



Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 1, 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

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.

February 1, 2026

10:00am

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

Introduction

Who are the blessed ones of God? For Micah, they are those who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. For Paul, they are the ones who find wisdom in the weakness of the cross. For Jesus, they are the poor, the meek, the merciful, the pure in heart, the peacemakers, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. In baptism we find our blessed identity and calling in this countercultural way of living and serving.

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.

**please stand if you are able*

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 GATHERING SONG:

#873

Rejoice Ye Pure in Heart

*** 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**

Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE WORD

First Reading: Micah 6:1-8

¹ Hear what the LORD says: Rise, plead your case before the mountains, and let the hills hear your voice. ² Hear, you mountains, the case of the LORD, and you enduring foundations of the earth, for the LORD has a case against his people, and he will contend with Israel. ³ "O my people, what have I done to you? In what have I wearied you? Answer me! ⁴ For I brought you up from the land of Egypt and redeemed you from the house of slavery, and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam. ⁵ O my people, remember now what King Balak of Moab devised, what Balaam son of Beor answered him, and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal, that you may know the saving acts of the LORD." ⁶ "With what shall I come before the LORD and bow myself before God on high? Shall I come before him with burnt offerings, with calves a year old? ⁷ Will the LORD be

pleased with thousands of rams, with ten thousands of rivers of oil? Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" ⁸ He has told you, O mortal, what is good, and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice and to love kindness and to walk humbly with your God?

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 15

¹ Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?

² **Those who lead a blameless life and do what is right, who speak the truth from their heart;**

³ they do not slander with the tongue, they do no evil to their friends; they do not cast discredit upon a neighbor.

⁴ **In their sight the wicked are rejected, but they honor those who fear the LORD. They have sworn upon their health and do not take back their word.**

⁵ They do not give their money in hope of gain, nor do they take bribes against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be overthrown.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1: 18-31

¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. ²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low

and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are,²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God.³⁰ In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption,³¹ in order that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord.”

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

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

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

*** P:** The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 5th chapter

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

Gospel: Matthew 5:1-12

¹When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²And he began to speak and taught them, saying: ³“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ⁴“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. ⁵“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. ⁶“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. ⁷“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. ⁸“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. ⁹“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. ¹⁰“Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. ¹¹“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. ¹²Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

GOOD NEWS 101

THE SERMON

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: #400

God of Tempest, God of Whirlwind

*** 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.

OFFERING SPECIAL MUSIC

*** THE OFFERTORY:** Let the Vineyards be Fruitful # 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**

God of majesty,
no eye has seen, no ear has heard
what you have prepared for those who love you,
yet in this meal you reveal the wideness of your mercy.
Use what we have gathered
to feed us with the reign of God come near,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
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. By the leading of a
star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan
you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of
water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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**

page 154

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**

Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the
World! Come to the table, taste and see

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**

Radiant God,
we have seen your glory in the face of Jesus Christ.
In the sacrament of his body and blood
you have drawn us to your heart.
Send us from this table with delight,
that our lives may reflect the beauty of your love,
and bear witness to all we have seen and heard,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

THE SENDING

*** THE 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 SENDING SONG:**

#669

Rise Up, O Saints of God

*** THE DISMISSAL**

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

THE POSTLUDE

Serving Today: February 1, 2026

Communion Assistant: Ferol Howell

Acolyte: Baylee Rodig

Lector: Lynn Haab

Usher: Nicole & Baylee Rodig

Musician: Mike Bedics

Sound System: Amber Johnson

Serving Next Week: February 8, 2026

Acolyte: Allyson Schmalz

Lector: Judy Bariexca

Usher: Steve Anderson

Musicians: 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

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.

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.



Junior and Senior high youth group meets the 4th Sunday of every month.

Junior Youth 4-7th grade 6:00-7:15pm

Senior High 8-12th grade 7:00-8:15pm



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Please join this important meeting immediately after worship today.

Enjoy food, fellowship and conversation. The work of the church needs the support of all its members. Let your voice be heard as we look at what council has proposed as our budget for 2026. Bring your ideas for how we grow and continue to spread the good news to all.



One of our favorite nights is coming soon. February 17th at 6pm, we gather to enjoy pancakes, talent, games and skits. If you would like to share a talent please see sign up sheet on the bulletin board.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Today: 9:00am Sunday School/ Youth Choir
10:00AM Worship w/communion
11:00am Potluck and Congregational Meeting

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

Friday: 7:00—10:00PM AA

Next Sunday: 9am Sunday School with Scavenger Hunt
10am: Worship

Lent and Easter Schedule

February 17: 6:00-8pm Fastnacht

February 18: 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service

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

