ST. ANN & the HOLY TRINITY CHURCH
Pro-Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island
CLINTON & MONTAGUE STREETS | BROOKLYN HEIGHTS

HOLY EUCHARIST
Second Sunday after Christmas
January 2, 2021
10:30 AM
Welcome
To St. Ann & the Holy Trinity Church
Pro-Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island

St. Ann & the Holy Trinity Episcopal Church is a house of worship and community commons in Brooklyn Heights. We are so glad you have come to worship with us. As you know, the ongoing pandemic makes this an extraordinary time that requires us to take precautions to protect ourselves and others. We ask while you are here to please follow all of these health protocols:

- Pre-registration is no longer required.
- Those who have recently tested positive for Covid-19, have Covid-like symptoms, or been in contact with someone who has them, may not attend in-person worship.
- Masks over both nose and mouth continue to be required on church grounds.

St. Ann’s is a friendly and welcoming church that is deeply committed to sharing God’s love, caring for creation, and serving our neighbors in need. We remain steadfast in our prayers for the safety of our community, our nation and the world and that all God’s people can live in freedom and peace.

Thank you for joining us!

Celebrant & Preacher: The Rev. Craig D. Townsend
Lay Eucharistic Minister: Barbara Gonzo
First Reader: Jacqueline de Weever
Second Reader: Carol Stone
Intercessor: Nancy Nicolette
Director of Music: Gregory D’Agostino
Altar Guild: Claudia Barber, Winifred Murdaugh

Cover image: The Journey of the Magi, ca. 1433-35. Sassetta (Stefano di Giovanni)
GREETINGS

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant  Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.
People    And blessed be God’s reign, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Celebrant  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.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
    and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
    we worship you, we give you thanks,
    we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
    have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
    receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant God be with you.
People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.
O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored,
the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life
of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus
Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.

People Amen.

The people sit

THE FIRST LESSON

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah.

Thus says the Lord:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
“Save, O Lord, your people,
the remnant of Israel.”

See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
among them the blind and the lame, those with child and
those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.
With weeping they shall come,
   and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
   in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
   and Ephraim is my firstborn.
Hear the word of the Lord, O nations,
   and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, “He who scattered Israel will gather him,
   and will keep him as a shepherd a flock.”
For the Lord has ransomed Jacob,
   and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.
They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
   and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
   and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
   and they shall never languish again.
Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
   and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
   I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.
I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
   and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
says the Lord.

Reader    Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
People    Thanks be to God.

PSALM 84 said by all       Quam dilecta!

How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *
   My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
  by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,
  my King and my God.
Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
  they will always be praising you.
Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
  whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
Those who go through the desolate valley will
find it a place of springs, *
  for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
They will climb from height to height, *
  and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
  hearken, O God of Jacob.
Behold our defender, O God; *
  and look upon the face of your Anointed.
For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room,*
  and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
  than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
For the Lord God is both sun and shield; *
  he will give grace and glory;
No good thing will the Lord withhold *
  from those who walk with integrity.
O Lord of hosts, *
  happy are they who put their trust in you!

THE SECOND LESSON  Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Ephesians.
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in
Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in
Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in
love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according
to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Read: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
People: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

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

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;  
for from you shall come a ruler  
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw
the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

SERMON The Rev. Craig D. Townsend

The people 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.
Silence
For all people in their daily life and work;

People For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Intercessor For this community, the nation, and the world;

People For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Intercessor For the just and proper use of your creation;

People For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Intercessor For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Intercessor For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Intercessor We pray for Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Lawrence, Geralyn, Daniel and William, our Bishops; as we pray for all bishops and other ministers;

People For all who serve God in his Church.

Intercessor For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
Silence

The people may add their own petitions

Intercessor Hear us, Lord;

People For your mercy is great.

Intercessor We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
Silence
*The people may add their own thanksgivings*

**Intercessor** We will exalt you, O God our King;

**People** And praise your Name for ever and ever.

**Intercessor** We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Silence
*The people may add their own petitions*

**Intercessor** Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**People** Who put their trust in you.

**Intercessor** We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept.

**All** Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Celebrant** 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**

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

**People** And also with you.

**OFFERTORY SENTENCE**
THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant God be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The Celebrant proceeds

It is truly right to glorify you, Holy One, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever. Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance. Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we say,

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory:
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!

Then the Celebrant continues

We acclaim you, holy God, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.
Holy God, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only Son to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, Jesus lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose Jesus gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for Christ who died and rose for us, you sent the Holy Spirit, your own first gift for those who believe, to complete your work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for Jesus to be glorified by you, his heavenly Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them Jesus 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 Jesus 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."

Almighty God, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ’s death and descent among the dead, proclaiming Christ’s resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting Christ’s coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

**Celebrant and People**

*We praise you, we bless you,*

*we give thanks to you,*

*and we pray to you, Lord our God.*

**The Celebrant continues**

God our Creator, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.
Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, Lord, your one holy catholic and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, and those whose faith is known to you alone; bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance with Mary the Godbearer, with matriarchs, patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with St. Ann and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

Amen.

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Celebrant And so as Jesus taught us, we now pray:
All 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.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

*Celebrant*  The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

MUSIC MEDITATION

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

*Celebrant*  Let us pray.

*People*  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.

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

*Celebrant*  May God the Holy Trinity make you strong in faith and love, defend you on every side, and guide you in truth and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

People  Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People*  Thanks be to God.
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  The Rev. Canon John E. Denaro — Rector
  The Rev. Katherine A. Salisbury — Associate Rector
  The Rev. Craig D. Townsend — Associate for Faith Formation
  The Rev. Marie A. Tatro — Priest Associate
  Gregory D’Agostino — Organist and Director of Music
  Lauren Bakoian — Facilities Manager
  Terry Randazzo — Parish Administrator
  James White — Sexton

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