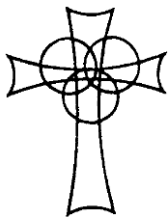


*This mother of yours was dead
and is alive again!* LUKE 15:32



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

4000 – 30th Street

at the intersection of 30th Street and Bunker Hill Road

Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712

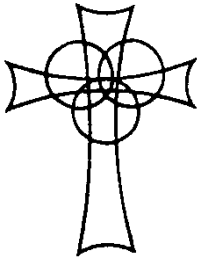
The Reverend Peter A. Schiebel, Pastor

Church Office Phone: 301-864-4340

Church Web Site: www.tlcmr.org



A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod



LENT

Fourth
Sunday
in Lent

Laetare – Rejoice – Sunday
MARCH 30, 2025

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

The Pastor and People of Trinity Lutheran are glad that you are joining us in worship today. During this Lenten Season we remember and recall the great acts of love which Christ Jesus our Lord worked out for us to free us from the power of sin, death and the devil. We pray that as you worship this morning you will discover or rediscover the love that God in Jesus has for you.

PRAYER UPON ENTERING WORSHIP

God of compassion, You welcome the wayward, and You embrace us all with Your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of Your grace, and feed us at the table of Your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

CONCERNING HOLY COMMUNION

Lutherans believe that in this Sacrament the very Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ are present in, with, and under the physical elements of bread and wine. And this Sacrament is distributed to the Baptized of the Church who believe in the Presence of Christ in the Sacrament, sincerely repent of their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this Holy Meal. Those who are present at this celebration who are baptized, have been instructed in the meaning of this Supper, and believe likewise are welcome to commune with us at this Altar today. Anyone who desires, child or adult, may come forward to receive a blessing.

Persons who have questions about what Lutherans believe or have any spiritual concerns are asked to speak with an Usher so that they can direct you to the Pastor so that you may speak with him before communing.



**The Divine Service of Word and Sacrament
in the Season of Lent**

*Divine Service, Setting Four
Lutheran Service Book, Page 203ff*

✘ *In the Name of Jesus Christ* ✘

✘ **The Preparation** ✘

The Flute & Piano Prelude

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”

The Words of Welcome

The Congregation rises.

The Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 915

“Today Your Mercy Calls Us”



1 To - day Your mer - cy calls us To wash a - way our sin.
2 To - day Your gate is o - pen, And all who en - ter in
3 To - day our Fa - ther calls us; His Ho - ly Spir - it waits;
4 O all - em - brac - ing Mer - cy, O ev - er - o - pen Door,



How - ev - er great our tres - pass, What - ev - er we have been,
Shall find a Fa - ther's wel - come And par - don for their sin.
His bless - ed an - gels gath - er A - round the heav'n - ly gates.
What should we do with - out You When heart and eye run o'er?



How - ev - er long from mer - cy Our hearts have turned a - way,
The past shall be for - got - ten, A pres - ent joy be giv'n,
No ques - tion will be asked us How of - ten we have come;
When all things seem a - gainst us, To drive us to de - spair,



Your pre-cious blood can wash us And make us clean to - day.
 A fu - ture grace be prom - ised, A glo - rious crown in heav'n.
 Al - though we oft have wan - dered, It is our Fa - ther's home.
 We know one gate is o - pen, One ear will hear our prayer.

Text: Oswald Allen, 1816–78, alt.

Tune: Friedrich K. Anthes, 1812–after 1857

Text and tune: Public domain

The Invocation:

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- P** In the Name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

The Confession of Sins and Absolution:

- P** Our help is in the Name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
C **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. 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 ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

The Introit of the Day

Psalm 51:2-6; antiphon: verse 1

- P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.
- C** **Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,
and cleanse me from my sin!**
- P** For I know my transgressions,
and my sin is ever before me.
- C** **Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight,
so that you may be justified in your words and blameless in your judgment.**
- P** Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,
and in sin did my mother conceive me.
- C** **Behold, you delight in truth in the inward being,
and you teach me wisdom in the secret heart.**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- P** Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.




