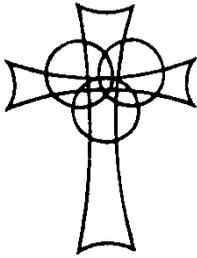
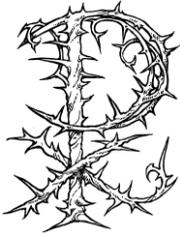


Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
4000 – 30th Street
at the intersection of 30th Street and Bunker Hill Road
Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712
The Reverend Peter A. Schiebel, Pastor
Church Office Phone: 301-864-4340
Church Web Site: www.tlcmr.org



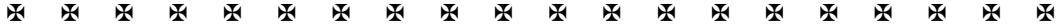
A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod





Lenten Midweek Vespers 2026
Returning to the Waters

The Second Wednesday of Lent
February 25, 2026



**The Office of Evening Prayer
in the Season of Lent**

Lutheran Service Book Page 243ff

✠ *Jesus, Mercy!* ✠

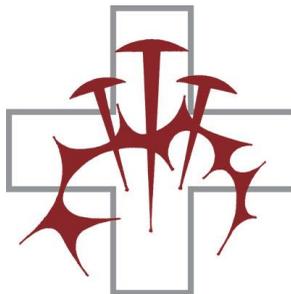


A Silent Prayer as we gather for worship:

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 Service of Light ✠

A large candle in the midst of the chancel is lighted.

The Opening Versicles:

- P** Now is the time of God’s favor;
- C** **now is the day of salvation.**

- P** Turn us again, O God of our salvation,
- C** **that the light of Your face may shine on us.**

- P** May Your justice shine like the sun;
- C** **and may the poor be lifted up.**

The altar candles are lighted as the hymn is sung.

The Hymn of Light – *O Lux Beata Trinitas*

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 890

“O Blessed Light, O Trinity”

1 O bless - ed Light, O Trin - i - ty, O ev - er -
 2 To You our morn - ing song of praise, To You our
 Δ 3 All glo - ry be to God a - bove And to the
 last - ing U - ni - ty: As now the fi - ery
 eve - ning prayer we raise; We praise Your light in
 Son, the Prince of love, And to the Spir - it,
 sun de - parts, Send forth Your light in - to our hearts.
 ev - 'ry age, The glo - ry of our pil - grim - age.
 One in Three! We praise You, bless - ed Trin - i - ty.

Text: attr. Ambrose of Milan, 340–397; (st. 1): tr. Lutheran Service Book, 2006; (sts. 2–3): tr. Gracia Grindal, 1943

Tune: O HEILIGE DREIFALTIGKEIT, Nicolaus Herman, c. 1480–1561

Text (st. 1): © 2006 Concordia Publishing House; (sts. 2–3): © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship

. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002353

Tune: Public domain

The Thanksgiving for Light:

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P Blessed are You, Lord God of our salvation, to You be glory and praise forever. In the darkness of our sin You have shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. Open our eyes to acknowledge Your presence, that freed from the misery of our sin and shame we may grow into Your likeness from glory to glory through Christ, our Lord; through Him be glory, honor, and power to You in the Holy Spirit now and always and forever and ever.

C **Amen.**

The Congregation is seated.

✠ The Psalmody ✠

Incense may be prepared to be burned.

The Evening Psalm

Psalm 141:1-4, 8; antiphon: verse 2

C **Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

P O Lord, I call to You; come to me quickly;
hear my voice when I cry to You.

C **Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

P Set a watch before my mouth, O Lord,
and guard the door of my lips.

C **Let not my heart incline to any evil thing;
let me not be occupied in wickedness with evildoers.**

P But my eyes are turned to You, O God;
in You I take refuge. Strip me not of my life.

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.**

**Let my prayer rise before You as incense,
the lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice.**

Silence is kept for a time of meditation on the Word

L Let us pray.

