

**TRINITY
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

11:00 AM

APRIL 19,
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 19, 2026, 11:00 am

PRELUDE

WELCOME

HOLY BAPTISM

Rhett Charles Bank

When nothing but the chaos of the deepest darkness and the despair of the desert existed...

There was God and the flow of love.

God was there lovingly birthing creation.

God was there weaving salvation and redemption.

God was there, dreaming of who the Church would be.

God is here today, birthing new creation in our midst.

God is here, pouring acceptance and forgiveness in our lives.

God is here, immersed in the diversity of our lives.

On behalf of Christians everywhere I ask, who presents this child for Holy Baptism?:

Sponsors: I present Rhett Charles Bank for baptism.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Rhett baptized into Christ?

Parents: I do.

As you bring Rhett to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

to live with *him* among God's faithful people,

bring *him* to the word of God and the holy supper,

teach *him* the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,

place in *his* hands the holy scriptures,

and nurture *him* in faith and prayer,

so that *he* may learn to trust God,

proclaim Christ through word and deed,

care for others and the world God made,

and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help *your child* grow in the Christian faith and life?

Parents: I do.

The presiding minister addresses sponsors:

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Rhett in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Sponsors: I do.

People of God, do you promise to support Rhett and pray for *him* in *his* new life in Christ?

We do.

The assembly stands.

Profession of faith

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

Response: I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the candidates and the assembly.

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**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.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

Blessed are you, O God, maker and ruler of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things.

Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety. Through the sea, you led your people, Israel, from slavery to freedom. In the wilderness, you nourished them with water from the rock, and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.

By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise. He sends us to make

disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your daughters and sons, no longer slave and free, no longer male and female, but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

BAPTISM

Rhett, I baptize you in the name of the Father, of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit, you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

Sustain *Rhett* with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

Amen.

Rhett, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

Amen.

PRAYER FOR PARENTS

O God, the giver of all life, look with kindness upon *Alexander* and *Ashley*.

Let them ever rejoice in the gift you have given them. Make them teachers and examples of righteousness for their children. Strengthen them in their own baptisms so they may share eternally with *Rhett* the salvation you have given them, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

PRESENTATION OF CANDLE

Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

GATHERING SONG

Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed

Verse 1

How can it be the One who died
Has borne our sin through sacrifice
To conquer every sting of death
Sing sing hallelujah

Verse 2

For joy awakes as dawning light
When Christ's disciples lift their eyes
Alive He stands their Friend and King
Christ Christ He is risen

Chorus

Christ is risen He is risen indeed
Oh sing hallelujah
Join the chorus sing with the redeemed
Christ is risen He is risen indeed (He is risen)

Verse 3

Where doubt and darkness
once had been
They saw Him and their hearts
believed
But blessed are those who have
not seen
Yet sing hallelujah

Verse 4

Once bound by fear now bold
in faith
They preached the truth and
power of grace
And pouring out their lives
they gained
Life life everlasting

Chorus

Verse 5

The power that raised Him from the grave
Now works in us
to powerfully save
He frees our hearts
to live His grace
Go tell of His goodness

Chorus 2x

Ending

He's alive, He's alive
Heaven's gates are opened wide
He's alive, He's alive
Now in heaven glorified
(REPEAT)

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.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

KIDS' PRAISE

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

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

Page 91

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.

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

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

GOSPEL: Luke 24:13-35

Page 68

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

Living Hope

Verse 1

How great the chasm that lay between us
How high the mountain I could not climb
In desperation I turned to heaven
And spoke Your name into the night
Then through the darkness Your loving-kindness
Tore through the shadows of my soul
The work is finished the end is written
Jesus Christ my living hope

Verse 2

Who could imagine so great a mercy
What heart could fathom such boundless grace
The God of ages stepped down from glory
To wear my sin and bear my shame
The cross has spoken I am forgiven
The King of kings calls me His own
Beautiful Savior I'm Yours forever
Jesus Christ my living hope

Chorus

Hallelujah praise the One who set me free
Hallelujah death has lost
its grip on me
You have broken every chain
There's salvation
in Your name
Jesus Christ my living hope
(REPEAT)

Verse 3

Then came the morning
that sealed the promise
Your buried body
began to breathe
Out of the silence
the Roaring Lion
Declared the grave
has no claim on me
(REPEAT)
Jesus Yours is the victory
whoa

Chorus 2X

Ending

Jesus Christ my living hope
Oh God You are
my living hope

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

NEW MEMBERS

Welcome & Introduction

In baptism, we are welcomed into the body of Christ and sent to share in the mission of God. We are called to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. Today, we rejoice as we welcome these new members into our congregation, as they commit themselves to worship, service, and fellowship in this church family. We give thanks for God's work in their lives and ask for God's continued guidance as we walk together in faith.

