



The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 15, 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

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Michelle Foster, Music Director — michfoster16@gmail.com

License # A-713124 for music where applicable.

March 15, 2026

10:00am

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Baptism is sometimes called enlightenment. The gospel for this Sunday is the story of the man born blind healed by Christ. "I was blind, now I see," declares the man. In baptism God opens our eyes to see the truth of who we are: God's beloved children. As David was anointed king of Israel, in baptism God anoints our head with oil, and calls us to bear witness to the light of Christ in our daily lives.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE

* THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Let us confess our sin before God, who removes our guilt and
blots out all offenses.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For seeking worldly delights that deceive us and dishonor you:

Gracious God,
have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

**please stand as you are able*

For desiring self-reliance instead of hungering for your word:
Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For failing to recognize your coming reign, and for hindering
the work of the Spirit:

Gracious God,

have mercy on us according to your steadfast love.

For drawing from the well of self-serving ambition, and for
disdaining the living water Christ offers:

Gracious God,

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:

Gracious God,

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:

Gracious God,

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 righteousness of Christ. In the name of ✠ Jesus Christ,

your sins 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.

*** THE GATHERING SONG: #553**

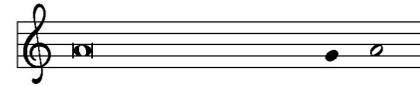
Christ, Whose Glory Fills The Skies

*** THE GREETING**

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 KYRIE**



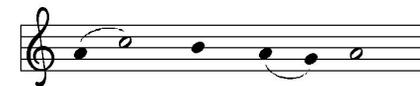
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

* THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: 1 Samuel 16:1-13

¹The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ²Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" ³Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice. ⁶When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹²He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." ¹³Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his

brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 23

- ¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.
- ²**The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.**
- ³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
- ⁴**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.**
- ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- ⁶**Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my
life, and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Second Reading: Ephesians 5:8-14

⁸Once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. ¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹²For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for 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

C: Thanks be to God

* THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION Sung page 151

**Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

*P: The Holy Gospel according to John the 9th chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel: John 9:1-41

¹ 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.”

*P: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

GOOD NEWS 101

THE SERMON

THE HYMN OF THE DAY:

Amazing Grace

#779

*** THE APOSTLES’ CREED**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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 the life everlasting. Amen.**

*** PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

*** THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor: The Peace of Christ be with you always.
All: And also with you.

**THE OFFERING
SPECIAL MUSIC**

*** CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING** page 219

Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the lamb forever and ever. Great and wonderful are your deeds, O God of the universe; just and true are your ways, O Ruler of all the nations. Who can fail to honor you, Lord, and sing the glory of your name? Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever. For you alone are the Holy One, and blessed is the one whose name is Word of God. All praise and thanks to you, holy God! Salvation belongs to our God and to the Christ the Lamb forever and ever.

THE MEAL

*** THE OFFERING PRAYER**

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.
Amen.

*** THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Sung)** page 152

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*** THE PREFACE**

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*** THE HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Sung)** page 153

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

* **THE THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

* **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 INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Come to the table. Feast on God's goodness and mercy.

THE LAMB OF GOD (sung) page 154

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.

THE DISTRIBUTION

* **THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

God of our salvation,
we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls,
reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey.
Through the body and blood of your Son,
may we become Christ's body in the world,
bearing witness to your love for all creation,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

THE SENDING

* **THE BLESSING**

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:
God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
✚ bless you now and always.
Amen.

***THE SENDING SONG:**

#324

In The Cross Of Christ I Glory

* **THE DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Believe the good news.
Thanks be to God.

THE POSTLUDE

Serving Today: March 15, 2026

Communion Assistant: Ferol Howell

Acolyte: Baylee Rodig

Lector: Laura Poethke

Usher: Nicole & Baylee Rodig

Musician: Michelle Foster

Sound System: Amber Johnson

Serving Next Week: March 22, 2026

Acolyte: Allyson Schmalz

Lector: Bonnie Mazza

Ushers: Steve Anderson & Ferol Howell

Musicians: Voices That Reign

Sound System: Laura Poethke

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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. Due to stricter privacy laws, hospitals do *not* notify the church when a member is admitted to the hospital and keep us informed of hospitalizations so Pastor Haab can visit and keep people in our prayers.

SUNDAY MORNING: 9am Sunday School & Worship 10AM every Sunday.

MORE INFORMATION: on these and other upcoming worship times and events can be found on the church Facebook page [HolyTrinityBT](#) and the church website: www.holytrinityelc.org

OFFERING ENVELOPES: As of January, 2026, the church will not be providing pre-printed, numbered envelopes. If you would like a set of giving envelopes at home please call the church office at 609-387-1202. Giving envelopes will be in the pews and in the Narthex.

VOLUNTEERS WELCOME: Have you ever thought about joining one of our worship teams. We are always looking for new people to help usher, read, help with communion or acolyte. Please see the board in the Narthex or Amber Johnson, head of Music and Worship if you are interested.

WAYS YOU CAN HELP: Stop by our bulletin board and see how you can help Holy Trinity with time, talent and donations. Every little bit helps to keep our beautiful church operating smoothly.

Saturday, March 21 4pm-7pm

Sunday school children and their families are invited to a special event. Come join us for pizza, games, crafts and an Easter egg hunt as we say goodbye to Winter and hello to Spring. We hope to see all of our Sunday school families.



We will be having a soup supper before worship on Maundy Thursday, April 2 @ 6pm. If you would like to sign up to bring a soup, bread or dessert please see the sign up sheet on the bulletin board. All are welcome to attend!



EASTER LILY DEDICATION: If you are interested in purchasing an Easter lily in honor of a loved one, we have a sign up folder in the Entrance Lobby. We are asking that you pay for the lilies at the time you sign up. The cost is \$25 per lily; please see Bonnie or Amber 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 after church. Tickets must be paid for when you reserve them.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Today: 9:00AM Sunday School & Scavenger Hunt
10:00AM Worship w/Communion
Monday: 7-9pm: Burlington Entertainers
Tuesday: 7:00PM Congregation Council
Wednesday: 5:00—7:00PM Sisters of Sobriety
Friday: 7:00—10:00PM AA
Saturday: 11:00AM Doris Eichmann Funeral
Next Sunday: 9am Sunday School

Lent and Easter Schedule

March 29: 10:00am Palm Sunday Worship

April 2: 6:00pm Soup Supper

April 2: 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Worship

April 3: 7:00pm Good Friday Worship

April 5: 10:00am Easter Worship



All Are Welcome Here!