

Church of the Holy Apostles

The Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 11, 2022

The Liturgy of the Word

Welcome to Holy Apostles! This bulletin is your guide to worship and it has all that you need. Our worship is taken from the Book of Common Prayer. If you have any questions during the Liturgy, don't hesitate to ask an usher or a neighbor.

A note about Advent & Worship

Advent is the start of the new Church year, marked by a shift in Gospel readings (we are entering Year A which is the Gospel of Matthew), a change in liturgical colors (purple) and a time when we prepare ourselves for Christmas, aka the Incarnation of Jesus Christ, by trying to slow down and allowing some space for prayer and reflection in our lives. As you enter Church during this season, maybe take a moment to prepare for worship with a prayer, some breathing or just allow yourself to be still.

A prayer for Advent by Henri Nouwen

*Lord Jesus, Master of both the light and the darkness,
send your Holy Spirit upon our preparations for Christmas.
We who have so much to do and seek quiet spaces to hear your voice each day,
We who are anxious over many things look forward to your coming among us.
We who are blessed in so many ways long for the complete joy of your kingdom.
We whose hearts are heavy seek the joy of your presence.
We are your people, walking in darkness, yet seeking the light.
To you we say, "Come Lord Jesus!" Amen.*

Prelude & Introit

Welcome & Announcements

Please Stand as we pray together

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16)

Lord, we thank you for your great gift of love to us. Help us, through Jesus, to love you more. Amen.

All stand as are able

Processional Hymn

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O come, O come Emmanuel

And ransom captive Israel

That mourns in lonely exile here

Until the Son of God appear.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

**O come, thou Wisdom from on high
Who orderest all things mightily;
To us the path of knowledge show,
And teach us in her ways to go.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

**O come, Desire of nations bind
In one the hearts of humankind
Bid thou our sad divisions cease,
And be thyself our King of Peace.**

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Presider Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn of Praise **Lord Jesus Christ, Your Light Shines Within Us** Jacques Berthier
Lord Jesus Christ, your Light shines within us.
Let not my doubts nor my darkness speak to me.
Lord Jesus Christ, your Light shines within us.
Let my heart always welcome your love. (sung 3x)

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Please be seated for the lessons

First Lesson

read by Erin McNaughton

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees.

Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.
And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

After the reading

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 15 The Magnificat

sung by the choir

Second Lesson

read by Geoff Kurtz

A reading from the letter of James.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

After the reading

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand for the Gospel procession and reading

Sequence Hymn When Out of Poverty is Born *English Country Songs*

**When out of poverty is born a dream that will not die,
And landless, weary folk find strength to stand with heads held high.
It's then we learn from those who wait to greet the promised day,
'The Lord is coming; don't lose heart. Be blest; prepare the way!'**

**When people wander far from God, forget to share their bread,
They find their wealth an empty thing, their spirits are not fed.
For only just and tender love the hungry soul will stay.
And so God's prophets echo still "Be blest; prepare the way!"**

**When God took flesh and came to earth the world turned upside down,
And in the strength of woman's faith the Word of Life was born.
She knew that God would raise the low, it pleased her to obey.
Rejoice with Mary in the call, "Be blest; prepare the way!"**

The Holy Gospel

Before the Gospel

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see?

Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
 who will prepare your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Sarah Kooperkamp

Please stand and say together

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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 People

led by Carol Oliver

God of mystery and miracles,
Your Word brings light into the dark places of our lives;
Your presence gives us strength to endure
when we are pushed beyond our own strength.

You find us in our lostness and,
with love beyond our imagining,
you lead us home.

All this you offer in and through Jesus Christ.
Yet, we resist you.
We resist loosening our tight grip on our lives.
We hesitate to trust you
for you may lead us where we do not want to go.

You know the places in our hearts
and in our minds
where we are well-defended
against your intrusions.

In this season of longing, of awaiting, of looming darkness and coming joy,
grant us grace to bring all that we are to you, O Christ
— all the broken places
— all the lost wanderings
— all the weariness from trying to live lives that are pleasing to you.

Grant us grace to overcome our own weariness to respond with generosity and love to our neighbors:

Our neighbors we know, and those whose names we will never know;
Our neighbors who are hungry or homeless;
Our neighbors who are suffering from mental illness or addiction;
Our neighbors who are dying or sick;
Our neighbors who are lonely or grieving;
Our neighbors at PS 15.

Hold us all in the fullness of your love.
Then, be born in us,

that we may find our home,
our life,
our joy
in You, Lord of light and love.

Dear people of God I invite you to offer your prayers and thanksgivings.

You are invited to speak your intercessions aloud or to type them in the chat.

The Confession of Sin & Absolution

Presider Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor:

All **Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen**

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Peace

Presider The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

All **And also with you!**

The Holy Communion

This is God's Table: all are welcome

Offertory Anthem

Please stand

Doxology

Old Hundredth

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth... Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Presider and People sing together,

The Sanctus LEVAS II 255 (*Mass for a Soulful People*) Grayson Warren Brown

Holy, holy, holy, holy, holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are filled with your glory, Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, of the Lord.

