

Mission Statement

As the baptized people of God, gathered together as the congregation of the Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church, our mission is to share the Good News of the love and grace of God in Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit by:

- Worship centered in the Word and Sacraments;
- Christian education provided for all ages;
- Outreach ministries that serve all God's people;
- Fellowship programs and activities.



Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church

Regular hours of worship
10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary

6201 Washington Boulevard
Arlington, VA 22205

Rev. Harry Therwanger, Pastor
E-mail: pastorharry@relcarlington.org

Phone: (703) 532-5991
Fax: (703) 532-6950
E-mail: office@relcarlington.org
<https://www.relcarlington.org>

Come Celebrate “The Three Days” at Resurrection Evangelical Lutheran Church

Thursday, March 28 @ 7:00 p.m.
Friday, March 29 @ 7:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 30 @ 7:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 31 @ 10:00 a.m.



The Three Days

The Three Days is the period of three days that begins with the liturgy on the evening of Maundy Thursday, reaches its high point in the Easter Vigil, and closes with evening prayer on Easter Sunday. It is an observation recalling the Passion, Crucifixion, Death, burial, and Resurrection of Jesus, as portrayed in the canonical Gospels.

The Three Days straddles the two liturgical seasons of Lent and Easter in the church calendar. Holy Saturday, the last Saturday before Easter Sunday, is the last day of Lent, with the Easter Vigil being the first liturgy of Eastertide.

The liturgical celebrations of the Three Days are rich in symbolism and flow from one to the other in a seamless way.

During Holy Week, Christians worldwide gather to honor the humiliation, torture and crucifixion of Jesus Christ.

Maundy Thursday



The Three Days begin with an evening worship service on Maundy Thursday or Holy Thursday. Maundy comes from the Latin word *mandatum*, or commandment, reflecting Jesus' words "I give you a new commandment."

At Resurrection, we celebrate a service of Holy Communion, just as Christ shared the Last Supper with his disciples. An invitation to follow in the steps of the disciples and participate in a foot washing is part of the service. As the service closes, the altar is stripped and the lights in the Nave are dimmed as we depart in silence.

Maundy Thursday Service: March 28 at 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday



On Good Friday, Christians recall the passion and crucifixion of Jesus. The Passion narrative continues after the last supper and foot washing with Jesus' arrest in Gethsemane and betrayal by Judas. Jesus is taken before Pontius Pilate and King Herod who do not find him guilty of crimes against Rome. Under guidance from the chief priests, the crowd demands that Jesus be crucified in place of the murderer Barabbas. Jesus is flogged, crowned with thorns, forced to bear his own cross to Calvary, mocked as "King of the Jews" and nailed to the cross. He suffers for six hours before he commends his spirit to God. Since the Sabbath is near, at sundown, Joseph of Arimathea asks Pilate to release the body of Jesus to bury in keeping with Jewish burial customs. Nicodemus brings spices and helps to wrap the body of Jesus in linens. Joseph and Nicodemus lay the body of Jesus in a newly cut tomb and roll a heavy stone over the entrance to the tomb. They then return home and rest as the Sabbath begins.

At Resurrection, we will reflect on the Passion narrative through several readings and quiet reflections in a dimly

lit sanctuary. As the service nears the end, a ceremonial simple cross is brought forth and placed near the altar.

Good Friday Service: March 29 at 7:00 p.m.

The Easter Vigil



The Easter Vigil, also called Holy Saturday, concludes the third day of the Three Days. We begin our worship gathered outside around a fire with the lighting of the Paschal Candle. We hear readings from the Old Testament describing the stories of creation and the exodus, prophecies foretelling the coming Messiah and the rebuilding of the Temple in three days. We celebrate the Gospel telling of Mary Magdalene discovering the empty tomb and the risen Lord. We celebrate this resurrection with light and joyful music and the re-introduction of Alleluias into the service liturgy and song. We reconfirm the baptismal promise and share the gifts of Holy Communion.

Easter Vigil Service: March 30, 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday

Our celebration of the resurrection continues with a full service of Holy Communion preceded by breakfast in the Parish Hall. Join us.

Easter Breakfast: March 31, 8:30 a.m.

Easter Service: March 31, 10:00 a.m.