



9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 26, 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

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License # A-713124 for music where applicable.

July 26, 2026

10:00AM

9TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

As Solomon prays for wisdom, we seek to more deeply know the treasures of faith. In today's gospel Jesus offers everyday images that reveal to us the reign of God: a tree that becomes a sheltering home, yeast that penetrates and expands, a treasured pearl, a net that gains a great catch. Even as we seek the riches of God's reign, the great surprise is that God's grace finds us first!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE This Is Amazing Grace

See Insert

* 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:** See Insert

Come Out of Hiding

* **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**

Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrection of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE WORD

First Reading: 1 Kings 3:5-12

⁵ At Gibeon the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream by night, and God said, "Ask what I should give you." ⁶ And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you, and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. ⁷ And now, O Lord my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. ⁸ And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. ⁹ Give your servant, therefore, an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil, for who can govern this great people of yours?"

¹⁰ It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. ¹¹ God said to him, "Because you have asked this and have not asked for yourself long life or riches or for the life of your enemies but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, ¹² I now do according to your word. Indeed, I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you, and no one like you shall arise after you."

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 119:129-136

¹²⁹ Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with all my heart.
¹³⁰ **When your word is opened it gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple.**
¹³¹ I open my mouth and pant
because I long for your commandments.
¹³² **Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as you always do to those who love your name.**
¹³³ Order my footsteps in your word;
let no iniquity have dominion over me.
¹³⁴ **Rescue me from those who oppress me,
and I will keep your commandments.**
¹³⁵ Let your face shine upon your servant
and teach me your statutes.
¹³⁶ **My eyes shed streams of tears,
because people do not keep your teaching.**

MEDITATION SONG:

Lord I'm Amazed By You

Second Reading: Romans 8:26-39

²⁶ The Spirit helps us in our weakness, for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with groanings too deep for words. ²⁷ And God, who searches hearts, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. ²⁸ We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. ²⁹ For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. ³⁰ And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified. ³¹ What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? ³² He who did not withhold his own Son but gave him up for all of us, how will he not with him also give us everything else? ³³ Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. ³⁴ Who is to condemn? It is Christ who died, or rather, who was raised, who is also at the right hand of God, who also intercedes for us. ³⁵ Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will affliction or distress or persecution or famine

or nakedness or peril or sword? ³⁶ As it is written, “For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.” ³⁷ No, in all these things we are more than victorious through him who loved us. ³⁸ For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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 13:31-33, 44-52

³¹ [Jesus] put before [the crowds] another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.” ³³ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.” ⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. ⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; ⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. ⁴⁷ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; ⁴⁸ when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. ⁴⁹ So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous ⁵⁰ and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁵¹ “Have you understood all this?” They answered, “Yes.” ⁵² And he said to them, “Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

GOOD NEWS 101

THE SERMON

THE HYMN OF THE DAY:

See Insert

You Know Who I Am

*** 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 VTR**

*** THE OFFERTORY: Give Thanks**

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, his Son. Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, his Son. And now let the weak say, "I am strong" let the poor say, "I am rich," because of what the Lord has done for us. And now let the weak say, "I am strong" let the poor say, "I am rich," because of what the Lord has done for us. Give Thanks!

*** THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD:**

Holy God, our Maker, our Healer, our Teacher, your magnificent creation springs forth from your Word. All that has life and breath praises your name. For your Word that sustains the earth, we thank you, O God.

We thank you, O God.

You sent us Jesus, your Word, to renew the world. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, preached your mercy, and called us to faith. For your Word in our Lord Christ, we praise you, O God.

We praise you, O God.

Nourish us with the Spirit of your Word, that we may grow in grace, bearing the fruits of redemption, and sharing your strength and beauty with all the world. For your Word in our lives, we entreat you, O God.

We entreat you, O God.

Accept our thanksgiving and receive our prayer, for the sake of your living Word, Jesus our Savior.

Amen.

*** 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.**

SENDING

*** BLESSING**

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

*** THE SENDING SONG:**

See Insert

Anymore

*** THE DISMISSAL**

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

POSTLUDE

Serving Today: July 26, 2026

Acolyte: Scarlett Johnson

Lector: Allyson Schmalz

Ushers: Bonnie Mazza

Musicians: VTR

Sound System: Amber Johnson

Serving Next Week: August 2, 2026

Communion Assistant: Ferol Howell

Acolyte: Scarlett Johnson

Lector: Hank Bariexca

Usher: Steve Anderson & Bonnie Mazza

Musician: Ryan Peiffer

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 leading us in song.



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS: The food pantry needs have grown as the word about our program is spreading. The pantry is in desperate need of cereal, juice, pancake mix, syrup, rice, mayo, ketchup, mustard, stove top, tuna, pasta, marinara sauce, canned ravioli, canned beefaroni, ramen

noodles, gravy, coffee, toilet paper, hand soap, dish soap, cleaning products, laundry detergent, Diapers, baby wipes, **FROZEN:** breakfast items, chicken nuggets, hot dogs, butter, meatballs, and any other frozen items, bread and buns . Also accepted are gift cards to Shoprite, Acme or Walmart to help our pantry ladies with shopping for the food pantry.



BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE:

We are once again collecting items to help students in our area have what the need for a successful school year. Please see the table in the entry way to see how you can help. If you have

any questions please contact Karin Schmalz at

karin5680@aol.com for more information .

Jesus Is Holy

One Day

Vacation Bible School

Saturday: August 15, 2026

Time: 10am-2pm

Location: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
1308 Mt Holly Road, Burlington, NJ



Bible Story, Games
Crafts, New Friends
Water Fun



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE
CONTACT

LAURA POETHKE @ poetfam@comcast.net
609-560-1153

OR

KARIN SCHMALZ@ Karin5680@aol.com
215-962-7532



THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Today: 10:00am Worship
Mon-Fri Burlington Theater Group 12-4
Wednesday 5:00-7:00PM Sisters of Sobriety
Friday: 7:00- 10:00PM AA
Next Sunday: 10:00am Worship with Communion