Let the incense of our repentant prayer ascend before You, O Lord, and let Your loving-kindness descend on us that, with purified minds, we may sing Your praises with the Church on earth and the whole heavenly host and may glorify You forever.

C Amen.

The Psalm of the Day

Psalm 104: 1–13, 24–34; antiphon: verse 24

P *Ant* O LORD, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom have you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.

¹Bless the LORD, O my soul!

O LORD my God, you are very great!

C **You are clothed with splendor and majesty,
²covering yourself with light as with a garment,
stretching out the heavens like a tent.**

P ³He lays the beams of his chambers on the waters;
he makes the clouds his chariot;
he rides on the wings of the wind;

C ⁴**he makes his messengers winds,
his ministers a flaming fire.**

P ⁵He set the earth on its foundations,
so that it should never be moved.

C ⁶**You covered it with the deep as with a garment;
the waters stood above the mountains.**

P ⁷At your rebuke they fled;
at the sound of your thunder they took to flight.

C ⁸**The mountains rose, the valleys sank down
to the place that you appointed for them.**

P ⁹You set a boundary that they may not pass,
so that they might not again cover the earth.

C ¹⁰**You make springs gush forth in the valleys;
they flow between the hills;**

- P** ¹¹they give drink to every beast of the field;
the wild donkeys quench their thirst.
- C** ¹²**Beside them the birds of the heavens dwell;
they sing among the branches.**
- P** ¹³From your lofty abode you water the mountains;
the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work.
- C** ²⁴**O LORD, how manifold are your works!
In wisdom have you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.**
- P** ²⁵Here is the sea, great and wide,
which teems with creatures innumerable,
living things both small and great.
- C** ²⁶**There go the ships,
and Leviathan, which you formed to play in it.**
- P** ²⁷These all look to you,
to give them their food in due season.
- C** ²⁸**When you give it to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.**
- P** ²⁹When you hide your face, they are dismayed;
when you take away their breath, they die
and return to their dust.
- C** ³⁰**When you send forth your Spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.**
- P** ³¹May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
may the LORD rejoice in his works,
- C** ³²**who looks on the earth and it trembles,
who touches the mountains and they smoke!**
- P** ³³I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.
- C** ³⁴**May my meditation be pleasing to him,
for I rejoice in the 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.**

- P** *Ant* O LORD, how manifold are your works!
 In wisdom have you made them all;
 the earth is full of your creatures.

Silence is kept for a time of meditation on the Word

- P** Let us pray.
 God of all light, life, and love, through the visible things of this world You raise our thoughts to things unseen, and You show us Your power and Your love. From Your dwelling place refresh our hearts and renew the face of the earth with the life-giving water of Your Word until the new heaven and new earth resound with the song of resurrection in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

The Office Hymn

The Lutheran Hymnal Hymn # 155

“Sweet the Moments, Rich in Blessing”



- 1 Sweet the mo-ments, rich in bless-ing, Which be-fore the cross we spend,
 2 Here we rest in won-der, view-ing All our sins on Je-sus laid;
 3 Here we find the dawn of heav-en While up-on the cross we gaze,
 4 Oh, that, near the cross a-bid-ing, We may to the Sav-ior cleave,



Life and health and peace pos-sess-ing From the sin-ners' dy-ing Friend.
 Here we see re-demp-tion flow-ing From the sac-ri-fice He made.
 See our tres-pass-es for-giv-en, And our songs of tri-umph raise.
 Naught with Him our hearts di-vid-ing, All for Him con-tent to leave!

- 5 Lord, in loving contemplation
 Fix our hearts and eyes on Thee
 Till we taste Thy full salvation
 And we unveiled glory see.

Text: Walter Shirley, 1770, alt.

Tune: RINGE RECHT, Musikalischer Christenschatz, Basel, 1745

Text and tune: Public domain

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

The First Reading

*Genesis 1:1-13, 26-31***P** A reading from Genesis, chapter 1.

¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. And God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, "Let there be an expanse in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters." ⁷And God made the expanse and separated the waters that were under the expanse from the waters that were above the expanse. And it was so. ⁸And God called the expanse Heaven. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

¹¹And God said, "Let the earth sprout vegetation, plants yielding seed, and fruit trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind, on the earth." And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation, plants yielding seed according to their own kinds, and trees bearing fruit in which is their seed, each according to its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. . . .

²⁶Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

²⁷So God created man in his own image,
in the image of God he created him;
male and female he created them.

²⁸And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth." ²⁹And God said, "Behold, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is on the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit. You shall have them for food. ³⁰And to every beast of the earth and to every bird of the heavens and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food." And it was so. ³¹And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.**C** Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading

Mark 1:9-13

P A reading from Mark, chapter 1.

⁹In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens opening and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

¹²The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. ¹³And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

P In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

The Hymn of the Day

The Lutheran Hymnal Hymn # 43

“We Sing the Almighty Power of God”

1 We sing th'al-might - y pow'r of God, Who bade the
 2 We sing the wis - dom that or - dained The sun to
 3 We sing the good - ness of the Lord, Who fills the
 4 Lord, how Thy won - ders are dis - played Wher - e'er we

moun - tains rise, Who spread the flow - ing
 rule the day; The moon shines, too, at
 earth with food, Who formed His crea - tures
 turn our eyes, When - e'er we view the

seas a - broad And built the loft - y skies.
 His com - mand, And all the stars o - bey.
 by a word And then pro - nounced them good.
 ground we tread Or gaze up - on the skies!

5 There's not a plant nor flow'r below
But makes Thy glories known;
And clouds arise and tempests blow
By order from Thy throne.

6 On Thee each moment we depend;
If Thou withdraw, we die.
Oh, may we ne'er that God offend
Who is forever nigh!

Text: Isaac Watts, 1715

Tune: ICH SINGE DIR, Harmonischer Liederschatz, Frankfurt, 1738

Text and tune: Public domain

The Sermon

Returning to the Waters

Recreating Waters

Text: Genesis 1:1-13, 26-31

✠ The Canticle ✠

The Congregation rises.

The Canticle at Vespers: *Magnificat*

Luke 1:46b-55; antiphon: Isaiah 55:7, alt.

P Come, let us return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on us,

C and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

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 Come, let us return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on us,

C and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.

✠ The Prayers ✠

The Litany:

P In peace let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For Matthew and William, our shepherds and bishops in Christ; for Peter and Gugssa and all pastors in Christ; for all servants of the Church; and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For our President and Congress; for all public servants, and for those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:

C Lord, have mercy.

P For ... [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] ... let us pray to the Lord:

C **Lord, have mercy.**

The prayers then continue:

P For the faithful who have gone before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:

C **Thanks be to God.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer is kept for a time.

P Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, let us commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord:

C **To You, O Lord.**

The Collects:

The Collect for the First Week in Lent:

P O Lord God, You led Your ancient people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide the people of Your Church that following our Savior we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come; 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.**

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 Lord's Prayer:

- P** Taught by our Lord and trusting His promises, we are bold to pray:
- 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 *Benedicamus* and Blessing:

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.**
- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you.
- C** **Amen.**



The Hymn to Depart

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 889

“Before the Ending of the Day”



1 Be - fore the end - ing of the day, Cre - a - tor of the
 2 From all the ter - rors of the night, From e - vil dreams de -
 △ 3 O Fa - ther, this we ask be done Through Je - sus Christ, Thine



world, we pray! Thy grace and peace to us al - low
 fend our sight; Drive far a - way our wick - ed foe
 on - ly Son, Who with the Ho - ly Ghost and Thee



And be our guard and keep - er now.
 That stain of sin we may not know.
 Both lives and reigns e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

Text: Latin, c. 5th–10th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–66, alt.

