



TRINITY MERRILL LUTHERAN CHURCH

107 N. State St. Merrill, WI 54452
715-536-5482 | trinitymerrill.com

Reverend Scott Gustafson
Reverend Jonathan Chapa

August 9, 2026 8:00 AM & 6:00 PM (DS 3)

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Sharing the message with us today is Caleb Gustafson with Mark Knorr as the Lector and Eileen Hass is our organist today.

AS WE GATHER: The only way a sinful human being can dare to approach and worship an almighty God is if we also know that He is a God of mercy. God's mighty power is known from the vastness of His creation, the stars and seas, light and darkness, tempests and storms (Job 38). "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom" (Psalm 111:10). Yet we are told, "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved" (Romans 10:13). "Therefore, the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore He exalts Himself to show mercy to you" (Isaiah 30:18). This "almighty and most merciful God" (Prayer of the Day) showed both His might and mercy when He became aware of His disciples' peril on a storm-tossed sea. Walking on water wasn't the point. It was the Lord's coming to save us in our fear and distress (Matthew 14). As the catechism says of God's commandments, "We should fear and love God." We can trust the God who has harnessed His wrath with His love. Greater love has no one than the God who joined us in our misery, took our sin upon Himself, and died our death but now is risen to save us from every evil that threatens us or makes us afraid.

OPENING HYMN

"From All That Dwell Below the Skies"

LSB 816

1 From all that dwell be - low the skies Let the Cre - a - tor's
2 E - ter - nal are Thy mer - cies, Lord; E - ter - nal truth at -
△ 3 All praise to God the Fa - ther be, All praise, e - ter - nal
praise a - rise; Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
tends Thy Word. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Son, to Thee. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Let the Re - deem - er's name be sung Through ev - 'ry land by
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore Till suns shall rise and
Whom with the Spir - it we a - dore For - ev - er and for -
ev - 'ry tongue. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
set no more. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
ev - er - more: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Text (sts. 1-2): Isaac Watts, 1674-1748; (st. 3): William W. How, 1823-97 Tune: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623, Köln Text and tune: Public domain

INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

GLORIA PATRI

Two staves of musical notation in treble clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the Gloria Patri. The second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost;

as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

KYRIE

Two staves of musical notation in treble clef. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the Kyrie. The second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the staves.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

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

LSB 186

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

LSB 187



P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward
men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.
O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up-
on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Let us pray. Almighty and most merciful God, preserve us from all harm and danger that we, being ready in both body and soul, may cheerfully accomplish what You want done; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Job 38:4-18

⁴ “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. ⁵ Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? ⁶ On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, ⁷ when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God shouted for joy? ⁸ “Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, ⁹ when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, ¹⁰ and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, ¹¹ and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed’? ¹² “Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, ¹³ that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? ¹⁴ It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment. ¹⁵ From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. ¹⁶ “Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? ¹⁷ Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? ¹⁸ Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

Romans 10:5-17

⁵ For Moses writes about the righteousness that is based on the law, that the person who does the commandments shall live by them. ⁶ But the righteousness based on faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say? “The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); ⁹ because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. ¹¹ For the Scripture says, “Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

¹⁴ How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? ¹⁵ And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!” ¹⁶ But they have not all obeyed the gospel. For Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what he has heard from us?” ¹⁷ So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**



Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 14:22-33

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the fourteenth chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid."

²⁸ And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me." ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED

C **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.

SERMON HYMN

“Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me”

LSB 715

1 Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me O - ver life's
2 As a moth - er stills her child, Thou canst hush
3 When at last I near the shore And the fear -
tem - pes - tuous sea; Un - known waves be - fore me roll,
the o - cean wild; Bois - t'rous waves o - bey Thy will
ful break - ers roar Twixt me and the peace - ful rest,
Hid - ing rock and treach - 'rous shoal. Chart and com -
When Thou say'st to them, "Be still!" Won - drous Sov -
Then, while lean - ing on Thy breast, May I hear
pass come from Thee. Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
reign of the sea, Je - sus, Sav - ior, pi - lot me.
Thee say to me, "Fear not, I will pi - lot thee."

Text: Edward Hopper, 1818–88 Tune: John E. Gould, 1822–75 Text and tune: Public domain

SERMON

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

C Amen.

