

**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

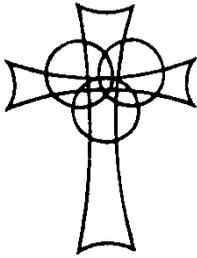
*The Reverend Peter A. Schiebel, Pastor*

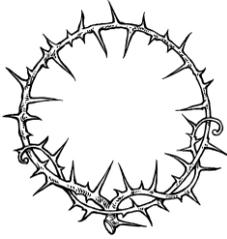
Church Office Phone: 301-864-4340

Church Web Site: [www.tlcmr.org](http://www.tlcmr.org)



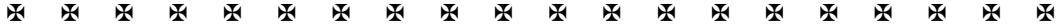
*A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*





***Lenten Midweek Vespers 2026***  
**Returning to the Waters**

The Third Wednesday of Lent  
March 4, 2026



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

*Lutheran Service Book Page 243ff*

✠ *Jesus, Mercy!* ✠

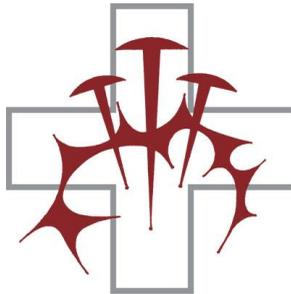


*A Silent Prayer as we gather for worship:*

*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*

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*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 46; antiphon: verse 7*

**P** *Ant* The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

**C** <sup>2</sup>**Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,  
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,**

**P** <sup>3</sup>though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

**C** <sup>4</sup>**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

**P** <sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;  
God will help her when morning dawns.

**C** <sup>6</sup>**The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;  
he utters his voice, the earth melts.**

**P** <sup>7</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**C** <sup>8</sup>**Come, behold the works of the LORD,  
how he has brought desolations on the earth.**

**P** <sup>9</sup>He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;  
he burns the chariots with fire.

**C** <sup>10</sup>**“Be still, and know that I am God.  
I will be exalted among the nations,  
I will be exalted in the earth!”**

**P** <sup>11</sup>The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

**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*The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

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

**P** Let us pray.  
Mighty God, our Strength and Protection, whenever the devil, the world, and our flesh throw our lives into tumult, show us the fortress walls with which You have surrounded us. Lead us to drink from the delightful streams of Your Word. Calm our spirits with the reassuring tones of Your voice as You say, “Be still, and know that I am God.” We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C** **Amen.**

The Office Hymn

*Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 433*

“Glory Be to Jesus”



1 Glo - ry be to Je - sus, Who in bit - ter pains  
2 Grace and life e - ter - nal In that blood I find;  
3 Blest through end - less a - ges Be the pre - cious stream  
4 A - bel's blood for ven - geance Plead - ed to the skies;



Poured for me the life - blood From His sa - cred veins!  
Blest be His com - pas - sion, In - fi - nite - ly kind!  
Which from end - less tor - ment Did the world re - deem!  
But the blood of Je - sus For our par - don cries.

5 Oft as earth exulting  
Wafts its praise on high,  
Angel hosts rejoicing  
Make their glad reply.

6 Lift we, then, our voices,  
Swell the mighty flood;  
Louder still and louder  
Praise the precious blood!

*Text: Italian, c. 18th cent.; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–78, alt.*

*Tune: WEM IN LEIDENSTAGEN, Friedrich Filitz, 1804–76*

*Text and tune: Public domain*

## ✠ The Service of the Word ✠

The First Reading

*Genesis 7:1-24*

**P** A reading from Genesis, chapter 7.

<sup>1</sup>Then the LORD said to Noah, “Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you are righteous before me in this generation. <sup>2</sup>Take with you seven pairs of all clean animals, the male and his mate, and a pair of the animals that are not clean, the male and his mate, <sup>3</sup>and seven pairs of the birds of the heavens also, male and female, to keep their offspring alive on the face of all the earth. <sup>4</sup>For in seven days I will send rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing that I have made I will blot out from the face of the ground.” <sup>5</sup>And Noah did all that the LORD had commanded him.

<sup>6</sup>Noah was six hundred years old when the flood of waters came upon the earth. <sup>7</sup>And Noah and his sons and his wife and his sons’ wives with him went into the ark to escape the waters of the flood. <sup>8</sup>Of clean animals, and of animals that are not clean, and of birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, <sup>9</sup>two and two, male and female, went into the ark with Noah, as God had commanded Noah. <sup>10</sup>And after seven days the waters of the flood came upon the earth.

<sup>11</sup>In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the fountains of the great deep burst forth, and the windows of the heavens were opened. <sup>12</sup>And rain fell upon the earth forty days and forty nights. <sup>13</sup>On the very same day Noah and his sons, Shem and Ham and Japheth, and Noah’s wife and the three wives of his sons with them entered the ark, <sup>14</sup>they and every beast, according to its kind, and all the livestock according to their kinds, and every creeping thing that creeps on the earth, according to its kind, and every bird, according to its kind, every winged creature. <sup>15</sup>They went into the ark with Noah, two and two of all flesh in which there was the breath of life. <sup>16</sup>And those that entered, male and female of all flesh, went in as God had commanded him. And the LORD shut him in.

