St. Ann & the Holy Trinity Church
Pro-Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island
Clinton & Montague Streets | Brooklyn Heights

Holy Eucharist
Christmas Day
December 25, 2023
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 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 all God’s people in our community, our nation and the world. We are so glad you have joined us for worship!

We remain committed to protecting ourselves and the members of our community at St. Ann & the Holy Trinity. In light of the current public health guidance, mask-wearing is optional, and we encourage the following:

- Please continue to wear a mask if you feel that is best for you and others.
- Those who have recently tested positive for Covid-19, have Covid-like symptoms, or have been in contact with someone who does, are asked not to attend in-person worship.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Celebrant & Preacher  The Rev. Canon John E. Denaro
First Reader          Donna Evans
Second Reader        Barbara Gonzo
Intercessor          Anthony Holmes
Usher                Anthony Holmes
Musician             Gregory D’Agostino
Altar Guild          Donna Evans
                      Winifred Murdaugh
PROCESSIONAL HYMN

The Hymnal 1982 #100

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and then and nature sing, and
2 Joy to the world! the Savior reigns; let us our songs employ, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
*3 No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns in - fest the ground; he comes to make his blessings flow far nations prove the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love, and
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

The people stand and sing.
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 IN EXCELSIS

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, you make us glad by the yearly festival of the birth of your
   only Son Jesus Christ: Grant that we, who joyfully receive him as our
   Redeemer, may with sure confidence behold him when he comes to
   be our Judge; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one
   God, now and for ever.
People Amen.

The people are seated.

THE FIRST LESSON  Isaiah 52:7–10

Reader A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces
peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion,
"Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing
for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth
together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his
people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the
eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our
God.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
People Thanks be to God.
Sing to the Lord a new song, *
    for he has done marvelous things.
With his right hand and his holy arm *
    has he won for himself the victory.
The Lord has made known his victory; *
    his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
    and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; *
    lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
Sing to the Lord with the harp, *
    with the harp and the voice of song.
With trumpets and the sound of the horn *
    shout with joy before the King, the Lord.
Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, *
    the lands and those who dwell therein.
Let the rivers clap their hands, *
    and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
    when he comes to judge the earth.
In righteousness shall he judge the world *
    and the peoples with equity.

THE SECOND LESSON

Reader A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Hebrews.

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

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

**THE HOLY GOSPEL**  
*John 1:1–14*

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

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

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. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.


People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated.

**SERMON**  
*The Rev. Canon John E. Denaro*
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 Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world. Silence. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good. Silence. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory. Silence. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. Silence. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation. Silence. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

Intercessor We commend to your mercy all who have died, that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom. Silence. Lord, in your mercy,

People Hear our prayer.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

MUSIC MEDITATION
OFFERTORY HYMN

Unison or harmony

1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on
2 Why lies he in such mean estate where
3 So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come,

Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with
ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear: for
peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings sal-

anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
oration brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds
guard and angels sing; haste, haste to
bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.
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

Celebrant

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,

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

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.

All 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.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Celebrant  As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now sing,

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. 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.

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. At St. Ann & the Holy Trinity Church, our common practice is to receive the bread in outstretched hands and drink from the cup. Intinction (dipping the bread into the cup) is not permitted. Please indicate to the Celebrant if you would like gluten-free communion bread. If you do not wish to receive Communion, you are invited to come forward and cross your arms over your chest and a priest will offer a blessing. When a priest is available, prayers for healing will also be offered.

MUSIC MEDITATION

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.
People Eternal God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

CHRISTMAS BLESSING

Celebrant May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

People Amen.

DISMISSAL

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.
RECESSIONAL HYMN

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and every where; go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!

1 While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night, trembling when lo! above the earth rang
2 The shepherds feared and man-ger the humble Christ was born, and
3 Down in a low-ly
POSTLUDE

hold, through-out the hea-vens there shone a ho-ly light.
out the an-gel cho-rus that hailed our Sa-vior’s birth.
God sent us sal-va-tion that bless-ed Christ-mas morn.
Christmas Flowers & Music Offerings

Given by Claudia Barber in memory of Paul Barber, Caroline & Harold Seymour, Pauline & John Barber, and Charles Francescani, and in thanksgiving for Andrew, Amy, Sam & Louisa Barber, Peter, Meredith, Dylan & Tyler Barber, and family and friends

Given by Oreta Beckett in memory of Carl Beckett, Caverell & Catherine Williams

Given by Anthony Carter and Robert Mesnard in thanksgiving

Given by Rawle Charles in thanksgiving


Given by Donna Evans in memory of Virginia Jonas and Donnie Crenshaw

Given by Barbara Gonzo in memory of Amanda Jennings

Given by Gloria Goodman in thanksgiving

Given by Kate Kelly & Kyle Pope in thanksgiving for Pat & Joe Kelly and Carole Anderson

Given by Donna Lalwani in thanksgiving for the Podhayny, Kaleycik, Zrinski, Lalwani & Gera families

Given by Wladimir and Philton Lewis-Thomas de Rosier in memory of Dieudonne Françoise de Rosier Dejean, grandmother of Wladimir; Murriel Bennett, mother of Philton; Dora Marcus, friend of Wladimir and Philton; Patrick St. Felix, brother of Wladimir; and Max Dutiez Douze, stepfather of Wladimir

Given by Winifred N. Murdagh in memory of parents Norman & Verna Neblett, sister Norma Clinton, and husband and son Larry & Laurence Murdagh, and in thanksgiving for all the blessings in my life

Given by Clint Padgitt in memory of Dorothy Coles

Given by Halley and Nathan Taylor in thanksgiving for Raija & Persephone and their godparents and godsiblings, Julie, Silas, Katesh, Nimi, Margo, Jeniffer, Léon, Trey, Emma, and Luna