



HOLY TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America
1308 Mt. Holly Rd., Burlington, NJ 08016
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License # A-713124 for music where applicable.

March 30, 2025

10:00am

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

The psalm sets the tone this day: "Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, and whose sin is put away!" Happy are those who have "become the righteousness of God" in the merits of Christ Jesus. Happy are those for whom the forgiveness of God has "rolled away . . . the disgrace" of former times. Happy is the father at the return of his prodigal son. Happy are we that our sins are forgiven for Jesus' sake. Rejoice!

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRELUDE

*** CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Let us return to God, confessing our sin in the assurance of God's abiding love. Please kneel or sit as you are able.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Compassionate One,
you are slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, but our lives do not always reflect you and your love for the world. We do not show others the tender compassion you have shown to us. We do not welcome others with the radical hospitality you grant to all people. We oppress others, even though you have set us free again and again. We squander the abundant gifts of the earth. Transform our lives and guide us again in the way of the cross. Amen.

** Please stand as you are able*

The Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 30, 2025

Holy Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

1308 Mt. Holly Rd.

Burlington, NJ 08016

(609) 387-1202

Beloved in Christ, God's arms are always stretched open wide to welcome the wandering ones home. In + Christ your sins are forgiven. You have a place in God's house forever.
Amen.

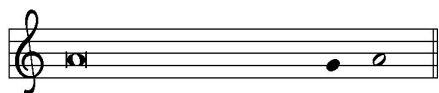
* **THE GATHERING SONG:** #807
Come, Thou Font of Every Blessing

* **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.**

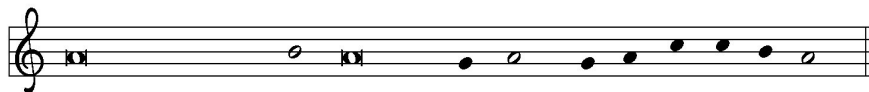
* **THE KYRIE** page 147



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



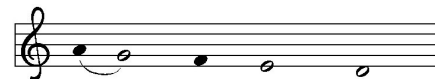
Lord, have mer - cy.



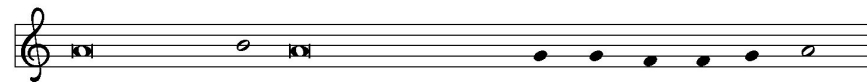
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

* **THE PRAYER OF THE DAY**

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

WORD

First Reading: Joshua 5:9-12

⁹The LORD said to Joshua, "Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt." And so that place is called Gilgal to this day. ¹⁰While the Israelites were camped in Gilgal they kept the Passover in the evening on the fourteenth day of the month in the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the day after the Passover, on that very day, they ate the produce of the land, unleavened cakes and parched grain. ¹²The manna ceased on the day they ate the produce of the land, and the Israelites no longer had manna; they ate the crops of the land of Canaan that year.

The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Psalm: Psalm 32

- ¹ Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven,
and whose sin is put away!
- ² **Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there is no guile!**
- ³ While I held my tongue, my bones withered away,
because of my groaning all day long.
- ⁴ **For your hand was heavy upon me day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of summer.**
- ⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not conceal my
guilt. I said, “I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.”
Then you forgave me the guilt ¹ of my sin.
- ⁶ **Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in
time of trouble; when the great waters overflow, they
shall not reach them.**
- ⁷ You are my hiding-place; you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts ¹ of deliverance.
- ⁸ **“I will instruct you and teach you in the way that you should
go; I will guide you with my eye.**
- ⁹ Do not be like horse or mule, which have no understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will not
stay near you.”
- ¹⁰ **Great are the tribulations of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust in the LORD.**
- ¹¹ Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

¹⁶ From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. ¹⁷ So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! ¹⁸ All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹ that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. ²⁰ So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹ For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

* **THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** Sung page 151

**Return to the Lord, your God, for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 15th chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

Gospel: Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

¹ Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to [Jesus.] ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³ So he told them this parable: ^{11b} “There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.’” ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate. ²⁵ “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one

of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends.’ ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.’ ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’ ”

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

GOOD NEWS 101

THE SERMON

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: #608
Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

*** 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 INTERCESSION**

Led by the Spirit, let us turn to God in prayer for the church, the world, and all those in need.

God, in your mercy,
Receive our prayer.

*** THE PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Pastor: The Peace of Christ be with you always.
All: And also with you.

THE OFFERING SPECIAL MUSIC

*** CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING** page 219

Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the lamb forever and ever. Great and wonderful are your deeds, O God of the universe; just and true are your ways, O Ruler of all the nations. Who can fail to honor you, Lord, and sing the glory of your name? Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever. For you alone are the Holy One, and blessed is the one whose name is Word of God. All praise and thanks to you, holy God! Salvation belongs to our God and to the Christ the Lamb forever and ever.

THE MEAL

*** THE OFFERING PRAYER**

Gracious Provider, you set your immense treasures among us, opening your heart to the world. As we prepare to feast on your bountiful love, deepen our commitment to sharing those treasures with others, through our Savior, Jesus Christ. **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. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. 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**

**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**

All who are hungry, come! The feast of grace is spread.

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**

Generous Host, you have shared your feast with us and made us new. Send us now to set tables of love and grace in our communities, that your liberating love might nourish the world into freedom, in the name of the crucified one, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

THE SENDING

*** THE BLESSING**

God our tender parent,
God the crucified one,
God the reconciling Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever.
Amen.

***THE SENDING SONG:**

#763

My Life Flows On In Endless Song

*** THE DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Care for others as God cares for you.
Thanks be to God.

THE POSTLUDE

Serving Today: March 30, 2025

Communion Assistant: Ferol Howell

Acolyte: Allyson Schmalz

Lector: Hank Bariexca

Ushers: Chris Rodig & Maris Rodig

Musician: Michelle Foster

Serving Next Week: April 6, 2025

Communion Assistant: Amber Johnson

Acolyte: Scarlet Johnson

Lector: Judy Bariexca

Ushers: Lynn Haab & Bonnie Mazza

Musicians: Danny Allen

Sound Board: Amber Johnson

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.

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 Amber Johnson, head of Music and Worship if you are interested.

Please see insert for more events and announcements.

Lenten / Easter Worship Schedule

Sundays in Lent Worship: 10:00AM

Maundy Thursday Soup Supper: 6:00 PM

Maundy Thursday Worship: 7:00 PM

Good Friday: 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday: 10:00 AM



All Are Welcome Here!