



## The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18, 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

1308 Mt. Holly Rd., Burlington, N.J. 08016

Office: (609) 387-1202

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

Rev. Russell Haab – [Pastorhaab@holytrinityelc.org](mailto:Pastorhaab@holytrinityelc.org)

Bonnie Mazza, Administrator — [Secretary@holytrinityelc.org](mailto:Secretary@holytrinityelc.org)

Michelle Foster, Church Organist — [michfoster16@gmail.com](mailto:michfoster16@gmail.com)

License # A-713124 for music where applicable.

May 18, 2025

10:00AM

### THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

#### Introduction

*Easter initiates a new day. It anticipates a new heaven and a new earth. The risen Christ is making all things new. In the mystery of holy baptism God has made new people of us. Today Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light—through the lens of love.*

\* Please stand as you are able

#### THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### THE PRELUDE

#### \* THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

**Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

In the name of + the One who was, who is, and who is to come.  
**Amen.**

Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and called to live the baptized life, let us give thanks for the gifts of baptism.

Holy God, we give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that make a people your own, that restore to wholeness, and empower us to be witnesses in your name. Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that strengthen believers and give new life to beloved servants of your church; waters that extend your boundless love and cross barriers of our own making. Baptized into you, O Living One,  
**make us one as you are one.**

We give you thanks for the waters of baptism, waters that open the hearts of believers and give a voice in the night to those in captivity; waters that set your people on a new path, rejoicing in the Spirit's power. Baptized into you, O Living One, **make us one as you are one.**

Grant us grace, love, and life, O Living One, that our every day is shaped by these waters that give us our very lives in you. We ask this in the name of Jesus, the Crucified and Risen One.  
**Amen.**

\* **THE GATHERING HYMN:** # 424  
*Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones*

\* **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 and 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**

P: Let us pray:

O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, 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.**

## WORD

### THE FIRST LESSON: Acts 11:1-18

<sup>1</sup> Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. <sup>2</sup> So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, <sup>3</sup> saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" <sup>4</sup> Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, <sup>5</sup> "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. <sup>6</sup> As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. <sup>7</sup> I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' <sup>8</sup> But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' <sup>9</sup> But a second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' <sup>10</sup> This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. <sup>11</sup> At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. <sup>12</sup> The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. <sup>13</sup> He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; <sup>14</sup> he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' <sup>15</sup> And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup> And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup> If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" <sup>18</sup> When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 148** (read responsively)

<sup>1</sup> Hallelujah! Praise the LORD from the heavens;  
praise God in the heights.

<sup>2</sup> **Praise the LORD, all you angels;  
sing praise, all you hosts of heaven.**

<sup>3</sup> Praise the LORD, sun and moon;  
sing praise, all you shining stars.  
<sup>4</sup> **Praise the LORD, heaven of heavens,  
and you waters above the heavens.**  
<sup>5</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD,  
who commanded, and they were created,  
<sup>6</sup> **who made them stand fast forever and ever,  
giving them a law that shall not pass away.**  
<sup>7</sup> Praise the LORD from the earth,  
you sea monsters and all deeps;  
<sup>8</sup> **fire and hail, snow and fog,  
tempestuous wind, doing God's will;**  
<sup>9</sup> mountains and all hills,  
fruit trees and all cedars;  
<sup>10</sup> **wild beasts and all cattle,  
creeping things and flying birds;**  
<sup>11</sup> sovereigns of the earth and all peoples,  
princes and all rulers of the world;  
<sup>12</sup> **young men and maidens,  
old and young together.**  
<sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the LORD, whose name only is  
exalted, whose splendor is over earth and heaven.  
<sup>14</sup> **The LORD has raised up strength for the people and praise  
for all faithful servants, the children of Israel, a people who  
are near the LORD. Hallelujah!**

#### THE SECOND LESSON : Revelation 21:1-6

<sup>1</sup> I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup> And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; <sup>4</sup> he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." <sup>5</sup> And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." <sup>6</sup> Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life."