The Kyrie Eleison Hymn:

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 945


“Your Heart, O God, Is Grieved”

Cantor




1 O God, Father in heav - en, have mer-cy up - on us.
 2 O Son of God, Redeemer of the world, have mer-cy up - on us.
 3 O God, Holy Spir - it, have mer-cy up - on us.


Congregation



Your heart, O God, is grieved, we know, By ev - 'ry
 Your arms ex - tend, O Christ, to save From sting of
 O lav - ish Giv - er, come to aid The fee - ble



e - vil, ev - 'ry woe; Up - on Your cross - for -
 death and grasp of grave; Your scars be - fore the
 child Your grace has made. Now make us grow and



sak - en Son Our death is laid, and peace is won.
 Fa - ther move His heart to mer - cy at such love.
 help us pray; Bring joy and com - fort; come to stay.

Text: Juraj Tranovský, 1591–1637; tr. Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008; Tune: Cithara Sanctorum, 1636, Levoca
Text: © 1970 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002353; Tune: Public domain

The Salutation and Collect of the Day:

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, Your mercies are new every morning; and though we deserve only punishment, You receive us as Your children and provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant that we may heartily acknowledge Your merciful goodness, give thanks for all Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Congregation is seated.

The Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 12:1-6

¹You will say in that day:

“I will give thanks to you, O LORD,
for though you were angry with me,
your anger turned away,
that you might comfort me.

²“Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.”

³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. ⁴And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD,
call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

⁵“Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be made known in all the earth.

⁶Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitant of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Epistle

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. ¹⁷Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. ¹⁸All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

The Trinity Singers

“The Lord Is My Light”

The Congregation rises.

The Holy Gospel

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

¹Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear [Jesus]. ²And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, “This man receives sinners and eats with them.”

³So he told them this parable: ...

“There was a man who had two sons. ¹²And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.’ And he divided his property between them. ¹³Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷“But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’” ²⁰And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵“Now his older son was in the field, and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶And he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. ²⁷And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fattened calf, because he has received him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, ²⁹but he answered his father, ‘Look, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command, yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fattened calf for him!’ ³¹And he said to him,

‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²It was fitting to celebrate and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

The Apostles’ Creed:

C **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.**

The Congregation is seated.

The Hymn of the Day

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 542

“When I Behold Jesus Christ”



1 When I be - hold Je - sus Christ, True God who died for me,
 2 For me You gave all Your love, For me You suf-fered pain;
 3 You had no sin, ho - ly Lord, But You were tor-tured, tried;
 4 What love is this? Great - er love No one has ev - er known.



I won - der much at His love As He hung on the tree.
 I find no words, noth - ing can Your self - less - ness ex - plain.
 On Gol - go - tha there for all My sins You bled and died.
 My life with God— this I owe To You, and You a - lone.

Refrain on next page...

Refrain

What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?

You showed Your love, Je - sus, there To me on Cal - va - ry.

What kind of love is this? What kind of love is this?

You showed Your love, Je - sus, there To me on Cal - va - ry.

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2-3): tr. Hartmut Schoenherr, with Jim and Aurelia Keefer; (st. 4): Joseph Herl, 1959

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2-3) and tune: Almaz Belhu

Text (st. 4): © 1998 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002353

Text (sts. 1, ref, 2-3) and tune: © 1970 Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002353

The Sermon

A Prodigal Feast for Prodigals
Text: Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

The Congregation rises.

The Prayer of the Church:

- P** People loved by God, let us come before our Father's throne of grace with confidence through our Lord Jesus and, in the power of His Spirit, ask His mercy for all in need.
- P** Kind and gracious Father, we are not worthy to be called Your children, and yet in love You have embraced us, named us Your own, and made us, by Your beloved Son, co-heirs of all things. Remember all Your baptized children and stir up in them a desire for a life of communion with You. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

