



Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 3, 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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License # A-713124 for music where applicable.

May 3, 2026

10:00am

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

As we continue to celebrate the fifty days of Easter, today's gospel includes Jesus' promise that he goes to prepare a place for his followers in his Father's house. Our baptism commissions us to share Jesus' mission in the world. As 1 Peter reminds us, we are a holy people, called to proclaim the one who called us out of darkness into light. In words and deeds we bear witness to the risen Christ—our way, our truth, our life.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE

***THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne
and to the Lamb!

Amen.

Let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister continues.

Merciful God,

you are the one who was, who is, and who is to come.

You lead us beside still waters.

We thank you for the waters of creation:

morning dew, gentle rain, roaring waves.

We thank you for the waters that nourish us.

Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Jesus Christ, you are the faithful witness who accompanies us on our journeys. We give you thanks for your life-giving death and resurrection. We praise you for joining us in joy and sorrow. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy Spirit, you anoint our head with oil and our cup overflows. Break down barriers that divide us. Fill us with the breath of peace. Blessed are you.

You guide us to springs of the water of life.

Holy One, we thank you for the gifts and grace of baptism, and for making us a new creation. We join with saints and angels, giving you honor and praise, now and forever.

Amen.

* **THE GATHERING HYMN:** #380
Hallelujah! Jesus Lives

* **THE EASTER GREETING**

P: Alleluia, Christ is Risen

C: Christ is Risen Indeed, Alleluia!

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**

P: Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 7:55-60

⁵⁵ Filled with the Holy Spirit, [Stephen] gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" ⁵⁷ But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. ⁵⁸ Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him, and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

¹ In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in your righteousness.

² **Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me.**

³ Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold; for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.

⁴ **Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,
for you are my tower of strength.**

⁵ Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, God of truth.

¹⁵ **My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my
enemies, and from those who persecute me.**

¹⁶ Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your¹ steadfast love."

THE SECOND LESSON: 1 Peter 2:2-10

² Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. ⁴ Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by

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**

Trusting in the power of Christ's resurrection to heal and redeem our broken world, let us pray for the needs of all creation.

Merciful God,
Receive our prayer.

*** THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.
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.

*** THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD**

Risen Christ, Living Word, you are the bread of life that nourishes and sustains us. By the power of your Word, dwell in our hearts and reveal to us again that we are the body of Christ: in our vulnerable flesh, through our baptism into your death and resurrection, and in service to the world you love. Be for us manna in the wilderness. Open us to recognize you in every meal and in all who hunger for bread, for human touch, and for healing and hope. We pray in your name, our healer and companion.
Amen.

*** 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 SENDING

*** THE BLESSING**

God Almighty, who is the beginning and the end,
Jesus Christ, the firstborn of the dead,
and the Spirit, our advocate and peace,
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

*** THE SENDING SONG #389**
Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing

*** THE DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.
Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!
Go in peace. Praise the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!

THE POSTLUDE

Serving Today: May 3, 2026

Acolyte: Baylee Rodig
Lector: Allyson Schmalz
Usher: Baylee & Nicole Rodig
Musician: Michelle Foster
Sound Board: Laura Poethke

Serving Next Week: May 10, 2026

Acolyte: Allyson Schmalz
Lector: Laura Poethke
Ushers: Bonnie Mazza & Amber Johnson
Musicians: Michelle Foster
Sound Board: Amber Johnson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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.



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.

HOW CAN I HELP: If you are looking to get more involved, or maybe just help the church out with a special need or repair, please see the sign in the back of the Narthex or on the bulletin board downstairs. Every little bit helps to sustain our church and the mission of spreading the good news of our Lord and Savior.

PASTOR HAAB WILL BE AWAY APRIL 14—MAY 7: Pastor and Lynn are jetting off for a wonderful vacation. While he is away please call the church office if you have any needs. The answering machine will be checked by office staff regularly. In the case of an emergency we have an on call Pastor to help assist our members.

IF YOU ENJOY BASEBALL

NEW JERSEY SYNOD YOUTH MINISTRY MISSION

TEAM: Somerset Patriots vs. Binghamton Rumble Ponies, Saturday, June 13 @7:05pm. Gates open at 6pm. Tickets are \$10.00 each. With each purchased ticket, you will also receive a \$10 food and beverage gift card. For more information see Laura Poethke 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 or call the office. Tickets must be paid for when you reserve them.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Today: 9:00am Sunday School
10:00am Worship
11:00am Birthday Fellowship

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

Friday: 7:00- 10:00PM AA

Next Sunday: 9:00am Sunday School
10am: Worship

