

**TRINITY
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

5:00 PM

**OCTOBER 24,
2026**

Jeffery Gramza
Senior Pastor

**Sophie
Warnberg**
Intern Pastor

**Jonathan
Lonsway**
Dir. of Music



3701 Jefferson Ave
Midland, MI 48640
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Time after Pentecost Reformation

Saturday, October 24, 2026 - 5:00 pm

Welcome!

We are glad you are worshiping with us today. Please let us know you are here by filling out the attendance book at the end of the pew.

Childcare

Children are welcome in the sanctuary throughout the worship service. The nursery for ages 0-2 is available on Sunday mornings, and children age 3 through grade 3 are invited to Kid's Praise following the Children's Sermon. They return to the sanctuary before communion.

Hearing Assistance

Personal headsets are available at the sound booth at the back of the sanctuary.

Offering

Our tithes are freely given and support the continued ministry of the church. Please use the envelopes in the pew racks, or give online by scanning the QR code in the pew racks.

Livestream

Sunday morning worship services are streamed live on our website, along with Facebook and Youtube.

Connect with Us

Website: tlcmidland.org

Facebook: facebook.com/tlcmidland

Youtube: youtube.com/tlcmidland

Communion Practice

In Holy Communion, Christ welcomes us and meets us in the bread and wine. God comes to us with love and forgiveness, renews our relationship with our Creator, and nourishes us as the body of Christ. As Jesus promised, he is truly present in this meal. He invites us to remember him as we eat and drink. We come bringing our whole selves—our joys, our burdens, and our sins—trusting in Christ's forgiveness and asking God to shape us in love. (*1 Corinthians 11:23–26; John 6:53–56*)

At Trinity Lutheran Church, all are invited and encouraged to participate in this holy meal. All who wish to receive Communion may do so. If you choose not to receive the bread and wine, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing.

To be sensitive to our worshipers' needs, we offer red wine and white grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Service of Holy Communion

HYMN SING

Jonathan Lonsway, piano

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

The truth of God meets us where we are.

We come with our failures, our hopes, and our need for grace.

We have all fallen short of the glory of God.

Yet we are justified as a gift, through the redemption of Christ Jesus.

Christ calls us to abide in his word.

His truth opens the way to freedom.

The Son sets us free.

In Christ, we are free indeed. Come, let us worship God!

GATHERING HYMN

ELW # 504

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God
See next page

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a sword and shield vic -
2 No strength of ours can match his might! We would be lost, re -
3 Though hordes of dev - ils fill the land all threat - 'ning to de -
4 God's Word for - ev - er shall a - bide, no thanks to foes, who



to - rious; he breaks the cruel op - pres - sor's rod and
ject - ed. But now a cham - pion comes to fight, whom
vour us, we trem - ble not, un - moved we stand; they
fear it; for God him - self fights by our side with



wins sal - va - tion glo - rious. The old sa - tan - ic foe
God him - self e - lect - ed. You ask who this may be?
can - not o - ver - pow'r us. Let this world's ty - rant rage;
weap - ons of the Spir - it. Were they to take our house,



has sworn to work us woe! With craft and dread - ful might
The Lord of hosts is he! Christ Je - sus, might - y Lord,
in bat - tle we'll en - gage! His might is doomed to fail;
goods, hon - or, child, or spouse, though life be wrenched a - way,



he arms him - self to fight. On earth he has no e - qual.
God's on - ly Son, a - dored. He holds the field vic - to - rious.
God's judg - ment must pre - vail! One lit - tle word sub - dues him.
they can - not win the day. The king - dom's ours for - ev - er!

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*
Music: EIN FESTE BURG, Martin Luther
Text © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious God, you are our refuge when guilt weighs upon us, our hope when shame tells us to hide, and our freedom when sin holds us captive. By your Spirit, keep us abiding in the word of Jesus. Teach us to trust the gift of your grace, to face the truth with courage, and to live in the freedom of love; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:31-34

Page 570

The renewed covenant will not be breakable, but like the old covenant it will expect the people to live upright lives. To know the Lord means that one will defend the cause of the poor and needy (Jer. 22:16). The renewed covenant is possible only because the Lord will forgive iniquity and not remember sin. Our hope lies in a God who forgets.

The reading is concluded:

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 96:1-9

- ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- ² **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**
- ³ though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
- ⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.**
- ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it at the break of day.
- ⁶ **The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**
- ⁷ The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

⁸ Come now, regard the works of the Lord,
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;
⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.
¹⁰ “Be still, then, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”
¹¹ The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING: Romans 3:19-28

Page 117

Paul’s words stand at the heart of the preaching of Martin Luther and other Reformation leaders. No human beings make themselves right with God through works of the law. We are brought into a right relationship with God through the divine activity centered in Christ’s death. This act is a gift of grace that liberates us from sin and empowers our faith in Jesus Christ.

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

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 8th chapter.
Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: John 8:31-36

Page 77

Jesus speaks of truth and freedom as spiritual realities known through his word. He reveals the truth that sets people free from sin.

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

SERMON

Pastor Jeff Gramza

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #511 (vs 1, 3, 5)

Thy Strong Word

1 Thy strong word did cleave the dark - ness; at thy
3 Thy strong Word be - speaks us righ - teous; bright with
speak - ing it was done. For cre - at - ed light we
thine own ho - li - ness, glo - rious now, we press toward
thank thee, while thine or - dered sea - sons run.
glo - ry, and our lives our hopes con - fess.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise to thee who light dost send!
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia with - out end!

Verse 5

Give us lips to sing thy glory
tongues thy mercy to proclaim,
throats that shout the hope that fills us,
mouths to speak thy holy name.

Alleluia! Alleluia!
May the light which thou dost send
fill our songs with alleluias,
alleluias without end!

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

Hear us O God,
your mercy is great.

SHARING CHRIST’S PEACE

Offer a sign of peace with those around you

GATHERING OF GIFTS FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY

OFFERTORY

OFFERING PRAYER

Generous God, all that we have comes from your hand. Receive these gifts and the lives we offer with them. Use them to proclaim the freedom of Christ, to care for our neighbors, and to repair what has been harmed. Make us joyful in giving, steadfast in hope, and ready to serve; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

ELW Setting 2

Musical notation for the Lamb of God setting, featuring a treble clef and a key signature of one flat. The lyrics are: 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.

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

- My Faith Looks Up to Thee ELW #759
- The Church's One Foundation ELW #654

BENEDICTION

May the God who justifies you by grace quiet every voice that says you are beyond hope. May Jesus Christ, who calls you beloved, free you to face the truth and begin again. May the Holy Spirit strengthen you to live in the freedom of love.

And may the blessing of almighty God— ☩ Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

ELW #880 vs 1, 3

O God, Beyond All Praising
See next page

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Abide in Christ's word.
Thanks be to God. Our freedom is in Christ.

POSTLUDE

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"Thy Strong Word"
Text: Martin H. Franzmann, 1907–1976
Music: EBENEZER, Thomas J. Williams, 1869–1944
Text © 1969 Concordia Publishing House

O God beyond All Praising



1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day
3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,



and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;
that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on-ly won-der at ev-'ry gift you send,
and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,



at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end:
we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still:



we lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word,
to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,



we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.
and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

Text: Michael Perry, 1942–1996

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

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