

Church of the Holy Apostles

Contemplative Bluegrass Mass Third Sunday in Lent



Sunday Evenings at 5:15 p.m.

Welcome! We are glad you have chosen to worship at Holy Apostles this evening for this celebration of the Holy Eucharist.

For safety, please wear masks and observe social distance between households throughout the service.

Monetary gifts may be placed in the offering plate before the service - the plate will not be passed around at the offertory.

In the Episcopal Church, all baptized Christians are invited to receive Holy Communion from the Lord's Table. If you have not been baptized and would like to learn more about this sacrament, please contact one of the clergy.

The Liturgy of the Word

The People gather during the instrumental prelude; this is a time to prepare ourselves for worship.

Opening Sentences

All stand, and the Priest says:

Beloved in Christ, we come together to offer to Almighty God our worship and praise of thanksgiving, to confess our sins and to receive God's forgiveness, to hear his holy Word proclaimed, to bring before him our needs and the needs of the world, and to pray that in the power of his Spirit we may serve him and know the greatness of his love.

Priest: In the wilderness we find your grace:
you love us with an everlasting love.
Lord, have mercy.

***People:* Lord, have mercy.**

Priest: There is none but you to uphold our cause;
our sin cries out and our guilt is great.
Christ, have mercy.

***People:* Christ, have mercy.**

Priest: Heal us, O Lord, and we shall be healed;
Restore us and we shall know your joy.
Lord, have mercy.

***People:* Lord, have mercy.**

Priest: The Lord be with you

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

Priest: Let us pray.

The Collect of the Day

Said by the priest; found on your bulletin insert.

The Collect for the Evening

The Priest says:

Lord Jesus stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. **Amen.**

First Reading

The People are seated. The reading is found on your bulletin insert.

After the reading:

Lector: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

The Psalm is found on your bulletin insert; it is read responsively by whole verse with the Lector reading the first verse, the People reading the second verse, and so on.

The Gospel

The People stand. The Gospel is found on your bulletin insert.

Before the reading:

Priest: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After the reading:

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Meditation

The People are seated.

A period of contemplative music follows the meditation.

Prayers of the People

The People may kneel or stand.

The Intercessor says the prayers leaving silences during which the people may offer up silent petitions.

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Phoebe our Bishop and Michael our Presiding Bishop; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church.

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace.

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

Pray for those in any need or trouble.

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him.

I ask your prayers for the departed.

Pray for those who have died.

Praise God for the twelve holy apostles and all those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

The Priest adds:

Merciful Father, accept these our prayers for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

The Confession and Absolution

The Priest bids:

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The Priest and People say:

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.

The Priest declares God's absolution:

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

The People stand.

Priest: The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

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

The People greet those near them in the name of the Lord; for safety, please refrain from moving about at this time.

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

The Priest says:

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. (*Ephesians 5.2*)

Music is played, while the People's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, are presented and placed on the Altar. When directed by the Priest, the People stand.

The Great Thanksgiving

All remain standing.

Priest: The Lord be with you.

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

Priest: Lift up your hearts.

***People:* We lift them to the Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***People:* It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Priest: It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You created all things, and made us in your own image. And so we join with all the saints and angels in proclaiming your glory as we say,

**All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Glory to you, O Lord Most High.**

The Priest continues:

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear your Son Jesus Christ. Dwelling among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself, yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you. He commanded us also to continue a perpetual memory of his precious death and sacrifice, as we look for the Day of his coming.

And so, Father, we bring you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, 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."

Father, we now celebrate the memorial of your Son. By means of this holy bread and cup, we show forth the sacrifice of his death, and proclaim his resurrection, until he comes again.

Gather us by this Holy Communion into one body in your Son Jesus Christ. Make us a living sacrifice of praise.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer

The Priest says:

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

**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**

The Breaking of the Bread

Priest: Jesus, Lamb of God:

People: Have mercy on us.

Priest: Jesus, bearer of our sins:

People: Have mercy on us.

Priest: Jesus, redeemer of the world:

People: Give us your peace.

Priest: 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.

Household groups may approach the altar to receive Holy Communion, which will be administered in one kind (Bread only). Please be mindful of maintaining social distance between households. Remain masked and return by the side aisle to your pew to consume the Sacrament there. If you do not wish to receive the Sacrament, but desire a blessing, indicate this by folding your arms across your chest.

Post-Communion Prayer

The People kneel.

The Priest says:

Let us pray.

The Priest and People say:

**God of truth,
we have seen with our eyes
and touched with our hands the bread of life:
strengthen our faith
that we may grow in love for you
and for each other;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Blessing and Dismissal

The Priest proclaims God's blessing:

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness, to deny yourselves, and to take up your cross and follow him: and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Priest: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

After the dismissal, the congregation may be seated as instrumental music is played.

Please recycle or take this service leaflet with you; it will not be reused.