  
(REPEAT as directed)

Isaac Watts, GF Handel, Paul Baloche,  
Jason Ingram, and Lincoln Brewster  
© 2013 Integrity Worship Music/  
Leadworship Songs/ASCAP (adm at Capi-  
tolCMGPublishing.com excluding the UK  
which is adm at Integritymusic.com)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Keep awake.  
**Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Hymns reproduced by permission under OneLicense # A-703142  
Liturgical music reproduced by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies License # SAS006198

TRINITY  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH

11:00 AM

DECEMBER 14,  
2025

**Jeffery Gramza**  
*Senior Pastor*

**Tim Jordan**  
*Intern Pastor*

**Jonathan  
Lonsway**  
*Dir. of Music*

## Trinity Lutheran Church - Third Sunday of Advent

3701 Jefferson Ave Midland, MI 48640

December 14, 2025, 11:00 am

### PRELUDE & WELCOME

### CALL TO WORSHIP

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

**Amen.**

People of God, come—for the wilderness is beginning to blossom, and the dry places are singing for joy. The Holy One is stirring hope where despair once lived.

**We come with longing hearts,  
ready for good news,  
ready for signs of life in weary places.**

Lift up your eyes! The Savior draws near in ways we do not expect—not in power or spectacle, but in healing hands, in opened eyes, in the voices of the humble declaring God's goodness.

**We come to seek the one  
who brings strength to trembling hands,  
courage to weak knees,  
and joy to the sorrowing.**

Make straight the way of the Lord! For the ransomed shall return with singing, the redeemed shall walk the holy way, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

**Come, let us worship the God  
who turns deserts into gardens,  
fear into faith, and waiting into joyful expectation.  
Let us worship with hope—  
for our God is making all things new!**

### COMMUNION SONG

*Angels We Have Heard On High (Deo)*

*Intro*

Deo oh, Deo oh

*Verse 1*

Angels we have heard on high  
Sweetly singing o'er the plains  
And the mountains in reply  
Echoing their joyous strains

*Chorus*

Gloria in excelsis Deo

*Verse 2*

Come to Bethlehem and see  
Him whose birth the angels sing  
Come adore on bended knee  
Christ the Lord the newborn King

*Chorus 2x*

*Bridge*

We will raise our voices, Deo oh  
Join the angel's song on high, Deo oh  
We behold Your beautiful light  
Shining glory through the night, Deo oh

*Verse 1*

*Bridge*

*Ending*

Deo oh Deo oh  
(REPEAT)

Oh Deo oh

Edward Shippen Barnes, James Chadwick, Paul Baloche  
© 2013 Integrity Worship Music; Leadworship Songs  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
CCLI License #302491

### BENEDICTION

Go now into this season of waiting with hearts open and lamps lit. May the God who makes deserts bloom stir joy in your spirit and courage in your steps. May Christ, the dawning Light, shine gently on your path and surprise you with grace in unexpected places. May the Spirit breathe peace into your longing, kindle hope in your watching, and carry you toward the day when all creation sings with joy.

Go in hope. Go in peace.

Go in the growing light of the Father, Son, and ☩ Holy Spirit. **Amen.**



OFFERING PRAYER

Generous and loving God, in this holy season of waiting, you fill our lives with promises of hope, whispers of peace, and glimmers of joy. Everything we have is a gift from your hand, and so we come with thankful hearts. Receive these offerings—the money we give, the time we offer, the love we share—as signs of our trust in you. Use them to bring light into shadowed places, comfort to the weary, and hope to all who long for good news. In Jesus’ name we pray. **Amen.**

COMMUNION PRAYER & 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.**

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.*

GATHERING SONGS

*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

*Intro*

Oh oh oh  
Oh oh oh

*Verse 1*

Come Thou long expected Jesus  
Born to set Thy people free  
From our fears and sins release us  
Let us find our rest in Thee  
Israel's strength and consolation  
Hope of all the earth Thou art  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation  
Joy of ev'ry longing heart

*Interlude*

Oh oh oh  
Oh oh oh

*Verse 2*

Born Thy people to deliver  
Born a child and yet a King  
Born to reign in us forever  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring  
By Thine own eternal spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone  
By Thine all sufficient merit  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne

*Interlude*

*Bridge*

You draw the hearts of shepherds  
You draw the hearts of kings  
Even as a baby  
You were changing ev'rything  
You called me to Your kingdom  
Before Your lips could speak  
And even as a baby  
You were reaching out for me

And now we are awaiting  
The day of Your return  
When ev'ry eye will see You  
As heaven comes to earth  
Until the sky is opened  
Until the trumpet sounds  
The bride is getting ready  
The Church is singing out

*Verse 3*

Come Thou long expected Jesus  
Born to set Thy people free  
From our fears and sins release us  
Let us find our rest in Thee  
Come Thou long expected King

Charles Wesley, Jacob Sooter, Meredith Andrews,  
Rowland Hugh Prichard  
© 2017 Curb Songs; Mesmerized Music; Hipgnosis  
Songs Essential; Jacob Sooter Music; So Essential Tunes;  
Vertical Church Band Publishing  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
CCLI License #302491

## *Even So Come*

### *Verse 1*

All of creation all of the earth  
Make straight a highway a path for the Lord  
Jesus is coming soon

### *Verse 2*

Call back the sinner wake up the saint  
Let ev'ry nation shout of Your fame  
Jesus is coming soon

### *Chorus 1*

Like a bride waiting for her groom  
We'll be a Church ready for You  
Ev'ry heart longing for our King we sing  
Even so come Lord Jesus come  
Even so come Lord Jesus come

### *Verse 3*

There will be justice all will be new  
Your name forever faithful and true  
Jesus is coming soon

