



Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 23, 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

Rev. Russell Haab – Pastorhaab@holytrinityelc.org
Bonnie Mazza, Administrator — Secretary@holytrinityelc.org
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License # A-713124 for music where applicable.

February 23, 2025

10:00AM

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

Introduction

Mercy. Mercy. Mercy. Joseph lives it in Egypt. Jesus preaches it in the gospel. The Spirit guides us into merciful lives with the power of forgiveness to reconcile what is fractured and divided. Such merciful living is the baptismal blessing of having put on Christ. It is the gift of the life-giving Spirit. It is a reflection of God's glory revealed in Christ.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE *Build My Life*

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* THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life

Amen.

Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,

you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways.

Amen.

God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free. Refreshed by the waters of mercy, live anew as beloved children of God.

Amen.

* 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

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading: Genesis 45:3-11, 15

³ Joseph said to his brothers, “I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?” But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence. ⁴ Then Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me.” And they came closer. He said, “I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. ⁵ And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves, because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. ⁶ For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither plowing nor harvest. ⁷ God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. ⁸ So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt. ⁹ Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, ‘Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. ¹⁰ You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children’s children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. ¹¹ I will provide for you there since there are five more years of famine to come so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty.’” ¹⁵ And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 37: 7-11, 39-40

¹ Do not be provoked by evildoers;
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
² **For they shall soon wither like the grass,
and like the green grass fade away.**
³ Put your trust in the LORD and do good;
dwell in the land and find safe pasture.
⁴ **Take delight in the LORD,
who shall give you your heart’s desire.**
⁵ Commit your way to the LORD; put your trust in the LORD,
and see what God will do.
⁶ **The LORD will make your vindication as clear as the light
and the justice of your case like the noonday sun.**
⁷ Be still before the LORD and wait patiently. Do not be provoked
by the one who prospers, the one who succeeds in evil schemes.
⁸ **Refrain from anger, leave rage alone;
do not be provoked; it leads only to evil.**
⁹ For evildoers shall be cut off,
but those who hope in the LORD shall possess the land.
¹⁰ **In a little while the wicked shall be no more;
even if you search out their place, they will not be there.**
¹¹ But the lowly shall possess the land;
they will delight in abundance of peace.
³⁹ **But the deliverance of the righteous comes from you,
O LORD; you are their stronghold in time of trouble.**
⁴⁰ You, O LORD, will help them and rescue them;
you will rescue them from the wicked and deliver them,
because in you they seek refuge.

Meditation Song: Yes I Will

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Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50

³⁵ But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” ³⁶ Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. ³⁷ And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. ³⁸ But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. ⁴² So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What

is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. ⁴³ It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. ⁴⁴ It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body. ⁴⁵ Thus it is written, “The first man, Adam, became a living being”; the last Adam became a life-giving spirit. ⁴⁶ But it is not the spiritual that is first, but the physical, and then the spiritual. ⁴⁷ The first man was from the earth, a man of dust; the second man is from heaven. ⁴⁸ As was the man of dust, so are those who are of the dust; and as is the man of heaven, so are those who are of heaven. ⁴⁹ Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we will also bear the image of the man of heaven. ⁵⁰ What I am saying, brothers and sisters, is this: flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable.

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

* **THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Sung page #151

C: Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 6th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel: Luke 6: 27-38

[Jesus said:] ²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the

wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷ “Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸ give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

GOOD NEWS 101

THE SERMON

THE HYMN OF THE DAY:

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Never the Same

* **THE APOSTLES' CREED**

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**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**

With the Spirit if Christ shinning upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation

God of Grace,
Hear our prayer

PEACE

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

THANKSGIVING

**OFFERING
SPECIAL MUSIC**

*** 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:**

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. Amen.

*** THE LORD’S PRAYER**

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**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**

The Spirit of the triune God
✚ bless you with joy,
anoint you with compassion,
and send you in love.
Amen.

