

THE PRESENTATION IN THE TEMPLE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST - CANDLEMAS

2 FEBRUARY 2025 – HOLY COMMUNION

WELCOME! THE SERVICE ORDER OUTLINES OUR WORSHIP. HYMNS CAN BE FOUND IN THE BLUE HYMNAL.

READINGS: MALACHI 3:1-4; PSALM 84; HEBREWS 2:14-18; LUKE 2:22-40

OUR READERS: A.J. HAWKS AND KATHIE GROSCHNER

Organ: Prelude - Priere a Notre-Dame, Op. 25 - Leon Boellmann, 1862 - 1897

Hymn 259, Hail To The Lord Who Comes, Comes To His Temple Gate

The Word Of God

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit. **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your Holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Music Insert: all sing - Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Almighty Father, whose Son Jesus Christ was presented in the Temple and acclaimed the glory of Israel and the light of the nations: Grant that in him we may be presented to you, and in the world may reflect his glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and for ever. **Amen.** *The people are seated.*

A Reading From The Prophet Malachi

In our Hebrew Scripture reading, the prophet promises that, as the day of the Lord's judgment nears, God's messenger will be sent to make ready the Lord's way.

Thus says the Lord, 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 84 is a hymn of praise and thanksgiving to the Lord on high, who has saved God's servant and cares for the lowly. The cantor sings the refrain; all repeat, and sing as indicated by R.



How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Happy are they who dwell in your house! They will always be praising you. Happy are the people whose strength is in you! whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way. **R.** Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water. They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion. Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob. Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your Anointed. **R.** For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked. For the Lord God is both sun and shield; he will give grace and glory; No good thing will the Lord withhold from those who walk with integrity. O Lord of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you! **R.**

A Reading From The Letter To The Hebrews

In this lesson, we are reminded that Jesus has now shared in all aspects of human life. By experiencing death, he has broken the power of death over humankind.

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

All stand. The cantor sings "alleluia"; all repeat, and sing again after the verse.



V. My eyes have seen our salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples. **R. Alleluia (3x)**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to Luke. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus 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 turtledoves 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 seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped 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 Mary and Joseph 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 favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon – The Rev. Michael L. Bradley, rector

What do we believe?

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church; **That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake; **That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble; **That they may be delivered from their distress.**

Give to the departed eternal rest. **Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy; **May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

In our diocesan cycle of prayer, we remember the clergy and people of All Saints, Pontiac. In the Anglican cycle of prayer, we remember the clergy and people of the Anglican Church of The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia In our parish cycle of prayer, we remember: Ed, Christopher, Karen, Raymond, Donald, Lynn, Tom, Lori. And I ask you to offer the names of others you wish to pray for this morning. (pause).

We pray also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Have mercy upon us; **Have mercy upon us, most merciful God, in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown things done and left undone, and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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.**

May God's peace be with you always. **And also with you.**

The people may greet each other without making physical contact.

Holy Communion

All are invited to receive Communion. The bread is placed in the palm of your right hand. You may dip the bread in the wine or sip the wine from the chalice. Instead of Communion and to receive a blessing, kindly keep your hands folded.

Anthem: O How Amiable Are Thy Dwellings, O Lord Of Hosts

Text, Psalm 84; Setting, Ralph Vaughan Williams

After the anthem, the people stand at the presentation of the gifts.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The celebrant continues with the Prayer of Consecration, Great Amen and Lord's Prayer. After the Invitation to Communion, all sing:

Our worship concludes with the Liturgy for Candlemas – insert