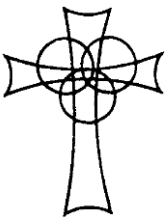


Let us keep our eyes  
on Jesus, the author and  
perfecter of our faith.

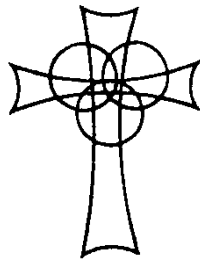
H e b r e w s 1 2 : 2



**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
4000 – 30<sup>th</sup> Street  
*at the intersection of 30<sup>th</sup> 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](http://www.tlcmr.org)



*A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*





*Lenten Midweek Vespers 2025*  
**Jesus—Savior, Servant, Friend**

The Fourth Wednesday of Lent  
March 26, 2025



**The Office of Vespers  
in the Season of Lent**

*Lutheran Service Book Page 229ff*

✠ *Jesus, Mercy!* ✠

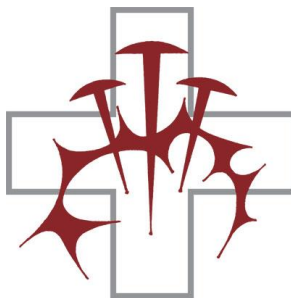


*A Silent Prayer as we gather for worship:*

*Open, Lord, my mouth to bless Your holy Name; cleanse my heart of any worthless, evil, or distracting thoughts; enlighten my understanding; give me wisdom and love necessary to pray with attention, reverence, and devotion. Father, let my prayer be heard in Your presence, for it is offered through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.*

The Words of Welcome

*The Congregation rises.*



The Opening Hymn

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 427

“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tow'r - ing  
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, Hopes de -  
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing Light and  
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure By the

o'er the wrecks of time. All the light of sa - cred  
 ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the cross for -  
 love up - on my way, From the cross the ra - diance  
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that knows no

sto - ry Gath - ers round its head sub - lime.  
 sake me; Lo, it glows with peace and joy.  
 stream - ing Adds more lus - ter to the day.  
 mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bide.

Text: John Bowring, 1792–1872

Tune: Ithamar Conkey, 1815–67

Text and tune: Public domain

The Opening Versicles and *Gloria Patri*:

- P** O Lord, open my lips,
- C** and my mouth will declare Your praise.
  
- P** Make haste, O God, to deliver me;
- C** make haste to help me, O Lord.
  
- 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.  
 Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our salvation.

*The Congregation is seated.*

✘ The Psalmody ✘

The Psalm of the Day

*Psalm 121; antiphon: verse 2*

**P** *Ant* My help comes from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.

<sup>1</sup>I lift up my eyes to the hills.

From where does my help come?

**C** <sup>2</sup>**My help comes from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.**

**P** <sup>3</sup>He will not let your foot be moved;  
he who keeps you will not slumber.

**C** <sup>4</sup>**Behold, he who keeps Israel  
will neither slumber nor sleep.**

**P** <sup>5</sup>The LORD is your keeper;  
the LORD is your shade on your right hand.

**C** <sup>6</sup>**The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

**P** <sup>7</sup>The LORD will keep you from all evil;  
he will keep your life.

**C** <sup>8</sup>**The LORD will keep  
your going out and your coming in  
from this time forth and forevermore.**

**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** *Ant* My help comes from the LORD,  
who made heaven and earth.

*Silence is kept for a time of meditation on the Word*

**P** Let us pray.

O God, Maker of heaven and earth, You help us in times of distress and watch of over us day and night. Hold us securely in Your mercy, that in the midst of fear and danger we may depend on You, our sure Deliverer; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

The Office Hymn

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 728

“How Firm a Foundation”



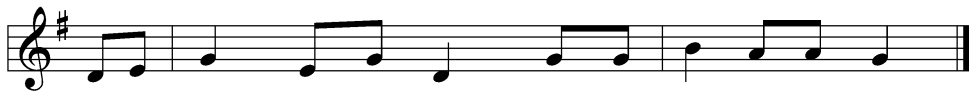
1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,  
 2 “Fear not! I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,  
 3 “The soul that on Je - sus has leaned for re - pose  
 4 “When through fi - ery tri - als your path - way will lie,  
 5 “Through - out all their life - time My peo - ple will prove



Is laid for your faith in His ex - cel - lent Word!  
 For I am your God and will still give you aid;  
 I will not, I will not, de - sert to his foes;  
 My grace, all - suf - fi - cient, will be your sup - ply.  
 My sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can He say than to you He has said  
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
 That soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,  
 The flames will not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign  
 And then, when gray hairs will their tem - ples a - dorn,



Who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?  
 Up - held by My righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand.  
 I'll nev - er, no nev - er, no nev - er, for - sake!  
 Your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.  
 Like lambs they will still in My bos - om be borne.”

*Text: A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt.  
 Tune: Genuine Church Music, 1832, Winchester  
 Text and tune: Public domain*



✠ The Service of the Word ✠

The First Reading

*Isaiah 41:8-11*

**P** A reading from Isaiah, chapter 41.

<sup>8</sup>But you, Israel, my servant,  
    Jacob, whom I have chosen,  
    the offspring of Abraham, my friend;  
<sup>9</sup>you whom I took from the ends of the earth,  
    and called from its farthest corners,  
saying to you, “You are my servant,  
    I have chosen you and not cast you off”;  
<sup>10</sup>fear not, for I am with you;  
    be not dismayed, for I am your God;  
I will strengthen you, I will help you,  
    I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.  
<sup>11</sup>Behold, all who are incensed against you  
    shall be put to shame and confounded;  
those who strive against you  
    shall be as nothing and shall perish.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

*Hebrews 12:1-3*

**P** A reading from Hebrews, chapter 12.

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.