The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

\* **THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (tune # 380)

**C: Hallelujah! Jesus lives! Christ is risen from the grave! He who died this comfort gives: Lo, he lives, his own to save!  
Hallelujah! Praises be to our Lord eternally!**

\* P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 13th chapter.

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

\* **THE GOSPEL: John 13:31-35**

<sup>31</sup> When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. <sup>32</sup> If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. <sup>33</sup> Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' <sup>34</sup> I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

**GOOD NEWS 101**

**THE SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY:**

**# 358**

*Great God Your Love Has Called Us*

\* **THE NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was Incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the**

**Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**\* THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

God of resurrection and new life, we come before you in prayer for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

Hear us, O God  
**Your mercy is great.**

**\* THE PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always,  
C: **And also with you.**

**THE OFFERING  
SPECIAL MUSIC**

**\* THE OFFERTORY: Let the Vineyards #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**

Risen One, you have gathered us around your table of grace along with these gifts we bring. Come among us again, breathe your life into us, and enliven us with this meal, that we may live as your risen body in the world.  
**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, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ, the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin; who in dying has destroyed death, and in rising has brought us to eternal life. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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

**Holy, holy, holy 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**

**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**

Come to the table of grace. Receive the gift of new life.

**THE LAMB OF GOD** (sung) 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**

Living One,  
in this feast you have made yourself known to us.  
Send us now to tell of your wonders,  
singing of your glory, and proclaim your risen life  
to a wounded and weary world.  
**Amen.**

**THE SENDING**

\* **THE BLESSING**

The triune God, who was, who is, and who is to come,  
Sovereign, + Savior, and Spirit, light your way with  
resurrection dawn, now and always.  
**Amen.**

\* **THE SENDING SONG:** # 379

*Now The Green Blade Rises*

\* **THE DISMISSAL**

Alleluia! Christ is risen.  
**Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**  
Go in peace. In Christ you are made new. Alleluia!  
Alleluia!  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**THE POSTLUDE**

**Serving Today: May 18, 2025**  
**Communion Assistant:** Laura Poethke  
**Acolyte:** Allyson Schmalz  
**Lector:** Bonnie Mazza  
**Ushers:** Ferol Howell & Steve Anderson  
**Musician:** Ryan Peiffer  
**Sound Board:** Laura Poethke

**Serving Next Week: May 25, 2025**  
**Acolyte:** TBD  
**Lectors:** Allyson Schmalz  
**Ushers:** Bonnie Mazza & Allyson Schmalz  
**Musicians:** Voices That Reign  
**Sound Board:** Bonnie Mazza

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** is in session every Sunday at 9:00am. We look forward each week to sharing the good news with the children. Sunday School will not be meeting on Memorial Day weekend, May 25.

**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP:** Everyone is invited and welcome to attend our Sunday Worship at 10 AM every Sunday. Our blended worship takes place normally on the 4th Sunday each month with our contemporary band Voices That Reign leading us in song.

**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.

**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.

**WORSHIP & PICNIC AT THE PARK :** Sunday, June 15th,  
 9am - Noon, Green Acres Park, 851 Old York Rd., Burlington.  
 Our annual worship and picnic will be here before we know it.  
 Beginning at 9am our Sunday school classes will have a special  
 lesson and outdoor activity. Worship will begin at 10AM and our  
 church picnic will follow immediately after. We ask that  
 families bring chairs, drinks for their family, and a side dish to  
 share. Hoagies and chips will be provided by the church.

**We hope to see everyone there!!**



**CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT:** We have completed our building repairs to meet the new state guidelines. So far to date we have received donations in the amount of \$1,725 toward our goal of \$5,000, to cover the expenses of these upgrades and repairs. Thank you everyone for your generosity. We will be working to raise the balance of this money throughout the summer. If you have any ideas for fundraising please see one of our council members, or if you would like to make a donation there is a basket located underneath the donation chart in the Narthex.



**THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY**

**Today:** 9:00AM Sunday School  
 10:00AM Worship  
**Wednesday:** 5:00—7:00PM Sisters of Sobriety  
**Friday:** 7:00—10:00PM AA  
**Next Sunday:** 10:00AM Worship

