



The 15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 21, 2025

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

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Michelle Foster, Church Musician — michfoster16@gmail.com

License # A-713124 for music where applicable.

September 21, 2025

10:00am

The 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Introduction

As we are invited today to consider what it means to be managers (rather than owners) of all that we have, it is crucial to recognize that we are bought with a price. "Christ Jesus, himself human, . . . gave himself a ransom for all." Apart from the generosity of God we have nothing—we are nothing. By God's gracious favor we have everything we need.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE

* THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

Amen.

Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful and loving God,

we are your stiff-necked people. We trample on the needy.

We grumble about your grace to others. We turn away from the poor. Have mercy on us and forgive our sins. Rejoice over us as ones who were lost and have been found.

Amen.

Even when we are faithless, God remains faithful. Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners. You who were lost have been found.

In the name of ✚ Jesus, your sins are forgiven!

Amen.

** Please stand as you are able*

THE GATHERING SONG:

#655

Son of God, Eternal Savior

* 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

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE WORD

First Reading: Amos 8:4-7

⁴ Hear this, you who trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, ⁵ saying, “When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain, and the Sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah smaller and the shekel heavier and practice deceit with false balances, ⁶ buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals and selling the sweepings of the wheat.” ⁷ The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 113

¹ Hallelujah! Give praise, you servants of the LORD;
praise the name of the LORD.

² **Let the name of the LORD be blessed,
from this time forth forevermore.**

³ From the rising of the sun to its going down
let the name of the LORD be praised.

⁴ **The LORD is high above all nations;
God’s glory above the heavens.**

⁵ Who is like the LORD our God,
who sits enthroned on high,

⁶ **but stoops to behold
the heavens and the earth?**

⁷ The LORD takes up the weak out of the dust
and lifts up the poor from the ashes,

⁸ **enthroning them with the rulers,
with the rulers of the people.**

⁹ The LORD makes the woman of a childless house
to be a joyful mother of children. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 2:1-7

¹ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, ² for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. ³ This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, ⁴ who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. ⁵ For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, ⁶ who gave himself a ransom for all this was attested at the right time. ⁷ For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

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 Luke the 16th chapter

* C: **Glory to you, O Lord!**

Gospel: : Luke 16:1-13

¹ Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the

position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ ⁵ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes. ¹⁰ “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much, and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. ¹¹ If, then, you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? ¹² And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? ¹³ No slave can serve two masters, for a slave will either hate the one and love the other or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

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

GOOD NEWS 101

THE SERMON

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: #685

Take My Life That I May Be

* 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

Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need.

God of grace,
Receive our prayer.

* PEACE

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

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 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.

THE MEAL

* THE OFFERING PRAYER

Lord of the harvest,
 we return to you a portion of what you have given to us.
 Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches,
 but on you, who richly provides for us.
 Multiply what we have gathered
 to bless all who are suffering and in need,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

* **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING** (Sung) page 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:

* **THE HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** (Sung) page 153

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.

* **THE THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

* **THE LORD'S PRAYER** page 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**

Jesus welcomes sinners and eats with them. Come to this meal of mercy.

THE LAMB OF GOD (sung) page 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**

O God,

through this meal you have strengthened us

and appointed us to be your servants.

Send us to do good and to share our possessions
with all in need.

We ask this in Jesus' name.

Amen.

THE SENDING

* **THE BLESSING**

The God of righteousness,

who gives justice to the oppressed,

who gives food to the hungry,

who sets the prisoners free,

✠ bless you now and forever

Amen.

* **THE SENDING SONG:** #669

Rise Up, O Saints of God

* **THE DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Do not lose heart.

Thanks be to God.

THE POSTLUDE

Serving Today: September 21, 2025

Communion Assistant: Lynn Haab

Acolyte: Allyson Schmalz

Lector: Allyson Schmalz

Usher: Bonnie Mazza & Ferol Howell

Musician: Ryan Peiffer

Sound System: Amber Johnson

Serving Next Week: September 28, 2025

Acolyte: TBD

Lector: Laura Poethke

Ushers: Ferol Howell

Musicians: Voices That Reign

Sound System: Laura Poethke



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: Worship 10AM every Sunday. Everyone is invited and welcome to attend our Worship at 10 AM every Sunday. Our blended worship is back next Sunday, September 28 @10am. We are excited to welcome back our contemporary band, Voices That Reign, to lead us in song.

MORE INFORMATION: on these and other upcoming worship times and events can be found on the church Facebook page [HolyTrinityBT](https://www.facebook.com/HolyTrinityBT) and the church website: www.holytrinityelc.org

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 Bonnie Mazza if you are interested.

FOOD PANTRY: Our food pantry is open today immediately following worship. Please continue to bring in your donations to help those in need.

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.

THE CHURCH DOES NOT RUN WITHOUT VOUNTEERS: Stop by the bulletin board located in the main hallway and see how you can help.

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THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Today: 10:00AM Worship/Holy Communion
Monday: KidzSpace Back to School
Wednesday: 5:00—7:00PM Sisters of Sobriety
Friday: 7:00—10:00PM AA
Next Sunday: 9am Sunday School
10am: Contemporary Worship

**TRUST
IN THE
LORD
WITH ALL
YOUR** ♥
{proverbs 3:5}



**Upcoming Events for the
Remainder of 2025**

September 27: S'mores At Sunset @ 7pm

October 5: Pet Blessings @ Noon on the front lawn

October 26: Reformation Sunday

October 26: 6-7pm Junior High Youth 4th-7th grade

7-8pm Senior High Youth 8th-12th

November 2: All Saints Day

November 25: Thanksgiving Service @ 7pm

November 29: Greening of the Church @ 10am

December 14: Christmas Concert @ 6:30pm with Voices That
Reign and Youth Choir

December 24: Christmas Eve Worship @ 7pm & 10pm

December 28: Lesson and Carols @ 10am