- P** Holy One, Your Son sends forth His messengers of reconciliation into all the world. Be present with all those who labor in Your Church as pastors, teachers, missionaries, deaconesses, and other ministers. Keep them faithful in their preaching, teaching, and administration of the Sacraments so that Your Church may be built up and strengthened. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Father of glory, kindly regard this family of Your people, that we might give a hearty welcome to all fellow sinners and assure them that they are wanted and loved in Your house. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Loving Lord, there is no sin that Your Son did not carry to death, no one for whom His sacrifice was not offered. Call those who have wandered from their baptismal birthright home to You and renew them by Your Spirit. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Mighty King, Your Word commands us to pray for all those in authority in every place throughout the world. Remember especially in mercy our President, Congress and justices, and all who make, administer and judge our laws. Grant them to serve with integrity and wisdom. Into Your keeping we also commend all those who serve in our armed forces and in local emergency services. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** God our Healer, look with kindness on those who are taking treatments, those suffering from chronic illness or recovering from accidents, especially _____. May Your Son ever be their joy in sorrow; their health in sickness, and ever their peace, comfort, and hope. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Generous Father, Your hand is open to bless us and to satisfy our desires. Be with _____ and all those who rejoice in Your mercy shown to them. Give all Your people glad hearts which realize Your goodness and that are moved always to praise You, the Giver of every good and perfect gift. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**
- P** Comforting Father, You are present with us to give us Your gift of peace to those who grieve for those who have died, so they may not grieve as those who have no hope. Comfort (_____ and) all who mourn with the promises of Your presence now and a future reunion of all baptized believers in heaven. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C** **hear our prayer.**

P Loving Father, Your ears are ever open to the cries of Your children in their need. Hear the prayers of Your people offered to you for _____ and for all those whom we now name before You in the silence of our hearts... Listen, we pray, to all of these our petitions and grant them in love according to Your good and gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Bountiful Giver, Your Son has provided a feast for Your family where they taste Your love in the gift of His Body and His Blood. Give us penitent hearts to receive this most Holy Eucharist in firm faith, for our salvation and to our abundant blessing. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Great I Am, You are the Life that never ends and the Source of all that is. Receive our thanks and praise for the victory over death and the grave, which Your Son won for us. With joy we remember Joseph the Patriarch and all those who have departed this life in Your faith and friendship. Bring us with them to share the joys of Your eternal home. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

The Sharing of the Peace:

P Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given us access to His grace.

The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

The Congregation is seated.



✠ The Service of the Sacrament ✠

The Hymn of Preparation

Evangelical Lutheran Worship Hymn # 487

“What Feast of Love”

- 1 **What feast of love is offered here,
 What banquet come from heaven?
What food of everlasting life,
 What gracious gift is given?
This, this is Christ the King,
 The Bread come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
 How sweet the manna given!**

- 2 **What light of truth is offered here,
 What covenant from heaven?
What hope of everlasting life,
 What wondrous word is given?
This, this is Christ the King,
 The Sun come down from heaven.
Oh, taste and hear and sing!
 The Word of God is given!**

- 3 **What wine of love is offered here,
 What crimson drink from heaven?
What stream of everlasting life,
 What precious blood is given?
This, this is Christ the King,
 The sweetest Wine of heaven.
Oh, taste and see and sing!
 The Son of God is given!**

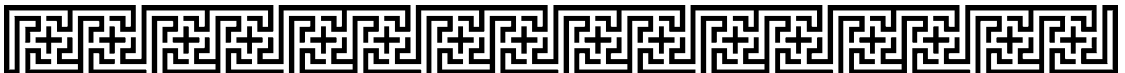
Text: Delores Duffner, OSB, b. 1939

Tune: GREENSLEEVES, English Ballad, 16th cent.

Text: © 1993 Delores Duffner, OSB, admin. OCP Publications. Used by permission: One License no. A-726993

Tune: Public Domain

The Congregation rises.



The Preface Dialogue:

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

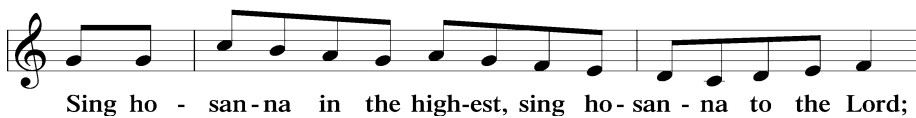
P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious Name, evermore praising You and saying:

The *Sanctus*:

The Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Lord's Prayer:

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. At Your command, Abraham prepared to offer his son Isaac as a sacrifice on the mountain; yet, in mercy You provided a ram as a substitute. We give You thanks that on Calvary You spared not Your only Son but sent Him to offer His life as a ransom for many. As we eat and drink His Body and Blood, grant us, like Abraham our father, to trust in Your promise now fulfilled in Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world. Hear us as we pray in His Name and as He has taught us:

C **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.**

The Words of Our Lord:

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ Body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ Blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

The *Pax Domini*:

P The Peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**



The Agnus Dei:

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 You take the sin of the world a - way;
 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
 Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
 Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
 And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Text: Stephen P. Starke

The Congregation is seated.