### *Chorus 1*

### *Bridge*

So we wait we wait for You  
God we wait You're coming soon  
So we wait we wait for You  
God we wait You're coming soon

### *Chorus 2*

Like a bride waiting for her groom  
We'll be a Church ready for You  
Ev'ry heart longing for our King  
we sing  
Like a bride waiting for her groom  
We'll be a Church ready for You  
Ev'ry heart longing for our King  
we sing  
Even so come Lord Jesus come  
Even so come Lord Jesus come

Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Jess Cates  
© 2015 S. D. G. Publishing; Twelve Lions Music;  
Worship Together Music; Open Hands Music;  
So Essential Tunes; Chrissamsongs Inc; Go Mia Music; Vistaville Music  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
CCLI License #302491

## **OFFERTORY SONG**

## *Light of the World*

### *Verse 1*

The world waits for a miracle  
The heart longs for a little bit of hope  
O come, O come Emmanuel  
A child prays for peace on earth  
And she's calling out from a sea of hurt  
O come, O come Emmanuel  
And can you hear the angels singing

### *Chorus 1*

Glory to the Light of the world  
Glory the Light of the world is here

### *Verse 2*

The drought breaks  
with the tears of a mother  
A baby's cry is the sound  
of love come down  
Come down Emmanuel woh  
He is the song for the suffering  
He is Messiah  
the Prince of peace has come  
He has come Emmanuel oh

### *Chorus 2*

Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world

### *Bridge*

For all who wait for all who hunger  
For all who've prayed  
for all who wonder  
Behold your King behold Messiah  
Emmanuel, Emmanuel

### *Chorus 3*

Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Glory to the light of the world  
Behold your King behold Messiah  
Emmanuel, Emmanuel

### *Ending*

The world waits for a miracle  
The heart longs for a little bit of hope  
O come, O come Emmanuel

Lauren Daigle, Paul Duncan, Paul Mabury  
© 2014 CentricSongs; See You At The Pub; Oceans  
Away Music; So Essential Tunes; Annie and Clyde  
Music  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
CCLI License #302491



CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy One, who meets us in our doubts, walks with us in our weariness, and leads us toward joy. Jesus tells us that the signs of God’s kingdom are found in healing, restoration, and good news for the poor. Trusting these promises, let us turn to God with honesty and hope.

*Silence for reflection*

**Merciful God, we confess that we grow weary in waiting.  
Our hands tremble, our knees buckle,  
and our hearts grow small  
in the deserts of fear, frustration, and doubt.  
We confess the times we have closed our eyes  
to the signs of your presence  
and ignored the quiet ways your kingdom unfolds around us.  
Forgive us, renew us,  
and plant your joy within us.**

Hear the good news: God does not wait for us to be strong before bringing healing. God comes to us now—opening our eyes to hope, our ears to compassion, our lives to new possibilities. Through Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven, your spirit is renewed, and the holy way opens before you. Walk in joy. Walk in hope. Walk in peace. **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


PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God of joy and promise, you meet us in our dry and weary places and call life to bloom again. When questions rise and hope feels fragile, open our eyes to the signs of your nearness—healing, mercy, and good news for the weary. Strengthen fearful hands, steady our uncertain steps, and lead us on your way where fear cannot follow and joy finds us anew. Gather us into the hope of the one who is to come—Jesus Christ, our Savior and our song. **Amen.**


*The congregation is seated and children are invited forward for the Children’s Sermon.*

CANDLE LIGHTING SONG

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah



Light three can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the light ban - ish dark - ness.



Lift your heads and lift high the gate-way for the King of glo - ry.

Text: Wayne L. Wold, b. 1954  
Music: TIF IN VELDELE, Yiddish folk tune  
Text © 1984 Fortress Press, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

CHILDREN’S SERMON & CANDLE LIGHTING

*This Sunday we light the candle of joy.*

KIDS’ PRAISE

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

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10**

Page 513

*The prophet describes the return from the Babylonian captivity as a joyous procession to Zion. God's coming reign will bring a renewal of creation in which health and wholeness will be restored. There is no need for fear, for God is coming to save.*

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



**GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 11th chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: Luke 1:46b-55**

Page 8

*Mary is visited by a holy messenger and learns she is to bear a son under miraculous circumstances. She responds with a song of worship, praise, and joy that God will use her to bring about God's kingdom and justice in the world.*

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

**SERMON**

Jeff Gramza

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

*Lo How A Rose E'er Blooming (Jesus Come To Save Us)*

*Verse 1*

Lo how a Rose e'er blooming  
From tender stem hath sprung  
Of Jesse's lineage coming  
As men of old have sung  
It came a floweret bright  
It came a floweret bright  
Amid the cold of winter  
When half spent was the night

*Verse 2*

Isaiah 'twas foretold it  
The Rose I have in mind  
With Mary we behold it  
The virgin mother kind  
To show God's love aright  
To show God's love aright  
She bore to men a Savior  
When half spent was the night

*Chorus*

O come let us adore Him  
King of creation  
Slain for our ransom  
O come let us adore Him  
Jesus come to save us

*Verse 3*

This Flower whose fragrance tender  
With sweetness fills the air  
Dispels with glorious splendor  
The darkness everywhere  
True Man yet very God  
True Man yet very God  
From sin and death He saves us  
And lightens ev'ry load

*Chorus 2x*

*Tag*

Jesus come to save us  
Jesus come to save us

*Ending*

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming  
From tender stem hath sprung

Harriet Krauth Spaeth, Michael Praetorius, Theodore Baker, Toby Baxley  
© 2013 Baxley, Toby  
All rights reserved. Used by permission.  
CCLI License #302491