



TRINITY MERRILL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Reverend Scott Gustafson
Reverend Jonathan Chapa

October 18, 2026 - 10:30 AM
The Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
"Multiply"

Pastor Scott Gustafson will be sharing the message with us today. Pastor Jonathan Chapa is our Liturgist.

AS WE GATHER: We reach the final step of our *Road to Discipleship* as we consider Christ's call to **multiply disciples by carrying Him to others**. When we are honest with ourselves, we see that we have a poor track record. Too often, we keep our faith to ourselves and miss opportunities to speak about Jesus and make Him known. But God gives us hope and confidence—not in our abilities, but in His! Jesus' victory over sin, death, and the devil frees us from fear and self-reliance, reminding us that the risen Christ goes with us. He calls and equips us to make disciples and to carry Christ to our congregation and our community.

PRE-SERVICE: *"His Mercy is More"* (Praise Team)
"All This In A Name" (Praise Team)

WELCOME & GREETING

OPENING SONG *"Lead On Good Shepherd"*

Vs.1	<i>Well I've been turned 'round But I've never been lost Seen the water get troubled But we walked across When my knees were shaking You held my hand Turning my problems To a promised land</i>	<i>That just up and moved Glory glory hallelujah Yeah that's my song Walking with my Father Into the great unknown</i>
		(Chorus)
Chorus	<i>Lead on Good Shepherd I'll follow all my days There ain't nothing sweeter Than to watch You make a way You've walked me through the valley But You never steered me wrong So lead on Good Shepherd lead on</i>	Bridge <i>Step by step day by day Lead me on Lord I pray Road gets dark walk by faith Lead on Good Shepherd (Repeat)</i>
		(Chorus and Bridge)
Vs.2	<i>Seen some mighty deep canyons That You brought me through Seen some mighty big mountains</i>	Ending <i>Lead on Good Shepherd lead on Good Shepherd Lead on Good Shepherd lead on Good Shepherd Lead on Good Shepherd lead on</i>

Frankie Orella, Patrick Mayberry, Paul Duncan, CCLI Song #7209206, © 2023 Centricity Music Publishing; Centricity Songs; Shi-Lily Songs, For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com, CCLI License #188086

INVOCATION

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

OPENING SENTENCES

1 Chronicles 16:28; Psalm 28:8; 29:2, 11; 68:34; 1 Peter 4:11

Pastor: Ascribe to the LORD, O clans of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!

People: **The LORD is the strength of His people; He is the saving refuge of His anointed.**

Pastor: Ascribe to the LORD the glory due His name; worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

People: **May the LORD give strength to His people! May the LORD bless His people with peace!**

Pastor: Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel, and whose power is in the skies.

People: **To Him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.

People: **O God our Father, we confess that we are by nature sinful, and we acknowledge that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have transgressed Your law and have brought injury to the lives of others, and we have not always kept the commitments we have made or fulfilled the responsibilities entrusted to us. We do sincerely repent of our sins. Have mercy on us, O Lord. Grant us Your grace and full forgiveness in Jesus Christ, our Savior. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit within us, lead us to amend our lives that each day we may grow in righteousness and in godly living to the glory of Your holy name.**

Pastor: Our gracious God hears our pleas and accepts our prayers for the sake of Jesus Christ. To those who repentantly call upon Him, our Lord promises forgiveness, life, and salvation. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.

People: **Amen.**

Silence for meditation and reflection

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; 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 (Colossians 3:23-24)

"Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men, knowing that from the Lord you will receive the inheritance as your reward. You are serving the Lord Christ".

SONG

"Good Good Father"

Vs.1 *I've heard a thousand stories
Of what they think You're like
But I've heard the tender whisper
Of love in the dead of night and
You tell me that You're pleased
And that I'm never alone*

Chorus *You're a good good Father
It's who You are
It's who You are
It's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am
It's who I am
It's who I am*

Vs.2 *I've seen many searching for answers
Far and wide
But I know we're all searching for
answers
Only You provide
'Cause You know just what we need
Before we say a word*

Chorus ***You're a good good Father
It's who You are
It's who You are
It's who You are
And I'm loved by You
It's who I am
It's who I am
It's who I am***

Bridge *You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways
You are perfect in all of Your ways to us
(Repeat)*

Vs.3 *Love so undeniable I can hardly speak
Peace so unexplainable I can hardly
think
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
As You call me deeper still
Into love, love, love.*

(Chorus 2X)

CCLI Song # 7036612, Anthony Brown | Pat Barrett, © 2014 Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), Common Hymnal Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), Housefires Sounds (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), sixsteps Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), Tony Brown Publishing Designee (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), Vamos Publishing (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), worshiptgether.com songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), CCLI License # 188086