The Distribution of Holy Communion

Holy Communion is celebrated in this place in the joyful confidence that Jesus Christ Himself comes to us to give us in bread and wine His very Body and Blood to offer to us the forgiveness of sins. All Baptized Christians who have been instructed in the meaning of this Sacrament and confess with us Christ's Real Presence in this Holy Meal are welcome to commune with us at this Altar. A fuller explanation of what Lutherans believe concerning Holy Communion may be found on page one of this worship folder.

Holy Communion is distributed to the congregation at the chancel rail. Please follow the direction of the ushers to make your way to the Altar. You may kneel or stand as you feel comfortable. The Sacrament is distributed in the following manner...Please extend your hand to the assistant to receive the Body of Christ. Christ's Blood may be received in one of two ways, using that which you feel most comfortable: 1) individual cups containing wine and white grape juice will be offered by the Pastor, or 2) drinking from the chalice. Children and those not wishing to receive the Sacrament are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing.

Music During the Distribution:

“Jesus, Have Mercy” – The Trinity Singers

The Congregation rises.

The Post-Communion Hymn:

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 692

“Praise to You and Adoration”

1 Praise to You and ad - o - ra - tion, Bless - ed Je - sus,
2 Hold me ev - er in Your keep - ing; Com - fort me in

Son of God, Who, to serve Your own cre - a - tion, Came to
pain and strife. In my laugh - ter and my weep - ing Be with

share our flesh and blood. Guide me that I nev - er may
me through - out my life. Give me great - er love for You,

From Your fold or pas - tures stray, But with zeal and
And my faith and hope re - new In Your birth, Your

joy ex - ceed - ing Fol - low where Your steps are lead - ing.
life, and pas - sion, In Your death and res - ur - rec - tion.

Text: Thomas Hansen Kingo, 1634–1703; (st. 1): tr. Kristen Kvamme, 1866–1938, alt.; (st. 2): tr. Christian Worship, 1993

Tune: Trente quatre Pseaumes de David, 1551, Geneva, ed. Louis Bourgeois

Text and tune: Public domain



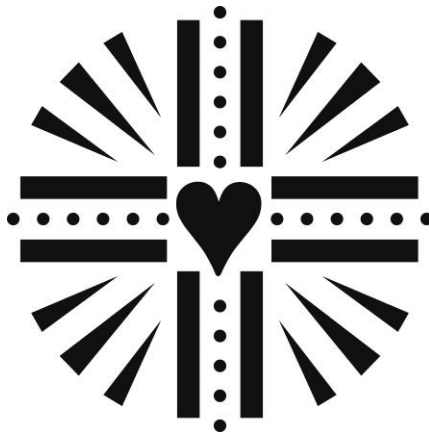
The Thanksgiving and Post-Communion Prayer:

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup:
- C** **We proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.**

- P** Let us pray.
We give You thanks, almighty and merciful God, that You have refreshed us with Your Holy Sacrament; and we beseech You to strengthen us in the confidence that by the death of Your Son, which we show forth in this Eucharist, You have given Your people everlasting life; for the sake of the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

The *Benedicamus* and Benediction:

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
- P** 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 ✠ give you peace.
- C** **Amen.**



The Hymn to Depart

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 423

“Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”



1 Je - sus, ref - uge of the wea - ry, Blest Re - deem - er,
 2 Do we pass that cross un - heed - ing, Breath - ing no re -
 3 Je - sus, may our hearts be burn - ing With more fer - vent



whom we love, Foun - tain in life's des - ert drea - ry, Sav - ior
 pen - tant vow, Though we see You wound - ed, bleed - ing, See Your
 love for You; May our eyes be ev - er turn - ing To be -



from the world a - bove: Of - ten have Your eyes, of - fend - ed,
 thorn - en - cir - cled brow? Yet Your sin - less death has brought us
 hold Your cross a - new Till in glo - ry, part - ed nev - er



