

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



**SUNDAY LITURGY**

*Third Sunday of Advent*

December 13, 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** The Rev. Canon John E. Denaro  
**Gospeller** The Rev. Katherine A. Salisbury  
**Preacher** The Rt. Rev. Lawrence Provenzano  
**Readers** Duncan Kruse  
Wladimir Lewis-Thomas de Rosier  
**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.**

**HYMN**                    *“Creator of the stars of night”*                    *The Hymnal 1982, #60*

## 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

*Officiant* Holy God,  
Holy and Mighty,  
Holy Immortal One,

*People* **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

*Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11*

*Reader* A Reading from the Book of Isaiah.

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me;  
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;  
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;  
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,  
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.  
They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.  
They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;  
they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.  
For I the Lord love justice,  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;  
I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.  
I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;  
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,  
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.  
For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

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

## CANTICLE 15

*Magnificat*

**My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; \*  
for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.  
From this day all generations will call me blessed: \*  
the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is his Name.  
He has mercy on those who fear him \*  
in every generation.  
He has shown the strength of his arm, \*  
he has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, \*  
and has lifted up the lowly.  
He has filled the hungry with good things, \*  
and the rich he has sent away empty.  
He has come to the help of his servant Israel, \*  
for he has remembered his promise of mercy,**

The promise he made to our fathers, \*  
to Abraham and his children for ever.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

*John 1:6-8,19-28*

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

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

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

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

## SERMON

*The Rt. Rev. Lawrence Provenanzo  
Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island*

# 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.

## 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

### *“People Look East”*

Written by Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965)

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.**