



TRINITY MERRILL

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Reverend Scott Gustafson
Reverend Jonathan Chapa

February 1, 2026 - 8:00 AM and 6:00 PM D.S. 1
The Presentation of Our Lord

Sharing the message with us today is Pastor Jon Chapa with Pastor Scott Gustafson as Liturgist and Mark Knorr as the Lector. Eileen Hass is the organist today.

OPENING HYMN "To Your Temple, Lord, I Come"

LSB 981

1 To Your temple, Lord, I come, For it
2 I through Him am received, I through
3 While Your glorious praise is sung, Touch my
4 While the prayers of saints ascend, God of

is my worship home. This earth has no
Him be - come Your child. Ab - ba, Fa - ther,
lips, un - loose my tongue That my joy - ful
love, to mine at - tend. Hear me, for Your

bet - ter place, Here I see my Sav - ior's face.
give me grace In Your courts Your love to trace.
soul may bless Christ the Lord, my righ - teous - ness.
Spir - it pleads; Hear, for Je - sus in - ter - cedes.

5. While I listen to Your Law,
Fill my soul with humble awe
Till Your Gospel bring to me
Life and immortality.
6. While Your ministers proclaim
Peace and pardon in Your name,
Through their voice, by faith, may I
Hear You speaking from the sky.
7. From Your house when I return,
May my heart within me burn,
And at evening let me say,
"I have walked with God today."

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt. Tune: Geist-reiches Gesang-Buch, 1704, Halle, ed. Johann A. Freylinghausen, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION

A In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit
C Amen.

A If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

CONFSSION AND ABSOLUTION

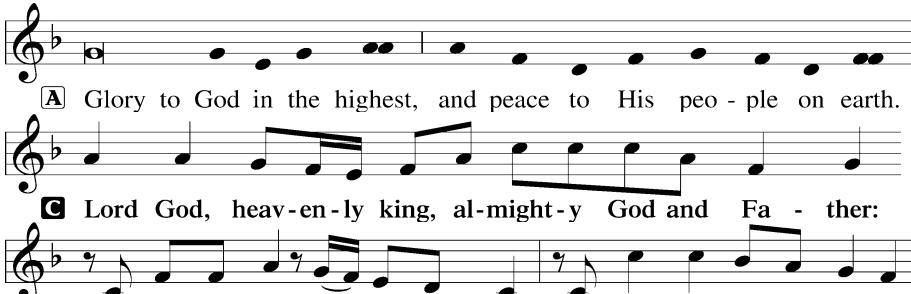
A Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

KYRIE

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A 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.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
C **Lord, have mercy.**
A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
C **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *"Gloria in Excelsis"*

LSB 154



A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His peo - ple on earth.
C Lord God, heav-en-ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:
We wor-ship You, we give You thanks, we praise You for Your glo-ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God:
 You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.
 You are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther; re-ceive our prayer
 For You a-lone are the Ho-ly One, You a-lone are the Lord,
 You a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,
 in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A - men.

SALUTATION

A The Lord be with you.
 C And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

A Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, as Your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in the substance of our flesh, grant that we may be presented to You with pure and clean hearts; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 1:21-28

²¹The man Elkanah and all his house went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice and to pay his vow. ²²But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, “As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, so that he may appear in the presence of the LORD and dwell there forever.” ²³Elkanah her husband said to her, “Do what seems best to you; wait until you have weaned him; only, may the LORD establish his word.” So the woman remained and nursed her son until she weaned him. ²⁴And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine, and she brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh. And the child was young. ²⁵Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. ²⁶And she said, “Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD. ²⁷For this child I prayed, and the LORD has granted me my petition that I made to him. ²⁸Therefore I have lent him to the LORD. As long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD.” And he worshiped the LORD there.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

