

**TRINITY
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

11:00 AM

NOVEMBER 30,
2025

Jeffery Gramza
Senior Pastor

Tim Jordan
Intern Pastor

**Jonathan
Lonsway**
Dir. of Music

Trinity Lutheran Church - First Sunday of Advent

3701 Jefferson Ave Midland, MI 48640

November 30, 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.

The night is far gone, and the day is drawing near.

The world waits in shadow, but light is rising on the horizon.

We come to watch for the dawn.

We come to walk in the light of the Lord.

God's vision still calls to us—

a world where swords are shaped into plowshares,
and fear is turned into friendship.

We long for that day.

We open our hearts to the Prince of Peace.

Keep awake, beloved ones! Christ is coming—not in thunder or terror, but in quiet grace, in steady love, in the small and certain light of Advent.

We will stay awake.

We will watch and wait.

We will walk in the light of hope.

Come, people of God—let us worship the one who is our dawn,
our peace, our promised day.

Soon and Very Soon

Verse 1

Soon and very soon

We are going to see the King

Soon and very soon

We are going to see the King

Soon and very soon

We are going to see the King

Hallelujah hallelujah

We're going to see the King

Verse 2

No more crying there

We are going to see the King

No more crying there

We are going to see the King

No more crying there

We are going to see the King

Hallelujah hallelujah

We're going to see the King

Verse 3

No more dying there

We are going to see the King

No more dying there

We are going to see the King

No more dying there

We are going to see the King

Hallelujah hallelujah

We're going to see the King

Verse 1

Ending

Hallelujah ooh ooh ooh ah

Hallelujah ooh ooh ooh

Hallelu ooh ooh ooh ah

Andraé Crouch

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BENEDICTION

Go now into the waiting world—
awake and unafraid,
for the dawn is breaking and the light of Christ is near.

May the God of promise stir your hearts from slumber,
may the Christ of peace guide your steps in the way of love,
and may the Spirit of hope keep your eyes lifted toward the rising light.

Go forth as children of the day—
ready, radiant, and alive with expectation.
In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the ✝ Holy Spirit.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

Soon and Very Soon
See next page

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

GATHERING SONGS

Come Light Our Hearts

Chorus
For You O Lord our souls in stillness wait
For You O Lord our souls in stillness wait
Truly our hope is in You
Truly our hope is in You

Verse 1
O Lord of life our only hope
Your radiance shines
On all who look to You in the dark
Emmanuel come, come light our hearts

Chorus

Verse 2
Oh joy above all other loves
In You we find more than enough
We come as we are
O heal and restore
Come light our hearts

Chorus

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Great Are You Lord

Verse
You give life You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope You restore ev'ry heart
that is broken
And great are You Lord

Chorus
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only
Verse, Chorus 2x

Bridge
And all the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry these bones will sing
Great are You Lord
(SING 3X)

Chorus 2x

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the dawning day, you break into our darkness with the promise of light. Awaken us from our sleep, and open our eyes to the hope that rises with you. In a world restless with fear and conflict, teach us to walk in your ways of peace—to shape compassion from anger and faith from weariness. Keep us watchful, not with worry, but with wonder and trust, ready to welcome Christ whenever and however he comes. Through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and our light. **Amen.**

CANDLE LIGHTING SONG



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



He shall bring sal - va - tion to Is - ra - el, God ful - fills the prom - ise.

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 hope.

KIDS’ PRAISE

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

COMMUNION PRAYER & LORD’S PRAYER

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 SONG

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Verse 1
O come, O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear

Chorus
Rejoice, rejoice Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

Interlude
Oh, oh, oh, oh

Verse 3
O come Thou Key of David come
And open wide our heavenly home
Make safe the way that leads on high
And close the path to misery

Verse 2
O come Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadow put to flight

Chorus 2x

Chorus 2x

Ben Backus, Joel Smallbone, John Mason Neale,
Luke Smallbone, Mark Campbell, Stephen Blake
Kanicka, Stephen Lynch
Words: Public Domain; Music: 2017 Warner-
Tamerlane Publishing Corp.; Ben Backus Music;
Curb Congregation Songs; Fleauxmotion Music;
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OFFERTORY

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

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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OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious and giving God, in this season of waiting and wonder, we bring these gifts before you—tokens of our gratitude, symbols of our hope. As you once came to dwell among us in love, come now and dwell in what we offer: in our hands, our hearts, our time, and our treasure. Transform these offerings into light for those who wait in darkness, bread for those who hunger, and welcome for those who long to belong. Through Jesus, the Light of the World, we pray. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Isaiah 2:1-5

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The visionary message presented in this reading focuses on a future day when God establishes a universal reign of peace. Divine decisions will make war obsolete, and the worshiping community responds: "Let us walk in the light of that Lord now!"

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

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 24th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-44

Page 21

Jesus describes his second coming as a sudden, turbulent event that will bring about deep change to our normal, day-to-day lives. Therefore, he urges people to stay awake, be aware, and wait expectantly, because the Son of Man will come unannounced.

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



SERMON

Jeff Gramza

HYMN OF THE DAY

Hope of the Nations

Verse
Jesus, hope of the nations
Jesus, comfort for all who mourn
you are the source
of heaven's hope on earth
Jesus, light in the darkness
Jesus, truth in each circumstance
You are the source
of heaven's light on earth

Pre-Chorus
In history you lived and died
You broke the chains, you rose to life

Chorus 1
You are the hope living in us
You are the rock in whom we trust
You are the light
shining for all the world to see
You rose from the dead, conquering fear
our Prince of Peace drawing us near
Jesus, our hope,
living for all who will receive
Lord, we believe
(Lord, we believe, Lord, we believe)

Chorus 1

Pre-Chorus

Chorus 2
You are the hope living in us
You are the rock in whom we trust
You are the light
shining for all the world to see
You rose from the dead
conquering fear
our Prince of Peace drawing us near
Jesus, our hope
living for all who will receive
(REPEAT)

Ending
Lord, we believe
Lord, we believe
Lord, we believe
Lord, we believe

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Verse

Pre-Chorus

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

The night is far gone; the day is near. Christ is coming—not to catch us in fear, but to wake us to life. Let us confess our sin before the God who calls us to walk in the light.

Silence for reflection

**God of the dawning light,
we confess that we have grown drowsy with comfort and distraction.
We have built our lives around what fades
and ignored what endures.
You call us to watch, but we slept through your summons.
You call us to walk in your light,
but we have chosen our own paths and stumbled in the dark.
Forgive us, awaken us,
and teach us to live as people of the day—
expectant, courageous, and full of hope in you.**

People of God, hear this good news:
The dawn has already begun. Christ comes with mercy, not judgment—to rouse us, renew us, and set our feet on the path of peace. In the name of the one who is coming and is already here—your sins are forgiven, your hearts are awakened, and your lives are made new.
Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SHARING CHRIST’S PEACE

Offer a sign of peace with those around you

GATHERING OF GIFTS FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY