



## Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 25, 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

[www.holytrinityelc.org](http://www.holytrinityelc.org)

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License # A-713124 for music where applicable.

January 25, 2026

10:00AM

### Third Sunday after Epiphany

#### Introduction

*Jesus begins his public ministry by calling fishers to leave their nets and follow him. In Jesus the kingdom of God has come near. We who have walked in darkness have seen a great light. We see this light most profoundly in the cross—as God suffers with us and all who are oppressed by sickness, sin, or evil. Light dawns for us as we gather around the word, the font, and the holy table. We are then sent to share the good news that others may be “caught” in the net of God’s grace and mercy.*

#### THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### THE PRELUDE

#### \* THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
the Creator of heaven and earth,  
the Word who spoke life into being,  
the Wind stirring the waters.

**Amen.**

Let us turn in confession to the one who knows us completely.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Mighty God, lover of justice,  
**you call us to life in community,**  
**but we have served our own interests**  
**at the expense of our neighbors.**  
**We have sown deceit where honesty was needed.**  
**We say the right words,**  
**but our hearts are far from you.**  
**Turn us to seek your face.**  
**Knit us together and give us the mind of Christ,**  
**that we may do justice, love mercy,**  
**and walk humbly with you, our God.**  
**Amen.**

The former things have passed away, and new things God now declares: Like a spring of water that never fails, God covers you in the righteousness of Christ, and forgives your sin in **✝** Jesus' name. May the Spirit give you strength to live for others, and bless you with the gift of peace.  
**Amen.**

**\* 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 PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**Amen.**

**First Reading: Isaiah 9:1-4**

<sup>1</sup> There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time [the LORD] brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. <sup>2</sup> The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup> You have multiplied exultation; you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup> For the yoke of their burden and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

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

**Psalm: Psalm 27:1, 4-9**

- <sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom then shall I fear?  
The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?
- <sup>4</sup> **One thing I ask of the LORD; one thing I seek;  
that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life;  
to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to seek God in the temple.**
- <sup>5</sup> For in the day of trouble God will give me shelter, hide me in the hidden places of the sanctuary, and raise me high upon a rock.
- <sup>6</sup> **Even now my head is lifted up above my enemies who surround me.  
Therefore I will offer sacrifice in the sanctuary, sacrifices of rejoicing;  
I will sing and make music to the LORD.**
- <sup>7</sup> Hear my voice, O LORD, when I call;  
have mercy on me and answer me.
- <sup>8</sup> **My heart speaks your message "Seek my face."  
Your face, O LORD, I will seek.**
- <sup>9</sup> Hide not your face from me, turn not away from your servant in anger. Cast me not away—you have been my helper; forsake me not, O God of <sup>1</sup> my salvation.

**Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:10-18**

<sup>10</sup> Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. <sup>11</sup> For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. <sup>12</sup> What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." <sup>13</sup> Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? <sup>14</sup> I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, <sup>15</sup> so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. <sup>16</sup> I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. <sup>17</sup> For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power. <sup>18</sup> For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

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

**\* THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Sung page #151

**C: Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 4th chapter.

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

**Gospel: Matthew 4:12-23**

<sup>12</sup>Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. <sup>13</sup>He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, <sup>14</sup>so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: <sup>15</sup>“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles <sup>16</sup>the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” <sup>17</sup>From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

<sup>18</sup>As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea for they were fishers. <sup>19</sup>And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” <sup>20</sup>Immediately they left their nets and followed him. <sup>21</sup>As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. <sup>22</sup>Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

<sup>23</sup>Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

**P: The Gospel of the Lord!**

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

**GOOD NEWS 101**

**THE SERMON**

**\* THE APOSTLES' CREED**

page 217

**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.**

**\*THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

As God's beloved children united in Christ, let us pray for the church, the whole human community, and the well-being of the earth, our home.

Merciful God,  
**Receive our prayer**

**PEACE**

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

**THANKSGIVING**

**OFFERING**

**\* CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING #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.

**\* THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD:**

O Holy One of wisdom, throughout human history and today among us here, you call us to walk the path of justice and peace. We praise you, O God of truth, for your precious words. Grant that sheltered under their richness as under the tree of life, we live in gratitude and faithfulness, through Jesus Christ, your Word and our Wisdom, now and forever. (*Prov. 3:13-18; 8:1-21*)  
**Amen.**

**\* THE LORD'S PRAYER**

page 221

**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.**

**SENDING**

**\* BLESSING**

May the triune God,  
who has put a new song in your mouth  
and tuned your heart for praise  
✠ bless you now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**\* THE DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Do justice. Love mercy  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Serving Next Week: February 1, 2026**

**Communion Assistant:** Ferol Howell

**Acolyte:** Baylee Rodig

**Lector:** Lynn Haab

**Ushers:** Nicole Rodig & Baylee Rodig

**Musician:** Ryan Peiffer

**Sound System:** Amber Johnson

**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](https://www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityBT) and the church website: [www.holytrinityelc.org](http://www.holytrinityelc.org)

**WEDNESDAY PRAYER SERVICES:** Pastor Haab will be offering a service of prayer. This service will be the first Wednesday of each month at noon. You can add names to our Prayer list through the Holy Trinity Facebook page.

**IT IS THAT TIME OF YEAR WHEN YOUR ELECTED COUNCIL MEETS TO LOOK OVER AND PREPARE OUR SPENDING PLAN FOR THE NEW YEAR.**

Do you ever wonder how your offering is used. Plate offering not only supports the general day to day operations of the church, it pays the Church staff who keep the work going all week, not just on Sunday mornings. It supports the work of the Pastor, not just for leading us in worship, but for home & hospital visits, meeting with community families in need, participating in synod work and so much more. Your offering is used to maintain our building, painting, repairs, etc. We ask that as you look over your personal budget for 2026; that you be in prayer about how much you are able to faithfully give to the work of the Lord here at Holy Trinity and the church worldwide.

**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.

**2025 YEAR END FINANCIAL STATEMENTS** will be created for those who request them. Please call the Church Office. You can pick them up after church on February 1, or you can have it emailed to you.



**Please plan to remain and join us for our potluck and congregational meeting. The church council works hard all year to watch over the operations of the church. It is so crucial to have our members be present as we prepare our budgets, worship schedule, Sunday School , Youth events, and outreach programs for 2026.**

**Your voice and your vote make a difference.**

## THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

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

**Monday:**        7:00-9:00pm Burlington Entertainers

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

**Friday**           7:00—10:00PM AA

**Next Sunday:** 9:00AM Sunday School  
                      10:00AM Worship w/ Communion  
                      11:00am Church Potluck and  
                          Congregational Meeting