Gazed up - on the sin - ner's fall; Yet up - on the
 Life e - ter - nal, peace, and rest; On - ly what Your
 From the bless - ed Sav - ior's side, Grav - en in our



cross ex - tend - ed, You have borne the pain of all.
 grace has taught us Calms the sin - ner's deep dis - tress.
 hearts for - ev - er, Dwell the cross, the Cru - ci - fied.

Text: Girolamo Savonarola, 1452–98; tr. Jane F. Wilde, 1826–96, alt.

Tune: Erbaulicher Musicalischer Christen-Schatz, 1745, Basel

Text and tune: Public domain

The Silent Worship

The Parish Announcements

The Postlude

“Jesus, Refuge of the Weary”

✠ To God Be All Praise and Glory! ✠

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting Four from *Lutheran Service Book*

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THOSE WHO SERVE US THIS MORNING IN WORSHIP

The Celebrant & Preacher

The Lector

The Communion Assistant

The Worship Assistant

The Choir

The Flutist

The Parish Musician

The Reverend Peter A. Schiebel

Tracy Peele

George Kurtzweil

Helen Joynes

The Trinity Singers

Susan Kennedy

Skip Hall



NOTES AND NEWS

LARGE PRINT HYMNALS ... Copies of the *Lutheran Service Book* in Large Print are available for use during worship for those who may have need of them. You may find them on the literature table at the rear of the sanctuary, and please return them there following the service.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT ... is known by the Latin name of *Laetare*, meaning “Rejoice”. This name comes from the opening word of the historic Introit of the Day which quotes Isaiah 66:10: “Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her.” And this day marks what is also known as “Mid-Lent Sunday”, noting that we are around the halfway point of our 40-day Lenten observance. For this reason, this Sunday is often also given the title of “Refreshment Sunday”: a moment in the midst of the rigorous repentance and fasting of the season to be refreshed by the joy found in God’s gifts through which He provides for our needs of body and soul. This idea is especially pointed out to us in the Collect of the Day, as well as in the day’s historic Gospel reading of Jesus’ feeding of the 5,000 and in our current Gospel of the Parable of the Prodigal Son. The traditional liturgical color of the day is Rose: using the Lenten Season’s penitential color of violet and “lightening” it with the white of the coming Easter festival, symbolic of the joy that is soon to come for faithful Christian hearts. Also, in the United Kingdom, Ireland, and some countries in the British Commonwealth, today is observed as “Mothering Sunday”, the equivalent of our own “Mother’s Day”. This recalls the words of the historic Epistle for the day from Galatians 4, which speaks of “Jerusalem, our mother”. And as Christians remember the Church as the mother who birthed us into the life of faith in Holy Baptism, we are also called to remember with love the mothers who birthed us into life in this world.

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES ... We continue our Midweek Lenten Services in the remaining Wednesdays of this Lenten Season (April 2 & 9). Our weekly services will use a spoken order of the Office of Vespers with Sermon. The theme of this year’s Lenten preaching is “Jesus—Servant, Savior, Friend”, which is also the theme of our Lenten Devotional. A full schedule of this year’s Lenten Worship can be found by visiting our church website: tlcmr.org.

LENTEN SUPPERS ... Also, we are again offering a light meal before the Lenten Services for the convenience of those who are coming directly from work and for all those who would like to share in a time of food and fellowship together. The meals will begin at 6:00 PM. Questions about the suppers can be made to Carole Dingess.

PORTALS OF PRAYER ... Copies of the April-June 2025 edition of our church's daily devotional guide can be picked up from the literature table at the rear of the sanctuary, and both regular and large print versions are available.

EASTER FLOWERS ... The Trinity Family is invited to make donations towards beautifying our Lord's Altar and church home with lilies for our Easter celebrations. Order forms are available on the literature table in the rear of the sanctuary for you to place your order and to give information regarding any dedication you would like to have made for your gift in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Orders can be placed until **Palm Sunday, April 13th**.

