

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

4000 – 30th Street

at the intersection of 30th Street and Bunker Hill Road

Mount Rainier, Maryland 20712

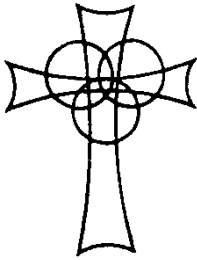
The Reverend Peter A. Schiebel, Pastor

Church Office Phone: 301-864-4340

Church Web Site: www.tlcmr.org



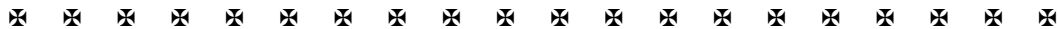
A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod





Lenten Midweek Vespers 2026
Returning to the Waters

The Fourth Wednesday of Lent
March 11, 2026



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

Lutheran Service Book Page 243ff

✠ *Jesus, Mercy!* ✠

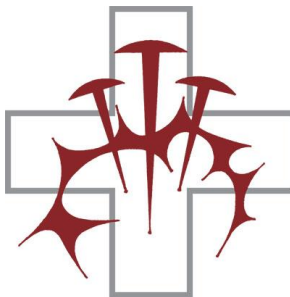


A Silent Prayer as we gather for worship:

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 Blessèd are You, O Lord our God, King of the universe, who led Your people Israel by a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Enlighten our darkness by the light of Your Christ; may His Word be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path; for You are merciful, and You love Your whole creation and we, Your creatures, glorify You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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 **Glorify 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 Old Testament Canticle

*Cantemus Domino – The Song of Moses and Israel
Exodus 15:1b-6, 11-13, 17-18; antiphon: verse 1b
Lutheran Service Book Hymn # 925*

Refrain (spoken by all):

**I will sing to the Lord, for He has triumphed gloriously;
the horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea.**

P ¹The LORD is my strength and my song,
and He has become my salvation;

C ²**this is my God, and I will praise Him,
my father's God, and I will exalt Him.**

Refrain

P ³The LORD is a man of war;
the LORD is His name.

C ⁴**Pharaoh's chariots and his host He cast into the sea,
and his chosen officers were sunk in the Red Sea.**

P ⁵The floods covered them;
they went down into the depths like a stone.

C ⁶**Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power,
Your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy.**

Refrain

P ⁷Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods?

Who is like You, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?

C ⁸**You stretched out Your right hand;
the earth swallowed them.**

P ⁹You have led in Your steadfast love the people whom You have redeemed;
You have guided them by Your strength to Your holy abode.

C ¹⁰**You will bring them in and plant them on Your own mountain,
the place, O LORD, which You have made for Your abode,**

P ¹¹the sanctuary, O Lord, which Your hands have established.
The LORD will reign forever and ever.

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.**

Refrain (spoken by all):

**I will sing to the Lord, for He has triumphed gloriously;
the horse and his rider He has thrown into the sea.**

Silence is kept for a time of meditation on the Word

P Let us pray.

O God, You once delivered Your people Israel from bondage under Pharaoh and led them by a pillar of cloud and fire through the sea to safety. Grant that we may so follow Christ that through the waters of Baptism we may daily die and rise with Him and walk in safety through the wilderness of this life until we see Your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**



The Office 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: RATHBUN, Ithamar Conkey, 1815–67

Text and tune: Public domain

✠ The Service of the Word ✠

The First Reading

Exodus 14:10-31

P A reading from Exodus, chapter 14.

¹⁰When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD. ¹¹They said to Moses, “Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? ¹²Is not this what we said to you in Egypt, ‘Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” ¹³And Moses said to the people, “Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. ¹⁴The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.”

¹⁵The LORD said to Moses, “Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. ¹⁶Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground. ¹⁷And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen. ¹⁸And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen.”

¹⁹Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, ²⁰coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night.

²¹Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided. ²²And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. ²³The Egyptians pursued and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. ²⁴And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, ²⁵clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, “Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians.”

²⁶Then the LORD said to Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen.” ²⁷So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea. ²⁸The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. ²⁹But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

³⁰Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.



P A reading from Romans, chapter 6.

³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

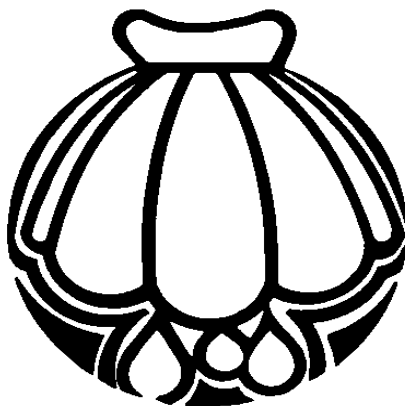
⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

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 # 718

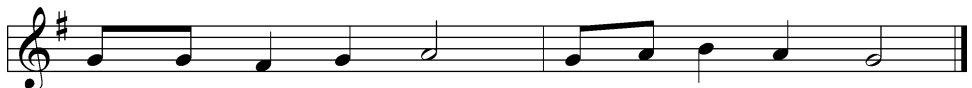
“Jesus, Lead Thou On”



1 Je - sus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won; And al - though the
 2 If the way be drear, If the foe be near, Let not faith - less
 3 When we seek re - lief From a long - felt grief, When temp - ta - tions
 4 Je - sus, lead Thou on Till our rest is won. Heav'n - ly lead - er,



way be cheer - less, We will fol - low calm and fear - less.
 fears o'er - take us; Let not faith and hope for - sake us;
 come al - lur - ing, Make us pa - tient and en - dur - ing.
 still di - rect us, Still sup - port, con - sole, pro - tect us,



Guide us by Thy hand To our fa - ther - land.
 For through man - y a woe To our home we go.
 Show us that bright shore Where we weep no more.
 Till we safe - ly stand In our fa - ther - land.

Text: Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1700–60; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–97, alt.

Tune: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

Text and tune: Public domain

The Sermon

Returning to the Waters

Rescuing Waters

Text: Exodus 14:10-31

✠ 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 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.

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 # 878

“Abide with Me”

We Sing Stanzas 1-2 and 5-6



1 A - bide with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
 2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
 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?
 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?
 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.
 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: EVENTIDE, William H. Monk, 1823–89

Text and tune: Public domain

The Silent Worship

The Parish Announcements



**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 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



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