

**ST. ANN & THE HOLY TRINITY CHURCH**  
PRO-CATHEDRAL *of the* Episcopal Diocese of Long Island  
CLINTON & MONTAGUE STREETS | BROOKLYN HEIGHTS



**SUNDAY LITURGY**

*Fourth Sunday of Advent*

December 20, 2020

# WELCOME

## TO ST. ANN & THE HOLY TRINITY CHURCH

St. Ann & the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church is a house of worship and community commons in Brooklyn Heights. All are welcome here to seek sanctuary and solace, follow a spiritual path, celebrate music and the arts, participate in civic discourse, and engage in service for the common good. We are glad you have come to worship with us. If you are visiting, we hope you will return soon. If you are searching for a spiritual home, we invite you to consider St. Ann's. Our community is friendly, welcoming, and deeply committed to sharing God's love, caring for creation, and serving our neighbors in need. Please join us!

### **LEADERS IN TODAY'S SERVICE**

**Officiant** Rev. Craig D. Townsend  
**Preacher** Rev. Marie A. Tatro  
**Readers** Carol Stone, Luke Spector,  
Elise Roecker  
**Director of Music** Gregory D'Agostino

# LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*Officiant* Our Savior now draws near:

*People* **O come, let us adore him.**

*Officiant* Come and save us, God of mercy and peace:

*People* **Show us the light of your countenance  
and we shall be saved.**

*Officiant* Lord, grant us your light, that we, being free from the  
darkness of our hearts, may come to the true light which is  
Christ.

*People* **Amen.**

# OPENING HYMN

*The Hymnal 1982, #56, vv. 1-3, 7-8*



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som  
2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest  
3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy  
4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from  
5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen  
6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us  
7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the  
8 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile  
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge  
3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the  
4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to  
5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on  
6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of  
7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions  
8 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.  
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.  
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.  
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!  
5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.  
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.  
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.  
8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

*The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.*

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, *Processionale*, 15th cent.; adpt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Copyright ©1975, G.I.A. Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Officiant* Blessed be God: Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

*People* **And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.**

## COLLECT FOR PURITY

*Officiant* 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.

*People* **Amen.**

## TRISAGION

Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,  
*Have mercy upon us.*

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Officiant* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Officiant* 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.

*People* **Amen.**

## THE FIRST LESSON

*Romans 16:25-27*

*Reader* A Reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 89:1-4, 19-26**

*Misericordias Domini*

Your love, O Lord, for ever will I sing; \*  
from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.  
For I am persuaded that your love is established for ever; \*  
you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.  
"I have made a covenant with my chosen one; \*  
I have sworn an oath to David my servant:  
I will establish your line for ever, \*  
and preserve your throne for all generations."  
You spoke once in a vision and said to your faithful people: \*  
"I have set the crown upon a warrior  
and have exalted one chosen out of the people.  
I have found David my servant; \*  
with my holy oil have I anointed him.  
My hand will hold him fast \*  
and my arm will make him strong.  
No enemy shall deceive him, \*  
any wicked man bring him down.  
I will crush his foes before him \*  
and strike down those who hate him.  
My faithfulness and love shall be with him, \*  
and he shall be victorious through my Name.  
I shall make his dominion extend \*  
from the Great Sea to the River.  
He will say to me, 'You are my Father, \*  
my God, and the rock of my salvation.'

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**

*Luke 1:26-38*

*Reader* A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much

perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.” Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I am a virgin?” The angel said to her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God.” Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## **SERMON**

*The Rev. Marie A. Tatro*

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*Leader* Please join me as we affirm our faith in God’s promise with the response, “We believe.”

We believe in one God who said, “Let there be light,” and there was! With that light, God made the world and all that is in it.

When we were created, God put that light in us. And so we say,

*People* **We believe!**

*Leader* We believe in Jesus, the true Light, who went down to darkness to overcome death, and rose again. In his rising a path shines home to God’s heart. And so we say,

*People* **We believe!**

*Leader* We believe in the Spirit, filling us with hope, speaking the truth in every place, inspiring us to do justice and show kindness to one another. And so we say,

*People* **We believe!**

*Leader* We believe in the Church, where God is praised and God's people are forgiven, fed and sent out to love and serve the world. And so we say,

*People* **We believe!**

## **ADVENT PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Officiant* As we prepare for Jesus to come among us, let us offer prayers to God.

*Intercessor* For the peace of the world, and for our unity in Christ, we pray to you, O Lord:

*People* **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

*Intercessor* For the church throughout the world and the faithful in every place, we pray to you, O Lord:

*People* **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

*Intercessor* For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Lawrence our Bishop, for Geralyn, Daniel and William, and for all bishops, priests, deacons, and all the holy people of God, we pray to you, O Lord:

*People* **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

*Intercessor* For the leaders of the nations and all in authority, we pray to you, O Lord:

*People* **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

*Intercessor* For justice, peace, and freedom among peoples of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord:

*People* **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

*Intercessor* For all we hold dear and all of life's blessings, with thankful hearts, we pray to you, O Lord:

*People* **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

*Intercessor* For deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need, we pray to you, O Lord:

*People* **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

*Intercessor* For refugees, for the sick and suffering, for the hungry and oppressed, and for those in prison, we pray to you, O Lord:

*People* **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

*Intercessor* For those who have died and dwell with the saints in heaven, we pray to you, O Lord:

**People** **Come, O Lord, and save us.**

*Intercessor* Joining our voices with Mary the Godbearer, St. Ann, and all the saints and angels of God, let us offer ourselves and one another to Christ our Lord:

**People** **To you, O Lord our God.**

*Officiant* Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People** **Amen.**

## MUSIC MEDITATION

*The angel Gabriel from heaven came*

Music: *Gabriel's Message*, Basque carol

*Performed by Gregory D'Agostino*

† *Parish prayers are offered during the music meditation.* †

## THE CONFESSION OF SIN

*Officiant* 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.**

*Officiant* 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 LORD'S PRAYER

*Officiant* And so as Jesus taught us, we now pray:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*All* **My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you, and may you never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

## BLESSING & DISMISSAL

*Officiant* 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.

*People* **Amen.**

*Officiant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## THE PEACE

*Officiant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**