



Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church  
1308 Mt. Holly Rd.  
Burlington, NJ 08016  
(609) 387-1202

**March 29, 2026**  
**Palm/Passion Sunday**

**HOLY TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
1308 Mt. Holly Rd., Burlington, N.J. 08016

Office: (609) 387-1202

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

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License # A-713124 for music where applicable.

March 29, 2026

**PALM/PASSION SUNDAY**

10:00am

*Introduction*

*Today, we encounter the paradox that defines our faith: Jesus Christ is glorified king and humiliated servant. We too are full of paradox: like Peter, we fervently desire to follow Christ, but find ourselves afraid, denying God. We wave palms in celebration today as Christ comes into our midst, and we follow with trepidation as his path leads to death on the cross. Amid it all we are invited into this paradoxical promise of life through Christ's broken body and outpoured love in a meal of bread and wine. We begin this week that stands at the center of the church year, anticipating the completion of God's astounding work.*

\* *Please stand as you are able*

**THE PRELUDE**

\* **ACCLAMATION**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

\* **PROCESSIONAL GOSPEL: MATTHEW 21:1-11**

The holy gospel according to Matthew:  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

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

\* **BLESSING OF PALMS**

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**  
Let us pray:

P: We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along his way. Bless these branches and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

\* **PROCESSION**

Let us go forth in peace,  
**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

\* **THE HYMN:** *All Glory, Laud, and Honor* #344

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

\* **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

As we now enter into the contemplation of the passion of our Lord Jesus Christ and meditate on the salvation of the world through his sufferings, death, burial, and resurrection, let us pray:

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**Amen.**

**THE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4-9a**

<sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me a trained tongue, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens—wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. <sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. <sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. <sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced;

therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; <sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand in court together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. <sup>9a</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 31:9-16**

<sup>9</sup>Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

<sup>10</sup>**For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

<sup>11</sup>I am the scorn of all my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to my acquaintances; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

<sup>12</sup>**Like the dead I am forgotten, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot.**

<sup>13</sup>For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

<sup>14</sup>**But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. I have said, “You are my God.**

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

<sup>16</sup>**Let your face shine upon your servant; save me in your steadfast love.”**

**SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5-11**

<sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being found in appearance as a human. <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**THE HOMILY**

**THE PASSION GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW**

**THE HYMN OF THE DAY:** #343

*My Song is Love Unknown*

**\* THE APOSTLES' CREED**

**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.**

**\* PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Hear us O God,  
Your mercy is great.

**MEAL**

**\* THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor: The Peace of Christ be with you always.  
All: And also with you.

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**\* OFFERTORY: Salvation Belongs to Our God Page 219**

Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the lamb forever and ever. Great and wonderful are your deeds, O God of the universe; just and true are your ways, O Ruler of all the nations. Who can fail to honor you, Lord, and sing the glory of your name? Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever. For you alone are the Holy One, and blessed is the one whose name is Word of God. All praise and thanks to you, holy God! Salvation belongs to our God and to the Christ the Lamb forever and ever.

**\* OFFERING 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.**

**\* THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

**\* 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.

**THE DISTRIBUTION**

**\* PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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.**

**\* 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:**

#339

*Christ, The Life of All The Living*

**\* DISMISSAL**

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

**Serving Today: March 29, 2026**

**Communion Assistant:** Amber Johnson

**Acolyte:** Scarlett Johnson

**Lector:** Allyson Schmalz

**Ushers:** Bonnie Mazza & Allyson Schmalz

**Musician:** Michelle Foster

**Sound Board:** Bonnie Mazza

**Serving Next Week: April 5, 2026 (Easter)**

**Communion Assistant:** Laura Poethke

**Acolyte:** Allyson Schmalz

**Lector:** Lynn Haab

**Ushers:** Lynn Haab & Steve Anderson

**Musician:** Danny Allen

**Sound Board:** 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.

**VOLUNTEERS WELCOME:** Have you ever thought about joining one of our worship teams. We are always looking for new people to help usher, read, help with communion or acolyte. Please see Amber Johnson, head of Music and Worship if you are interested.

**We will be having a soup supper** before worship on Maundy Thursday, April 2 at 6:00PM. If you would like to sign up to bring a soup, bread or Dessert, please see the sign up sheet on the bulletin board.



All are welcome to attend!

**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 dead line for applications is Sunday, May 18, 2025.



**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 after church. Tickets must be paid for when you reserve them.