



Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

February 16, 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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Bonnie Mazza, Administrator — Secretary@holytrinityelc.org

Michelle Foster, Church Organist — michfoster16@gmail.com

License # A-713124 for music where applicable.

February 16, 2025

10:00AM

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Introduction

Blessings and curses abound on the sixth Sunday after Epiphany. We would do well to listen closely to whom the “blessed ones” and the “woe to’s” are directed and to find our place in the crowd among those who desire to touch Jesus. The risen Christ stands among us in the mystery of the holy supper with an invitation to live in him, and offers power to heal us all.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE

*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 GATHERING SONG: #479
We Come To The Hungry Feast

*** 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**

Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE WORD

First Reading: Jeremiah 17:5-10

⁵ Thus says the LORD: Cursed are those who trust in mere mortals and make mere flesh their strength, whose hearts turn away from the LORD. ⁶ They shall be like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see when relief comes. They shall live in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land. ⁷ Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD. ⁸ They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit. ⁹ The heart is devious above all else; it is perverse who can understand it? ¹⁰ I the LORD test the mind and search the heart, to give to all according to their ways, according to the fruit of their doings.

The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: Psalm 1

¹ Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked, nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!

² **Their delight is in the law of the LORD,
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.**
³ They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.
⁴ **It is not so with the wicked;
they are like chaff which the wind blows away.**
⁵ Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes, nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.
⁶ **For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 15:12-20

¹² Now if Christ is proclaimed as raised from the dead, how can some of you say there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then Christ has not been raised; ¹⁴ and if Christ has not been raised, then our proclamation has been in vain and your faith has been in vain. ¹⁵ We are even found to be misrepresenting God, because we testified of God that he raised Christ—whom he did not raise if it is true that the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised. ¹⁷ If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile and you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have died in Christ have perished. ¹⁹ If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied. ²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.

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 6th chapter

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

Gospel: Luke 6:17-26

¹⁷ [Jesus] came down with [the twelve] and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They

had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them. ²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. “Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. ²² “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. ²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. “Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. ²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.”

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

GOOD NEWS 101

THE SERMON

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: #434
Jesus Shall Reign

* **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

With the Spirit of Christ shining 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.

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

God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens,
 and your abundance to the depths of the seas.
 Bless what we offer to your service:
 our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts.
 Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity,
 now and always. **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. By the leading of a star he was shown forth to all nations; in the waters of the Jordan you proclaimed him your beloved Son; and in the miracle of water turned to wine he revealed your glory. 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**

The Joy of the Lord is our strength.
Come, eat this meal of gladness.

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**

Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,
Amen.

THE SENDING

*** THE BLESSING**

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

*** THE SENDING SONG:** #449

We Know That Christ is Raised

*** THE DISMISSAL**

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

THE POSTLUDE

Serving Today: February 16, 2025

Communion Assistant: Amber Johnson

Acolyte: Scarlett Johnson

Lector: Judy Bariexca

Usher: Steve Anderson & Amber Johnson

Musician: Danny Allen

Sound System: Laura Poethke

Serving Next Week: February 23, 2025

Acolyte: Scarlett Johnson

Lector: Allyson Schmalz

Ushers: Bonnie Mazza

Musicians: Voices That Reign

Sound System: Bonnie Mazza

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.

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.



THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

- Today:** 9:00AM Sunday School
10:00AM Worship
- Monday:** 7:00-9:00PM Burlington Entertainers
7:00 PM Congregation Council
- Wednesday:** 5:00—7:00PM Sisters of Sobriety
- Friday:** 7:00—10:00PM AA
- Next Sunday:** 9:00AM Sunday School
10:00AM Worship
1:30-3:30: Girl Scouts



Holy Trinity has accepted our Bishop's challenge from our Synod to go green. We are returning to the use of glass communion cups and products that are biodegradable.

We are asking for members of the church to bring in one coffee mug each to help us stop using so many paper cup products. These mugs will be put out for fellowship events.

Another step the church is looking into is replacing our hallway water fountain with a water bottle filling station. This would encourage our members and staff to bring a bottle and fill it up. This would help cut the cost and recycling of store bought plastic water containers.

We Need Your Help



As mentioned at our annual meeting, the church council is looking at ways to reduce our overhead cost. You will find some signup sheets on the bulletin board in the hallway. These sheets contain items and small repairs. If you are able to help out with any of the listed needs, please sign up on the sheet. Every small thing we can do to help will save the church time and money. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to any of our council members.