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF THRIVENT? ... If you are a policy holder or have a financial product through Thrivent, you may also have Choice Dollars® available to designate to support the work of churches and non-profits, including our own Trinity Congregation. Thrivent Choice® empowers you to influence where some of Thrivent's yearly grant funds go. To date, more than \$600 million has been distributed to churches and nonprofits nationwide. Login to your account on thrivent.com to see if you are able to donate in this way and to find out what organizations you can support. If you have any questions, please contact your Thrivent Financial Associate. **You have until tomorrow, March 31st, to designate your 2024 Choice Dollars®.**

CROP WALK ... It's time to start our fundraising for CROP Walk, an effort to eradicate hunger both locally and globally! If you would like to become a walker or donate to another walker, you can do so online here:

<https://events.crophungerwalk.org/crophungerwalks/team/trinity-lutheran-mt-rainier-md>

(The link is also available on the home page of Trinity's website.)

Important dates:

- Franklin's Fundraiser: all day on Tuesday, April 8th. Includes bar, restaurant, and store
- CROP Walk: 1-4pm, Sunday May 4th, tentatively at Driskell Park in Hyattsville

Please reach out to Sarah Lydia McCoyer (slmccoyer@gmail.com) with questions.

OUR PRAYER LIST ... We are pleased to have an active ministry of prayer among us, attested by the weekly "O Christ, Hear Us" page in the bulletin, inviting us all to remember these persons and needs in our prayer during worship at Trinity and in our own personal prayers during the week. We kindly ask you to also help us keep this list current and up to date by letting us know of any changes or deletions which need to be made. To do this please contact Pastor or the church office with a note that can be placed in the offering basket at church, or with an email.

ALTAR FLOWERS ... The flower chart for **2025** is now available for you to donate floral arrangements to adorn the Lord's Altar in honor of special occasions or in memory of loved ones. The chart can be found on the bulletin board in the narthex. The donation for a single arrangement is now **\$50.00**, the increase owing mainly to delivery charges. If you have any questions, please contact Rona by calling the church office or by email (trinity-elc-office@verizon.net).

TRINITY'S SERVICES ONLINE ... For four years now, we have provided a livestream of our worship services and they have been well-received by members and friends of Trinity, as well as by those who have "found" us online. We have also been able to leave an archive of these services, devotions, and Bible Studies on our church Facebook Page for those who may have wanted to view them later.

Facebook has recently made changes to their video storage policies which allows live videos to remain on a page for 30 days. This change has already begun to be implemented, and Facebook is allowing those who have "old" videos to have time to download and archive these videos off of the platform. We are in the process of moving these videos into storage offline, and if there is a particular service that you would like to "keep for memory's sake", please know that now would be the time to download and save it for yourself. In a few months, only those videos that have been recently recorded will be available for viewing on our Facebook Page, and older videos will no longer be linked in our group or page.

Please know that even with this change on the part of Facebook, we will continue to offer our worship services online for our Trinity Family.

LUTHERAN RADIO ONLINE AND ON THE AIR FOR YOU THIS WEEK:

KFUO Radio, the broadcast voice of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, shares Christ for you anytime, anywhere on **KFUO.org** via worship services, Bible and theology studies, practical talk programs, and sacred music. Find programs on demand at kfuo.org and wherever you get your podcasts! Find us on social: @**KFUOradio** on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/kfuo.org), [X](https://twitter.com/kfuo.org), and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/kfuo.org).

CHRIST FOR YOU this week on KFUE.org: KFUE's annual Sharathon is this week! From April 3rd-5th, join us for special programming, fun giveaways, and a chance to make a difference by supporting the mission and ministry of KFUE Radio. Start, sustain, or strengthen your partnership with us during this year's giving drive! To learn more, visit: kfuo.org/sharathon.

