



THE SUNDAY SHEET
THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST (CANDLEMASS)
30TH JANUARY 2022

*A very warm welcome as we gather for the Parish Eucharist.
An induction loop is provided. To use, please turn your hearing aid to T.*

Gluten free wafers are available for those who need them. Please inform one of the stewards/sidespersons who will pass the information on to the clergy. Many thanks

ENTRANCE HYMN

Lord, the light of your love is shining,
in the midst of the darkness shining:
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;
set us free by the truth you now bring us:
shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit. Blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word, Lord,
and let there be light.*

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness:
search me, try me, consume all my darkness:
shine on me, shine on me.,

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory:
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story:
shine on me, shine on me.

Words & Music: Graham Kendrick b.1950

THE COLLECT

Almighty and ever-living God,
clothed in majesty,
whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple,
in substance of our flesh:
grant that we may be presented to you
with pure and clean hearts,
by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

MALACHI 3. 1-5

A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

For the word of the Lord:

Thanks be to God.

Purify my heart,
let me be as gold and precious silver.

Purify my heart,
let me be as gold, pure gold.

*Refiner's fire, my heart's one desire
is to be holy, set apart for you, Lord,
I choose to be holy, set apart for you my Master,
ready to do your will.*

Purify my heart,
cleanse me from within and make me holy.
Purify my heart,
cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

Words and Music: Brian Doerksen b.1965

LUKE 2. 22-40

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.'

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

OFFERTORY HYMN

When candles are lighted on Candlemas Day
the dark is behind us, and spring's on the way.

*A glory dawns in every dark place,
the light of Christ, the fullness of grace.*

The kings have departed, the shepherds have gone,
the child and his parents are left on their own.

They go to the temple, obeying the law,
and offer two pigeons, the gift of the poor.

But Ann and Simeon recognize there
the Christ-child who came at the turn of the year.

The candles invite us to praise and to pray
when Christmas greets Easter on Candlemas Day.

Elizabeth J. Cosnett b.1936

Tune: Lourdes Hymn

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Heavenly Father,
as your Son Jesus Christ was presented in the Temple,
let our offering today be acceptable to you
and grant that we may see him, who is our salvation,
the glory of your people and the light of all the nations;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

HYMN AT THE END OF COMMUNION

Like a candle flame,
flickering small in our darkness,
uncreated light shines through infant eyes.

*God is with us, alleluia,
come to save us, alleluia. Alleluia!*

Yet his light shall shine
from our lives, Spirit blazing,
as we touch the flame of his holy fire.

Words & Music: Graham Kendrick b.1950

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna,
who lived to welcome the Messiah:
may we, who have received these gifts beyond words,
prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes
to bring us to eternal life;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen.**

CANDLEMASS CEREMONY

The candles are lit as the following hymn is sung and then we turn to face the Font

Faithful vigil ended,
watching, waiting cease;
Master, grant thy servant
his discharge in peace.

All thy Spirit promised,
all the Father willed,
now these eyes behold it
perfectly fulfilled.

This thy great deliverance
sets thy people free;
Christ their light uplifted
all the nations see.

Christ, thy people's glory!
watching, doubting cease;
grant to us thy servants
our discharge in peace.

Timothy Dudley-Smith b 1926 Based on Nunc Dimittis Tune: Pastor Pastorum

The Priest then says:

Lord God, the springing source of everlasting light, pour into the hearts of your faithful people the brilliance of your eternal splendour, that we, who by these kindling flames light up this temple to your glory, may have the darkness of our souls dispelled, and so be counted worthy to stand before you in that eternal temple where you live and reign, Father. Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Father, here we bring to an end our celebration of the Saviour's birth.

**Help us, in whom he has been born,
to live his life that has no end.**

Here we have offered the Church's sacrifice of praise.

**Help us, who have received the bread of life,
to be thankful for your gift.**

Here we have rejoiced with faithful Simeon and Anna.

**Help us, who have found the Lord in his temple,
to trust in your eternal promises.**

Here we have greeted the Light of the world.

**Help us, who now extinguish these candles,
never to forsake the light of Christ.**

All now extinguish their candles.

Here we now stand near the place of baptism.

**Help us, who are marked with the cross,
to share the Lord's death and resurrection.**

Here we turn from Christ's birth to his passion.

**Help us, for whom Lent is near,
to enter deeply into the Easter mystery.**

Here we bless one another in your name.

**Help us, who now go in peace,
to shine with your light in the world.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

The Priest and people depart.

TODAY'S READINGS

MALACHI 3. 1-5

The prophet foresees the coming of God's messenger on a day of judgement that will be hard to withstand. There will be judgement on all who defy God's commandments and purification for those who serve God by offering him sacrifices.

HEBREWS 2. 14-18

Jesus became like us, his brothers and sisters, so that he understands what it means to be truly human. Because he understands us so well he is merciful towards us and helps us in our times of struggle and temptation.

LUKE 2. 22-40

When Jesus is brought to the Temple an old man, Simeon, recognises him as God's Messiah. He speaks of him as the revelation and salvation of God offered to all people, but also foresees the suffering that is to come for the baby and his mother.

NOTICES

Covid 19 Please use the hand sanitiser, complete the Track & Trace form, and please continue wear a face covering when coming to church. Please take care to keep one another safe.

Collection Envelopes for 2022 are now available. Please see Janet Cameron. If you are a regular worshipper here please consider giving by Gift Direct, a simple and easy way to give to the work of the Church. Details can be found on the Church in Wales website: www.churchinwales.org.uk Thank you!

VP School. Do you have any kitchenware (not china!) that you no longer need or use? If so, the children of the VP infant school would love to use it in their mud kitchen!! You will be able to drop the item(s) off at the back of church in a clearly marked box and all contributions will be gratefully received and put to good use. Thank you.

THE WEEK AHEAD

31st Monday – Feria

9am Morning Prayer

9.30am Holy Eucharist *at the Cathedral*

5pm Evening Prayer

1st Tuesday – Bridget, Abbess

9am Morning Prayer

6pm Evening Prayer

7pm Holy Eucharist *at the Cathedral*

2nd Wednesday – Feria

9am Morning Prayer

10.30am Holy Eucharist *at the Cathedral*

5pm Evening Prayer

3rd Thursday – Seiriol, Abbot

9am Morning Prayer

10am Holy Eucharist *at the Parish Church*

5pm Evening Prayer

4th Friday – Manche Masemola,

Martyr

9am Morning Prayer

9.30am Offeren (*Welsh Eucharist*)

6pm Choral Evensong

5th Saturday – Feria

9am Morning Prayer

5pm Evening Prayer

**6th Sunday – The 4th Sunday before
Lent**

9.30am The Parish Eucharist

11am The Cathedral Eucharist

11am Messy Church *at the Parish Church*

3.30pm Choral Evensong

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www.stasaphparishchurch.org.uk