APOSTLES' CREED

People: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

FIRST READING Joshua 1:1-9

After the death of Moses the servant of the Lord, the Lord said to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, ² "Moses my servant is dead. Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, into the land that I am giving to them, to the people of Israel. ³ Every place that the sole of your foot will tread upon I have given to you, just as I promised to Moses. ⁴ From the wilderness and this Lebanon as far as the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites to the Great Sea toward the going down of the sun shall be your territory. ⁵ No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life. Just as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you or forsake you. ⁶ Be strong and courageous, for you shall cause this people to inherit the land that I swore to their fathers to give them. ⁷ Only be strong and very courageous, being careful to do according to all the law that Moses my servant commanded you. Do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may have good success wherever you go. ⁸ This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. ⁹ Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SECOND READING 2 Timothy 2:1-8

You then, my child, be strengthened by the grace that is in Christ Jesus, ² and what you have heard from me in the presence of many witnesses entrust to faithful men, who will be able to teach others also. ³ Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus. ⁴ No soldier gets entangled in civilian pursuits, since his aim is to please the one who enlisted him. ⁵ An athlete is not crowned unless he competes according to the rules. ⁶ It is the hard-working farmer who ought to have the first share of the crops. ⁷ Think over what I say, for the Lord will give you

understanding in everything. ⁸ Remember Jesus Christ, risen from the dead, the offspring of David, as preached in my gospel.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 28:16-20

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

SONG OF THE DAY "I Refuse"

Vs.1 *Sometimes I
I just want to close my eyes
And act like everyone's alright
When I know they're not
This world needs God
But it's easier to stand and watch
I could say a prayer and just move on
Like nothing's wrong but I refuse*

Chorus *'Cause I don't wanna live like I don't care
I don't wanna say another empty prayer
Oh I refuse to
Sit around and wait for someone else
To do what God has called me to do myself
Oh I could choose not to move but I refuse*

Vs.2 *I can hear the least of these
Crying out so desperately
And I know we are the hands and feet
Of You oh God*

*So if You say move
It's time for me to follow through
And do what I was made to do
And show them who You are*

(Chorus)

Bridge *To stand and watch
The weary and lost cry out for help
I refuse to turn my back
And try and act like all is well
I refuse to stay unchanged
To wait another day to die to myself
I refuse to make one more excuse*

(Chorus (Sing Twice))

I refuse I refuse

CCLI Song # 5910135, Ben Glover | Josh Wilson, © 2010 9t One Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), Ariose Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), Meaux Hits (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing), For use solely with the SongSelect®. Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 188086

MESSAGE

ATTENDANCE /CONNECT TIME / OFFERING (Instrumental) "I Refuse"

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 interested in becoming a member of Trinity, please include your phone number and email when signing the attendance book or contact the church office.

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

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING SONG

"All This In A Name"

Intro *There's healing in the name
Freedom in the name
Power in the name*

Vs.1 *I know a name that makes the darkness
shake
The enemy runs and hides
I know a name the wind and waves obey
He speaks and it all goes quiet*

Pre-Chorus *King Jesus my Savior
Your name be lifted high*

Chorus 1 *We sing the name that opens the
prison doors
We sing the name that everything
bows before
No other name can save our lives
Jesus (be lifted) be lifted high*

Vs.2 *I know a name that always makes a way
Just go ask the Israelites
I know a name even the stone obeys
He speaks and it rolls aside*

(Pre-Chorus & Chorus 1)

Chorus 2 *We sing the name who's worthy of all
our praise
We sing the name and it changes
everything
No other name can save our lives
Jesus be lifted be lifted high*

Bridge *Grave shaker storm tamer my Savior
All this in a name
Heart healer joy giver soul winner
All this in a name
(Repeat)*

Tag *All this in Your name
(Chorus 1 & 2)*

Ending *Be lifted be lifted high
Be lifted be lifted high
No other name can save our lives
Jesus be lifted be lifted high*

Benjamin Hastings, Jonathan Smith, Pat Barrett, Phil Wickham, CCLI Song #7269427, © 2025 Also Also Industries Publishing; Capitol CMG Genesis; Housefires Sounds; Vamos Publishing; Be Essential Songs; Cashagamble Jet Music; Phil Wickham Music; Simply Global Songs, For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com, CCLI License #188086

Today's radio broadcast is sponsored in celebration of the 59th wedding anniversary of Jim & Jean Wiseman.

The flowers on the altar today are sponsored in loving memory of Roger & Lenore English and Gerald and Carol Duwe and for all the blessings received by Brent & Crystal Duwe.

NEED A RIDE TO CHURCH? WE'RE HERE TO HELP! 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 pickup address and how many people will need transportation to Trinity Church

CIRCUIT REFORMATION SERVICE — JOIN THE CHOIR! Our Circuit Reformation Service will be held on Wednesday, October 28, at 6:30 p.m. at Faith Lutheran Church in Merrill. As part of this special service, Miriam Lipke, Music Director at St. John's, will be directing two choir pieces. Miriam is inviting singers and musicians from throughout our circuit to join the choir for this special occasion. Trinity has many fine singers and musicians, and it would be wonderful to have some of you represent Trinity in this circuit-wide choir! A choir practice will be held on **Wednesday, October 21, at 6:00 p.m. at St. John's Lutheran Church**. If you enjoy singing and would like to be part of this special Reformation celebration, please consider joining them for the practice. Come sing, celebrate, and give thanks for the Gospel we have received through the Reformation!

