

Resurrection Lutheran Church
A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
March 15, 2026



Our Mission Statement

Grounded in the Word, *we Gather* in Grace
Grow in Faith and *Go* with love to change the world!

We are a Reconciling in Christ Congregation

As such, we uphold the words of the Apostle Paul: "In Christ, there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28) Christ has made us all one. We believe that this oneness extends to all persons regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identities, or religious, economic, or political affiliation.

Ancestral Homelands

"We are gathered at this assembly on the original and ancestral homelands of the Coastal Salish peoples. We give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home. Let us remember the Indigenous peoples and tribal nations who were the first to love, pray, grow, celebrate, cry, drum, dance and sing upon these lands."

10:00 Worship
March 15, 2026
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Welcome

Gathering Song: *Come, Just As You Are*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

Let us confess the things we have done and failed to do that do not reflect the ways of the God of love, mercy, and hope.

Holy God,
Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:
Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering the work of the Spirit:
Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for disdain the living water Christ offers:
Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For disregarding voices from the margin, and for distrusting signs of your healing and hope in the world:
Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For dwelling in tombs of self-pity and discontent, and for disregarding Christ's call to come forth to life:

Have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

God's steadfast love, grace, and forgiveness abound. Through faith, the free gift of God, you have been clothed in the love of Christ. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your willfulness and failings are forgiven.

The Spirit of the One who raised Christ from the dead dwells in you, pours God's love into your hearts, and gives you life and peace.

Amen

Opening Song: *The Lord's My Shepherd (ELW 778)*

Prayer of the Day

Shine in us, Shine among us, Shine upon us, Lord Jesus.

Amen

Kyrie: ACS, setting 11

Reading: *Ephesians 5:8-14*

Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. **Walk as children of light, 9 for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true.** 10 Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. 11 Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. 12 For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, 13 but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, 14 for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, **"Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."**

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Announcement of the Gospel: *John 9:1-41*

Gospel Acclamation: *Lenten Verse (ACS, setting 11)*

Reading of the Gospel

As [Jesus] walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" 3 Jesus answered, **"Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. 4 We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."** 6 When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, 7 saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. 8 The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" 9 Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." 10 But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" 11 He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." 12 **They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."**

13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. 14 Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. 15 Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." 16 Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." **Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided.** 17 **So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."**

18 The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight 19 and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" 20 His parents answered, **"We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, 21 but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself."**

22 His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. 23 Therefore his parents said, “He is of age; ask him.”

24 So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, “Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner.” 25 He answered, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” 26 They said to him, “What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?” 27 He answered them, “I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?” 28 Then they reviled him, saying, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. 29 We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.” 30 The man answered, “Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. 31 We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. 32 Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. 33 If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” 34 **They answered him, “You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?” And they drove him out.**

35 Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” 36 He answered, “And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him.” 37 Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” 38 **He said, “Lord, I believe.” And he worshiped him.** 39 Jesus said, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.” 40 Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, “Surely we are not blind, are we?” 41 Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Children’s Message and Noisy Offering

Song: *Jesus Loves Me*

Homily

Song: *Faith Begins by Letting Go*

Confession of Faith

I believe in God, The Holy One Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Holy One Almighty;
He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen

The Prayers of the Church

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for all people, according to their needs.

**All: Mercy, we abide in you. Stir in us, we pray. Mercy, we abide in you.
Stir in us, we pray.**

Worship Team: For peace in reigning chaos; for hope, when hope seems afar; for love, where hatred fights fiercely; Move us in your ways.

**All: Hm...Stir in us, we pray. Stir in us we pray. Stir in us we pray.
Mercy, we abide in you. Stir in us, we pray.**

Worship Team: For those who are torn from their families; for those who protest what is cruel; for those who are grieving lost loved ones; Move us in your ways.

**All: Hm...Stir in us, we pray. Stir in us we pray. Stir in us we pray.
Mercy, we abide in you. Stir in us, we pray.**

Worship Team: For spears to turn into plowshares; for warfare to cease, O God; for victims of bombings and shellings; Move us in your ways.

All: Hm...Stir in us, we pray. Stir in us we pray. Stir in us we pray.

Mercy, we abide in you. Stir in us, we pray.

Worship Team: For justice for those who've been trampled; for care for your earth, we pray; for those who are ill, for the weeping; Move us in your ways.

All: Hm...Stir in us, we pray. Stir in us we pray. Stir in us we pray.

Mercy, we abide in you. Stir in us, we pray.

Other spoken prayers are offered.

Receive our prayers, O God, through Jesus Christ, our strength and salvation.