<sup>17</sup>The flood continued forty days on the earth. The waters increased and bore up the ark, and it rose high above the earth. <sup>18</sup>The waters prevailed and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the face of the waters. <sup>19</sup>And the waters prevailed so mightily on the earth that all the high mountains under the whole heaven were covered. <sup>20</sup>The waters prevailed above the mountains, covering them fifteen cubits deep. <sup>21</sup>And all flesh died that moved on the earth, birds, livestock, beasts, all swarming creatures that swarm on the earth, and all mankind. <sup>22</sup>Everything on the dry land in whose nostrils was the breath of life died. <sup>23</sup>He blotted out every living thing that was on the face of the ground, man and animals and creeping things and birds of the heavens. They were blotted out from the earth. Only Noah was left, and those who were with him in the ark. <sup>24</sup>And the waters prevailed on the earth 150 days.

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

The Second Reading

*1 Peter 3:18-22*

- P** A reading from 1 Peter, chapter 3.

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. <sup>21</sup>Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected 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

Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 733

“O God, Our Help in Ages Past”



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,  
 2 Un - der the shad - ow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;  
 3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood Or earth re - ceived her frame,  
 4 A thou - sand a - ges in Thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home:  
 Suf - fi - cient is Thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.  
 From ev - er - last - ing Thou art God, To end - less years the same.  
 Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
 Soon bears us all away;  
 We fly forgotten as a dream  
 Dies at the op'ning day.

6 O God, our help in ages past,  
 Our hope for years to come,  
 Be Thou our guard while troubles last  
 And our eternal home!

*Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.*

*Tune: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727*

*Text and tune: Public domain*

The Sermon

Returning to the Waters

Preserving Waters

Text: Genesis 7:1-24

✠ 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 Second Week in Lent:*

- P** O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; 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 # 880

“Now Rest Beneath Night’s Shadow”



1 Now rest be - neath night's shad - ow The wood - land,  
 2 The ra - diant sun has van - ished, Its gold - en  
 3 Now all the heav'n - ly splen - dor Breaks forth in  
 4 Lord Je - sus, since You love me, Now spread Your  
 5 My loved ones, rest se - cure - ly, For God this



field, and mead - ow; The world in slum - ber lies.  
 rays are ban - ished From dark - 'ning skies of night;  
 star - light ten - der From myr - iad worlds un - known;  
 wings a - bove me And shield me from a - larm.  
 night will sure - ly From per - il guard your heads.



But you, my heart, a - wak - ing And prayer and mu - sic  
 But Christ, the Sun of glad - ness, Dis - pel - ling all our  
 And we, this mar - vel see - ing, For - get our self - ish  
 Though Sa - tan would de - vour me, Let an - gel guards sing  
 Sweet slum - bers may He send you And bid His hosts at -



mak - ing, Let praise to your Cre - a - tor rise.  
 sad - ness, Shines down on us in warm - est light.  
 be - ing For joy of beau - ty not our own.  
 o'er me: This child of God shall meet no harm.  
 tend you And through the night watch o'er your beds.

Text: Paul Gerhardt, 1607–76; tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.

Tune: O WELT, ICH MUSS DICH LASSEN, Heinrich Isaac, c. 1450–1517

Text and tune: Public domain

The Silent Worship

The Parish Announcements

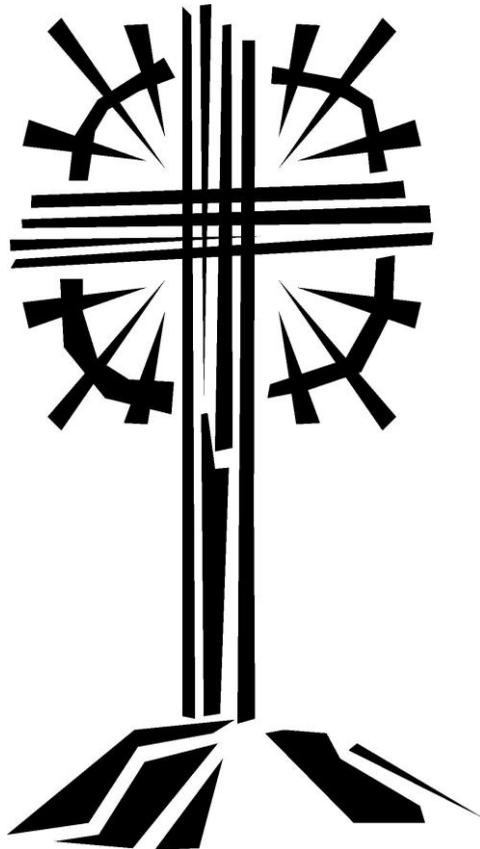
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Evening Prayer from Lutheran Service Book

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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 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

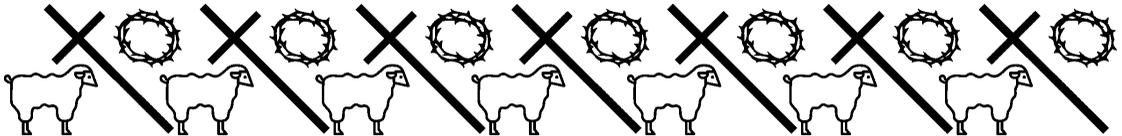
Providing Waters – Exodus 17:1-7

**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 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 – 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 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](http://www.tlcmr.org)  
*The Reverend Peter A. Schiebel, Pastor*



*We Are a Member Congregation of  
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