The Fall Congregational Meeting is October 25 (12:45 PM). ALL congregation members 18 years or older are encouraged to attend. We will be electing three new members to serve three-year terms on the Church Council.

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

The Community Blood Center Blood Drive will be taking place here at Trinity Church on Sunday, November. 1st from 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM- Please call to make your appointment (800)280-4102. Help save lives by donating.



SOCKTOBER

OCTOBER 1st - OCTOBER 31st

Trinity Dorcas is collecting new and gently used socks for people in need during the month of October. There is a clothes hamper in the narthex for any size sock donations.

Trinity Ministry Fair — October 25, 9:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

Please join us in the church basement to learn more about the ministries Trinity has to offer and discover where you might fit in and serve. **If your ministry is involved, Set-up is Saturday, October 24, 4:00–6:00 p.m.** For questions, contact Dawn Teske at 715-536-7693.



Trunk or Treat — October 31, 10:00 a.m.-Noon

Bring your children, costumes, and Fall excitement for a fun-filled morning of treats, activities, and community. We look forward to welcoming children and families from throughout our community for this special day. Want to help? We are looking for volunteers to host a trunk, assist with activities, and distribute snacks. **We also welcome and would appreciate donations of candy.**

OCTOBER IS...



There is a Yummy Chili Meal going on downstairs today. The Men's Club would love for you to stop on down and have lunch with them.



There are 9 varieties of chili and mac and cheese for non-chili lovers. The meal comes with a beverage and all the fixings. Serving is from 9:00-1:00. Carry-outs are also available. Cost is \$8.00 for adults, \$3.00 for children ages 5-12 and Free for children under 5.

Welcome TO OUR MINISTRY FAIR

Come and explore all of Trinity's ministries!

October 25
9:00 AM - 12:30 PM
in the Church Fellowship Hall

Grab a Snack Enjoy a Beverage Register to Win Door Prizes!

CHURCH OFFICE HELP NEEDED!

Trinity Church is looking for someone who would be willing to fill in at the church office when staff is on vacation or takes time off. If you enjoy helping others and would like to serve Trinity in this way, we would love to hear from you! **Please contact Robin if you are interested or would like more information. 715-536-5482.**

'FAN THE FLAME' retreat
for Women of all Ages
Sat, Nov 14th: 9-1 @ Trinity Lutheran, Merrill

Stoke your faith fire! Deep dive into 2 Timothy 1:6-7 with musical speaker *Wendy Sue*
www.wendysue.com

Register: Trinity office: 715-536-5482

ALL women are invited to gather for worship, fellowship, lunch, and making a connection with one another. Please mark your calendar and plan to join us. Volunteers are also needed to help plan this meaningful event. Please call the church 715-536-5482.

Help Provide Snacks for Our Kindergarteners! Our Trinity kindergarteners could use some help in providing an **afternoon snack** each school day at 2:00 p.m. We are grateful for the support of a **Thrivent Action Team grant** and our **Trinity congregation** to help make this possible! Would you like to help provide healthy snacks for our youngest learners? Donations of items such as **apples, oranges, grapes, cheese sticks, meat sticks, fruit cups, Goldfish crackers, Cheez-Its, graham crackers, or popcorn** would be greatly appreciated. If you would like to donate, please contact **Mrs. Lisa** before bringing snacks in so we can coordinate donations and avoid receiving too much at one time.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
to benefit **Chris Hartson**
Together We Fight Ovarian Cancer

Please join us as we come together to support Chris during her fight against ovarian cancer.

Sunday, November 15, 2026
9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Merrill Town Hall
W4594 Progress Ave | Merrill, WI

BREAKFAST
Come enjoy a delicious breakfast with family and friends while supporting Chris.

Adults — \$15
Children 5-12 — \$8
Children under 5 — FREE

Bake Sale Raffles Kids Activities

Come for breakfast, stay for the fun, and help us show Chris just how many people are standing behind her.

All benefit proceeds will help Chris during her cancer journey.

Can't attend but would still like to help? Contact Maria at 715-351-0748

Together we can make a difference!

Raffles conducted by a properly licensed sponsoring organization, if applicable.

EAGLES CLUB PANCAKE MEAL BENEFIT FOR MARY ANN KUFAHL – Sunday, October 25, 2026 – Eagles Club - 9:00-1:00 – Come and support Mary Ann. There will be lunch, bake sale and raffles. Cost is \$13.00 (adults). Come and support a member of our Church family in her cancer journey.