



Reverend Scott Gustafson
Reverend Jonathan Chapa

Pastor Jonathan Chapa will be our Preacher today with Pastor Scott Gustafson as the Liturgist.

PRE-SERVICE: *"I've Got A Fire"* (Praise Team) #87 Key of D
 "A Thousand Hallelujahs" (Praise Team) #86 Key of E

OPENING SONG *"You Cannot Be Stopped"* #74 Key of E

Vs.3 *We stand on Your victory
And shout out Your praise
Miracle maker
You're mighty to save
Awesome in power
Relentless in love
You cannot be stopped*

(Chorus)

Bridge *There's nothing that can stop our God*
There's nothing that can stop our God
There's nothing that can stop our God
There is nothing (there is nothing)
(Repeat)

(Chorus)

Ending *Sing hallelujah*
The battle is won
Nothing can stand against our God

INVOCATION

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

People: **Amen.**

OPENING SENTENCES

Psalm 43:4; 124:8; Isaiah 25:9

Pastor: I will go to the altar of God.

People: **to God my exceeding joy.**

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the LORD,

People: **who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: Behold, this is our God; we have waited for Him, that He might save us.

People: **This is the LORD; we have waited for Him; let us be glad and rejoice in His salvation.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: God invites His whole creation to the great feast of His salvation. That we may boldly enter into His gates of mercy, let us lift up our prayer of repentance and faith.

People: **Lord God, heavenly Father, with thanksgiving for Your great love and promise of new life and hope for living, we confess to You all our sins, our waywardness, our neglect of Your call, as well as our failure to be of help to our neighbor and one another. We humbly pray, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew and cleanse our hearts and minds, and give us true faith in Your promised grace and deliverance.**

Pastor: The feast of God's salvation has already begun for you by your Baptism into Christ. Now receive the Lord's abiding forgiveness, faith, strength, and help to live in the certain hope of eternal life in fellowship with Him: I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty God, You exalted Your Son to the place of all honor and authority. Enlighten our minds by Your Holy Spirit that, confessing Jesus as Lord, we may be led into all truth; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

MONTHLY VERSE (John 13:34-35) **"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."**

SONG

"A Thousand Hallelujahs" #86 Key of E

Vs.1 *Who else would rocks cry out to worship
Whose glory taught the stars to shine
Perhaps creation longs to have the
words to sing
But this joy is mine*

Chorus *With a thousand hallelujahs
We magnify Your name
You alone deserve the glory
The honor and the praise
Lord Jesus this song is forever Yours
A thousand hallelujahs
And a thousand more*

Vs.2 *Who else would die for our redemption
Whose resurrection means I'll rise
There isn't time enough to sing of all
You've done
But I have eternity to try*

Chorus *With a thousand hallelujahs
We magnify Your name
You alone deserve the glory
The honor and the praise
Lord Jesus this song is forever Yours
A thousand hallelujahs
And a thousand more*

Bridge *Praise to the Lord
To the Lamb
To the King of heaven
Praise for He rose
Now He reigns
We will sing forever
(Repeat)
(Chorus)
Bridge (Sing Once)
(Chorus)*

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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 Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: ² "What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, 'The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge'? ³ As I live, declares the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. ⁴ Behold, all souls are mine; the soul of the father as well as the soul of the son is mine: the soul who sins shall die.

²⁵ "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just? ²⁶ When a righteous person turns away from his righteousness and does injustice, he shall die for it; for the injustice that he has done he shall die. ²⁷ Again, when a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is just and right, he shall save his life. ²⁸ Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions that he had committed, he shall surely live; he shall not die. ²⁹ Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.' O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

³⁰ "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. ³¹ Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? ³² For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord God; so turn, and live."

SECOND READING **Philippians 2:1-4, 14-18**

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, ² complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

¹⁴ Do all things without grumbling or disputing, ¹⁵ that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶ holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. ¹⁷ Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. ¹⁸ Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

GOSPEL READING **Matthew 21:23-27**

²³ And when he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came up to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" ²⁴ Jesus answered them, "I also will ask you one question, and if you tell me the answer, then I also will tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ The baptism of John, from where did it come? From heaven or from man?" And they discussed it among themselves, saying, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?'" ²⁶ But if we say, 'From man,' we are afraid of the crowd, for they all hold that John was a prophet." ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things."

SONG OF THE DAY **"God of All My Days" #24 Key of G**

Vs.1 *I came to You with my heart in pieces
And found the God with healing in His hands
I turned to You put ev'rything behind me
And found the God who makes all things new
I look to You drowning in my questions
And found the God who holds all wisdom
And I trusted You and stepped out on the ocean
You caught my hand among the waves
'Cause You're the God of all my days*

Chorus *Each step I take You make a way
And I will give You all my praise
My seasons change You stay the same
You're the God of all my days*

Vs.2 *I ran from You and wandered in the shadows
And found a God who relentlessly pursues
I hid from You haunted by my failure
And found the God whose grace still covers me
I fell on You when I was at my weakest
And found the God the lifter of my head
And I've worshipped You and felt You right beside me
You're the reason that I sing
'Cause You're the God of all my days*

(Chorus)

Bridge *In my worry God You are my stillness
In my searching God You are my answers
In my blindness God You are my vision
In my bondage God You are my freedom
In my weakness God You are my power
You're the reason that I sing
'Cause You're the God of all my days*

(Chorus)

Ending *In my blindness God You are my vision
In my bondage God You are my freedom
all my days*

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MESSAGE

ATTENDANCE /CONNECT TIME / OFFERING (Instrumental) **“God of All My Days”**

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 include your last names and list the names of everyone in attendance in your family.)** If you are a visitor and you are interested in membership at Trinity, please add your email and phone number in the attendance book.

