



# TRINITY MERRILL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Reverend Scott Gustafson  
Reverend Jonathan Chapa

**June 28, 2026 - 10:30 AM**

**The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

**“Hey, God! What about CREATION & EVOLUTION”**

**Pastor Scott Gustafson will be sharing the message with us today. Eileen Hass will be leading the music today.**

**AS WE GATHER:** Jesus has not come to calm the world but to lead us into battle. That battle is inside of us—the call to take up the cross, to deny self, and to follow Jesus. He has already won the victory over death and the devil, and now He works to sanctify us in this truth. While this might appear to be surrender, it is the only path to finding our lives and keeping them to everlasting life. We are bearers of this message to the world and accompanied with the promise that Christ is working in us and through us to make the Gospel known. Yet in the midst of this, we are encouraged that the smallest good work will not be overlooked by the Father, and those redeemed by Christ have a heavenly reward awaiting their faithful believing and living.

## **WELCOME & GREETING**

### **OPENING SONG**

### **“What An Awesome God”**

**Vs.1** *God is great give Him all the praise  
Hallelujah Name above all Names  
Fire in His eyes healing in His veins  
Everywhere His glory on display  
Take a look at those stars He can name  
them all  
Before His throne every knee falls  
The demons have to run the angels have  
to praise  
Even the wind and waves obey*

**Chorus 1** ***Our God is an awesome God  
He reigns from heaven above  
With wisdom power and love  
Our God is an awesome God***

**Vs.2** *And even when I ran He didn't run away  
He came and put death back in its place  
Friday on a cross broken for my shame  
Sunday morning rose up from that grave  
Take a look at those scars on His hands  
and feet  
He saved our souls for eternity  
Worthy is the Lamb glory to the King  
Oh let all the saints and the angels sing*

**Vs.3** *Eyes on the sky there will be a day  
He will come and wipe our tears away  
No more fear no more pain  
No more sorrow sin or shame  
The King is coming back again  
A reign of love that will never end  
For everything You've done and  
everything You do  
And everything You are I'll sing to You*

**Chorus 2** ***My God You're an awesome God  
You're great in all You do  
I'm made to worship You  
My God You're an awesome God***

**Tag** *Our God is an awesome God  
Our God what an awesome God*

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## **INVOCATION**

**Pastor:** In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** Amen.

## CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION Psalm 38:3

Pastor: There is no soundness in my flesh because of Your indignation; there is no health in my bones because of my sin.

**People: I confess my iniquity; I am sorry for my sin.**

Pastor: Holy and gracious God,

**People: I confess that I have sinned against You this day. Some of my sin I know—the thoughts and words and deeds of which I am ashamed—but some is known only to You. In the name of Jesus Christ I ask forgiveness. Deliver according to Your mercy and grant peace to my heart so that I may serve You with all my mind, body, and soul.**

Pastor: By the mercy of God we are redeemed by Jesus Christ, and in Him we are forgiven. 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 T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

Pastor: He who began this good work within you will bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you. Amen.**

## SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, by the working of Your Holy Spirit, grant that we may gladly hear Your Word proclaimed among us and follow its directing; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

## MONTHLY VERSE (Matthew 4:19)

***"And [Jesus] said to them, 'Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.'"***

## SONG

### ***"Fishers of Men"***

Vs.1 *I will make you fishers of men  
Fishers of men fishers of men  
I will make you fishers of men  
If you follow Me  
If you follow Me if you follow Me  
I will make you fishers of men  
If you follow Me*

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## NICENE CREED

**People: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into**

heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**FIRST READING     Jeremiah 28:5-9**

<sup>5</sup> Then the prophet Jeremiah spoke to Hananiah the prophet in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the Lord, <sup>6</sup> and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the Lord do so; may the Lord make the words that you have prophesied come true, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the Lord, and all the exiles. <sup>7</sup> Yet hear now this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. <sup>8</sup> The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. <sup>9</sup> As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes to pass, then it will be known that the Lord has truly sent the prophet.”

**SPECIAL MUSIC:** Vacation Bible School (VBS)

**SECOND READING     Romans 7:1-13**

Or do you not know, brothers—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only as long as he lives? <sup>2</sup> For a married woman is bound by law to her husband while he lives, but if her husband dies she is released from the law of marriage. <sup>3</sup> Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she lives with another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she marries another man she is not an adulteress.