*** THE SENDING SONG:**

House of The Lord

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*** THE DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Live in Hope
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Serving Today: February 23, 2025

Acolyte: Scarlett Johnson

Lector: Allyson Schmalz

Usher: Bonnie Mazza

Musicians: VTR

Sound System: Bonnie Mazza

Serving Next Week: March 2, 2025

Communion Assistant: Nicole Rodig

Acolyte: Baylee Rodig

Lector: Lynn Haab

Ushers: Bonnie Mazza & Allyson Schmalz

Musician: Mike Bedics

Sound System: Laura Poethke

Build My Life

Verse 1

Worthy of every song we could ever sing
Worthy of all the praise we could ever bring
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You

Verse 2

Jesus the name above every other name
Jesus the only one who could ever save
Worthy of every breath we could ever breathe
We live for You
We live for You

Chorus

Holy there is no one like You
There is none beside You
Open up my eyes in wonder and show me who You are
And fill me with Your heart
And lead me in Your love to those around me

Bridge

I will build my life upon Your love
It is a firm foundation
I will put my trust in You alone
And I will not be shaken

Brett Younker, Karl Martin, Kirby Kaple, Matt Redman, Pat Barrett
CCLI Song #7070345

Honey In The Rock

Chorus 1

There's honey in the rock
Water in the stone
Manna on the ground
No matter where I go
I don't need to worry
Now that I know
Everything I need You've got
There's honey in the rock

Verse 1

Praying for a miracle
Thirsty for the Living Well
Only You can satisfy
Sweetness at the mercy seat
Now I've tasted it's not hard to
see Only You can satisfy

Chorus 2

There's honey in the rock (4X)

Verse 2

Freedom where the Spirit is
Bounty in the wilderness
You will always satisfy

Chorus 3

There's honey in the rock
Water in the stone
Manna on the ground
No matter where I go
I don't need to worry
Now that I know Everything I
need You've got There's honey
in the rock. Purpose in Your
plan Power in the blood
Healing in Your hands
Started flowing when You said
it is done Everything You did is
enough

Bridge

I keep looking I keep finding
You keep giving Keep
Providing. I have all that I need
You are all that I need
I keep praying You keep
Moving I keep praising
You keep proving I have all that
I need You are all that I need

Chorus 4

There's honey in the rock
Water in the stone
Manna on the ground
No matter where I go
I don't need to worry
Now that I know
Everything I need You've got
There's honey in the rock
Purpose in Your plan
Power in the blood
Healing in Your hands
Started flowing when You said
it is done
Jesus who You are is enough

Interlude

There's honey in the rock
There's honey in the rock
There's honey in the rock

Ending

Oh how sweet
How sweet it is to trust in You
Jesus Oh how sweet
How sweet it is to trust in You
Jesus Oh how sweet
How sweet it is to trust in You
Jesus

Brandon Lake, Brooke Ligertwood, Mitch Wong
CCLI Song #7191257

Yes I Will

Verse

I count on one thing
The same God that never fails
Will not fail me now
You won't fail me now
In the waiting
The same God who's never late
Is working all things out
You're working all things out

Yes I will sing for joy
When my heart is heavy
All my days yes I will

Bridge

I choose to praise
To glorify glorify
The name of all names
That nothing can stand against

Chorus

Yes I will lift You high
In the lowest valley
Yes I will bless Your name

Tag

For all my days
Yes I will

Eddie Hoagland, Jonathan Smith, Mia Fieldes
CCLI Song #7105442

Never The Same

Verse 1

Same old me, Same old shame
Same old lie from the enemy telling me.
I'll never change
Same old climbing And falling down.
Same old thinking my kind of lost
Could never be found.
But You lifted my head
And turned my whole life around.

sure. The same old chains that used to hold me.
Are lying there on the floor.
And my past is a place, I don't go anymore

Bridge

I'm not who I was I'm somebody new,
And it's all because of You

Chorus 2

I looked in the eyes of mercy
I felt Your amazing grace
I knew forever I was
Never the same never the same
never the same. You saw that I could be different.
You saved what I couldn't change
You called my name and I was
Never the same never the same
never the same, You called my name and I was
Never the same never the same

