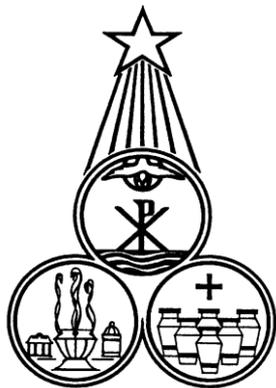


Church of the Holy Apostles

An Order of Worship for the Evening

Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany



Sunday, January 31, 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 How lovely is your dwelling place,
O Lord of hosts!

² My soul longs, indeed it faints
for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh sing for joy
to the living God.

³ Even the sparrow finds a home,
and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may lay her young,
at your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.

⁴ Happy are those who live in your house,
ever singing your praise.

⁵ Happy are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

⁶ As they go through the valley of Baca
they make it a place of springs;
the early rain also covers it with pools.

⁷ They go from strength to strength;
the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

⁸ O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;
give ear, O God of Jacob!

⁹ Behold our shield, O God;
look on the face of your anointed.

¹⁰ For a day in your courts is better
than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than live in the tents of wickedness.

¹¹ For the Lord God is a sun and shield;
he bestows favor and honor.
No good thing does the Lord withhold
from those who walk uprightly.

¹² O Lord of hosts,
happy is everyone who trusts in you.

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 (11:1-16)

¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. ⁴ By faith Abel offered to God a more acceptable sacrifice than Cain's. Through this he received approval as righteous, God himself giving approval to his gifts; he died, but through his faith he still speaks. ⁵ By faith Enoch was taken so that he did not experience death; and "he was not found, because God had taken him." For it was attested before he was taken away that "he had pleased God." ⁶ And without faith it is impossible to please God, for whoever would approach him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

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 – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in
heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your
people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ
our Lord, 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, Phillip,
Katherine, Brad, Betty, Judy, Brian, Williamson Family, Ken**

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

This service is according to 'An Order of Worship for the Evening,' as found in the Book of Common Prayer of the Episcopal Church.

Church of the Holy Apostles The Episcopal Diocese of West Tennessee

The Right Reverend Phoebe A. Roaf, Bishop of West Tennessee

The Rev. Clay Calhoun, Associate Priest

The Rev. Gerri Endicott, Deacon

Mr. Tom Carpenter, Director of Adult Formation

Mrs. Petrice Harvey, Intermediate Supervisor of Nursery

Mrs. Cynthia McCarty, Director of Youth Ministry

Mrs. Holly McDaniel, Director of Finance and Operations

Mrs. Tiffany Siegel, Director of Membership and Communications

Ms. Flora Sims, Hospitality

Mr. Jim Walsmith, Organist-Choirmaster

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