

THE BEACON

March 25, 2026

MIDWEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Our midweek Lenten series on the theme “The Senses Incarnate: The Christ Dwells in Us” concludes Wednesday, March 25, with “Taste: taste and see that the Lord is good.” Holy Communion is celebrated at 12:10 p.m., with Lenten Vespers at 7:00 p.m.

SERVANT OUTREACH PROJECT

Our March outreach project is a canned food drive for the Rivermont Area Emergency Food Pantry. Grocery bags, complete with an attached suggested shopping list, are available in the narthex. We are asked to please fill and return the bags during the month of March. Monetary contributions are also encouraged. Special envelopes are available on the narthex desk.

PASSION SUNDAY PALM PROCESSION

Our worship services this Sunday will begin with the Passion Sunday Palm Procession as we remember Jesus of Nazareth’s entrance into Jerusalem and start our spiritual journey through Holy Week.

The Eco-Palms we are using are from Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and their partnership with palm harvesters in Latin America. LWR pays fair-trade prices to encourage sustainable harvesting practices. These Eco-Palms are sorted and packed within the harvesting community, extending income opportunities to even more people. Eco-Palms harvesters often earn five to six times more per frond than for traditional palms, and a portion of the purchase price goes directly back to the community. In this way, more families and communities can find pathways out of poverty.



LENTEN OFFERINGS

Our special Lenten offerings are used for the broader work of the Lutheran Church through the Virginia Synod. One aspect of this partnership is the GraceInside Prison Ministry. Founded in 1920, GraceInside now provides spiritual nurture to 30,000 incarcerated men and women across Virginia. Chaplains preach, teach, provide pastoral care as well as crisis counseling, and coordinate volunteers who assist with worship and musical programs. As prisoners prepare to return to society, chaplains provide counseling to help ease the transition. We are proud of the broad mission outreach of our Church and are challenged to give it our generous support. Offerings should be placed in Lenten envelopes, or marked clearly as special Lenten gifts, or made through the online giving portal available on our website by selecting the Seasonal Special Offerings fund.

CANDY NEEDED

The Holy Trinity Youth will be holding an Easter Egg Hunt for young children in our congregation and in the community on Sunday, March 29. Would you be able to make a candy donation? Any kind will be enjoyed! The candy will need to be in individual packages as we’ll not be using Easter eggs for hiding the candy. Please drop-off candy at Susan Williams’ office for safe keeping.



EASTER EGG HUNT

Sunday, March 29, at 4:30 p.m., on the lawn

Games, Crafts, Prizes!

Open to all children from birth to fifth grade.

Invite your family and neighbors to join in the fun!

Hosted by the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church Youth.

HOLY WEEK WORSHIP BOOKLET

A special consolidated worship booklet for the evening Holy Week services on Maundy Thursday (7:00 p.m.), Good Friday (7:30 p.m.), and Holy Saturday (8:00 p.m.) will be used again this year as a way of emphasizing that our celebration of The Triduum is one, unbroken liturgy that flows from Maundy Thursday through the Great Vigil of Easter on Holy Saturday. **Worshippers are reminded to leave worship booklets in the pews on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday so that the booklets may be re-used.** Please join us for worship as we walk the way of the cross during this great and holy week.

BELLS SILENT DURING THE TRIDUUM

It is tradition that church bells are not rung during the solemn days of The Triduum (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday). The ringing of the bells will return with the first Eucharist of Easter at the Saturday evening Easter Vigil.

FLEA MARKET

Our Holy Trinity Flea Market will be held Saturday, April 18, from 7:00 a.m. - noon. Unwanted “treasures” including furniture, toys, books, kitchen items, tools and gardening equipment, sports equipment, jewelry, and electronics may be donated to the sale and brought to the church between **Monday, April 13, and Thursday, April 16.** We are unable to accept clothing or old televisions. **No early deliveries, please.** All items need to be in good, clean condition and in working order. **Please register in the narthex for April 13-18 work shifts.** The proceeds support the Holy Trinity Youth Summer Mission Trip.





SUNDAY OF THE PASSION

March 29, 2026

The Lessons: Matthew 21:1-11; Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philippians 2:5-11; Matthew 27:11-66
The liturgical color for season of Lent is purple.

8:30 A.M. - SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

9:30 A.M. - SUNDAY CHURCH SCHOOL

ADULT EDUCATION
BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP
(Parlor)

Cherished Belonging

The Cruelty Points

10:30 A.M. - SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION with LIVESTREAM

3:30 P.M. - JUNIOR & SENIOR YOUTH (grades six - twelve)

