

**TRINITY  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

5:00 PM

APRIL 18,  
2026

**Jeffery Gramza**

*Senior Pastor*

**Tim Jordan**

*Intern Pastor*

**Jonathan  
Lonsway**

*Dir. of Music*

**Trinity Lutheran Church - Third Sunday after Epiphany**

3701 Jefferson Ave Midland, MI 48640

April 18, 2026, 5:00 pm

**PRELUDE**

Charly Sly, piano

**WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Come, you who walk the long road of questions.

Come, you who carry sorrow, confusion, or quiet hope.

Come, you who are weary of the journey and unsure of what comes next.

For the risen Christ draws near—

**not in spectacle, but in companionship,**

**not in certainty, but in conversation,**

**not in distance, but in presence.**

And at the table—

in the breaking of the bread—

our eyes are opened, our hearts burn within us,

and we remember:

**Christ is alive.**

**Christ is with us.**

**Christ is revealed among us.**

For this is the place where strangers become companions,

**where sorrow gives way to joy,**

**and where the risen Christ is made known.**

**Let us worship the Lord.**

**GATHERING HYMN**

ELW #377 (vs. 1,2,4,5)

**Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen!**



1 Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!  
2 Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter  
4 Weep - ing, be gone; sor - row, be si - lent:  
5 Cit - y of God, Eas - ter for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!  
tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;  
death put a - sun - der, and Eas - ter is bright.  
gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, heav - en for - ev - er!  
break - ing our bread, giv - ing us glo - ry:  
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!  
riv - er of life, saints and arch - an - gels,

*Continued next page*



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!  
 Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.

Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.  
 sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926  
 Music: David N. Johnson, 1922–1987  
 Text © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.  
 Music © 1969 *Contemporary Worship 1*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Risen Christ, you meet us on roads we did not plan, in places of questions and quiet disappointment. Walk with us and draw near, opening your Word until our hearts burn within us and hope begins to rise again. Stay with us, Lord, in the ordinary moments of our lives; sit at our tables and take, bless, break, and give, until our eyes are opened to your presence among us. Where we are weary, renew us; where we are afraid, send us with courage to share the good news that you are alive, you are with us, and you are made known among us. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

*Today's reading is the conclusion of Peter's sermon preached following the giving of the Holy Spirit to the apostles on the day of Pentecost. The center of his preaching is the bold declaration that God has made the crucified Jesus both Lord and Christ.*

*The reading is concluded:*  
 Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 116:1-4, 12-19

<sup>1</sup> I love the Lord, who has heard my voice,  
 and listened to my supplication,

<sup>2</sup> **for the Lord has given ear to me  
 whenever I called.**

<sup>3</sup> The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;  
 I came to grief and sorrow.

<sup>4</sup> **Then I called upon the name of the Lord:  
 "O Lord, I pray you, save my life."**

<sup>12</sup> How shall I repay the Lord  
 for all the good things God has done for me?

<sup>13</sup> **I will lift the cup of salvation  
 and call on the name of the Lord.**

<sup>14</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the Lord  
 in the presence of all God's people.

<sup>15</sup> **Precious in your sight, O Lord,  
 is the death of your servants.**

<sup>16</sup> O Lord, truly I am your servant;  
 I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my  
 bonds.

<sup>17</sup> **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving  
 and call upon the name of the Lord.**

<sup>18</sup> I will fulfill my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all God's people,  
<sup>19</sup> **in the courts of the Lord's house,  
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!**

**SECOND READING: 1 Peter 1:17-23**

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*The imagery of exile is used to help the readers of this letter understand that they are strangers in a strange land. Christians no longer belong to this age. Through the death of Christ we belong to God, so that our focus, faith, and hope are no longer on such things as silver or gold.*

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

**GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT**

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

**GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35**

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*The colorful story of Jesus' appearance to two disciples on the road to Emmaus answers the question of how Jesus is to be recognized among us. Here, he is revealed through the scriptures and in the breaking of bread.*

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

**SERMON**

Jeff Gramza

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

ELW #374

**Day of Arising**



1 Day of a - ris - ing, Christ on the road - way,  
2 When we are walk - ing, doubt - ful and dread - ing,  
3 Lo, I am with you, Je - sus has spo - ken.  
4 Christ, our com - pan - ion, hope for the jour - ney,



un - known com - pan - ion walks with his own.  
blind - ed by sad - ness, slow - ness of heart,  
This is Christ's prom - ise, this is Christ's sign:  
bread of com - pas - sion, o - pen our eyes.



When they in - vite him, as fades the first day,  
yet Christ walks with us, ev - er a - wait - ing  
when the church gath - ers, when bread is bro - ken,  
Grant us your vi - sion, set all hearts burn - ing



and bread is bro - ken, Christ is made known.  
our in - vi - ta - tion: Stay, do not part.  
there Christ is with us in bread and wine.  
that all cre - a - tion with you may rise.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953  
Music: RAABE, Carl F. Schalk, b. 1929  
Text © 1996 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.  
Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress.

## APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Merciful God,  
receive our prayer.

## SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

*Offer a sign of peace with those around you*

## GATHERING OF GIFTS FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY

## OFFERTORY

*Clap Your Hands and Sing Hallelujah!*

Don Besig & Nancy Price  
True Spirit Singers

## OFFERING PRAYER

Risen Christ, all that we have and all that we are flows from your victory over death and your gift of new life. Receive now these gifts as signs of our gratitude and fruits of your grace at work within us. Take what we offer and multiply it, that your resurrection life may be known in acts of love, words of mercy, and lives renewed. Make us a people who give as we have received—freely, joyfully, and boldly—proclaiming with all we are: Christ is risen, and your love endures forever. **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.**

## 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;**

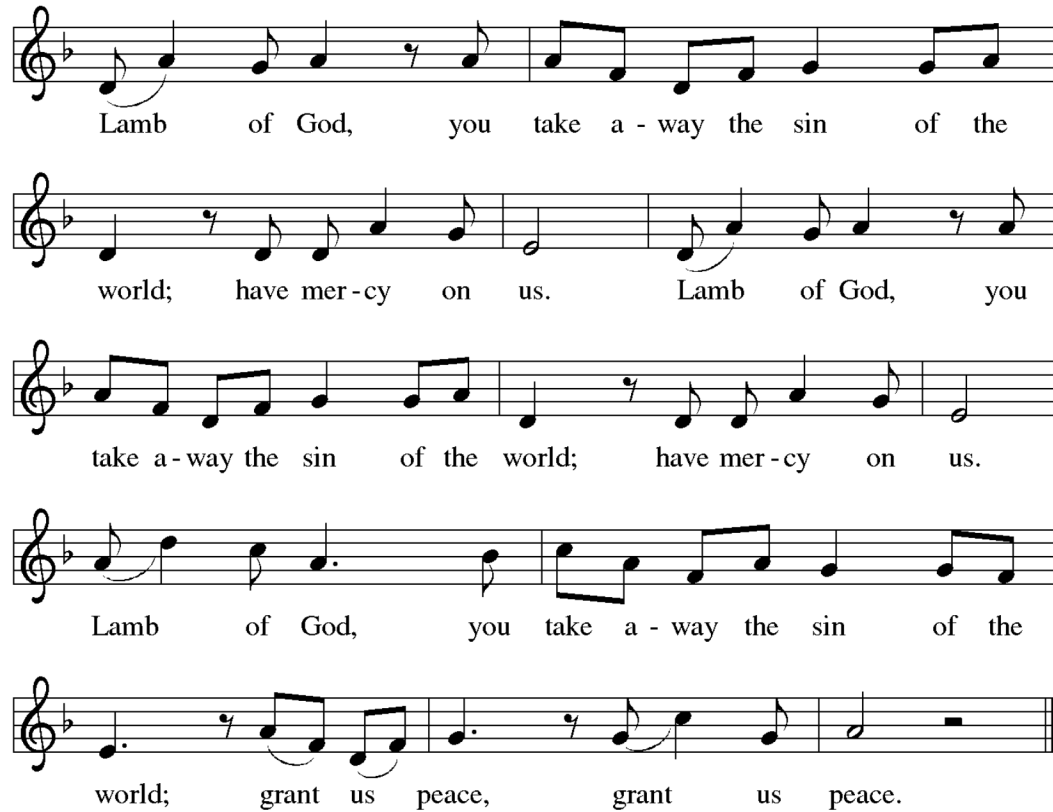
**and forgive us our trespasses,**

**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.

## 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

*Come, Let Us Eat*

ELW #491

*As We Gather At Your Table*

ELW #522

## BENEDICTION

May God the Father, who meets you on roads you did not choose and holds you in every question and turning, walk beside you with steady love and unshakable grace.

May Jesus Christ, the risen Son, revealed to you in the breaking of the bread, set your heart burning with living hope, and open your eyes to his presence in every moment.

May the Holy Spirit, breath of the living God, ignite your steps with courage and joy, sending you back into the world to tell what you have seen and known.

And may you go, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN

ELW #669

### Rise Up, O Saints of God!



- 1 Rise up, O saints of God! From vain am - bi - tions turn;
- 2 Speak out, O saints of God! De - spair en - gulf's earth's frame;
- 3 Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom's task em - brace;
- 4 Give heed, O saints of God! Cre - a - tion cries in pain;
- 5 Com - mit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;



Christ rose tri - um - phant that your hearts with no - bler zeal might burn.  
as heirs of God's bap - tis - mal grace, the word of hope pro - claim.  
re - dress sin's cru - el con - se - quence; give jus - tice larg - er place.  
stretch forth your hand of heal - ing now, with love the weak sus - tain.  
and, quick - ened by the Spir - it's pow'r, rise up, O saints of God!

Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936  
Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825-1893  
Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

## DISMISSAL

Go now on the road—  
not alone, but with the risen Christ beside you,  
even when you do not yet recognize him.

Go from confusion into clarity,

Go from sorrow into hope,

Go from doubt into living faith.

Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## POSTLUDE

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