THE LUTHERAN HOUR ... Jesus didn't deserve to die on a cross, but He died and rose again in order to give us better than we deserve. Listen to the Lutheran Hour next Sunday, April 6, 2025, for a message from Lutheran Hour Guest Speaker, the Rev. Keith Haberstock, "Better Than I Deserve!", locally on WFAX 1220 AM or 100.7 FM at 11:00 AM and 10:00 PM, as well as at 5:00 AM and 6:00 PM on Saturdays. If you are out of the radio station's range you may listen online to WFAX worldwide at WFAX.com. The Lutheran Hour can also be heard online on KFUO.org on Sundays at 12:30 PM and 5:00 PM. For more information on this media ministry, or to listen to messages on demand, visit the Lutheran Hour Ministries website at lhm.org, under "Media" and "The Lutheran Hour".

REMEMBERING THE SAINTS ... In our weekly Prayer of the Church, the final petition is dedicated to all of the Faithful Departed who are now with the Lord and a part of the Church Triumphant. As a part of this remembrance, we recall by name the saints who are on the calendar of Feasts, Festivals, and Commemorations of our church and remembered during the current week. Some have asked for more information about these saints; so, biographies for each saint, along with a prayer and suggested Scripture readings, are now available for you on our church website.

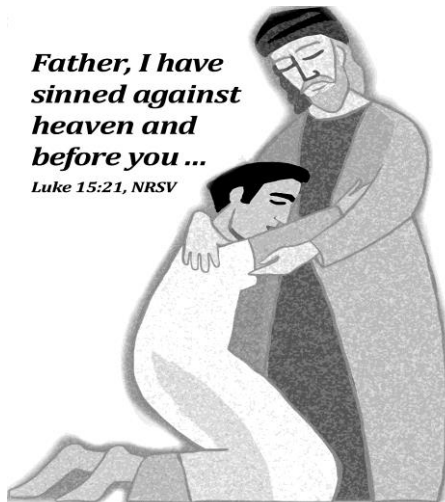
THIS WEEK'S COMMEMORATION ...

March 31 **Joseph, Old Testament Patriarch**

Visit <http://tlcmr.org/worship/celebrating-the-saints/> where you can learn more about the cycle of saints' days on the church calendar and find the biographies for each saint listed by month.

***Father, I have
sinned against
heaven and
before you ...***

Luke 15:21, NRSV



COMPASSION CENTER NEWS... Our Compassion Center is open and is serving members of our community with their needs for food and clothing. If you are able to volunteer during the Center's open hours, please contact Elma. Thank you all for your continued help and support and prayers.

In an effort to keep the cupboards full at the Compassion Center during this ongoing time of need in our community, we will continue to need your generous donations of food. All non-perishable foods are welcome, and especially needed items include:

Peanut Butter; Pasta; Pasta Sauce; Macaroni & Cheese; Canned Tuna and Chicken; Canned Fruit; Soup.

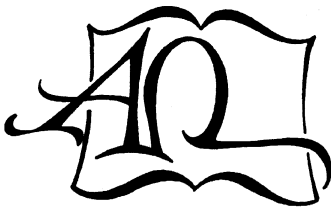
Clothing donations are also welcome. There is a need for boys' and men's clothing, especially pants.

There is also a need for diapers, especially sizes 4, 5, and 6.

Donations can be dropped off at the Center during Center hours. And you can also leave your donations at church, and we will make sure that they are delivered to the Compassion Center. Thank you for your loving and generous support.

Center Hours: Mondays & Tuesdays: 10 AM – 4 PM
Wednesdays: 10 AM – 2 PM

Elma Pervaiz, Coordinator, LMS Compassion Center, Hyattsville, MD
Center Phone Number: 301-277-2302, ext. 23



PREPARING FOR THE COMING WEEK ...

The Fifth Wednesday of Lent: April 2, 2025

Scripture Readings: Zechariah 9:14-16

2 Thessalonians 3:1-5

John 14:18-27

The Fifth Sunday in Lent: April 6, 2025

Scripture Readings: Isaiah 43:16-21

Philippians 3:8-14

Luke 20:9-20

CHURCH STATISTICS



Sunday, March 23, 2025

Worship Attendance: 16; Communed: 16.

Wednesday, March 26, 2025

Worship Attendance: 6.