Tune: JAM LUCIS, Benedictine plainsong, mode VI

Text and tune: Public domain

The Silent Worship

The Parish Announcements



Acknowledgments

Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

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Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
Mount Rainier, Maryland

The Sacred Season of Lent
2026

Returning to the Waters



Lenten Midweek Worship
at Trinity 2026

Wednesday Evenings at 7:00 PM
Services can be attended either In-Person at Trinity
or by Livestream on the church's Facebook Page

The Third Wednesday of Lent – March 4, 2026

Lenten Vespers
Preserving Waters – Genesis 7:1-24

The Fourth Wednesday of Lent – March 11, 2026

Lenten Vespers
Rescuing Waters – Exodus 14:10-31

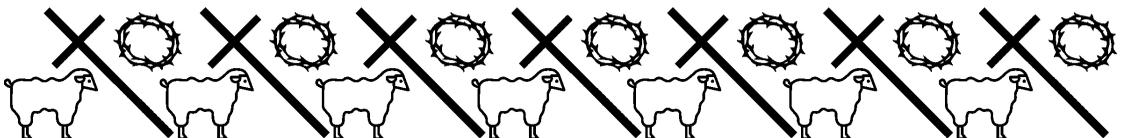
The Fifth Wednesday of Lent – March 18, 2026

Lenten Vespers
Providing Waters – Exodus 17:1-7

The Sixth Wednesday of Lent – March 25, 2026

The Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord

Lenten Vespers
Welcoming Waters – Joshua 3:1-17



**Lord's Day Worship
during the Lenten Season
at Trinity
2026**



*Sunday Mornings at 9:30 AM
Services can be attended either In-Person at Trinity
or by Livestream on the church's Facebook Page*

Sundays are the Christians' weekly observance of Easter, and so they are always celebrations of the Resurrection. This is why we refer to the Sundays during Lent as being "in" Lent; a time for a glimpse of Easter's joy even in the midst of this penitential season. Especially this year, the Sunday Gospel readings point us to the waters of Baptism, helping us as the people of God to remember the call to life given in Baptism which has made us His own forever.

The Second Sunday in Lent – March 1, 2026

Divine Service of Word and Sacrament
Born from Above – John 3:1-17

The Third Sunday in Lent – March 8, 2026

Divine Service of Word and Sacrament
Grace at High Noon – John 4:5-30, 39-42

The Fourth Sunday in Lent: *Laetare Sunday* – March 15, 2026

Divine Service of Word and Sacrament
Sent to the Waters – John 9:1-41

The Fifth Sunday in Lent – March 22, 2026

Divine Service of Word and Sacrament
Dead, Alive, and Alive Forevermore – John 11:1-53





The Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday
March 29, 2026 – 9:30 AM

The Liturgy of Palm Sunday with the Commemoration of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem, Solemn Reading of the Passion according to Saint Matthew, and the celebration of Holy Communion

A Strange Baptism – Luke 12:49-50

Holy (Maundy) Thursday
April 2, 2026 – 7:00 PM

The Liturgy of Maundy Thursday with Confession and Absolution, the celebration of Holy Communion on the anniversary of its institution, and the Solemn Preparation of the Church for Good Friday

Blood Marked – Hebrews 9:11-22

Good Friday
April 3, 2026 – 7:00 PM

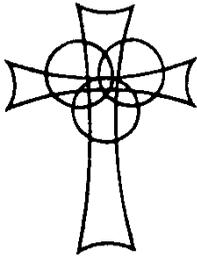
The Liturgy of Good Friday with the Adoration of the Cross, the Solemn Reading of the Passion according to Saint John, and the Solemn Prayers for the Church and the World

Water as Thick as Blood – John 19:31-37

The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord: Easter Day
April 5, 2026 – 9:30 AM

The Festival Divine Service with Hymns, Special Music, the Renewal of Baptismal Vows, and the celebration of Holy Communion

Risen with Christ – Colossians 3:1-4





***Celebrating the Gift of Ninety-Five Years of
God's Love and Grace!***

***...as it was in the beginning,
is now,
and will be forever.
Amen!***

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*