OFFERTORY

LSB 192

Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

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. You can also visit our app or www.trinitymerrill.com/give to learn more about other ways to support the ministries at Trinity. (When filling out the attendance book – please list the names of all in attendance in your family.)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE & PROPER PREFACE

P The Lord be with you

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts

C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

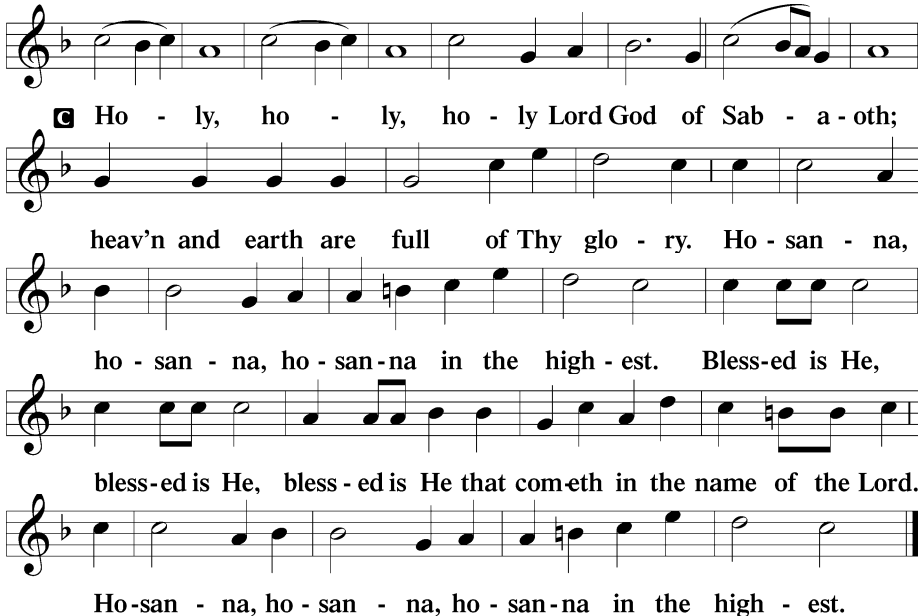
P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

C **It is meet and right so to do.**

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS

LSB 195



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is He,
bless-ed is He, bless - ed is He that com-eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho-san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

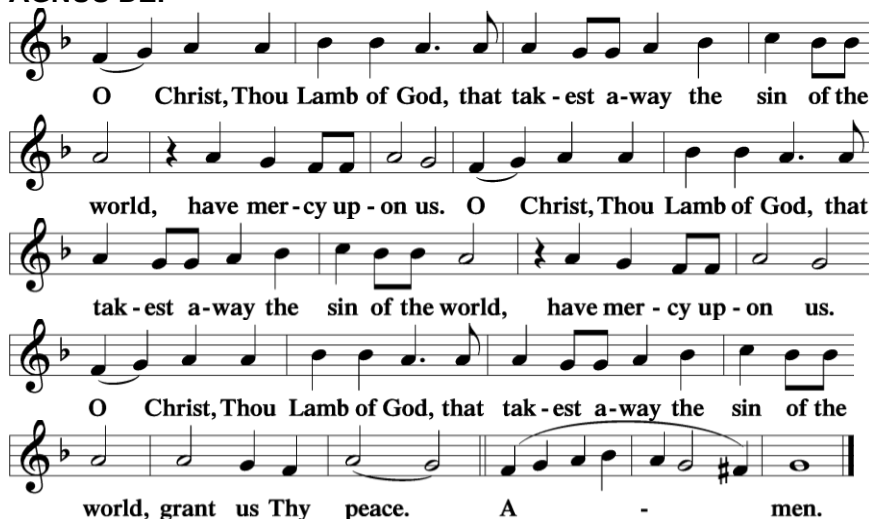
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