<sup>4</sup> Likewise, my brothers, you also have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who has been raised from the dead, in order that we may bear fruit for God. <sup>5</sup> For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. <sup>6</sup> But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.

<sup>7</sup> What then shall we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. For I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, “You shall not covet.” <sup>8</sup> But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law, sin lies dead. <sup>9</sup> I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin came alive and I died. <sup>10</sup> The very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. <sup>11</sup> For sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. <sup>12</sup> So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and righteous and good.

<sup>13</sup> Did that which is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, producing death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

**GOSPEL READING     Matthew 10:34-42**

<sup>34</sup> “Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I have not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup> For I have come to set a man against his father, and a daughter against her mother, and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law. <sup>36</sup> And a person's enemies will be those of his own household. <sup>37</sup> Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me.

<sup>38</sup> And whoever does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup> Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. <sup>40</sup> "Whoever receives you receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me." <sup>41</sup> The one who receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and the one who receives a righteous person because he is a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. <sup>42</sup> And whoever gives one of these little ones even a cup of cold water because he is a disciple, truly, I say to you, he will by no means lose his reward."

## SONG OF THE DAY

### "The Potter's Hand"

**Vs.1** *Beautiful Lord, wonderful Savior  
I know for sure all of my days are  
held in Your hand, crafted into  
Your perfect plan.*

**Vs.2** *You gently call me into Your presence,  
guiding me by Your Holy Spirit;  
teach me, dear Lord, to live all of my life  
through Your eyes.*

**Chorus** *Take me, mold me,  
use me, fill me;  
I give my life  
to the Potter's hand.  
Call me, guide me,  
lead me, walk beside me;  
I give my life  
To the Potter's hand*

**Pre-Chorus** *I'm captured by Your holy calling.  
Set me apart; I know You're drawing  
me to Yourself.  
Lead me, Lord I pray.*

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## MESSAGE

### "Hey, God! What about CREATION & EVOLUTION"

## 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](https://www.trinitymerrill.com/live). You can also visit our app or [www.trinitymerrill.com/give](https://www.trinitymerrill.com/give) to learn more about other ways to support the ministries at Trinity. (When filling out the attendance book, please include your last names and list the names of everyone in attendance in your family)*

## PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

‡ WELCOME TO THE LORD'S TABLE ‡

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### COMMUNION SONG

#### "Feed Us Now"

**Vs.1** *Feed us now Bread of Life  
In this holy meal  
Let us know Your love anew  
We hunger for You  
Feed us now Bread of Life  
Come and live within  
Let Your peace be ours today  
Lord Jesus we pray*

**Vs.2** *Piece of bread glass of wine  
Lord this food is good  
Love and mercy come to us  
Your promise we trust  
Piece of bread glass of wine  
Who can understand  
How His mercy works in these  
Yet Lord we believe*

Vs.3 *God is here O so near  
Nearer than our thoughts  
Stay with us where'er we go  
Lord help us to grow  
God is here O so near  
In this heaven's meal  
May we always feed on You  
On the Bread that's true*

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## COMMUNION BLESSING

## BENEDICTION

## CLOSING SONG

### ***“Heaven Is In My Heart”***

**Chorus** *O heaven is in my heart  
O heaven is in my heart*

**Vs.1** *The kingdom of our God is here  
(Heaven is in my heart)  
The presence of His majesty  
(Heaven is in my heart)  
And in His presence joy abounds  
(Heaven is in my heart)  
The light of holiness surrounds  
(Heaven is in my heart) (Chorus)*

**Vs.2** *His precious life on me He spent  
(Heaven is in my heart)  
To give me life without an end  
(Heaven is in my heart)  
In Christ is all my confidence  
(Heaven is in my heart)  
The hope of my inheritance  
(Heaven is in my heart) (Chorus)*

**Vs.3** *We are a temple for His throne  
(Heaven is in my heart)  
And Christ is the foundation stone  
(Heaven is in my heart)  
He will return to take us home  
(Heaven is in my heart)  
The Spirit and the Bride say come  
(Heaven is in my heart) (Chorus)*

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**Today's Radio Broadcast** is sponsored loving memory of the birthday of Herb Simon (July 3) by his wife  
Mardell & his family.

