

Church of the Holy Apostles

The Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024



A Note on the Season

Lent is a season in the church year: the 40 days, excluding Sundays, that precede Easter. If you grew up Catholic, you probably were aware of this penitential season and most likely went to church on Ash Wednesday to mark the beginning of the 40 days' journey. If you didn't grow up Catholic, Lent might feel foreign to you. That's okay. This is as good a year as any to commit to observing a holy Lent. In the last few decades, the Episcopal Church has reclaimed Lent, as we understand the importance of setting aside this time where we are called to reflect, repent (ask forgiveness for our sins) and turn our hearts back to God.

Some of us might be scared by the use of the word sin. It might bring up feelings of shame and guilt, of how we are not "good enough" in the eyes of God. We'd like you to consider the idea that sin is like the brick wall that literally prevents our hearts from being closer to and open to God's love, which is always available to us.

Lent provides us, the time and space in the church year to observe and reflect on our sins, to ask for God's help and forgiveness, to take the steps to live a fuller life by turning our hearts back to God, remembering that God's love for us is unconditional and infinite—and when we are able to receive God's love, we are transformed.

Liturgical Changes in Lent

During Lent we make changes to the liturgy and the space. The altar becomes more bare, the crosses are shrouded, and the liturgical color changes from green to purple. In our liturgy, we sing a Kyrie instead of a Gloria, asking for God's mercy; on the First Sunday in Lent we begin the service with the Great Litany and the Sundays after with the Penitential Order; we include the Prayer of Humble Access before receiving communion; we say, not sing the Lord's Prayer; we do not declare Alleluia. We ask you at various moments in the liturgy to kneel instead of stand. These changes help us to recognize the ways in which we need God's help in turning our hearts back to God, to make us thankful on Easter for the sacrifice of Jesus and his resurrection—his victory over death and the forgiveness of our sins.

The Liturgy of the Word

Welcome to the Episcopal Church of the 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 or kneel (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.

Welcome & Announcements

Please stand as able

Processional Hymn: H-401

Leoni

**The God of Abraham praise, who reigns enthroned above;
Ancient of everlasting days, and God of love;
the Lord, the great I AM, by earth and heaven confessed:
we bow and bless the sacred Name for ever blest.**

**He by himself hath sworn: we on his oath depend;
we shall, on eagle wings upborne, to heaven ascend:
we shall behold his face, we shall his power adore,
and sing the wonders of his grace for evermore.**

**There dwells the Lord, our King, the Lord, our Righteousness,
triumphant o'er the world and sin, the Prince of Peace;
on Zion's sacred height his kingdom he maintains,
and, glorious with his saints in light, for ever reigns.**

Please kneel as able

The Penitential Order

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

God's mercy endures forever.

Hear the commandments of God to his people:

I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.

You shall have no other gods but me.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel: The Lord your God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this: Love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these."

We pause in silence to consider our sins. Please wait for the Presider to begin:

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.**

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.

Please sing together

**Lord have mercy
Christ have mercy
Lord have mercy**

Continue kneeling

The Collect of the Day

Presider Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **God's mercy endures forever. Amen.**

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Please be seated

The First Lesson

read by Kate Newlin

A reading from the book of Genesis (17:1-7, 15-16)

When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Reader The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Read in unison

Psalm 22:22-30

Deus, Deus meus

**Praise the LORD, you that fear him; *
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.**

**For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his face from them; *
but when they cry to him he hears them.**

**My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.**

**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *
"May your heart live for ever!"**

**All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.**

**For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
he rules over the nations.**

**To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.**

**My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him; *
they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.**

**They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.**

The Second Lesson

read by Erin McNaughton

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans (4:13-25)

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations")—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as

dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

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

Please stand and sing

Sequence Hymn: H-140

Donne

**Wilt thou forgive that sin where I begun,
which is my sin though it were done before?
Wilt thou forgive those sins through which I run,
and do run still, though still I do deplore?
When thou hast done, thou hast not done, for I have more.**

**Wilt thou forgive that sin, by which I won
others to sin, and made my sin their door?
Wilt thou forgive that sin which I did shun
a year or two, but wallowed in a score?
When thou hast done, thou hast not done, for I have more.**

**I have a sin of fear that when I've spun
my last thread, I shall perish on the shore;
swear by thyself, that at my death thy Son
shall shine as he shines now, and here to fore.
And having done that, thou hast done, I fear no more.**

The Holy Gospel

Mark 8:31-38

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Matthew.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Gospeller The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Rev. Kimberlee Auletta

Please stand

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 Jennifer Helminski

God formed us out of the dust of the earth. Let us pray for all people, as we are all made in the image of God.

