

**TRINITY  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

**8:45 AM**

**OCTOBER 4,  
2026**

**Jeffery Gramza**  
*Senior Pastor*

**Sophie  
Warnberg**  
*Intern Pastor*

**Jonathan  
Lonsway**  
*Dir. of Music*

Trinity Lutheran Church  
3701 Jefferson Ave Midland, MI 48640  
October 4, 2026, 8:45 am

## PRELUDE

*KINGSFOLD*

Aaron David Miller  
Charly Sly, organ

## WELCOME

## CALL TO WORSHIP

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

God planted a vineyard on a fertile hill,  
cleared its stones, tended its soil,  
and waited for the harvest.

**God still looks for justice to ripen among us  
and righteousness to take root in our lives.**

Christ has made us his own—  
not because of our accomplishments,  
but because of his astonishing grace.

**We release what lies behind  
and reach toward the life  
to which God is calling us.**

The stone rejected by the builders  
has become the cornerstone.

**We build our hope on Jesus Christ  
and offer our lives as a harvest of love.**

Come, people of God.  
Let us become the song  
God longs to hear from the vineyard.  
**Let our worship bear fruit—  
justice, mercy, courage, and peace.**

## GATHERING HYMN

ACS #1086

### O God, Who Gives Us Life



1 O God, who gives us life and breath, who shapes us in the womb,  
2 O God, who calls your peo - ple out to ven - ture and to dare,  
3 O God of cov - e - nant and law, re - vealed in cloud and flame,



who guards our lives from birth to death, then leads us from the tomb:  
to plumb the bleak a - byss of doubt and find you e - ven there:  
your might - y deeds e - voke our awe; we dare not speak your name.



de - liv - er us from fears that kill the life we have from you.  
when we de - spair in wan - der - ing through wastes of emp - ty lies,  
Yet we by faith are drawn to you and will your peo - ple prove,



Help us to know your Spir - it still is mak - ing all things new.  
re - fresh us with the liv - ing spring of hope that nev - er dies.  
as on our hearts you write a - new the cov - e - nant of love.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., b. 1944  
Music: NOEL, English melody; arr. Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842–1900  
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GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.  
And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Setting: *Now the Feast and Celebration*

*Refrain*

Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion  
sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;  
praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!

1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has

*Refrain*

freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.

2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and

*Refrain*

glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.

3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of  
God; to make all things new.

*Refrain*

Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
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PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of patient and persistent love, you entrust the vineyard of creation and the lives of our neighbors to our care. Keep us from mistaking stewardship for ownership. When truth confronts us, give us courage to listen; when you call for justice, make us ready to respond. Build our lives upon Jesus Christ, the stone the world rejected and you made the cornerstone. Root us in his grace and make us a people who bear an abundant harvest of mercy, righteousness, and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

CHILDREN’S SERMON

KIDS’ PRAISE

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

FIRST READING: ISAIAH 5:1-7

The prophet sings a sad, parable-like love song about the relationship between God and Israel. In this song Israel is compared to a promising vineyard. Despite God’s loving care, the vineyard that is Israel has brought forth “rotten grapes” of injustice and distress, when fine grapes of justice and righteousness were expected.

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

PSALM 80:7-15

Hear Us, O Shepherd of the Faithful

1 Hear us, O Shep - herd of the faith - ful, lead - ing your  
3 You brought a choice vine out of E - gypt, plant - ing it  
4 Turn back, O God; look down from heav - en; once more be -

peo - ple like a flock. Throned a - bove cher - u - bim in  
where it mul - ti - plied. Moun - tains were cov - ered by its  
- hold and tend this vine. Give life to what your hand has

splen - dor; shine forth, our Sav - ior and our Rock. Stir up your  
shad - ow; its branch - es stretched out far and wide. Why have you  
plant - ed; re - new your fad - ing, marred de - sign. That we a -

strength, make hast to help us, come and re - store us,  
torn down its de - fens - es, leav - ing sweet fruit for  
- gain may call on your Name, come and re - store us,

God of might. Let your face shine in fa - vor  
all to raid? Beasts from the for - est for - age  
God of might. Let your face shine in fa - vor

on us; we shall be saved and wrongs made right.  
free - ly, and crea - tures of the field in - vade.  
on us; we shall be saved and wrongs made right.

WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr.  
MUSIC: Louis Bourgeois  
Words © 202 Hope Publishing Company

SECOND READING: PHILIPPIANS 3:4B-14

Paul reviews some of his supposed credentials, which no longer have any bearing in comparison to the right relationship he has been given through the death of Christ. The power of Christ’s resurrection motivates him to press on toward the ultimate goal, eternal life with Christ.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Setting: Now the Feast and Celebration

Congregation:

Al-le-lu - ia, al-le-lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we

go? You have the words of e - ter - nal

life. Al - le - lu - ia!