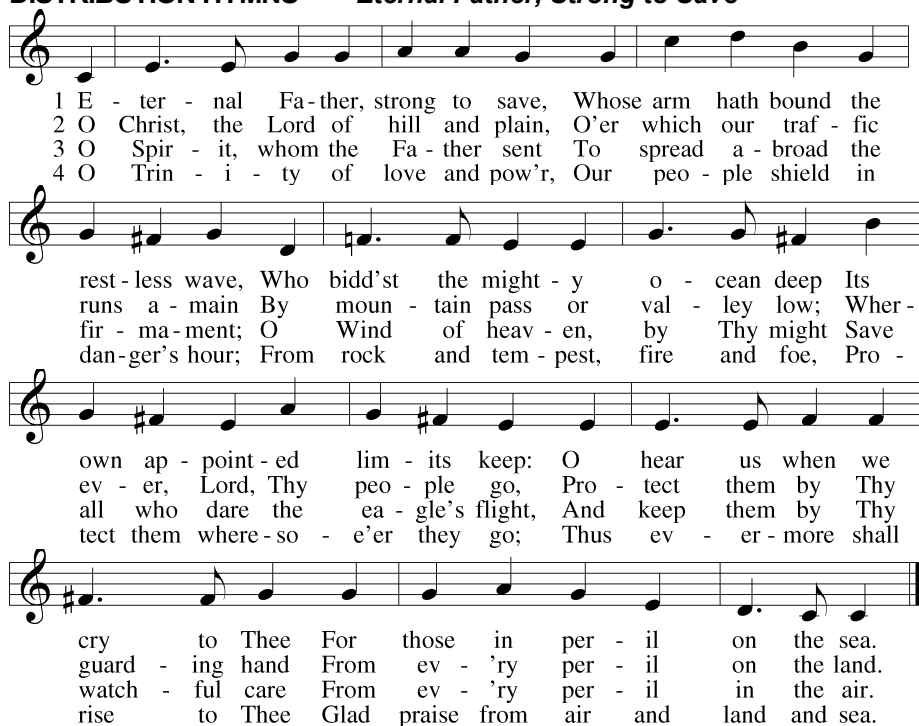
AGNUS DEI



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that
tak - est a-way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak - est a-way the sin of the
world, grant us Thy peace. A - men.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS *"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"*

LSB 717



1 E - ter - nal Fa-ther, strong to save, Whose arm hath bound the
2 O Christ, the Lord of hill and plain, O'er which our traf - fic
3 O Spir - it, whom the Fa - ther sent To spread a - broad the
4 O Trin - i - ty of love and pow'r, Our peo - ple shield in
rest - less wave, Who bidd'st the might - y o - cean deep Its
runs a - main By moun - tain pass or val - ley low; Wher -
fir - ma-ment; O Wind of heav - en, by Thy might Save
dan-ger's hour; From rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, Pro -
own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: O hear us when we
ev - er, Lord, Thy peo - ple go, Pro - tect them by Thy
all who dare the ea - gle's flight, And keep them by Thy
tect them where - so - e'er they go; Thus ev - er - more shall
cry to Thee For those in per - il on the sea.
guard - ing hand From ev - 'ry per - il on the land.
watch - ful care From ev - 'ry per - il in the air.
rise to Thee Glad praise from air and land and sea.

Text (sts. 1, 4): William Whiting, 1825–78, alt. Tune: John B. Dykes, 1823–76 Text (sts. 2–3): © The Church Pension Fund. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005698 Text (sts. 1, 4) and tune: Public domain

"Be Still, My Soul"

LSB 752



1 Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side; Bear pa - tient-
 2 Be still, my soul; your God will un - der - take To guide the
 3 Be still, my soul; though dear - est friends de - part And all is
 4 Be still, my soul; the hour is has - t'ning on When we shall



ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to or - der
 fu - ture as He has the past. Your hope, your con - fi - dence let
 dark - ened in this vale of tears; Then you will bet - ter know His
 be for - ev - er with the Lord, When dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and



and pro - vide; In ev - 'ry change He faith - ful will re -
 noth - ing shake; All now mys - te - rious shall be bright at
 love, His heart, Who comes to soothe your sor - rows and your
 fear are gone, Sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re -



main. Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'n - ly Friend
 last. Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
 fears. Be still, my soul; your Je - sus can re - pay
 stored. Be still, my soul; when change and tears are past,



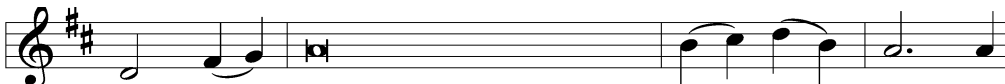
Through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
 His voice who ruled them while He dwelt be - low.
 From His own full - ness all He takes a - way.
 All safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

Text: Catharina Amalia Dorothea von Schlegel, 1697–1752; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97; alt. Tune: Jean Sibelius, 1865–1957, adapt. Text and tune: Public domain

