

Church of the Holy Apostles

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

The Christmas Pageant

Sunday, December 18, 2022

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.

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.

Prelude & Introit

Welcome & Announcements

Please stand as we pray together

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Presider Let us pray.

Lord, my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all people – a light to bring light to the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel. (Luke 2:30-32)

Dear God, let the glorious light of Jesus' love shine in our lives and proclaim the Good Tidings to everyone we meet. 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!**

Opening Acclamation

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

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

Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *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.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

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.**

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall name him Emmanuel,"

which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Pageant - Written and Directed by Allie Senyard & Larisa Shaterian

A retelling of the nativity story using puppets, recorded sound, and song. With "Mary Had a Baby", "Jubilate Deo", "Angels We Have Heard on High", and "Peace, Peace". Featuring Ben Siegel, Charlie Kooperkamp-Lopez, Diara Adkins, Everett Adkins, Frances Campbell Kurtz, Geddes Golay, Halcy Pasternak, Henry Smith, Joan Schrashun, John Golay, John Harvey, Luca Brazzini, Olivia Arnold, Popsy Kooperkamp-Lopez, Samuel Hendrick and Riley Arnold. Thank you to Emily Newland, Valerie Babak and Beckett Landau for all their help during rehearsals.

** We invite the congregation to sing the first verse of "Silent Night" while the children sing, "Peace, Peace"*

Silent Night, Holy Night

All is calm, all is bright

'Round yon' virgin mother and child

Holy infant so tender and mild

Sleep in heavenly peace

Sleep in heavenly peace.

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 Harper Landau

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: L-14 Soon and Very Soon Andrae Crouch

- 1. Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!**

 - 2. No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King... (repeat 3 times)
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!**

 - 3. No more dyin' there we are goin' to see the King... (repeat 3 times)
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!**
- Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.**

Holiday Singalong

Jingle Bells

**Dashing through the snow on a one horse open sleigh
O'er the fields we go, laughing all the way
Bells on bob tail ring, making spirits bright**

What fun it is to laugh and sing a sleighing song tonight

**Oh, jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh
Jingle bells, jingle bells, jingle all the way,
Oh, what fun it is to ride in a one horse open sleigh**

**A day or two ago, I thought I'd take a ride
And soon Miss Fanny Bright was seated by my side;
The horse was lean and lank, misfortune seemed his lot
We got into a drifted bank, and then we got upsot, [refrain]**

**Now the ground is white, go it while you're young
Take the girls tonight and sing this sleighing song
Just get a bob tailed bay, two-forty as his speed
Hitch him to an open sleigh and crack! You'll take the lead [refrain]**

The Dismissal

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

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

Join us for a festive coffee half-hour in the undercroft following the service. We thank the parents of the children in the pageant for hosting coffee half-hour today!

The NEXT coffee half hour is on January 8th.

Weekly Announcements

Greens, Flowers & Music this Season - Make your contribution TODAY!

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.

Community Dinner is on hiatus 12/28 & 1/4.

This week is a special holiday dinner and folks are encouraged to dress in holiday festive attire!

Sunday School in Epiphany

Our next Sunday School module begins January 8th and is 4 Sundays: January 8, 22, February 5, 12. We welcome back teaching artist Traci Malloy for a study on light.

Annual Pledges for 2023

Thank you to everyone who has already made their pledge to Holy Apostles for 2023.

To date we have received 54 pledges totaling \$205,780 - can you help us get above \$210,000 in pledges for 2023? You can fill out a pledge and place it in the offering plate at church or fill out our secure e-pledge card:

<https://onrealm.org/holyapostles/AddPledge/pledge2023>

Looking Ahead

Exploring our Rituals

Have you ever wondered why we do certain things during Sunday morning services? Why we stand, sit, cross ourselves, bow, lay down a tablecloth, etc? Join Vi Lynk for the five weeks leading up to Lent we'll explore some of these rituals, look briefly at their history and consider how we might translate them into our personal spiritual practices.

Meets Mondays (1/23, 1/30, 2/6, 2/13, & 2/20) 7:30-8:30pm on Zoom.

Sign up in the back of the church or email Vi at vi.lynk@yale.edu

Christmas at Holy Apostles

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