

Church of the Holy Apostles

The First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 3, 2023



Flake

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. If you are new or visiting, please make sure to introduce yourself to one of the priests after the service. Instructions on when to stand (as able) and sit are in italics and the prayers and songs that we all sing or say together will be in bold. We hope that you find it easy to follow along and we encourage you to sing out for our congregational hymns. Citations that begin with an "H" are found in the blue book, The Hymnal 1982. Those that begin with an "L" are found in the red book, Lift Every Voice and Sing.

A note about Advent worship

The season of Advent begins the Church year anew. You will notice new Gospel readings—Year B follows the Gospel of Mark—and a change in liturgical color to purple. Advent is a time when we prepare ourselves for Christmas, aka the Incarnation of Jesus Christ, by trying to slow down and allow space in our lives for prayer and reflection. As you enter church this season, take a moment to prepare for worship with a prayer, some breathing, or just allow yourself to be still.

The Liturgy of the Word

Prelude & Introit

Welcome & Announcements

All stand

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

*The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined.*

—Isaiah 9:2

Almighty God, grant that the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, may so light our whole lives that we need never walk in the darkness. Amen.

Please remain standing and sing

Processional Hymn: H-56

Veni, veni, 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 Sentences

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.**

The Gloria

The Holly and the Ivy

**It's rounded like an orange
this earth on which we stand;
and we praise the God whole holds it
in the hollow of his hand.**

**A candle, burning brightly,
can cheer the darkest night,
and these candles tell how Jesus
came to bring a dark world light.**

**So Father, we would thank you
for all that you have done,
and for all that you have given us
through the coming of your Son.**

The Collect of the Day

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

The First Lesson

read by Erin McNaughton

A reading from the book of Isaiah (64:1-9)

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down,
so that the mountains would quake at your presence—
as when fire kindles brushwood
and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect,
you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.
From ages past no one has heard,
no ear has perceived,
no eye has seen any God besides you,
who works for those who wait for him.
You meet those who gladly do right,
those who remember you in your ways.
But you were angry, and we sinned;
because you hid yourself we transgressed.
We have all become like one who is unclean,
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.
We all fade like a leaf,
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.
There is no one who calls on your name,
or attempts to take hold of you;
for you have hidden your face from us,
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.
Yet, O LORD, you are our Father;
we are the clay, and you are our potter;
we are all the work of your hand.
Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD,
and do not remember iniquity forever.
Now consider, we are all your people.

Reader The word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

Read in unison

Qui regis Israel

**Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.
Restore us, O God of hosts; *
show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
O LORD God of hosts, *
how long will you be angered
despite the prayers of your people?
You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
You have made us the derision of our neighbors, *
and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

Restore us, O God of hosts; *

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, *

the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.

And so will we never turn away from you; *

give us life, that we may call upon your Name.

Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; *

show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

The Second Lesson

read Kallen Tsikalas

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians (1:3-9)

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

All stand and sing

Sequence Hymn

Kingsfold

**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

Mark 13:24-37

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

“But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Sarah Kooperkamp

All stand and say

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.

Please remain standing

The Prayers of the People

led by Peter Saghir

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.

*At this moment you are invited to offer your prayers of thanksgiving or intercession aloud.
The presider offers a concluding collect.*

The Confession of Sin & Absolution

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.

Commissioning of the Music Director

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you!
People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

This is God's Table: all are welcome

The Offertory

*A collection for the church is taken up during the offertory anthem. You can give online via our website,
this QR code or use the offertory plate that is passed during the offertory.*



Offertory Anthem

All stand and sing

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:

The Sanctus: L-255

G. W. 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:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Presider 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: L-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.**

Please remain standing

The Breaking of the Bread

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.**

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.

Please come forward for communion following the invitation of the ushers. Extend your hands to receive the consecrated bread. To receive the consecrated wine, please sip directly from the chalice, or if you prefer intinction, please leave the wafer in your hand to allow the minister to dip it.

If you wish to receive a prayer or blessing, one of the clergy will be available by the Mary statue.