4:30 P.M. - EASTER EGG HUNT

THE WEEK OF MARCH 29 - APRIL 4

<u>MONDAY,</u>	9:00 A.M.	- STRENGTH AND BALANCE EXERCISE CLASS
	9:30 A.M.	- CHAIR YOGA CLASS
	6:00 P.M.	- DINNER for KIDS' HAVEN
<u>WEDNESDAY,</u>	12:10 P.M.	- SPY WEDNESDAY SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION
	7:00 P.M.	- ADULT CHOIR REHEARSAL
<u>THURSDAY,</u>	9:00 A.M.	- PARISH NURSE in office (until 10:00 a.m.)
	12:10 P.M.	- MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION
	7:00 P.M.	- MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION & STRIPPING OF THE ALTAR
<u>FRIDAY,</u>	9:00 A.M.	- STRENGTH AND BALANCE EXERCISE CLASS
	9:30 A.M.	- CHAIR YOGA CLASS
	12:10 P.M.	- GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY
<u>SATURDAY,</u>	7:30 P.M.	- GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY & TENEBRAE (Service of Shadows)
	10:00 A.M.	- ALTAR GUILD
	8:00 P.M.	- GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER

IN THE CONGREGATIONAL FAMILY

Hospitalized at Lynchburg General is **Martha Goodman**. Hospitalized and released is **Patricia Mickley**.
Recuperating from outpatient surgery are **Vivian Hudson** and **Carol Barclay**.

THANK YOU

- Thanks to those who participated in our Lawn "Party" Workday: **Kim Hall**, coordinator; **Don Carter, Greg Cochran, Joe Fedeler, Barb Garman, David Jones, Eric Kenny, Ann Kreft, Ted Krueger, Neville Rowland, Billy Shumaker, Duane Shumaker, Ginny Straub, Chris Webb**, and crew members from **RSG Landscaping**.
- Thanks to **Ann Mitchell** for delivering outreach ministry items to local partners.

NEW MEMBERS TO BE RECEIVED

We will welcome new members into Holy Trinity in the coming weeks.
Please speak with Pastor Roberts if you are interested in joining our church family.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

(in-town members and students)



1 - Alex Betz	8 - Ellen Peterson	18 - Esther Keene
Jon Collins	Blake Givens	Richard Newton
2 - Lauren Almond	9 - Conrad Kauppi	19 - Jerry Johnson
Marilyn Brooks	Steve Oboth	Sue Ellen Petchul
Diane Kizer	Austin Royer	20 - Ryan Smith
4 - Janet Loy	April Whalen	22 - Karl Biesemier
6 - Claudia Arp	10 - Terri Campbell	Carol Espinosa
Carrie Wisman	Cooper Nixon	23 - Cal Farmer
7 - Janelle Larkin	Austin Strothman	Kyleighana Hancock
Peter Ploch	11 - Liam Martin	24 - Doris Hybl
	12 - Mark Hemmerlein	Billy Royer
	Billy Shumaker	25 - Pam Carroll
	14 - Lilly Farrar	Tara Witt
	Nancy Goodman	26 - Sarah Gross
	Erica Wolfe	27 - Arthur Sprouse
	15 - Wilma Beebe	28 - Stephanie Quirk
	Ellen Nygaard	29 - Betsy Farrar
	Maggie Wolfe	Madilyn Kluender
	16 - Donald Swanson	Louise Martin
	Ryan Wolfe	30 - Betsy Craig

**CHILDREN'S and YOUTH MINISTRIES
THE WEEK OF MARCH 29 - APRIL 4**

Sunday, March 29

- 9:30 a.m. - Sunday Church School (grades one - five)
- 3:30 p.m. - Junior & Senior Youth (grades six - twelve)
- 4:30 p.m. - Easter Egg Hunt

HOLY WEEK and EASTER WORSHIP



March 29

Sunday of the Passion

Palm Sunday

- 8:30 a.m. - Service of Holy Communion with Palm Procession and Passion Story
- 10:30 a.m. - Service of Holy Communion with Palm Procession and Passion Story

April 1

Wednesday in Holy Week

Spy Wednesday

- 12:10 p.m. - Spoken Service of Holy Communion

April 2

Maundy Thursday

- 12:10 p.m. - Spoken Service of Holy Communion
- 7:00 p.m. - Service of Holy Communion and Stripping of the Altar

April 3

Good Friday

- 12:10 p.m. - Good Friday Liturgy
- 7:30 p.m. - Good Friday Liturgy and Tenebrae (Service of Shadows)

April 4

Holy Saturday

- 8:00 p.m. - Great Vigil of Easter

April 5

Easter Day

- 7:00 a.m. - Service of Holy Communion in the Columbarium
(The service will be held in the Nave if the weather is inclement.)
- 7:30 a.m. - Easter Breakfast
- 10:30 a.m. - Festival Liturgy of the Resurrection

Since the use of light and darkness is important in the drama of worship, please note that the Good Friday evening service begins at 7:30 p.m. and the Great Vigil of Easter on Holy Saturday begins at 8:00 p.m.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

Thrivent Financial members with 2025 Thrivent Choice Dollars to direct are asked to consider Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. 2025 Thrivent Choice Dollars expire **March 31**.

EASTER BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 5, at 7:30 a.m.

Please join us for an Easter Breakfast Buffet immediately following the 7:00 a.m. service.

The menu features egg casserole, Canadian bacon, fruit salad, sweet rolls, biscuits, and beverages.

