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TRINITY
LUTHERAN
CHURCH

8:45 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, 8:45 am

PRELUDE

Two Settings of "Freu dich Sehr"
(Comfort, Comfort, Now My People)

Egil Hovland
Gerald Near
Charly Sly, organ

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.

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry



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



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



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 #249

On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry
See next page

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

PUER NOBIS stg. Aaron David Miller
Charly Sly, organ

GATHERING HYMN

ELW #239

Hark, the Glad Sound!

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

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.

KYRIE

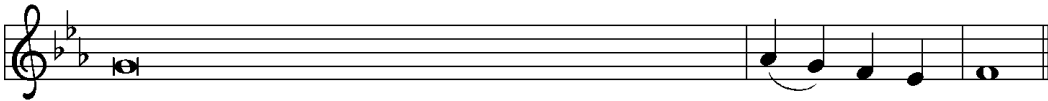
Cantor, Jim Murphy



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



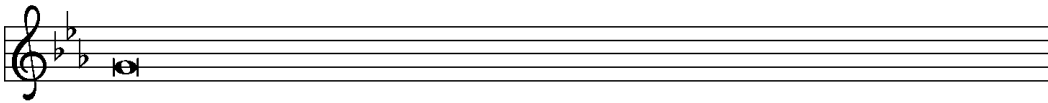
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



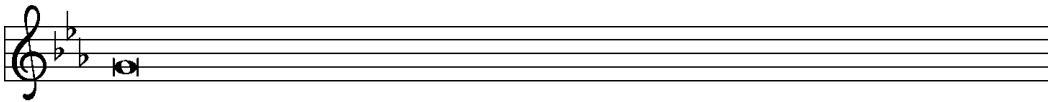
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