PRAYERS OF GOD’S PEOPLE & THE LORD’S PRAYER

People: 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

“Just As I Am” #15 Key of A

Vs.1 *Just as I am without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidst me come to Thee
O Lamb of God I come I come*

Vs.3 *Just as I am I would be lost
But mercy and grace my freedom bought
And now to glory in Your cross
O Lamb of God I come I come*

Vs.2 *Just as I am and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot
To Thee whose blood can cleanse each spot
O Lamb of God I come I come*

Chorus-(Sing twice)

Ending *Praise God just as I am*

Chorus *I come broken to be mended
I come wounded to be healed
I come desperate to be rescued
I come empty to be filled
I come guilty to be pardoned
By the blood of Christ the Lamb
And I'm welcomed with open arms praise God
Just as I am*

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“Come As You Are” (Instrumental) #77 Key of D

COMMUNION BLESSING & BENEDICTION

CLOSING SONG

“I’ve Got A Fire” #87 Key of D

Vs.1 *I've got a fire that will never burn out
I've got a song that you can't turn down
I've got a joy deep down in my soul
I've got joy and it overflows*

Chorus *I could sing forever
How you freed my soul
Freed my soul
Freed my soul
I could sing forever
How you made me whole
Made me whole
Made me whole
(Repeat)*

Vs.2 *Break off the chains let the horses run
Unleash the praise at the top of your lungs
Right now we're living in the glory days
Right now heaven is in this place*

Vs.2 *Break off the chains let the horses run
Unleash the praise at the top of your lungs
Right now we're living in the glory days
Right now heaven is in this place*

Chorus *I could sing forever
How you freed my soul
Freed my soul
Freed my soul
I could sing forever
How you made me whole
Made me whole
Made me whole
(Repeat)*

Bridge *How could I forget
Just how good you've been
All your promises
I'll sing it again and sing it again
(REPEAT)*

Ending *I've got a fire that will never burn out
(I've got a fire that will never burn out)
(Repeat 2x)
I've got a fire that will never burn out*

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Today's Radio Broadcast today is sponsored by James Koebe in loving memory of wife, Deanna Koebe.
The Flowers on the altar are sponsored by Bob & Janet Grunenwald for the blessings they've received.

New Member Class We invite you to come to our new member class **starting TODAY September 27th @ 11:45 this first week only.... Then at 9:15 in the youth room for the other 6 sessions.** This 7-session course will go over what we teach about Law and Gospel, the Creeds, the Means of Grace, and what our lives look like as Christians here and now. We invite anyone who is seeking to learn more about what we believe and wanting to become a new member to join us! Any questions? Talk to Pastor Jon or Dan Schneider!

ALTAR GUILD The first Altar Guild meeting for the fall is Tuesday, September 29th, at 6:30 in the church fellowship hall. We welcome anyone who is interested in working with us on the Lord's altar. Join us for an evening of devotion and fellowship along with some refreshments.

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. 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, and how many people need transportation to Trinity Church.

The Fall Congregational Meeting is October 25 -12:45 PM. At that meeting, we will be electing three members to serve the next three years on the Church Council. If anyone's interested or if anyone has recommendations, please speak to Pastor G.

Trinity Kids (Sunday School) Bring your children, grandchildren, your friend's children, and join us from 9:15-10:15 at Trinity School. Children will enjoy learning about Jesus and His love for them.

Men's Club Chili Luncheon The Trinity Men's Club is hosting a Chili Luncheon in the church basement **following the 8:00 a.m. Worship Service on Sunday, October 18th, 2026.** The meal will feature 9 varieties of chili with all the fixings. Serving will take place between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Carry-outs will also be available. Ticket prices are \$8.00 for adults, \$3.00 for kids 5 through 12. The meal is free for kids under 5.

Ministry Fair — October 25, 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Are you involved in a ministry at Trinity? We invite your ministry to participate in our upcoming Ministry Fair. To reserve a space or learn more, please contact the church office and leave your information. Not yet involved in a ministry at Trinity? This is the perfect chance to stop in and check out the many ministries happening at Trinity and see which one is the right fit for you.

FALL FAMILY HAYRIDE AND FUN AT WILKE'S— (DATE CHANGE)

October 2, 2026 from 5:30-8:00 PM at Wilke's

Cost is \$10 per family for a night of family fun.

Check out the QR code for more information and to register.