EPISTLE

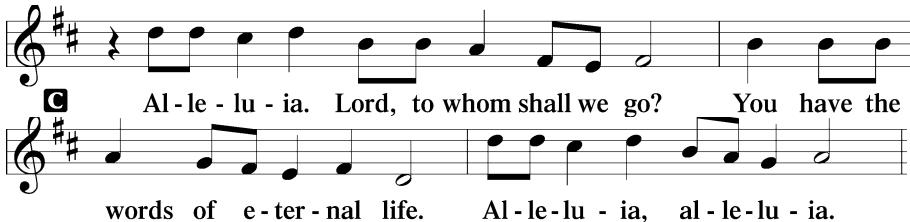
Hebrews 2:14-18

¹⁴Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. ¹⁶For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. ¹⁸For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA AND VERSE

LSB 156



Al-le-lu-ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e-ter-nal life. Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-32

A The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the second chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²²When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, ²⁹"Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation ³¹that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

A This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY***"In His Temple Now Behold Him "***

LSB 519

1 In His tem - ple now be - hold Him, See the long - ex -
 2 In the arms of her who bore Him, Vir - gin pure, be -
 3 Je - sus, by Your pre - sen - ta - tion, When they blessed You,
 pect - ed Lord; An - cient proph - ets had fore - told Him,
 hold Him lie While His a - ged saints a - dore Him
 weak and poor, Make us see Your great sal - va - tion,
 God has now ful - filled His word. Now to praise Him,
 Ere in per - fect faith they die. Al - le - lu - ia,
 Seal us with Your prom - ise sure; And pre - sent us
 His re - deem - ed Shall break forth with one ac - cord.
 al - le - lu - ia! Lo, the in - car - nate God Most High!
 in Your glo - ry To Your Fa - ther, cleansed and pure.

Text: Henry J. Pye, c. 1825-1903, alt. Tune: Henry Purcell, 1659-95, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON**APOSTLES' CREED**

C I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

ATTENDANCE / CONNECT TIME / OFFERING During this time, please sign the attendance book found in the pew or use your mobile device to fill out the Connect Card or submit prayer requests on our app or online at www.trinitymerrill.com/live. You can also visit our app or www.trinitymerrill.com/give to learn more about other ways to support the ministries at Trinity. (When filling out the attendance book – please list the names of all in attendance in your family)

OFFERTORY

C What shall I ren - der to the Lord for all His ben - e - fits to
 me? I will of - fer the sac - ri - fice of thanks - giv - ing and will



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH & THE LORD'S PRAYER

C 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.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.
 C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN *“Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace”*

LSB 937

1 Lord, bid Your ser - vant go in peace,
 2 This is the Sav - ior of the world,
 3 With saints of old, with saints to come,
 Your word is now ful - filled. These eyes have seen sal -
 The Gen - tiles' prom - ised light, God's glo - ry dwell - ing
 To You we lift our voice; To Fa - ther, Son, and
 va - tion's dawn, This child so long fore - told.
 in our midst, The joy of Is - ra - el.
 Spir - it blest Be hon - or, love, and praise.

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Today's radio broadcast is sponsored in loving memory of Lavern Sauer by Bernice Sauer.

TODAY IS THE Men's Club Chili Luncheon - The Trinity Men's Club is hosting a Chili Luncheon in the church basement following the 8:00 a.m. Worship Service Today, **Sunday, February 1st, 2026**. The meal will feature 10 varieties of chili. We will also have macaroni & cheese (for non chili-lovers). Beverages (milk, juice and coffee) are included in the price. Shredded cheese, raw onions, crackers, bread and desserts will be offered at no additional cost. Serving will take place between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Carry-outs will also be available. Ticket prices are \$8.00 for adults, \$3.00 for kids 5 through 12. The meal is free for kids under 5.

GriefShare begins Feb. 23, 2026, and meets weekly both online (Zoom) and in person for 13 weeks. Whether it has been recent or many years since the loss of your friend, spouse, parent, sibling or child, all are welcome! (Church membership is not required.) Registration is available at <https://find.griefshare.org/groups/275994>, and includes a participant guide, (if you haven't attended previously) and access to videos and other content useful in the journey from mourning to joy. Joy may seem out of reach when learning to live without our loved ones, yet the support of others and focusing on God's word make room for the seemingly impossible process of healing. **Join us and learn more at www.Griefshare.org**. Grief is difficult. Share your burdens and grow through your unique healing this spring online and in person through GriefShare at Trinity Lutheran Church, Merrill - Questions call Manda Norman (715) 351-1399.

