

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

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**TRINITY
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

5:00 PM

DECEMBER 6,
2025

Jeffery Gramza
Senior Pastor

Tim Jordan
Intern Pastor

**Jonathan
Lonsway**
Dir. of Music

Trinity Lutheran Church - Second Sunday of Advent

3701 Jefferson Ave Midland, MI 48640

December 6, 2025, 5:00 pm

HYMN SING

Jonathan Lonsway, piano

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

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

A shoot shall spring from the stump of Jesse—a sign that life can grow from what seemed dead, hope can rise from what was cut down.

We come longing for that hope—for hearts renewed and spirits made alive again.

The voice cries out in the wilderness: “Prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight his paths!”

We come to prepare—to clear away what divides, to make room for the Holy One.

The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, of counsel and might, rests upon him. In him, enemies find peace, and strangers become neighbors.

We come to welcome that peace—to live as one family in Christ, filled with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Come, Lord Jesus—plant your righteousness in us, and make our lives a dwelling place for your peace. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Go now with hearts awake and hands ready. The Creator, who brings green shoots from dry ground, is already stirring new life within you.

The Christ, who burns away what is empty and false, walks beside you with refining love and calls you to bear the fruit of mercy.

The Spirit, wild and tender as wind in the trees, fills you with wisdom and courage until all creation breathes again with peace.

Go in hope, go in joy, for the ✠ Holy One is coming—and the world is being made new. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

ELW #260

The King Shall Come



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit - tle child, to bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright - er than the ris - ing morn when Christ, vic - to - rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright - er than that glo - rious morn shall dawn up - on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky.
and left the lone-some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes.
the day when Christ in splen-dor comes, and we shall see his face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick-ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859–1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davison, *Kentucky Harmony*, 1816



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

We Are Waiting for Jesus

Musical notation for the hymn "We Are Waiting for Jesus". The melody is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are:

1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.
Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.

We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Text: John Helgen, b. 1957
Music: JESUS BRINGS PEACE, John Helgen
Text and music © 2013 Augsburg Fortress

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

ELW #247

GATHERING HYMN

ELW #239

Hark, the Glad Sound!

Musical notation for the hymn "Hark, the Glad Sound!". The melody is in B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are:

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702–1751
Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734–1820

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of new beginnings, from the stumps of our wearied hearts you bring forth new life, and through the voice in the wilderness you call us to prepare the way. Root us in your steadfast love, that we might bear the fruits of repentance and hope. Breathe your Spirit of wisdom and peace upon us, until your whole creation is filled with the knowledge of your glory, and all flesh shall see your salvation. Through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and our peace. **Amen.**

CANDLE LIGHTING SONG

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

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

He shall feed the flock like a shep-herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.

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

CANDLE LIGHTING

This Sunday we light the candle of peace.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

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Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David’s royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

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



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.**

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.

SHARING CHRIST’S PEACE

Offer a sign of peace with those around you

GATHERING OF GIFTS FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY

OFFERTORY

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious and generous God, you are the source of every good and perfect gift. From the barren stump you bring new life, from the wilderness you raise a voice of hope. As we bring these offerings, we give thanks for your faithfulness through every season. May our gratitude bear fruit in lives of compassion, and our generosity reflect the joy of your coming kingdom, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and our hope. **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.

PSALM 122

¹ Give the king your justice, O God,
and your righteousness to the king’s son;
² **that he may rule your people righteously
and the poor with justice;**
³ that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people,
and the hills, in righteousness.
⁴ **Let him defend the needy among the people,
rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.**
⁵ May he live as long as the sun and moon endure,
from one generation to another.
⁶ **Let him come down like rain upon the mown field,
like showers that water the earth.**
⁷ In his time may the righteous flourish;
and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
¹⁸ **Blessed are you, LORD God, the God of Israel;
you alone do wondrous deeds!**
¹⁹ And blessed be your glorious name forever,
and may all the earth be filled with your glory. Amen. Amen.

SECOND READING: Romans 15:4-13

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God’s promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God’s blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God’s family.

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

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 3rd chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

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Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

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



SERMON

Jeff Gramza

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #260

On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry

Musical notation for the hymn "On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry". The melody is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are as follows:

1 On Jor - dan’s bank the Bap - tist’s cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - ’ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent

that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther

Musical notation for the hymn "for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!". The melody is written on a single staff in G major (one sharp). The lyrics are as follows:

for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow’rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite
Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the wilderness, a voice cries out: “Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.” Before we can welcome the coming Christ, we must be honest about what needs to be cleared away. Let us come before God in confession.

Silence for reflection

**Merciful God, we cling to what is comfortable
and resist the fire of your refining love.
We speak of justice, yet turn from its cost.
We long for new life, yet fear what must die for it to come.
Forgive us, O God.
Renew in us the Spirit of wisdom,
that we may bear fruits worthy of repentance
and fully live into your kingdom.**

Hear the good news: In Christ Jesus, forgiveness blossoms anew. Your sins are forgiven. Your hearts are made ready. Walk now in the peace and power of the Spirit, as children of God’s new creation. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God of grace,
hear our prayer.