For the holy Church of God throughout the world, sharing the death and resurrection of Christ; Lord, in your mercy

Save your people.

For Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Lawrence, Bill, GERALYN and Daniel our bishops; Sarah and Kimberlee our priests; and for all who minister in Christ; Lord, in your mercy

Save your people.

For those the Church has injured or offended; and for those we find it hardest to love; Lord, in your mercy

Save your people.

For Joe our president, Kathy our governor, and Eric our mayor and for all our legislators; for an awareness of the poor and powerless in our midst; for wisdom in governing and decision making; and for a commitment to the common good; Lord, in your mercy

Save your people.

For those who live in the midst of daily violence, especially those in Gaza, the West Bank, Israel, all of the Middle East, the Ukraine and Russia and for all who work for reconciliation and peace; Lord, in your mercy

Save your people.

For all who are oppressed, disregarded, or demeaned; Lord, in your mercy

Save your people.

For those who must fast every day, for the hungry, the homeless, the refugee, the migrant and victims of war and natural disaster; Lord, in your mercy

Save your people.

For all who doubt God's love or feel that their lives do not matter, and for those who have lost their way; Lord, in your mercy

Save your people.

For strength and courage to love one another as you have loved us; Lord, in your mercy

Save your people.

For the sick and suffering, and for those in our parish who are in need of special prayers, may they feel your loving presence in their lives; Lord, in your mercy

Save your people.

For all who have died, let your perpetual light shine upon them; Lord, in your mercy

Save your people.

For our families and friends; for our visitors and guests today; for our neighbors at PS 15 and for all those we love; Lord, in your mercy

Save your people.

I invite you to offer your own prayers for those in any need or trouble.

The Presider adds a concluding collect.

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

The Offertory

A collection for the church is taken up during the offertory anthem. You can give online at holypostlesbrooklyn.com or use the plate that is passed.

Our Lenten offering this year is to our discretionary fund to support PS 15. Please make your donation to that fund or bring in a food gift card.

Offertory Anthem

Please 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.**

Please kneel or stand as able

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

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed are they who come in the name of the Lord.
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

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 kneeling or standing

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem: H-S161

D. Hurd

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sings of the world: have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world: grant us peace.**

The Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this your Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your Table. But you are the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

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.

Please be seated

Communion Hymn: H-324

Picardy

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly minded, for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.**

**King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture, in the Body and the Blood.
He will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.**

**Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.**

Communion Anthem

Please kneel as able

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

Please stand as able

Recessional Hymn: H-495

In Babilone

**Hail, thou once despised Jesus! Hail, thou Galilean King!
Thou didst suffer to release us; thou didst free salvation bring.
Hail, thou universal Savior, bearer of our sin and shame!
By thy merit we find favor: life is given through thy Name.**

**Paschal Lamb, by God appointed, all our sins on thee were laid:
by almighty love anointed, thou hast full atonement made.
All thy people are forgiven through the virtue of thy blood:
opened is the gate of heaven, reconciled are we with God.**

**Jesus, hail! Enthroned in glory, there for ever to abide;
all the heavenly hosts adore thee, seated at thy Father's side.
There for sinners thou art pleading: there thou dost our place prepare;
ever for us interceding, till in glory we appear.**

The Dismissal

Priest Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

*Join us for coffee half-hour on the lawn following the service. All are welcome!
Thanks to Ellen Correia Golay for hosting coffee hour last week.*

Desert Places, by Robert Frost

Snow falling and night falling fast, oh, fast
In a field I looked into going past,
And the ground almost covered smooth in snow,
But a few weeds and stubble showing last.

The woods around it have it – it is theirs.
All animals are smothered in their lairs.
I am too absent-spirited to count;
The loneliness includes me unawares.

And lonely as it is, that loneliness
Will be more lonely ere it will be less –
A blanker whiteness of benighted snow
With no expression, nothing to express.

They cannot scare me with their empty spaces
Between stars – on stars where no human race is.
I have it in me so much nearer home
To scare myself with my own desert places.

Church of the Holy Apostles

An 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

Glenn Jussen
Usher

Phillip Hunter & Asa Campbell Kurtz
Acolytes

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