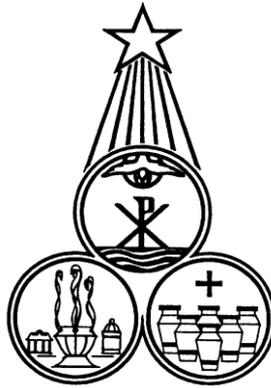


# Church of the Holy Apostles

## An Order of Worship for the Evening

### Third Sunday after the Epiphany



Sunday, January 24, 2021  
5:15 p.m.

*A contemplative prelude is played by the bluegrass musicians.  
This is a time to prepare ourselves for worship.*

*The Officiant may first briefly address the People.*

## **The Service of Light**

*All stand, and the service begins with this greeting*

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

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

*The following, or some other appropriate Short Lesson of  
Scripture may be read*

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

*Isaiah 60:1-3*

*The Officiant then says the Prayer for Light, using the following or some other suitable prayer, first saying*

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

*The candles at the Altar are now lighted.*

*The following hymn is then said by all*

O Gracious Light        *Phos hilaron*

**O gracious Light,  
pure brightness of the everliving Father in heaven,  
O Jesus Christ, holy and blessed!  
Now as we come to the setting of the sun,**

**and our eyes behold the vesper light,  
we sing your praises, O God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

**You are worthy at all times to be praised by happy voices,  
O Son of God, O Giver of life,  
and to be glorified through all the worlds.**

*The People are seated, and there follows*

The Psalm Appointed

Psalm 103

- 1 Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
- 2 Bless the Lord, O my soul,  
and do not forget all his benefits—
- 3 who forgives all your iniquity,  
who heals all your diseases,
- 4 who redeems your life from the Pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
- 5 who satisfies you with good as long as you live  
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.
- 6 The Lord works vindication  
and justice for all who are oppressed.
- 7 He made known his ways to Moses,  
his acts to the people of Israel.
- 8 The Lord is merciful and gracious,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- 9 He will not always accuse,  
nor will he keep his anger forever.
- 10 He does not deal with us according to our sins,  
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
- 11 For as the heavens are high above the earth,  
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- 12 as far as the east is from the west,  
so far he removes our transgressions from us.
- 13 As a father has compassion for his children,  
so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him.
- 14 For he knows how we were made;  
he remembers that we are dust.

15 As for mortals, their days are like grass;  
they flourish like a flower of the field;  
16 for the wind passes over it, and it is gone,  
and its place knows it no more.  
17 But the steadfast love of the Lord is from everlasting to  
everlasting  
on those who fear him,  
and his righteousness to children's children,  
18 to those who keep his covenant  
and remember to do his commandments.  
19 The Lord has established his throne in the heavens,  
and his kingdom rules over all.  
20 Bless the Lord, O you his angels,  
you mighty ones who do his bidding,  
obedient to his spoken word.  
21 Bless the Lord, all his hosts,  
his ministers that do his will.  
22 Bless the Lord, all his works,  
in all places of his dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul.

*At the end of the Psalm is said*

**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 Lesson**

A Reading from Hebrews (10:19-31)

<sup>19</sup>Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus,<sup>20</sup> by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh),<sup>21</sup> and since we have a great priest over the house of God,<sup>22</sup> let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water.<sup>23</sup> Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.<sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds,<sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.<sup>26</sup> For if we willfully persist in sin after having received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins,<sup>27</sup> but a fearful prospect of judgment, and a fury

of fire that will consume the adversaries. <sup>28</sup> Anyone who has violated the law of Moses dies without mercy “on the testimony of two or three witnesses.” <sup>29</sup> How much worse punishment do you think will be deserved by those who have spurned the Son of God, profaned the blood of the covenant by which they were sanctified, and outraged the Spirit of grace? <sup>30</sup> For we know the one who said, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay.” And again, “The Lord will judge his people.” <sup>31</sup> It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.

*After the Lesson the Reader says*

The word of the Lord.

**People Thanks be to God.**

*After the Reading, one of the following canticles is said*

The Song of Mary      *Magnificat*

*Luke 1:46-55*

**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.**

*or this*

The Song of Simeon

*Nunc dimittis*

*Luke 2:29-32*

**Lord, you now have set your servant free  
to go in peace as you have promised;  
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,  
whom you have prepared for all the world to see:  
A Light to enlighten the nations,  
and the glory of your people Israel.**

**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.**

Meditation

*An instrumental offering by the bluegrass musicians*

The Apostles' Creed

*Together, all standing*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **The Prayers**

*The people stand or kneel*

*Officiant*      The Lord be with you.

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

*Officiant*      Let us pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven:  
hallowed be 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 trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,  
***We entreat you, O Lord.***

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,  
***We entreat you, O Lord.***

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,  
***We entreat you, O Lord.***

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,  
***We entreat you, O Lord.***

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear, and not be condemned before the great judgment seat of Christ,  
***We entreat you, O Lord.***

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit in the communion of [\_\_\_\_\_ and] all your saints, entrusting one another and all our life to Christ,  
***We entreat you, O Lord.***

*The Officiant then says the following Collects, or others as appropriate*

The Collect of the Day – Third Sunday after Epiphany  
Give us grace, O Lord, to answer readily the call of our Savior Jesus Christ and proclaim to all people the Good News of his salvation, that we and the whole world may perceive the glory of

his marvelous works; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Sundays

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise you in that City of which he is the light, and where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A Prayer for Mission

O God and Father of all, whom the whole heavens adore: Let the whole earth also worship you, all nations obey you, all tongues confess and bless you, and men and women everywhere love you and serve you in peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

We pray especially for those on our parish prayer list:

**Fred, Marilyn, Wendie, Brooke, Robbie, Abigail, Gloria, Bob, Nathaniel, Ronnie, Gia, Bonnie, Tom, David, Kim, Beth, Phillip, Katherine, Brad, Betty, Judy, Oberg Family, Spears Family, Brian, Williamson Family**

*The People may add their own intercessions and thanksgivings.*

*The Officiant and People say this closing prayer together*

**Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of our fathers, creator of the changes of day and night, giving rest to the weary, renewing the strength of those who are spent, bestowing upon us occasions of song in the evening. As you have protected us in the day that is past, so be with us in the coming night; keep us from every sin, every evil, and every fear; for you are our light and salvation, and the strength of our life. To you be glory for endless ages. Amen.**

**The Blessing and Dismissal**

*The service concludes with a blessing or dismissal, or both, to which the People respond*

**Thanks be to God.**

*Postlude by the bluegrass musicians*