A free will donation is requested.

Please make reservations in the narthex, Fellowship Hall, or call the church office (384-8441) by April 2.



UPDATED YEARBOOK INFORMATION NEEDED

We are currently working on the 2026 Holy Trinity Yearbook which will be mailed later in the spring. All members are asked to review their household's information as listed in the 2025 Yearbook. In particular, let us know if you have discontinued your land line telephone, what cell phone number(s) you would like published, and what email address(es), if any, you would like published. You may email or call the church office with updated information. Thanks for your cooperation.



Join us for an exciting and moving liturgical journey through Holy Week.

Our Holy Week journey begins on **PASSION SUNDAY** (*Palm Sunday*) when we receive palm branches and begin our



worship with a palm procession to commemorate our Lord's entry into Jerusalem. Ritually and symbolically, the church becomes *OUR* Jerusalem. Here, we will participate in Jesus the Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection. The mood of our entry is one of exultant joy. The Messiah marches to his glory – to be lifted up to draw the whole world to himself. After the procession, the mood shifts dramatically with the presentation of the Passion Gospel. This is the story in which we will participate in the coming days.

WEDNESDAY IN HOLY WEEK (12:10 p.m.) is also known as **Spy Wednesday**, for it focuses on the role of Judas Iscariot in the events leading to Jesus of Nazareth's death on the cross. His betrayal of our Lord becomes the basis for our reflection on the ways in which we also abandon and forsake God and God's will for us.

THE TRIDUUM

On Maundy Thursday, we begin **THE TRIDUUM**, which means **THE THREE DAYS**. The **TRIDUUM** includes Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday (Easter Eve). The three liturgies during these days are **ONE LITURGY**. No benediction separates them. We leave the nave for awhile to then return and continue celebrating the great mystery of our redemption.



MAUNDY THURSDAY (12:10 & 7:00 p.m.) - Maundy means "command." On this day, our Lord commanded his disciples to serve one another and remember him in the breaking of the bread. We begin our worship with confession and absolution. The absolution marks the end of our Lenten journey which began with the Ash Wednesday confession of sin. We then share the Eucharist because, on this night, Jesus of Nazareth instituted the supper saying, "THIS IS MY BODY" and "THIS IS MY BLOOD."

At the evening service, as we sing *Go to Dark Gethsemane*, the altar is stripped and all worship appointments are removed. We are reminded that our Lord walked from the supper to his humiliation and death. If we are united to him, we must also die. We must give up everything. We exit in silence....

GOOD FRIDAY (12:10 & 7:30 p.m.) - We return to a barren nave to contemplate the passion of our Lord. We see the crucifixion as the glorification of Jesus the Christ. Lifted up, he draws the whole world to himself. In solemn adoration, we behold the cross on which was hung the salvation of the whole world. In silence, we meditate on the mystery of the crucified savior.



At the midday and the evening services, we hear the Passion Gospel according to St. John and pray the Bidding Prayer which is global in its concerns. Thus, we affirm that the Christ died for all! *Tenebrae*, or the Service of Shadows, concludes the evening service as we reflect on the last words of our Lord in a gradually darkening nave. We exit in silence....

HOLY SATURDAY (EASTER EVE) (8:00 p.m.) - This is the most holy of all nights as we gather to make passage with the Christ from death to life. The service is one of the older and richer liturgies in all of Christian worship as believers around the world gather for the Great Vigil of Easter, the Christian Passover. The liturgy includes the Service of Light, the Service of Readings, the Service of Baptismal Renewal, and the Service of Holy Communion.

THE SERVICE OF LIGHT - The new paschal candle (Easter candle) is lit for the first time. Individual candles lit from the paschal candle illuminate the darkened nave. The light of Christ breaks the darkness of sin and death! Through the words of the glorious and ancient paschal hymn of praise (*The Exultet*), we join all creation in praising God for the mystery of redemption.

THE SERVICE OF READINGS - We read passages from the Hebrew scriptures which were used by the early church to instruct baptismal candidates. The lessons help us to understand our own baptismal passage from death to life.

THE SERVICE OF BAPTISMAL RENEWAL - On this night, when Jesus the Christ passed from death to life, we then process to the baptismal font where we renew the covenant of our baptism. Water is sprinkled (the *Asperges*) on the congregation to remind us of our own baptism.



THE SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION - As Easter people who have passed with Christ Jesus from death to life, we are met by our risen Lord who comes to us through his life-giving body and blood in the Eucharistic meal. The darkness of the worship space is transformed by light, music, and celebration as we share the first Eucharist of Easter.

The TRIDUUM is ended. . . we have celebrated the mystery of the world's redemption. . .

ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

Ministers: *The People of Holy Trinity*

Organist-Choirmaster: *J. William Greene*

Parish Nurse: *Gail Midkiff*

Parish Administrator: *Carol Dee Robertson*

Director of Youth and Campus Ministries: *Susan H. Williams*

Pastor: *Dennis S. Roberts*

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