MONTHLY FINANCIAL STATISTICS FOR FEBRUARY 2025:

General Offerings received (4 Sundays): \$9,263

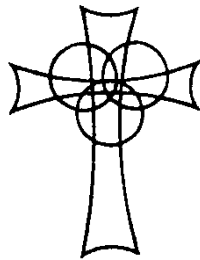
General Offerings needed to meet the 2025 budget: \$11,951

Withdrawals from Thrivent (money market): \$0

Remaining Balance in Thrivent mutual funds (as of 12/31/24):\$53,298

For January and February combined, we're about \$6,500 behind in the offerings we need to meet the budget for the year, which includes the sidewalk repairs. We have, however, received \$1,105 in special donations for the sidewalk project, which offsets part of the \$6,500 shortfall. Many thanks for all your support!





✠ **O Christ, Hear Us!** ✠

Intercessions for the Week of March 30, 2025

Prayers for Continued Healing and Help

For Members of Our Trinity Family:

John, Delores, Julie & Kenny, Diane, Travis, Waymond, August, David, Tracy, Ernie, Paul, and Angela

For Those Who Have Asked of Our Prayers:

Luke, grandson of Charlie & Jean; Betty, mother of Helen;
Susan, relative of Gus & Betty; Britnany, niece of Lynda; Juliet, mother of Ras-I;
Linda, daughter of Gus & Betty; Dennis & Caron, former Concordia School Teachers;
Jari, former Concordia Teacher; Catelyn, step-granddaughter of Ernie;
Nathan, son of Art; Bernie, friend of Trinity; Robin, daughter of Vincent & Tracy;
Doris, mother of Vincent; Orbelina & Family, mother of former Concordia Students;
Phillip & Amanda and Family, friends of Michelle; Kay & Bob, relatives of Carole;
Kumar, co-worker's spouse of Joyce; Craig, husband of Edith; Virginia, mother of Sam;
Steve, father-in-law of Michelle; Denise, fiancée of Mark; Lori, friend of Carole;
Aidan & Family, friends of Joyce; Raymond, brother of Joy;
Nancy & Family, sister of Vincent; Daniel, friend of Cullen; Donald, friend of Cullen;
Mr. Emanuel, husband of Shelda; Mary, former Concordia Teacher;
Laura, granddaughter of Gus & Betty; Jim, friend of Michelle;
Millie, co-worker of Joyce; Dale, son of Gus; Daisy Jane, daughter of Kyle & Samantha

Thanksgivings and Blessings

Leah Dowling, who celebrates her birthday this week.

We Keep In Our Prayers

- ✠ Our Trinity family, our ministries, and our mission.
- ✠ Pastor Gugssa Biru and the people of the Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus in Maryland.
- ✠ For the Lord to continue to move the hearts of our Trinity Members to a deeper realization of our part in His mission to the world and to be *Ablaze!* with a desire to tell the Good News about Jesus with those whom we come into contact in our lives.
- ✠ For the work of our Compassion Center, for Elma Pervaiz, our center coordinator, and for Redeemer Lutheran and the Lutheran Mission Society, our mission partners.

- ✘ For our brothers and sisters in Christ who suffer persecution for the faith and Name of Jesus, even to the point of shedding their blood.
- ✘ For peace in our world, especially in those places that are affected by war, oppression, or acts of terror.
- ✘ Our government leaders, and for the members of our armed forces.
- ✘ For all those affected and recovering from the effects of natural disasters.
- ✘ For peace and reconciliation that brings an end to racism and bigotry in our nation and world.
- ✘ For calm, civility, and peace in our nation's political and social discourse.
- ✘ For peace in our neighborhoods and for an end to violence.
- ✘ For the students, teachers, and staff in our educational institutions.
- ✘ For all those we know who are sick, who grieve, and who are in any need of prayer.



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
4000 – 30th Street
at the intersection of 30th Street and Bunker Hill Road
Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712

Sunday Mornings:
Worship with Holy Communion – 9:30 AM

Midweeks in Lent:
Lenten Worship
Wednesday Evenings – 7:00 PM

*Worship Services are livestreamed on Facebook Live
For more information, please visit the church website.*

Church Office Phone: 301-864-4340
Church Web Site: www.tlcmr.org
The Reverend Peter A. Schiebel, Pastor



*We Are a Member Congregation of
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