Chorus 1

I looked in the eyes of mercy
I ran to the arms of grace
I knew forever I was
Never the same never the same
never the same You saw that I could be different
You saved what I couldn't change
You called my name and I was
Never the same never the same
never the same

Verse 2

I can't explain it, But I know for

Jeff Pardo, Logan Cain, Madison Cain Johnson, Matthew West, Taylor Cain Matz CCLI Song #7236732

House Of The Lord

Verse 1

We worship the God who was
We worship the God who is
We worship the God who evermore will be
He opened the prison doors
He parted the raging sea
My God He holds the victory
yeah

Bridge

('Cause) We were the beggars
Now we're royalty
We were the prisoners
Now we're running free
We are forgiven accepted
Redeemed by His grace
Let the house of the Lord sing
praise

Chorus

There's joy in the house of the Lord
There's joy in the house of the Lord today
And we won't be quiet
We shout out Your praise
There's joy in the house of the Lord
Our God is surely in this place
And we won't be quiet
We shout out Your praise

Interlude 2

There is joy in this house oh yeah
There is joy there is joy
And we won't be quiet
We're gonna shout out Your
praise

Interlude 1

Oh oh oh
We shout out Your praise

Ending

We shout out Your praise
There is joy in this house
There is joy in this house today
We shout out Your praise
We shout out Your praise

Verse 2

We sing to the God who heals
We sing to the God who saves
We sing to the God who always makes a way
'Cause He hung up on that cross
Then He rose up from that grave
My God's still rolling stones
away

Jonathan Smith, Phil Wickham
CCLI Song #7168995

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Today 9:00AM Sunday School
10:00AM Worship
Monday 7:00-9:00pm Burlington Entertainers
Wednesday 5:00—7:00PM Sisters of Sobriety
Friday 7:00—10:00PM AA
Next Sunday: 9:00AM Sunday School
10:00AM Worship with Holy Communion

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.

MORE INFORMATION: on these and other upcoming worship times and events can be found on the church Facebook page [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.

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY: Sunday, March 2, is Transfiguration; the last Sunday after Epiphany. It is also the Sunday before Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (March 5). You are invited to bring in your palms from last year's Palm Sunday. Those palms are often burned to make the ashes that are used as part of the Ash Wednesday Liturgy.

FOOD PANTRY: Our food pantry is open the third Sunday of each month. We are in need a few people to come and take inventory of what we have left so we can restock. If you are able to help out please call the office.

COUNTERS NEEDED: We are looking for volunteers to help count offering on Monday mornings around 10am. If you would like to volunteer for this ministry please reach out to Bonnie in the office to schedule a day and time to help out.



SUNDAY SCHOOL AND YOUTH PROGRAMS: WHY DO WE DO WHAT WE DO?

Did you have a positive Sunday School experience as a child? Or not??

What are the objectives of youth ministry, and which activities are most impactful?

What do parents want for their children's religious education?

An ad hoc committee to ask these and other faith formation questions will meet soon.

Please contact Laura Poethke if you would like to join the discussion. poetfam@comcast.net; 609.387.2296 (h); 609.560.1153 (c)

Lily Orders Coming Soon

We will once again be taking Lily orders. This year all proceeds from the purchase of Lilies will be going to help us continue to support and build our music ministry here at Holy Trinity.

Stay tuned for prices and sign up sheet.



Fastnacht, Tuesday, March 4 2025

6:00 - 8:00pm

6:00pm: Pancake Supper



6:30pm: Games

7:00pm: Shared Talents & Skits

It's almost time for our annual Fastnacht Celebration!

If you have a talent that you would like to share or if you would like to help us prepare the pancakes please see the sign up sheet on the main bulletin board in the Entrance Lobby.

Mark your calendars and come out for a great night of fun and fellowship.



Lenten / Easter Worship Schedule

Ash Wednesday: March 5, 7pm

Maundy Thursday Soup Supper: 6:00pm

Maundy Thursday Worship: 7:00pm

Good Friday: 7:00pm

Easter Sunday: 10:00am

LENT AND HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