<sup>3</sup>Consider him who endured from sinners such hostility against himself, so that you may not grow weary or fainthearted.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## The Third Reading

*Matthew 8:5-13*

**P** A reading from Matthew, chapter 8.

<sup>5</sup>When [Jesus] entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, appealing to him, <sup>6</sup>“Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, suffering terribly.” <sup>7</sup>And he said to him, “I will come and heal him.” <sup>8</sup>But the centurion replied, “Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. <sup>9</sup>For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. And I say to one, ‘Go,’ and he goes, and to another, ‘Come,’ and he comes, and to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.” <sup>10</sup>When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, “Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith. <sup>11</sup>I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, <sup>12</sup>while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” <sup>13</sup>And to the centurion Jesus said, “Go; let it be done for you as you have believed.” And the servant was healed at that very moment.

**P** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## The Responsory for Lent:

**P** Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

**C** **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

**P** In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.

**C** **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

**P** Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are the God of my salvation.

**C** **Rescue me from my enemies, protect me from those who rise against me.**

## The Sermon

*Jesus—Savior, Servant, Friend*

Jesus, Our Encourager

Text: Hebrews 12:1-3





✠ The Canticle ✠

*The Congregation rises.*

The Canticle at Vespers: *Magnificat*

*Luke 1:46b-55; antiphon: 2 Corinthians 6:2c*

- P** Behold, now is the favorable time;  
**C** **behold, now is the day of salvation.**
- P** My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior;  
**C** **for He has regarded the lowliness of His handmaiden.**
- P** For behold, from this day all generations will call me blessed.  
**C** **For the Mighty One has done great things to me, and holy is His name;**
- P** and His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation.  
**C** **He has shown strength with His arm; He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.**
- P** He has cast down the mighty from their thrones and has exalted the lowly.  
**C** **He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich He has sent empty away.**
- P** He has helped His servant Israel in remembrance of His mercy as He spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his seed forever.  
**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** Behold, now is the favorable time;  
**C** **behold, now is the day of salvation.**

✠ The Prayers ✠

*The Kyrie Eleison:*

- P** O Lord,  
**C** **have mercy.**
- P** O Christ,  
**C** **have mercy.**
- P** O Lord,  
**C** **have mercy.**

The Lord's Prayer:

**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 Salutation and Collects:

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** And also with you.  
**P** Let us pray.

*The Collect for the Third Week in Lent:*

- P** O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy, be gracious to all who have gone astray from Your ways and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of Your Word; 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 Collect for the Lenten Season:*

- P** Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
**C** Amen.

*Other Prayers and Intercessions may be offered.*

*The Collect of Intercession:*

- P** Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give Your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and be present with all, for Your love's sake.
- C** **Amen.**

*The Collect for Peace:*

- P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; 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 *Benedicamus* and Blessing:

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
- P** The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C** **Amen.**



The Hymn to Depart

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 878

“Abide with Me”

We Sing Stanzas 1-2 and 4-6



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.  
 2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;  
 4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;  
 5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;  
 6 Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;



The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide.  
 What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?  
 Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;  
 Ills have no weight and tears no bit - ter - ness.  
 Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.



When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,  
 Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?  
 Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;  
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?  
 Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;



Help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.  
 Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.  
 O Thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.  
 I tri - umph still if Thou a - bide with me!  
 In life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt.

Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89

Text and tune: Public domain

The Silent Worship

The Parish Announcements



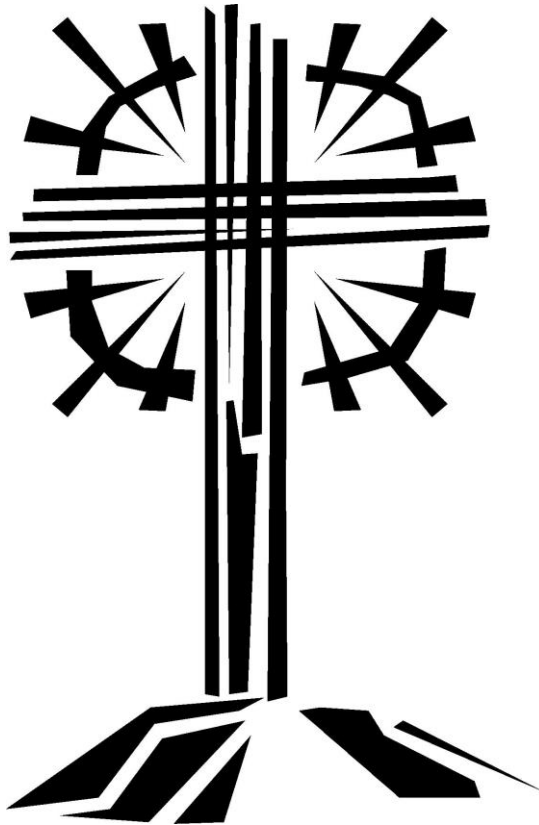
**Acknowledgments**

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
*Mount Rainier, Maryland*

**The Sacred Season of Lent**  
**2025**

*Jesus—Savior, Servant, Friend*



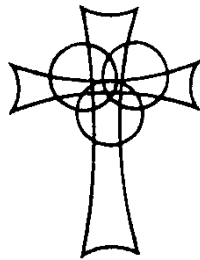
**Lenten Midweek Worship**  
**at Trinity**

*Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 PM*

The Fifth Wednesday of Lent – April 2, 2025  
Lenten Vespers  
Jesus, Our Protector – John 14:18-27

The Sixth Wednesday of Lent – April 9, 2025  
Lenten Vespers  
Jesus, Our Comforter – John 11:17-27





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

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

***Midweeks in Lent:***  
Lenten Vespers  
Wednesday Evenings – 7:00 PM

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

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