



Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

1308 Mt Holly Rd

Burlington, NJ 08016

Ash Wednesday 2026

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.

February 18, 2026

7:00PM

ASH WEDNESDAY

As the music begins, please prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

PRELUDE

THE ASH WEDNESDAY PENITENTIAL LITURGY

THE GATHERING

The Penitential Psalm 51

- ¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out my offenses.
- ²Wash me through and through from my wickedness,
and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³For I know my offenses,
and my sin is ever before me.
- ⁴Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right in your judgment.
- ⁵Indeed, I was born steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my mother's womb.
- ⁶Indeed, you delight in truth deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom deep within.
- ⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be purer than snow.
- ⁸Let me hear joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken may rejoice.
- ⁹Hide your face from my sins,
and blot out all my wickedness.
- ¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.
- ¹¹Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

- ¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.
- ¹³Let me teach your ways to offenders,
and sinners shall be restored to you.
- ¹⁴Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.
- ¹⁵O Lord, open my lips,
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.
- ¹⁶For you take no delight in sacrifice, or I would give it.
You are not pleased with burnt offering.
- ¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will not despise.

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

THE WORD

The First Reading: Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

The word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

The Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

The Gospel: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

The holy gospel according to Matthew the sixth chapter
Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: #335
Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross

INVITATION TO LENT

Friends in Christ, today with the whole church we enter the time of remembering Jesus' Passover from death to life, and our life in Christ is renewed . . . by the gifts of word and sacrament. Let us continue our journey through these forty days to the great Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection.

CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
 Most holy and merciful God,

**we confess to you and to one another,
 and before the whole company of heaven,
 that we have sinned by our fault,
 by our own fault,
 by our own most grievous fault,
 in thought, word, and deed,
 by what we have done and by what we have left undone.**

We have not loved you with our whole heart, and mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.
Have mercy on us, O God.

We have shut our ears to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ. We have grieved your Holy Spirit.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our past unfaithfulness, the pride, envy, hypocrisy, and apathy that have infected our lives, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our self-indulgent appetites and ways, and our exploitation of other people, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our negligence in prayer and worship, and our failure to share the faith that is in us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our neglect of human need and suffering, and our indifference to injustice and cruelty, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our false judgments, our uncharitable thoughts toward our neighbors, and our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Our waste and pollution of your creation, and our lack of concern for those who come after us, we confess to you.

Have mercy on us, O God.

Restore us, O God, and let your anger depart from us.

Hear us, O God, for your mercy is great.

REMEMBRANCE OF ASHES

Almighty God, you have created us out of the dust of the earth. May these ashes be a sign of our mortality and penitence, reminding us that only by the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ are we given eternal life; through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

IMPOSITION OF ASHES

Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.

Accomplish in us, O God, the work of your salvation,
that we may show forth your glory in the world.

By the cross and passion of your Son, our Savior,
bring us with all your saints to the joy of his resurrection.

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Reconciled by God's mercy and sustained by God's presence, let us pray for the world and its needs.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

THE MEAL

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

OFFERTORY PRAYER

O God, maker of heaven and earth, your steadfast love embraces all creation. You send rain and sunshine to nourish the earth and bring forth its bounty. Through these gifts of bread and wine, draw us into the death and life of your Son, who calls us to bear witness to his saving work. We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Come to the table.
Feast on God's goodness and mercy

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

PRAYER

God of our salvation, we give you thanks for this meal that restores our souls, reconciles us to you, and strengthens us for the journey. Through the body and blood of your Son, may we become Christ's body in the world, bearing witness to your love for all creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Receive the blessing of the holy Trinity:
God, who calls all things into existence,
Jesus Christ, who redeems us,
and the Holy Spirit, whose breath sustains creation,
✠ bless you now and always.

Amen.

THE SENDING SONG:

#793

Be Thou My Vision

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Believe the good news.
Thanks be to God.

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Sunday 9/22: 9:00am Sunday School
9:15am Cedar Run Event All are invited
10:00AM Worship with Voices That Reign
Wednesday 5:00—7:00PM Sisters of Sobriety
Friday: 7:00—10:00PM AA
Sunday 9/28: 9am Sunday School
10am: Worship w/communion

Lent and Easter Schedule

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

