



The Third Sunday of Easter

May 4, 2025

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, Church Organist — michfoster16@gmail.com

License # A-713124 for music where applicable.

May 4, 2025

10:00am

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Introduction

The disciples make a big splash and eat breakfast with the risen Jesus.

Wading in the water (remembering baptism) and eating with Jesus (celebrating holy communion) is our weekly encounter with the risen Christ. Jesus asks us again and again: Do you love me? And Jesus invites us, again and again, to follow him, bringing the Easter life to others.

** Please stand as you are able*

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE

* THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

In the name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come.
Amen.

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church;

** Please stand as you are able*

waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One,
make us one as you are one.

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.
Amen.

* **THE GATHERING HYMN:** # 361
The Day of Resurrection

* **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 HYMN OF PRAISE:** pg. 149

P: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor and blessing and glory are his.

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. Alleluia.

* **THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

P: Let us pray:

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 9:1-20

¹ Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵ He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷ The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸ Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹ For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank. ¹⁰ Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹ The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹² and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³ But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem; ¹⁴ and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before Gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶ I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷ So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸ And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹ and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰ and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 30 (read responsively)

- ¹ I will exalt you, O LORD, because you have lifted me up
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.
- ² **O LORD my God, I cried out to you,
and you restored me to health.**
- ³ You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead;
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.
- ⁴ **Sing praise to the LORD, all you faithful;
give thanks in holy remembrance.**
- ⁵ God's wrath is short; God's favor lasts a lifetime.
Weeping spends the night, but joy comes in the morning.
- ⁶ **While I felt secure, I said,
"I shall never be disturbed.**
- ⁷ You, LORD, with your favor, made me as strong as the
mountains." Then you hid your face, and I was filled
with fear.
- ⁸ **I cried to you, O LORD;
I pleaded with my Lord, saying,**
- ⁹ "What profit is there in my blood, if I go down to the pit?
Will the dust praise you or declare your faithfulness?"
- ¹⁰ **Hear, O LORD, and have mercy upon me;
O LORD, be my helper."**
- ¹¹ You have turned my wailing into dancing;
you have put off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy.
- ¹² **Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;
O LORD my God, I will give you thanks forever.**

THE SECOND LESSON : Revelation 5:11-14

¹¹ Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, ¹² singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" ¹³ Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" ¹⁴ And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

*** THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (tune # 380)

C: Hallelujah! Jesus lives! Christ is risen from the grave! He who died this comfort gives: Lo, he lives, his own to save! Hallelujah! Praises be to our Lord eternally!

* P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 21st chapter.

* **C: Glory to you, O risen Lord!**

*** THE GOSPEL: John 21: 1-19**

¹ After [he appeared to his followers in Jerusalem,] Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³ Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵ Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." ⁶ He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off.

⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰ Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹² Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. ¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶ A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷ He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know

everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.
C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

GOOD NEWS 101

THE SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: # 666
What Wondrous Love Is This

*** THE NICENE CREED**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was Incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*** THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Hear us, O God
Your mercy is great.

*** THE PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always,
C: **And also with you.**

THE OFFERING SPECIAL MUSIC

*** THE OFFERTORY: Let the Vineyards** #184

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

THE MEAL

*** THE OFFERING PRAYER**

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.
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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

**Holy, holy, holy 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 of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

THE LAMB OF GOD (sung)

pg. 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**

Living One,
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.
Send us now to tell of your wonders,
sing of your glory,
and proclaim your risen life
to a wounded and weary world.
Amen.

THE SENDING

*** THE BLESSING**

The triune God,
who was, who is, and who is to come,
Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit,
light your way with resurrection dawn,
now and always.
Amen.

*** THE SENDING SONG:**

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Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

*** THE DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia!
Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE POSTLUDE

Serving Today: May 4, 2025

Communion Assistant: Lynn Haab

Acolyte: Allyson Schmalz

Lector: Lynn Haab

Ushers: Ferol Howell & Bonnie Mazza

Musician: Danny Allen

Serving Next Week: May 11, 2025

Acolyte: Allyson Schmalz

Lectors: Laura Poethke

Ushers: Bonnie Mazza & Allyson Schmalz

Musician: Michelle Foster

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHRIST IS RISEN! Our Lord and Savior lives! May your presence here today bring you peace, comfort, and hope.

EASTER, being the greatest festival of the Church, is celebrated for a week of weeks – seven weeks! Throughout these “Great Fifty Days” we continue to celebrate the Resurrection in a special way, and we begin to see how it affects all parts of our lives. We are witnesses of the Resurrection, and our lives show forth the Lord’s victory.

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.

PICNIC AND WORSHIP IN THE PARK JUNE 15:
Burlington Township Park. More information to come

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.

MORE INFORMATION: on these and other upcoming worship times and events can be found on the church Facebook page: [HolyTrinityBT](https://www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityBT) and the Church Website: www.holytrinityelc.org



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.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Today: 9:00AM Sunday School
10:00AM Worship,
Wednesday: 5:00—7:00PM Sisters of Sobriety
Friday: 7:00—10:00PM AA
Saturday: Hall Rental 10:30
Next Sunday: 9:00AM Sunday School
10:00AM Worship