Amen

Sharing of the Peace

Offering

Song: *Be Thou My Vision (ELW 793)*

Holy Communion

The Lord be with you! **And also with you!**

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you O God, through Jesus Christ; who is your light made manifest to all the nations; and so with the church on earth; all creation and the host of heaven, we praise your name, and join in their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy

The Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in Heaven, Hallowed be thy name,
Thy Kingdom Come, Thy Will 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.

Amen

Reception of the Meal

Songs: *Lamb of God; Shepherd Me, O God (ELW 780)*

Announcements

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you;

The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you;

The Lord look upon you with favor, and give you peace. **Amen**

Song: *O Jesus, Joy of Loving Hearts (ELW 658)*

Sending

Go in peace to serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

And All God's people said- **Amen!**

Announcements

Happy Birthday to Barb C., and Nancy Z.!

(As you are able, please remember a donation to the Mission Endowment in honor of your birthday or to honor another's birthday.)

We are collecting items to make Easter baskets for the food bank. We are looking for Easter baskets, Easter grass, small stuffed animals, and small toys.

Also, we would love candy donations for the Easter Egg hunt. **THANK YOU!**

Homeless Bags: We would love help collecting items, assembly will March 22nd

Listed in order, most need to least. Socks, bars (granola/protein), Tuna and chicken packs, moist wipes and ChapStick.

Today at 1:00 – Cards and games

Monday at 7:00: Prayer tidbits on Zoom. ID: 279 362 6486 Zoom password: Prayer

Wednesdays: Lent soup suppers (6:15) and services (7:00). There is a sign-up sheet to bring soup and bread.

Thursday at 12:30: Birthday potluck

Next Sunday at Noon: Memorial committee meeting

March 27, Noon – 10 pm: Prayer Vigil – Please sign up to be a prayer host or participant (no limit). We are emphasizing “give thanks”, we will be holding a food drive during the vigil, please help fill the food donation box!

March 28, 1:00 – Memorial service for Wes.

Easter Sunday – 9:00 Breakfast

10:00 Easter Service

11:15 Coffee and Fellowship

11:30 Easter Egg Hunt

Save the date! April 26 at 11:30 – Professor Samuel Torvend will be here, speaking on “Living our vocation in a chaotic time”.

June 26-27, Church rummage sale – We are looking for someone to lead and organize the rummage sale. If you are interested, please let Holly know.

Continued prayers:

Brad (Friend of Jim and Judy's) for healing. Letitia (Sheila's friend).

Neil (who is a friend of Sheila's friend) who is in hospice.

Prayers for Cindy P's (friend of Sheila's) aunt who is in hospice. Neil (Sheila's friend).

Geoffrey (Elvira's nephew) for health issues and upcoming surgery. Please keep Dot and the whole family in your prayers with the passing of Wes. Tiffany (Gail's, daughter in law) on her mother's passing and a lesion on her brain. Andrea (friend of Peggy's) dealing with kidney stone. Stanette for her health. Steve (Gail's cousin) and family, Steve's wife Vicki passed away. Fred and Sherry V. (friends of the congregation) for healing, comfort and strength. Bud and his wife Vicki (friend of Gail's) Bud is fighting prostate cancer. Kathy G. prayers for health. Holden village. Sylvia (hip surgery, and pain, prayers for healing). Maria (Cindy's mom), for improved health. Kim. Marion. Bill O.

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| <p><u>Sunday, March 15</u> 10:00: In-Sanctuary and Online 1:00: Cards and games <i>Join us for fellowship after worship, all are welcome!</i></p> <p><u>Monday, March 16</u> 6:00 – 8:00: Jump into music 7:00: Prayer tidbits on Zoom</p> <p><u>Tuesday, March 17</u> 6:00: AA</p> <p><u>Wednesday, March 18</u> 9:30: Worship and music practice 6:15: Soup supper 7:00: Lent Service</p> | <p><u>Thursday, March 19</u> 10:00: Quilting 12:30: Birthday potluck</p> <p><u>Friday, March 20-</u> Office closed 5:00-5:30: Jump into music 5:30: NA meeting - building in use</p> <p><u>Saturday, March 21</u> 10:00: Leadership meeting 11:00: Church work party 6:00: Young adult gathering at Pastor Karen's</p> <p><u>Sunday, March 22</u> 10:00: In-Sanctuary and Online 12:00: Memorial committee meeting</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;">Pastor Karen Bates Olson – Email: resurrectionpastor@aol.com Cell: 253-263-4094 Holly Kindt – Administrative assistant Church office: 253-927-3301 Email: churchoffice@resurrectionlutherantacoma.org</p> | |



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