



8th Sunday after Pentecost

July 19, 2026

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

1308 Mt Holly Rd
Burlington, NJ 08016
Office: (609) 387-1202
www.holytrinityelc.org

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

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.

July 19, 2026

10:00AM

8TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

It is an age-old question: why is there evil in the world? In the parable of the wheat and the weeds Jesus suggests that both grow together until the harvest. With Paul, we long for the day that all creation will be set free from bondage and suffering. Having both weeds and wheat within us, we humbly place our hope in the promises of God, and from the Lord's table we go forth to bear the fruit of justice and mercy.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

* THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin to God.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate God,

we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray,

Amen.

Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

Amen.

* Please stand as you are able

*** THE GATHERING SONG:**

#689

Praise and Thanksgiving

*** 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 HYMN OF PRAISE**

pg. 149

P: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia

C: Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing and glory are his. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia, alleluia.

*** THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE WORD

First Reading: Isaiah 44:6-8

⁶ Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel, and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: I am the first, and I am the last; besides me there is no god. ⁷ Who is like me? Let them proclaim it; let them declare and set it forth before me. Who has announced from of old the things to come? Let them tell us what is yet to be. ⁸ Do not fear or be afraid; have I not told you from of old and declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there any god besides me? There is no other rock; I know not one.

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 86:11-17

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart to revere your name.

¹² **I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all my heart, and glorify your name forevermore.**

¹³ For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the pit of death.

¹⁴ **The arrogant rise up against me, O God, and a band of violent people seeks my life; they have not set you before their eyes.**

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.

¹⁶ **Turn to me and have mercy on me; give your strength to your servant, and save the child of your handmaid.**

¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favor, so that those who hate me may see it and be put to shame; because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Second Reading: Romans 8:12-25

¹² So then, brothers and sisters, we are obligated, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—¹³ for if you live according to the flesh, you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs: heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if we in fact suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. ¹⁸ I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God, ²⁰ for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will, but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its enslavement to decay and will obtain the

freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning together as it suffers together the pains of labor, ²³ and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope, for who hopes for what one already sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

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 13th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

GOSPEL: Matthew 13:24-30

²⁴ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' ²⁸ He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' ²⁹ But he replied, 'No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.' " all causes of sin and all evildoers, ⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

GOOD NEWS 101

THE SERMON

THE HYMN OF THE DAY:

Come, Ye Faithful People, Come

#693

*** 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 THE CHURCH**

Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation.

God of grace,
hear our prayer.

*** SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always,
And also with you.

THE 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 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**

Loving God,
we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts.
Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love,
so that all creation can taste your abundance.
We ask this in the name of Jesus through the Spirit
abiding with us now and forever.
Amen.

*** THE GREAT THANKSGIVING pg. 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; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. 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:

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. 7

*** THE THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

*** THE LORD'S PRAYER pg. 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**

Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

*** THE LAMB OF GOD pg. 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**

Compassionate God,
through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
Amen.

SENDING

* THE BLESSING

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer,
✝ one God, bless, heal, and hold you
today and always.
Amen.

* THE SENDING SONG:

694

Sing To The Lord of Harvest

* THE DISMISSAL

Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!
Thanks be to God.

THE POSTLUDE

Serving Today: July 19, 2026

Communion Assistant : Ferol Howell

Acolyte: William Schmalz

Lector: Hank Bariexca

Ushers: Bonnie Mazza

Musician: Danny Allen

Serving Next Week: July 26, 2026

Acolyte: Allyson Schmalz

Lector: Allyson Schmalz

Usher: Bonnie Mazza

Musicians: Voices That Reign

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. Due to privacy laws, hospitals do not notify the church when a member is admitted. Your call to the office alerts Pastor Haab, and will ensure that the patient is in our prayers.

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.

SUNDAY MORNING SUMMER WORSHIP: Everyone is invited and welcome to attend our Worship at 10 AM every Sunday. On the 4th Sunday of each month, our contemporary band, Voices That Reign lead us in song.

THE CHURCH COUNCIL HAD THE FRONT YARD TRIMMED UP AND MULCHED. Our beautiful property had been designed and kept up throughout the years by many families. We give thanks for all of them and their hard work. With the challenging times, it has become harder for our volunteers to maintain and the council felt a good cleanup was needed. If you are able, and would like to help donate to the landscaping cost, there is a basket in the Narthex. If you write a check please make sure to indicate in the memo field that it is for Landscaping.

FOOD PANTRY: Is open today immediately following worship. We have seen an increase in the number of families coming in for assistance. If you are able please donate non perishable food items and frozen foods to help keep our pantry well stocked. Gift cards to Walmart or ShopRite are always a big help.



If you have any questions or concerns please contact Karin Schmalz at 215-962-7532 or Karin5680@aol.com



THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Today: 10:00am Worship w/Communion
11:00 Food Pantry open
Mon– Fri: 12-4pm Burlington Theater Camp
Wednesday 5:00-7:00PM Sisters of Sobriety
Friday: 7:00- 10:00PM AA
Next Sunday: 10:00am Worship with Voices That Reign

