Byzantine Art
After the Fall of Rome

- Western half of empire replaced by warring kingdoms that during Middle Ages formed foundations of modern nations
- Eastern half of empire becomes the Byzantine Empire and is centered around the city of Constantinople
Byzantine Art

• Early – from the age of the emperor Justinian (r. 527-565) to the onset of iconoclasm in 726
• Middle – renunciation of iconoclasm in 843 and ends with western Crusaders’ occupation of Constantinople in 1204
• Late – period after Byzantines recaptured Constantinople in 1261 and its final loss in 1453 to the Ottoman Turks.
Journal #

Make general observations of this building from the series of images.

Hagia Sophia

- Pronounced: AYE yah soh FEE ah
- Also known as the Church of Holy Wisdom
- Architects: Anthemius of Tralles & Isidorus of Miletus (both mathematicians)
- Dome 108 feet in diameter and 180 feet above the pavement
- Cathedrals from Venice to Russia were based on this domed structure.
Hagia Sophia cont.

- Has been changed since original appearance
- Buttresses and Turkish minarets have been added
- It later became a mosque in 1453.