Text and Music: Marty Haugen; © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.

GOSPEL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 21st chapter.  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 21:33-46

Page 18

*Jesus tells a parable to the religious leaders who are plotting his death, revealing that their plans will, ironically, bring about the fulfillment of scripture.*

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

SERMON

Vicar Sophi Warnberg

HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW #727

Lord Christ, When First You Came to Earth



1 Lord Christ, when first you came to earth, up -  
2 O awe - some Love, which finds no room in  
3 New ad - vent of the love of Christ, will  
4 O wound - ed hands of Je - sus, build in



on a cross they bound you, and mocked your sav - ing  
life where sin de - nies you, and, doomed to death, shall  
we a - gain re - fuse you, till in the night of  
us your new cre - a - tion; our pride is dust, our



king - ship's worth by thorns with which they crowned you. And  
bring to doom the pow'r that cru - ci - fies you, till  
hate and war we per - ish as we lose you? From  
vaunt is stilled; we wait your rev - e - la - tion. O



still our wrongs may fash - ion now new thorns to pierce that  
not a stone is left on stone, and then the na - tions'  
an - cient doubts our minds re - lease to seek the king - dom  
Love that tri - umphs o - ver loss, we bring our hearts be -



stead - y brow, and robe of sor - row round you.  
pride, o'er - thrown, will nev - er - more de - fy you!  
of your peace, by which a - lone we choose you.  
fore your cross; come, fin - ish your sal - va - tion.

Text: W. Russell Bowie, 1882–1969, alt.  
Music: MIT FREUDEN ZART, medieval European tune

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin before God, who has planted us in love and calls us to bear the fruits of the kingdom.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Beloved Gardener,  
you have given us good earth,  
cleared away stones,  
and surrounded us with grace.  
We have treated your vineyard as our possession  
rather than your gift.  
We have guarded our comfort,**

clung to our accomplishments,  
and measured our worth  
by success, status, and reputation.  
Forgive us. Prune away our pride.  
Uproot our indifference.  
Turn us again toward Christ,  
and cultivate within us  
a harvest worthy of your kingdom.

Hear the good news: the stone the world rejected has become the foundation of our hope. Jesus Christ entered our violence, bore our sin, and rose to meet us with mercy. Christ has made you his own. You are forgiven. You are being made new.  
**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

*Toccata in Seven*

John rutter  
Charly Sly

OFFERING PRAYER

God of the vineyard, receive these gifts—the fruits of our labor and signs of our gratitude. Use them to answer the cries of the suffering, to shelter those left vulnerable, to nourish bodies and spirits, and to plant justice where violence and despair have taken root. Cultivate generous hearts within us. Make our lives fruitful, until all that we are and all that we have becomes a living offering of love; through Jesus Christ, the cornerstone of our hope. **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.**

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

*Setting: Now the Feast and Celebration*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and  
might; heav - en and earth are filled with your  
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
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## 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

Setting: *Now the Feast and Celebration*

1. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world;  
2. Lamb of God, you break the chains of ha - tred and fear;  
3. Lamb of God, you are the way of jus - tice and peace:  
4. Lamb of God, you are the way of mer - cy and love:

have mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us, mer-cy on us.

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world:  
grant us peace, grant us peace, grant us peace.

Text: ICET; additional text by Marty Haugen, © 1990, GIA Publications, Inc.  
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## 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

|                                         |          |
|-----------------------------------------|----------|
| <i>When I Survey the Wondrous Cross</i> | ELW #803 |
| <i>Jesus Loves Me</i>                   | ELW #595 |

## BENEDICTION

May the God who planted you in love cultivate justice within you.  
May Jesus Christ, who has made you his own, draw you forward in grace.  
May the Holy Spirit prune what has grown lifeless and ripen within you a harvest of compassion, courage, and peace.  
The blessing of God— ✠ Creator, Redeemer, and life-giving Spirit—be with you now and always. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

ELW #729 (vs. 1-3, 5)

POSTLUDE

The Church of Christ, in Every Age

WAREHAM

J. Bert Carlson  
Charly Sly, organ

1 The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age be - set by  
2 A - cross the world, a - cross the street, the vic - tims  
3 Then let the ser - vant church a - rise, a car - ing  
5 We have no mis - sion but to serve in full o -

change, but Spir - it - led, must claim and test its  
of in - jus - tice cry for shel - ter and for  
church that longs to be a part - ner in Christ's  
be - dience to our Lord; to care for all, with -

her - i - tage and keep on ris - ing from the dead.  
bread to eat, and nev - er live be - fore they die.  
sac - ri - fice, and clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.  
out re - serve, and spread his lib - er - at - ing word.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000  
Music: WAREHAM, William Knapp, 1698–1768  
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace.  
Press on in faith  
and bear the fruits of God's kingdom.  
**Thanks be to God.**

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