Communion Hymn

Holy Manna

**For your generous providing which sustains us all our days,
for your Spirit here residing, we proclaim our heartfelt praise.
Through the depths 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 labour—broken bread that makes us whole.**

Communion Anthem

All stand and say

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

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Recessional Hymn: H-616

Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein

**Hail to the Lord's Anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
to take away transgression, and rule in equity.**

**He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong,
to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying, were precious in his sight.**

**He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth:
before him on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.**

Holiday Singalong

**Just hear those sleigh bells jingling, ring-ting-tingling too
Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you
Outside the snow is falling and friends are calling "yoo hoo!"
Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you**

**Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy yap let's go, let's look at the show
We're riding in a wonderland
Giddy yap, giddy yap, giddy yap it's grand, just holding your hand
We're riding along with a song of a wintery fairy land**

**Our cheeks are nice and rosy and comfy and cozy are we
We're snuggled up together like two birds of a feather would be
Let's take the road before us and sing a chorus or two
Come on, it's lovely weather for a sleigh ride together with you**

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 coffee half-hour on the lawn following the
service. All are welcome!**

**For weekly announcements, please see our insert and
our weekly e-newsletter.**

www.holyapostlesbrooklyn.com

2024 Pledge Campaign

Dear Friends in Christ,

We've completed the third week of our annual giving campaign with **57 pledges totaling \$213,200—more than 85% of our goal of \$250,000!** This is amazing and a real testament to the commitment of our community to make Holy Apostles a vibrant and welcoming neighborhood church.

Thank you to all who have pledged so far. For those of you who would like to pledge and help us reach our goal so that we can continue to offer the programming and worship that helps to make Holy Apostles so special, fill out your pledge card at:
onrealm.org/holyapostles/AddPledge/pledge2024

We thank the following families and individuals for their prayerful gifts to God and the church, so that we all can continue to grow and serve Christ in each other, the community, and to welcome those seeking Christ:

Jill Metzler	The Arnold Family	The Stromsta Family
Carol Normandin	The Bailiff Goings Family	Patrick and Wendene
The Parkman Family	Alistair Boag	Durant
Brenda Alleyne	Jill Cirasella	The Toth Family
The Siegel Family	The Dufour Family	The Newland Family
The Babak Nugent Family	The Findley Dixon Family	Carol Oliver
Stephen Geick	The Rangel Hendrick	Olga Oliver
The Auletta Landau	Family	Pat Thebaud
Family	Emily Hursh	Keisha Lightbourne
Alice Avouris	The Campbell Kurtz	Ruth Klein
The Haynes Smith Family	Family	The Meleney Family
Dana Taplin	Stuart Matthewman	The Trull Zaller Family
The Golay Family	Ann Mellow	The Tyszka Family
Jane Miller	Meredith Roberts	The Garklavs Family
Erin McNaughton	Mercy Samuels	Daria Rigney
The Kooperkamp Lopez	Max Thorn	
Family	The Melodia Miles Family	
Ida Love	The Norman Family	
Karan Merry	Heather Kelly & James	
Tom Rigney	Topping	
The Saghir Family	Audrey Whitworth	
The Tsikalas Pasternak	The Coletti Brazzini	
Family	Family	
Linda Davis	The Labbanz Family	
Asa Swain	Richard Auletta	

An Advent Prayer

In our secret yearnings
we wait for your coming,
and in our grinding despair
we doubt that you will.
And in this privileged place
we are surrounded by witnesses who yearn more than do we
and by those who despair more deeply than do we.
Look upon your church and its pastors
in this season of hope
which runs so quickly to fatigue
and this season of yearning
which becomes so easily quarrelsome.
Give us the grace and the impatience
to wait for your coming to the bottom of our toes,
to the edge of our finger tips.
We do not want our several worlds to end.
Come in your power
and come in your weakness
in any case and make all things new.
Amen.

-by Walter Brueggemann

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

Kevin Devine
Director of Music

Max Thorn
Ministry Associate

Geoff Kurtz, Zach Parkman, Peter Saghir, Kallen Tsikalas
Lay Eucharist Ministers

Phillip Hunter & Asa Campbell Kurtz
Acolytes

To contact the Mothers, please email info@holypostlesbrooklyn.com