



## The Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

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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License # A-713124 for music where applicable.

May 5, 2024

10:00am

### THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

#### Introduction

*This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.*

\* Please stand as you are able.

#### THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### THE PRELUDE

#### \* THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, the wellspring of grace, our Easter and our joy.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

Immersed in the promises of baptism, let us give thanks for what God has done for us. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your voice thundered over the deep and water became the essence of life. Adam and Eve beheld Eden's verdant rivers. The ark carried your creation through the flood into a new day. Miriam led the dancing as your people passed through the sea into freedom's land. In a desert pool the Ethiopian Official entered your boundless baptismal life.

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

At the river your beloved Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By the baptism of Jesus' death and Resurrection you opened the floodgates of your reconciling love, freeing us to live as Easter people. We rejoice with glad hearts, giving all honor and praise to you, through the risen Christ, our source of living water, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

Look, here is water!

**Here is our water of life! Alleluia!**

\* **THE GATHERING HYMN:**

**#650**

*In Christ There is No East or West*

\* **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:

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 10:44-48**

<sup>44</sup>While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. <sup>45</sup>The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, <sup>46</sup>for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, <sup>47</sup>“Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” <sup>48</sup>So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **PSALM: PSALM 98 (read responsively)**

<sup>1</sup>Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

<sup>2</sup>**O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

<sup>3</sup>You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

<sup>4</sup>**Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.**

<sup>5</sup>Sing to the LORD with the harp, with the harp and the voice of song.

<sup>6</sup>**With trumpets and the sound of the horn shout with joy before the king, the LORD.**

<sup>7</sup>Let the sea roar, and all that fills it, the world and those who dwell therein.

<sup>8</sup>**Let the rivers clap their hands, and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

<sup>9</sup>The LORD will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

## **THE SECOND LESSON : 1 John 5:1-6**

<sup>1</sup>Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. <sup>2</sup>By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. <sup>3</sup>For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, <sup>4</sup>for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. <sup>5</sup>Who is it that conquers the

world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?  
<sup>6</sup>This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

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 15th chapter.

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

\* **THE GOSPEL: John 15:9-17**

[Jesus said:] <sup>9</sup>“As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. <sup>10</sup>If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. <sup>11</sup>I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. <sup>12</sup>“This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. <sup>13</sup>No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. <sup>14</sup>You are my friends if you do what I command you. <sup>15</sup>I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. <sup>16</sup>You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. <sup>17</sup>I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**GOOD NEWS 101**

**THE SERMON**

**THE HYMN OF THE DAY:**

**#367**

*Now All The Vault of Heaven Resounds*

**THE BAPTISM OF BENJAMIN LEE PERKINS**

**page 234**

\* **THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Rejoicing that Jesus is risen and love has triumphed over fear, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need of good news.

God of grace,  
**Hear our prayer.**

\* **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 call us to believe and bear fruit. May the gifts that we offer here be signs of your abiding love. Form us to be your witnesses in the world, through Jesus Christ, our true vine.  
**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**

The risen Christ is made known to us  
in the breaking of the bread.  
Come and eat at God's table.

**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**

Shepherding God,  
you have prepared a table before us  
and nourished us with your love.  
Send us forth from this banquet  
to proclaim your goodness  
and share the abundant mercy of Jesus,  
our redeemer and friend.  
**Amen.**

**THE SENDING**

**\* THE BLESSING**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
The God of resurrection power,  
the Christ of unending joy,  
and the Spirit of Easter hope  
✠ bless you now and always.  
**Amen.**

**\* THE SENDING SONG:**

**#449**

*We Know That Christ is Raised*

**\* THE DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
Alleluia! Go in peace. Rejoice and be glad  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**THE POSTLUDE**



**Today we celebrate the baptism of  
Benjamin Lee Perkins  
Son of Robert Perkins, Jr. and Maria Perkins**

Heavenly Father, grant that this child grows in grace and love. May they learn to follow Jesus through the influence of the Holy Spirit. They are a true child of yours, and we pray they serve you faithfully all their days. We pray guidance and strength for the parents and family of this child. May their example, wise counsel and loving lead them to live a life of strength, righteousness, faith, love, joy and peace. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Serving Today: May 5, 2024**

**Communion Assistant:** Lynn Haab

**Acolyte:** TBD

**Lector:** Lynn Haab

**Ushers:** Peggy Bowers & Ferol Howell

**Musician:** Peter David

**Live Stream:** Laura Poethke

**Serving Next Week: May 12, 2024**

**Acolyte:** Scarlett Johnson

**Lectors:** Hank Bariexca

**Ushers:** Steve Anderson & Ferol Howell

**Musician:** Danny Allen

**Live Stream:** Amber Johnson

**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.

**WORSHIP & PICNIC AT THE PARK :** Sunday, June 9th  
9am—Noon, Green Acres Park, 851 Old York Rd, Burlington.  
Our annual worship and picnic will be here before we know it. Beginning at 9am our Sunday school classes will have a special lesson and outdoor activity. Worship will begin at 10am and our church picnic will follow immediately after. We ask that families bring chairs, drinks for their family, and a side dish to share. Hoagies and chips will be provided by the church. **We hope to see everyone there!!**

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS** are now available on our website [holyltrinityvelc.org](http://holyltrinityvelc.org). If you are a graduating HS Senior, college or trade school student please make sure to get your applications in by Sunday May 19th.

**JUNIOR CHOIR:** Our new Junior Choir will sing during our worship in the park service. If you have a young person interested of being a part of this new ministry please reach out to Christian Education head, Laura Poethke, or our Music Director Michelle Foster. The choir practices on the first Sunday of the month during Sunday school.

**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 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. 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](#) and the Church Website: [www.holytrinityelc.org](http://www.holytrinityelc.org)

**HOLY TRINITY IS HITTING A MILESTONE THIS YEAR!!!** On Nov 17, 2025 we celebrate 70 years as a church family. A special worship service is being planned. Our bishop will be joining us that day along with some of our favorite musicians and choir members. After worship the celebration will continue in our fellowship hall with a catered luncheon. We are working on a video of pictures, stories, and songs that have been a part of our 70 years. We need your help in contacting former members and staff to invite them back to join us. **Please mark your calendars!! You will not want to miss this.**



*May the Lord bless you and keep you; may the Lord make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you; may the Lord lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace."*

NUMBERS 6:24-26