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



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

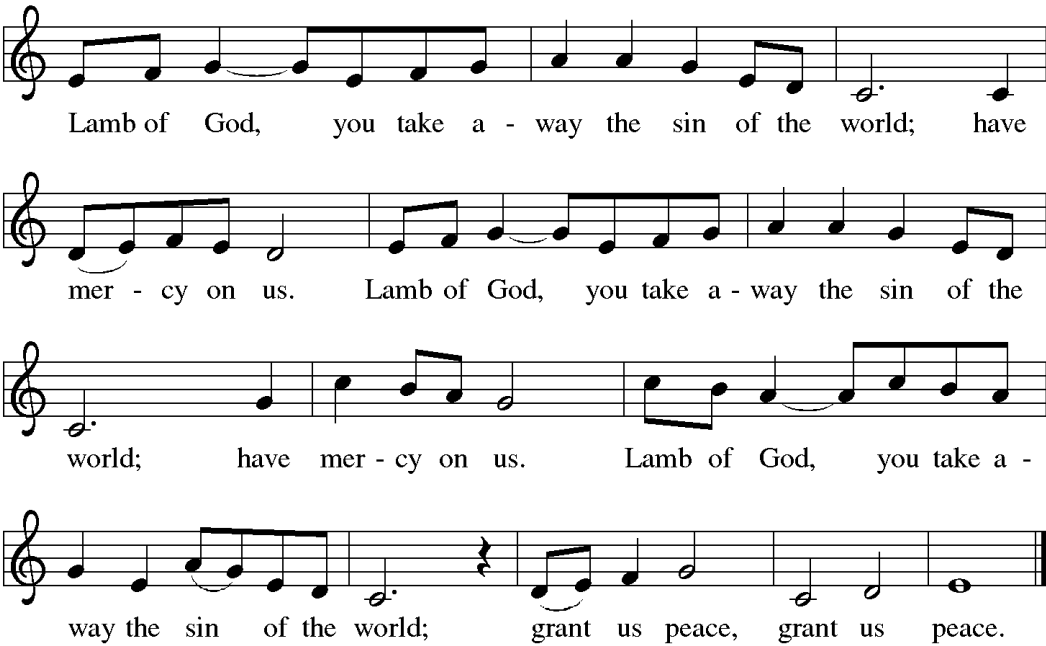
All Earth Is Hopeful

ELW #266

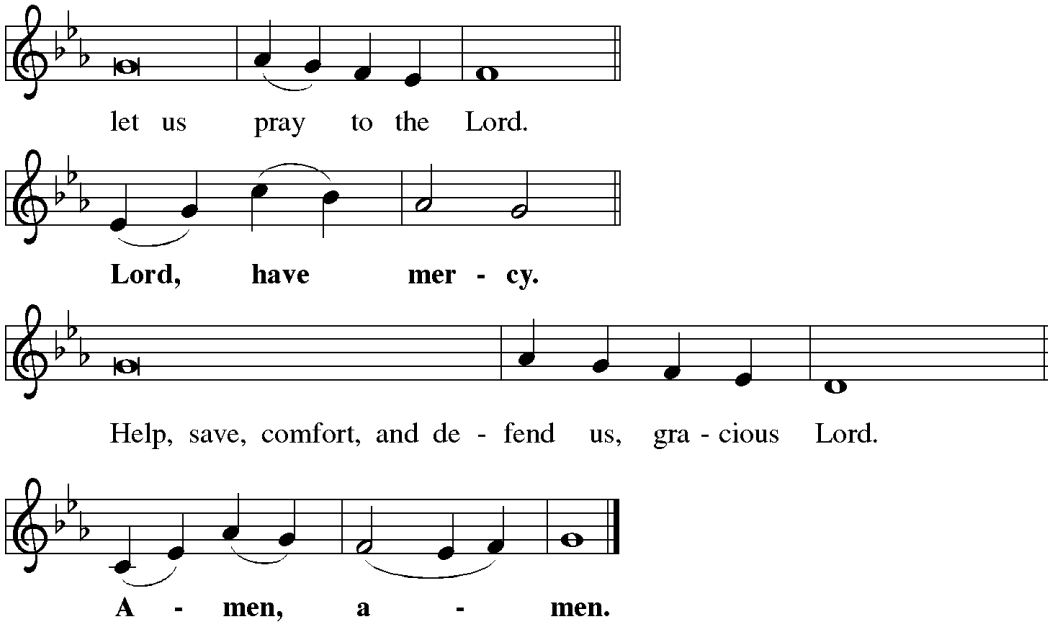
WORDS OF INSTITUTION & LORD’S PRAYER

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.



let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mer - cy.
Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.
A - men, a - men.

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.**

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 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 & 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

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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.



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.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of

pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the

name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

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.

SHARING CHRIST’S PEACE

Offer a sign of peace with those around you

GATHERING OF GIFTS FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY

OFFERTORY

Savior of the Nations, Come arr. Cathy Moglebust
JuBELLation

PSALM 122

Great Sovereign God, Guide Those Who Govern Us

Musical score for Psalm 122, "Great Sovereign God, Guide Those Who Govern Us". The score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 1 Great Sov - ereign God, guide those who gov - ern; 2 Long may the wise and right - eous be in; 3 Grant them good health and hon - or near and; us: give them wise judg - ment and an up - right; power, nour - ish - ing life like rain on new - mown; far; let prayers up - hold them while they do your; heart. Food for the hun - gry, jus - tice for the poor, fields. Jus - tice and peace shall flour - ish in those days; will. May fruit - ful har - vests help all peo - ple thrive; peace for all peo - ple: bless - ings you im - part; as wid - er stretch the bounds such vir - tue shields; that we may live in peace and praise you still.

WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr.
MUSIC: William H. Monk
Words © 2020 Hope Publishing Company

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 ACCLAMATION

Musical notation for the Gospel Acclamation, featuring three staves of music with lyrics: "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia." The third staff includes the instruction "Repeat alleluia" and the text "Prepare the way of the Lord. All flesh shall see the salvation of God."

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

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

GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

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 #256

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Musical notation for the hymn "Comfort, Comfort Now My People", featuring five staves of music with lyrics: "1 'Com - fort, com-fort now my peo - ple; tell of peace!' So says our God. 2 For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near, 3 Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain. Com-fort those who sit in dark - ness mourn-ing un - der sor - row's load. call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here. Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be-fits God's ho - ly reign. To God's peo - ple now pro-claim that God's par - don waits for them! Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre - pare for God a way. For the glo - ry of the Lord now on earth is shed a - broad, Tell them that their war is o - ver; God will reign in peace for-ev - er. Val - leys, rise to greet the Sav - ior; hills, bow down in hum-ble fa - vor. and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken."

Text: Johann G. Olearius, 1635–1711; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: FREU DICH SEHR, *Trente quatre pseauxes de David*, Geneva, 1551