



Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 8, 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 Musician — michfoster16@gmail.com

License # A-713124 for music where applicable.

February 8, 2026

10:00AM

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany **Introduction**

Light shines in the darkness for the upright, the psalmist sings. Isaiah declares that when we loose the bonds of injustice and share our bread with the hungry, the light breaks forth like the dawn. In another passage from the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus, the light of the world, calls his followers to let the light of their good works shine before others. Through baptism we are sent into the world to shine with the light of Christ.

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 as 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:

Gather Us In

#532

* 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, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 58:1-12

¹ Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. ² Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side. ³ "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. ⁴ You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist. Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. ⁵ Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? ⁶ Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the

oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? ⁷ Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin? ⁸ Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. ^{9a} Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am." ^{9b} If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, ¹⁰ if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. ¹¹ The LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail. ¹² Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 112:1-10

¹ Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD and have great delight in God's commandments!

² Their descendants will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed.

³ Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness will last forever.

⁴ Light shines in the darkness for the upright; the righteous are merciful and full of compassion.

⁵ It is good for them to be generous in lending and to manage their affairs with justice.

⁶ For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance.

⁷ They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

⁸ Their heart is established and will not shrink, until they see their desire upon their enemies.

⁹ They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands fast forever; they will hold up their head with honor.

¹⁰ The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; the desires of the wicked will perish.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the testimony of God to you with superior speech or wisdom. ² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. ³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴ My speech and my proclamation were made not with persuasive words of wisdom but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God. ⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are being destroyed. ⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery, which God decreed before the ages for our glory ⁸ and which none of the rulers of this age understood, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹ But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him" ¹⁰ God has revealed to us through the Spirit, for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹ For what human knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. ¹³ And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual. ¹⁴ Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵ Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny. ¹⁶ "For who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

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 5th chapter.
C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20

Jesus said: ¹³ "You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot. ¹⁴ "You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵ People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. ¹⁶ In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. ¹⁷ "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. ¹⁸ For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. ¹⁹ Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. ²⁰ For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

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

GOOD NEWS 101

THE SERMON

THE HYMN OF THE DAY:

This Little Light of Mine

#677

* 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

SPECIAL MUSIC

* 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 SENDING SONG:

Christ Be Our Light

#715

* THE DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

Serving Today: February 8, 2026

Acolyte: Allyson Schmalz
Lector: Judy Bariexca
Usher: Steve Anderson
Musician: Ryan Peiffer
Sound System: Amber Johnson

Serving Next Week: February 15, 2026

Communion Assistant: Nicole Rodig
Acolyte: Baylee Rodig
Lector: Baylee Rodig
Ushers: Ferol Howell & Allyson Schmalz
Musicians: TBD
Sound System: Bonnie Mazza

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](#) 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.



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



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.



SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Today Phillip the Bucket and Sue Pot are here. We ask each person to place \$1.00 for the team you think will win and leave your can or box of soup on the table near your team bucket.

Thank you for being part of our *Souper Bowl* of caring! Enjoy the game tonight!

We all win when no one goes without food.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Today: 9:00am Sunday School/ Youth Choir
10:00AM Worship

Monday: 7-9pm: Burlington Entertainers

Tuesday: 7-9pm: Burlington Book club

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

Friday: 7:00—10:00PM AA

Next Sunday: 9am Sunday School w/ Scavenger Hunt
10am: Worship
11:00 Food Pantry Open



Saturday, March 21st

4pm-7pm

Sunday school children and their families are invited to a special event. Come join us for pizza, games, crafts and an Easter egg hunt as we say goodbye to Winter and hello to Spring.

We hope to see all of our Sunday school families.

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