**The Flowers on the altar** are sponsored in loving memory of Madison Seeger by Lonny & Patty Lau.

**If you are a visitor that is interested in membership at Trinity, please contact the church office or add your phone number, email and/or address to the fellowship pad. Otherwise, we have no way to reach you to talk about membership. Thank you.**

**TRINITY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT** -If you are interested in enrolling your child at Trinity for the 2026/27 school year, please call our school office at 715-536-7501. We provide faith-based education, uphold academic excellence, emphasize service to others, embrace Christian family values, and have a compassionate staff. We are also part of the Wisconsin School Choice program and if you qualify, your child could attend Trinity for free!

**SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM** -Many children don't get lunches over the summer when school is not in session. Trinity volunteers will hand out bag lunches from 11:30-1:00 each Thursday in June, July and August. We are looking for volunteers to help serve at Christ United Methodist Church parking lot. If you are interested in helping, please call Julie Cordova 715-393-7814. **Monetary Donations and donations of food that can be packed in a sack would be greatly appreciated.** We serve an average of 150 children per week on the Thursdays that Trinity serves..

**Trinity Lutheran Church – “Living River” Concert in the Park** Trinity Lutheran Church will be hosting the “Living River Quartet” on **Saturday, August 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM at Normal Park, 500 N. Center Ave in Merrill.** Bring your lawn Chairs and refreshments. Last year, two Trinity members sponsored the entire cost of this group. This year we would like to open this up to all members to help sponsor this city-wide event. You can find envelopes to help support this event on the “Adopt a Bill” board. Living River’s mission is to share the love of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, with their music, and to proclaim His gift of salvation and eternal life. Volunteers from Aspirus Merrill Hospital will be selling hamburgers, brats, chips and soda from the concession stand. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors and enjoy this wonderful concert in the park with us.

**NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH? WE’RE HERE TO HELP!**

Getting to church shouldn't be a barrier to worship. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor, Trinity is pleased to offer **free taxi rides to and from worship services** through Blue Jay Taxi.

If you or someone you know could benefit from transportation assistance, simply call **715-921-4110** by **Wednesday** before the weekend service you plan to attend.

When leaving your message, please include:

- Which worship service you will attend
- Your pick-up address
- How many people will need transportation to church

We are grateful for this opportunity to help connect people with God's Word, worship, and the fellowship of our church family. If transportation has been keeping you from attending worship, we encourage you to take advantage of this wonderful ministry. We look forward to welcoming you to church!

**Office Coverage Substitute Needed**

The Trinity Office is seeking a dependable individual to provide office coverage at Trinity Church when Robin is away. Training will be provided. Basic knowledge of computers, copiers, and telephone systems would be helpful. If you are interested in this opportunity, please call the office or stop by for more information. We look forward to hearing from you!

**Trinity Community Meal – Faith, Fellowship, and Food**

Trinity will host a Community Meal on **Wednesday, July 15, from 4:30–6:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall at church.** Our goal is simple: to share Faith, Fellowship, and Food with our community. A dedicated group of Trinity volunteers has already begun planning this event, but we will need your help to make it a success. While serving a delicious meal is important, our greatest goal is to provide something even more meaningful—friendship. We invite members of our Trinity family to come, sit, visit, and build relationships with those who attend. A warm smile, a friendly conversation, and a welcoming spirit can make a lasting impact. Through these interactions, we hope to show our community the love of Christ and the welcoming nature of our congregation. The menu will feature pulled pork with a variety of sides, and desserts graciously provided by the Dorcas Society. Whether you can help prepare, serve, clean up, or simply spend time getting to know our guests, your presence can help make this event a blessing to many. Join us as we share not only a meal, but also the love and hospitality of Christ with our community.

**As schedules shift and vacations begin, we invite you to stay connected through worship, fellowship, service opportunities, and the many ministries continuing throughout the summer months. We are grateful for your continued support of Trinity’s mission and ministry. Even during the summer season, the work of the church continues each and every week through worship services, outreach, youth programs, education, and care ministries. We encourage you to prayerfully consider maintaining your regular giving throughout the summer, even if you are traveling or away from church.**

For your convenience, electronic giving is available through Subsplash at:

<https://trinitymerrill.com/give>

You may also continue to mail your offerings directly to Trinity. Please note that electronic giving options do include processing fees charged to the church. Subsplash giving does provide an option to help cover those fees if you choose. No matter the method, we are sincerely thankful for your faithful generosity and partnership in ministry.

**St. Vincent de Paul is seeking volunteers** St. Vincent is seeking volunteers to work at their charitable Thrift store in downtown Merrill. If you are able to volunteer or have any questions, please call Sue Norenberg at 715-539-2666.