Presentation of New Members

(Each new member or family is introduced by name.)

Hear these words from Holy Scripture: "For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others." — *Romans 12:4-5*

Statement of Faith and Commitment

Pastor *(to the new members)*: Beloved in Christ, we welcome you as members of this congregation and invite you to share in our mission to proclaim the Gospel, serve our neighbors, and grow together in faith.

As you join this community, I ask you before God and this congregation:
Will you, with God's help, participate in the life of this church—worshiping, praying, growing in faith, and serving others? Will you seek to live as a faithful disciple of Jesus, bearing witness to God's love in your daily life?

New Members: *I will, and I ask God to help and guide me.*

Commitment of the Congregation

Pastor (to the congregation): As members of Christ's body, we are called to support, encourage, and walk with one another in love. Will you receive these new members with joy, pray for them, and support them as they grow in faith and service among us?

Congregation: **We will, and we ask God to help and guide us.**

Let us pray. Gracious God, we thank You for calling these new members into this family of faith. Strengthen them by your Spirit, guide them in their journey, and use them to bring your love and light into the world. May we, as their brothers and sisters, encourage them, pray for them, and walk alongside them in faith. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

SHARING CHRIST'S PEACE

Offer a sign of peace with those around you

GATHERING OF GIFTS FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY

OFFERTORY

O Praise the Name
See next page

O Praise the Name

Verses 1

I cast my mind to Calvary
Where Jesus bled and died for me
I see His wounds, His hands, His feet
My Saviour on that cursed tree

Verses 2

His body bound and drenched in tears
They laid Him down in Joseph's tomb
The entrance sealed by heavy stone
Messiah still and all alone

Chorus

O praise the Name of the Lord our God
O praise His Name forevermore
For endless days we will sing Your praise
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God

Verses 3

Then on the third at break of dawn
The Son of heaven rose again
O trampled death, where is your sting?
The angels roar for Christ the King

Chorus

Verses 4

He shall return in robes of white
The blazing sun shall pierce the
night
And I will rise among the saints
My gaze transfixed on Jesus' face

Chorus

Ending

Oh Lord, oh Lord our God
Oh Lord, oh Lord our God

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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.**

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.

COMMUNION SONG

Remembrance (The Communion Song)

Verse 1

Oh how could it be
That my God would welcome me
Into this mystery
Say take this bread take this wine
Now the simple made divine
For any to receive

Pre-Chorus

By Your mercy we come to Your table
By Your grace You are making us faithful

Chorus

Lord we remember You
And remembrance leads us to worship
And as we worship You
Our worship leads to communion
We respond to Your invitation
(We respond to Your invitation)
We remember You

Verse 2

See His body His blood
Know that He has overcome
Ev'ry trial we will face
And none too lost to be saved
None too broken or ashamed
All are welcome in this place

Pre-Chorus

Chorus

Bridge

Dying You destroyed our death
Rising You restored our life
Lord Jesus come in glory
Lord Jesus come in glory
Lord Jesus come in glory
Lord Jesus come in glory

Chorus

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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 SONG

My Redeemer Lives

Verse

I know He rescued my soul
His blood has covered my sin
I believe I believe
My shame He's taken away
My pain is healed in His name
I believe I believe

Pre-Chorus

I'll raise a banner
'Cause my Lord has conquered the grave

Chorus

My Redeemer lives
My Redeemer lives
My Redeemer lives
My Redeemer lives

Verse, Pre-Chorus, Chorus

Bridge

You lift my burdens
I'll rise with You
I'm dancing on this mountaintop
To see Your kingdom come

Chorus 3x

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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