The Trinity Dorcas Society will be holding a bake sale in the church basement on Ash Wednesday, February 18th. The bake sale will be held before and after each church service held on Ash Wednesday. Stop down to purchase freshly baked goodies from our Dorcas members.

Mark Your Calendars- BOW THE KNEE, a dramatic musical for Easter will be presented here at Trinity Merrill on Saturday, March 21st at 7 pm and Sunday, March 22nd at 2:30pm. Plan to come see and hear what it must have been like to be in Jerusalem with Jesus during his life, death, and resurrection. Everyone is welcome!

Lenten Meals at Trinity - During the season of Lent, Trinity will once again gather around the table for fellowship and nourishment as we prepare our hearts for Easter.

Lenten Lunches will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 18, and continue for five Wednesdays throughout Lent. Lunch will be served at 11:00 AM, following our 10:30 AM worship service. This is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy a simple meal and meaningful conversation with fellow member..

Lenten Dinners will begin on Wednesday, February 25, and continue for four additional Wednesdays during Lent. Dinner will be served from 5:00 PM until just before the 6:30 PM worship service, providing a convenient and welcoming time to gather before evening worship. **We are however still looking for individuals or groups to help us prepare and serve the suppers. Please contact the office if you are able to make soup or sandwiches to help bring these meals together and to bring fellowship to our Lenten services.**

We look forward to sharing these meals and this sacred season together. All are welcome!

Memory Heart Tree Show your love for departed loved ones during the Month of February by writing their name on a heart and placing it on the Memory Tree in the narthex. You may also help spread the Word of God by donating new or used Bibles or children's Bible story books and placing them under the Memory Tree. They will be given to the Homeless Shelter and the Little Libraries in Merrill. Any monetary donations will be used for Bibles as well. Thank you - Trinity Dorcas

You are invited to sign up for the **SECRET PRAYER SUPPORT** Partners Program which provides you with the opportunity to pray for another worshipper here at Trinity throughout the Lenten season. While you are praying for the person whose name you draw, they will be praying for someone else. The stipulations of the program are (1) that you remain faithful in prayer throughout the Lenten season for the person whose name you draw and (2) that you don't tell that person you are praying for him/her until you send that person a signed card at Easter time. Signup will be in the lobby on **Sun., Feb. 8**; drawing the name of the person for whom you will be praying will occur the following **Sun, Feb. 15**. This is a great opportunity to bless the life of someone else here at Trinity! See you at the signup table.

THANK YOU TO THE TRINITY PTO – The PTO recently held a fundraiser at the Los Mezcales Restaurant to raise funds for our STEM Lab at School. Our PTO with the help of Los Mezcales, raised over \$1,100. Thank you to our PTO and to everyone who helped and who dined at Los Mezcales to help our school. Our students, families and staff truly appreciate all of your help with the success of this fundraiser. If you are interested in more information on what the school needs for the STEM lab, contact Principal, Scott Johnson.



Love the Littles Diaper Drive this Valentine's Day!

Love the Littles Diaper Closet located at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church is holding its third annual donation drive in order to continue to provide this much needed service in our community. Started three years ago, the diaper closet continues to see an increase in the number of parents and adults that utilize this service. In order to keep the shelves stocked, they are asking community members to donate packages of diapers and wipes, or send monetary donations in order to buy diapers in bulk. Larger child sizes are especially needed. Donation boxes will be located at Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, Christ United Methodist Church, St. Stephen's United Church of Christ, The Chiropractic Wellness Center, Ascension Episcopal Church, Park City Credit Union, Polka-Dotted Pie, Incredible Bank, Westside Market, Riverside Athletic Club and Sawmill Brewing Company from February 6-23. Monetary donations can be mailed or dropped off at Our Saviour's at 300 Logan Street, across from PRMS. Thank you so much for your continued support of this important ministry to those in Merrill who need a little extra help.