

**DISMISSAL**

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

**POSTLUDE**

**TRINITY**

**LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

11:00 AM

DECEMBER 7,  
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 7, 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.**

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.**

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 SONG

#### *Prepare the Way*

#### *Verse 1*

He has come  
To bring light into the darkness  
He has come  
To bring freedom to the captives  
He has come  
To restore the brokenhearted  
It's time to proclaim  
The year of the Lord

#### *Chorus*

Prepare the way (prepare the way)  
Prepare the way for our Redeemer  
Prepare the way (prepare the way)  
Prepare the way for our Restorer  
Make ready your heart  
Make ready your home  
Make ready the people of God  
(Prepare the way)

#### *Verse 2*

He has come  
To bring hope to the hopeless  
He has come  
To comfort all who mourn  
He has come  
To heal our ev'ry sickness  
It's time to proclaim  
The year of the Lord

#### *Chorus 2x*

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COMMUNION SONG

God With Us

Verse 1  
Oh You've come to bring peace to be Love  
To be nearer to us  
You've come to bring life to be Light  
To shine brighter in us  
Oh Emmanuel God with us

Chorus  
Our Deliverer You are Savior  
In Your presence we find our strength  
Over ev'rything our Redemption  
God with us  
(You are God with us)

Verse 2  
Oh You've come to be Hope to this world  
For Your honor and name  
And You've come to take sin to bear shame  
And to conquer the grave  
Oh Emmanuel God with us

Chorus

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.

Chorus  
  
Bridge  
You are here  
You are holy  
We are standing  
in Your glory (Lord)  
(REPEAT)

Chorus 2x  
  
Ending  
Oh God with us  
You are God with us

Jason Ingram, Leslie Jordan  
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GATHERING SONGS

We Are Waiting for Jesus

Verse 1  
We are waiting for Jesus  
Jesus brings peace  
We are waiting for Jesus  
Jesus brings peace  
Sun of justice, shine upon us  
We are trusting in your promise  
We are waiting for Jesus  
Jesus brings peace

Verse 2  
We are waiting for Jesus  
Jesus brings peace  
We are waiting for Jesus  
Jesus brings peace  
Loving Shepherd, walk beside us  
Stir our hearts, and gently guide us  
We are waiting for Jesus  
Jesus brings peace

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Verse 1  
Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King  
Peace on earth and mercy mild  
God and sinners reconciled  
Joyful all ye nations rise  
Join the triumph of the skies  
With angelic hosts proclaim  
Christ is born in Bethlehem  
Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King

Verse 2  
Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace  
Hail the Son of righteousness  
Light and life to all He brings  
Risen with healing in His wings  
Mild He lays His glory by  
Born that man no more may die  
Born to raise the sons of earth  
Born to give them second birth  
Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King

Continued next page

*Chorus*  
King of Heaven come down  
King of Heaven come now  
Let Your glory reign shining like the day  
King of Heaven come  
King of Heaven rise up  
Who can stand against us  
You are strong to save  
In Your mighty name King of Heaven come

*Interlude*  
Oh oh

*Verse 3*  
Christ by highest heaven adored  
Christ the everlasting Lord  
Late in time behold Him come  
Offspring of a virgin's womb  
Mild He lays His glory by  
Born that man no more may die  
Born to raise the sons of earth  
Born to give them second birth  
Hark the herald angels sing  
Glory to the newborn King  
The newborn King

**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.**

*Chorus*  
  
*Ending*  
King of Heaven come  
King of Heaven come  
King of Heaven come  
King of Heaven come  
King of Heaven come down  
King of Heaven come now  
Let Your glory reign  
shining like the day  
King of Heaven come

Charles Wesley, Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy,  
Jason Ingram, Paul Baloche  
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**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.**

**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.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING CHRIST’S PEACE

*Offer a sign of peace with those around you*

GATHERING OF GIFTS FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY

OFFERTORY

*Glory (Let There Be Peace)*

*Verse 1*

One star burns in the darkness  
Shines with the promise, Emmanuel  
One child born in the stillness  
Living within us, Emmanuel

*Chorus*

We're singing Glory, Glory  
Let there be peace, let there be peace  
Singing Glory, Glory  
Let there be peace, let it start in me

*Verse 2*

One voice speaks for the voiceless  
Hope for the hopeless, Emmanuel  
One love brings us together  
Now and forever, Emmanuel

*Chorus*

*Bridge*

Do not be afraid  
His love is strong enough to save us  
Nothing stands in the way  
His love is strong enough to lead us  
(REPEAT)

*Chorus 2x*

*Ending*

Let there be peace, let it start in me

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

CANDLE LIGHTING SONG

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

Musical notation for the Candle Lighting Song. The melody is written on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The lyrics are: "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.

CHILDREN’S SERMON AND CANDLE LIGHTING

*This Sunday we light the candle of peace.*

KIDS’ PRAISE

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

FIRST READING: Isaiah 11:1-10

*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.**



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

*Come Lord Jesus (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

Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Jess Cates  
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*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

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.**