



## Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 26, 2026

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

1308 Mt. Holly Rd.

Burlington, NJ 08016

(609) 387-1202

### HOLY TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

1308 Mt. Holly Rd., Burlington, N.J. 08016

Office: (609) 387-1202

www.holytrinityelc.org

Rev. Russell Haab – Pastorhaab@holytrinityelc.org

Bonnie Mazza, Administrator — Secretary@holytrinityelc.org

Michelle Foster, Musical Director — michfoster16@gmail.com

License # A-713124 for music where applicable.

April 26, 2026

10:00am

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

*Today is sometimes called "Good Shepherd Sunday." Jesus is called the "gate" of the sheep in today's gospel. The risen Christ opens the way to abundant life. He anoints our heads with oil and guides us beside the still waters of our baptism. Each Sunday he spreads a feast before us amid the world's violence and war. We go forth to be signs of the resurrection and extend God's tender care to all creation.*

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THE PRELUDE**     **Waymaker**     **See Insert**

### \*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne  
and to the Lamb!

**Amen.**

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.*

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.  
You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:  
morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows.

Break down barriers that divide us.

Fill us with the breath of peace.

Blessed are you.

**You guide us to springs of the water of life.**

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation.

We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

**Amen.**

\* **THE GATHERING HYMN:** See Insert  
Graves Into Gardens

\* **THE EASTER GREETING**

P: Alleluia, Christ is Risen

**C: Christ is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!**

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**C: And also with you.**

\* **THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray: O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## THE WORD

**THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 2:42-47**

<sup>42</sup> [The baptized] devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. <sup>43</sup> Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 23**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.**

<sup>3</sup> You restore my soul, O LORD,  
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> **Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your  
staff, they comfort me.**

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup> **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my  
life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

**MEDITATION SONG Revelation Song See Insert**

**THE SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 2:19-25**

<sup>19</sup> It is a commendable thing if, being aware of God, a person endures pain while suffering unjustly. <sup>20</sup> If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do good and suffer for it, this is a commendable thing before



\* **THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.  
**And also with you.**

**THE OFFERING  
SPECIAL MUSIC**

\* **THE OFFERTORY: Give Thanks**

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ, his Son. And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich," because of what the Lord has done for us. And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am rich," because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks!

\* **THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

Risen Christ, Living Word, you are the bread of life that nourishes and sustains us. By the power of your Word, dwell in our hearts and reveal to us again that we are the body of Christ: in our vulnerable flesh, through our baptism into your death and resurrection, and in service to the world you love. Be for us manna in the wilderness. Open us to recognize you in every meal and in all who hunger for bread, for human touch, and for healing and hope. We pray in your name, our healer and companion.  
**Amen.**

\* **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

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 SENDING**

\* **THE BLESSING**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,  
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,  
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,  
✠ bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

\* **THE SENDING SONG Gratitude See Insert**

\* **THE DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**THE POSTLUDE**

**Serving Today: April 26, 2026**

**Acolyte:** Allyson Schmalz

**Lector:** Bonnie Mazza

**Usher:** Steve Anderson

**Musicians:** Voices That Reign

**Sound Board:** Bonnie Mazza

**Serving Next Week: May 3, 2026**

**Acolyte:** Baylee Rodig

**Lector:** Allyson Schmalz

**Ushers:** Baylee & Nicole Rodig

**Musicians:** Michelle Foster

**Sound Board:** Laura Poethke

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** is in session every Sunday at 9:00am. We look forward each week to sharing the good news with the children.

**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP:** Everyone is invited and welcome to attend our Sunday Worship at 10 AM every Sunday. Our blended worship takes place normally on the 4th Sunday each month with our contemporary band Voices That Reign leading us in song.

**BIRTHDAY FELLOWSHIP and LOUD OFFERING** take place on the first Sunday of each month. We recognize those who celebrate their birthday that month and also pass *Philip the Bucket* to collect spare change to help those in need.

**PLEASE CALL** the church office (609-387-1202) whenever a family member, neighbor, or friend who is a member of Holy Trinity is hospitalized or moves from one hospital to another.



**SCHOLARSHIPS:** Holy Trinity is so blessed to be able to offer Scholarships to our youth and adults continuing their education at colleges and trade schools. If you are interested in applying please go to our website to find out more information. The deadline for applications is Sunday, May 18, 2025.

**HOW CAN I HELP:** If you are looking to get more involved, or maybe just help the church out with a special need or repair, please see the sign in the back of the Narthex or on the bulletin board downstairs. Every little bit helps to sustain our church and the mission of spreading the good news of our Lord and Savior.

**PASTOR HAAB WILL BE AWAY APRIL 14—MAY 7:** Pastor and Lynn are jetting off for a wonderful vacation. While he is away please call the church office if you have any needs. The answering machine will be checked by office staff regularly. In the case of an emergency we have an on call Pastor to help assist our members.

## **IF YOU ENJOY BASEBALL**

### **NEW JERSEY SYNOD YOUTH MINISTRY MISSION**

**TEAM:** Somerset Patriots vs. Binghamton Rumble Ponies, Saturday, June 13 @7:05pm. Gates open at 6pm. Tickets are \$10.00 each. With each purchased ticket, you will also receive a \$10 food and beverage gift card. For more information see Laura Poethke after worship.

### **TRENTON THUNDER FAITH AND FAMILY GAME:**

Saturday, July 25 @ 6pm We have once again ordered 20 tickets for Holy Trinity to be a part of this special event. The tickets are \$8.00 each. If you would like to reserve tickets please see Bonnie or call the office. Tickets must be paid for when you reserve them.

## **THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY**

**Today:** 9:00am Sunday School  
10:00AM Worship

**Tuesday:** 7-9pm Church Council

**Wednesday** 5:00-7:00PM Sisters of Sobriety

**Friday:** 7:00- 10:00PM AA

**Saturday:** 9am-3pm Shades of Recovery

**Next Sunday:** 9am Sunday School  
10am: Worship with Voices that Reign