Hosanna, in the highest, hosanna in the highest

The Presider continues,

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Presider and People,

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Bishop continues,

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer LEVAS II 264

A.H. Malotte

**Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed by 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Please remain standing and sing together

Fraction Anthem

S. Shull

**We who are many, are one body,
For we all share in the one bread,
we all share in the one bread.**

Please remain standing

Invitation to Communion

These are the gifts for God for all of us, the people of God. Let us take them in remembrance that Christ died for us and feed on him in our hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Hymn For Your Generous Providing

Leith Fisher

**For your generous providing which sustains us all our days.
For your Spirit here residing, we proclaim our heartfelt praise.
Through the depth of joy and sorrow, though the road be smooth or rough,
Fearless, we can face tomorrow for your grace will be enough.**

**Hush our world's seductive noises tempting us to stand alone;
Save us from the siren voices calling us to trust our own.
For those snared by earthly treasure, lured by false security.
Jesus, true and only measure, spring the trap to set folk free.**

**Round your table, through your giving, show us how to live and pray
Till your kingdom's way of living is the bread we share each day:
Bread for us and for our neighbor, bread for body, mind, and soul
Bread of heaven and human labor - bokeh bread that makes us whole.**

All stand, and say together

Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and

courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing

Recessional Hymn H437: Tell Out, My Soul (verses 1.3.4) *Birmingham*

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord! Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
Tender to me the promise of his word; in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might! Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight, the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**

**Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word! Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure. Tell out,
my soul, the greatness of the Lord to children's children and for evermore.**

Holiday Singalong We Need A Little Christmas

**Haul out the holly
Put up the tree before my spirit falls again
Fill up the stocking
I may be rushing things, but deck the halls again now**

**For we need a little Christmas, right this very minute
Candles in the window, carols at the spinet
Yes, we need a little Christmas, right this very minute
Hasn't snowed a single flurry, but Santa dear we're in a hurry**

**Climb down the chimney
Turn on the brightest string of lights I've ever seen
Slice up the fruit cake
It's time we've hung some tinsel on the evergreen bough**

**For I've grown a little leaner, grown a little colder
Grown a little sadder, grown a little older
And I need a little angel sitting on my shoulder
Need a little Christmas now**

**For we need a little music, need a little laughter
Need a little singing ringing through the rafter
And we need a little snappy, happy ever after
We need a little Christmas now**

The Dismissal

Priest Let us go forth rejoicing in the power of the Spirit. Alleluia, Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Weekly Announcements

Help Fill the Church with Song, Greens & Flowers this Season

As we prepare ourselves for the coming of Christ, we also prepare our church with greens, flowers and music. Please donate to support these efforts. Christmas Flower donation sheet, Christmas Music donation sheet are available in the back of the church. Donations can be made by check, cash or online.

Community Dinner Sign Up

We are now doing community dinner sign up online! Sign up will open on Saturday when the newsletter goes out and close Sunday at 5pm or when the spots fill. Weekly menus are also posted online. Please use the link in the newsletter or on the website or the QR code in the back of the church.

Coats, Gloves & Hats for Migrants

We continue to collect NEW or gently used coats, hats and gloves (or mittens) for migrants. All sizes baby- adult! You can put them in the bin in the back of the church. You can also buy items and have them shipped to the church.

The Holy Apostles Christmas Concert – TODAY Sunday, December 11th 4pm by donation

The musicians of the Holy Apostles Brooklyn are performing its first-ever Christmas concert. Please join us in what will be the beginning of an annual tradition of neighborhood Christmas concerts and listen to all-time favorite Christmas music - fun carols from Broadway musicals, movies, and classics - by the choir and exciting guest artists! A perfect concert for families, including family members of all ages.

Advent & Christmas at Holy Apostles

Advent 1	Sunday, November 27
Advent 2	Sunday, December 4
Advent 3	Sunday, December 11
	- St. Nick at This Little Light
	- Christmas Concert at 4pm with a visit from Santa
Advent 4	Sunday, December 18
	- No This Little Light
	- Christmas Pageant at the 10am
	- Visit from St. Nick
Christmas Caroling	Friday, December 23rd at 5pm
Christmas Eve	Saturday, December 24th at 4pm
Christmas Day	Sunday, December 25th at 9am ZOOM ONLY
New Year's Day	Sunday, January 1st
	- No This Little Light
	- Lessons at Carols at the 10am

Church of the Holy Apostles

An Open and Affirming Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Long Island

*Holy Apostles exists as God's house for all people,
by fulfilling the spiritual yearning of our souls, teaching us
how to live as Christians in a broken world
by serving the needs of the greater community.*

The Rev. Kimberlee Auletta & The Rev. Sarah Kooperkamp
Co-Rectors

Saya Callner
Director of Music

Allie Senyard & Larissa Shaterian
Seminarians

Vi Lynk
Altar Server

Phillip Hunter
Crucifer

The Church office is open Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday 9am-4pm.
Please email the Mothers if you would like to meet with them at
info@holypostlesbrooklyn.com

www.holypostlesbrooklyn.com