DISMISSAL BLESSING

NUNC DIMITTIS

LSB 199



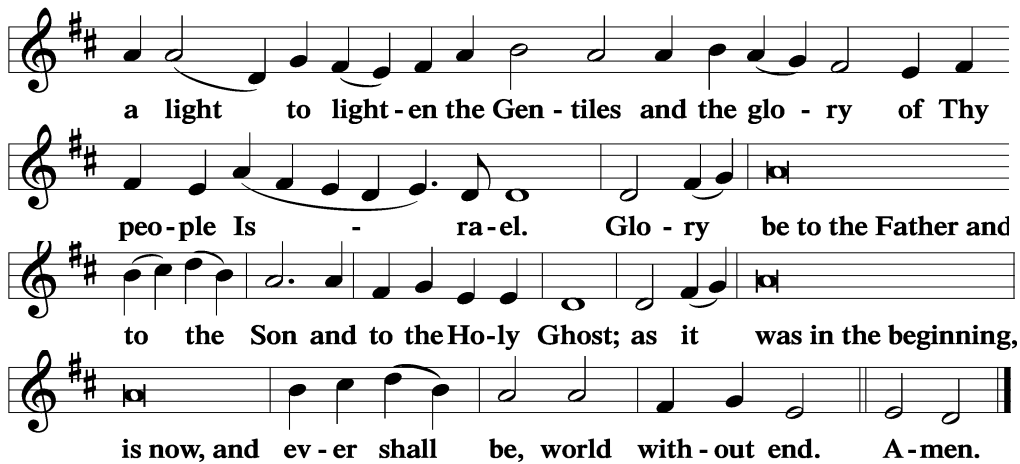
Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -



cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,



which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,



POST COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

P O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
 C **and His mercy endureth forever.**

P Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.
 C **And with thy spirit.**

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 202

P Bless we the Lord.
 C **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.
 The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and T give you peace.
 C **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

LSB 739



1 Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, let me stand;
 2 When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger near,
 3 When the dark - ness ap - pears And the night draws near

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 When my life is al - most gone,
 And the day is al - most gone,

Through the storm, through the night, Lead me on to the light.
 Hear my cry, hear my call; Hold my hand lest I fall.
 At the riv - er I stand; Guide my feet, hold my hand,

Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
 Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.
 Take my hand, pre - cious Lord; lead me home.

Text and tune: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1899–1993 Text and tune: © 1938 (renewed) Warner-Tamerlane Publishing Corp., admin. Alfred Music. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110005698

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The radio broadcast today is sponsored by Allan and Christine Schult in loving memory of Carl and Ella Schult & Arlo & Dorothy Nelson

The flowers on the altar today are sponsored by Carol Holz for the blessings she has received.

If you are a visitor who 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.

NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH? WE'RE HERE TO HELP! 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 address that you need the pick-up from, and how many people will need transportation to Trinity Church.



TRINITY MERRILL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

BLOCK PARTY

AUGUST 16TH
12:00 - 3:00 PM
NORMAL PARK

10:00 am Worship
Bring your backpack for a blessing during worship!

BRING YOUR LAWN CHAIRS AND YARD GAMES AND JOIN US FOR THE TRINITY BLOCK PARTY! GATHER WITH FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS, AND FAMILY FOR A DAY OF FUN, FOOD, AND FELLOWSHIP. ALL ARE WELCOME!

FREE MEAL
CULVERS FROZEN CUSTARD
POPCORN
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SPECIAL VEHICLE VIEWINGS
PETTING ZOO
AND MORE

TRINITYMERRILL.COM/BLOCKPARTY

Back to Confirmation! Calling all Confirmation instruction families! Join us for ONE of the orientation meetings: Wed., Aug. 19th at 6:30pm or Sun., Aug 23rd at 12pm. Also... attend our Confirmation Retreat at Stange's Park on Thurs., Aug. 27th from 9am-3pm. We can't wait to study God's word with you!

TRINITY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

-Interested in enrolling your child at Trinity? Please call our school office at 715-536-7501 for more information about enrollment for the 2026-27 school year. 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! School Choice enrollment is open August 1-20th.



TRINITY
LUTHERAN SCHOOL
MERRILL

Rooted in Faith. Growing in Knowledge. Serving in Love.

NEXT OPEN APPLICATION PERIOD FOR
School Choice
AUGUST 1-20

A Christ-centered education. A strong foundation for life.
Enroll. Grow. Thrive.

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Your Choice. Their Future.