

Grace Episcopal Church

Alexandria, Virginia



**The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ
in the Temple: Candlemas
Festival Eucharist, Rite I
February 7, 2021 – 9:00 AM**

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE: CANDLEMAS
FESTIVAL EUCHARIST, RITE I
(TRANSFERRED FROM FEBRUARY 2)

VOLUNTARY In finiment calme from *Sei Fioretti*

Charles Tournemire (1870-1939)

WELCOME

INTROIT ANTIPHON (choir) *Suscepimus*

Plainsong, Tone VII

We have waited, O God, for thy loving-kindness in the midst of thy temple; according to thy Name, O God, so is thy praise unto the world's end: thy right hand is full of righteousness. Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised: in the city of our God, even upon his holy hill. (*Ps. 48:10, 11 & 2*)

THE COLLECT

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, thou hast made this day holy by the presentation of thy Son in the Temple, and by the purification of the blessed Virgin Mary: Mercifully grant that we, who delight in her humble readiness to be the birth-giver of the only-begotten, may rejoice for ever in our adoption as his sisters and brothers; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE BLESSING OF THE CANDLES

Almighty and everlasting God, who on this day didst present thine only-begotten Son in thy holy temple to be received in the arms of blessed Simeon: we humbly entreat thy mercy, that thou wouldst vouchsafe to bless, hallow, and kindle with the light of thy heavenly benediction these candles which we thy servants desire to receive and to carry, lighted in honor of thy holy Name. By offering them to thee our Lord and God, may we be inflamed with the fire of thy love, and made worthy to be presented in the holy temple of thy glory. Through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord who with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, liveth and reigneth God, world without end. **Amen.**

THE PROCESSION

Priest Let us go forth in peace.
People **In the name of Christ. Amen**

1 Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2 He comes with suc - cor speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth,
 4 Kings shall bow down be - fore him, and gold and in - cense bring;
 5 O'er ev - ery foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall rest;

1 Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
 2 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
 3 and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth:
 4 all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing;
 5 from age to age more glo - rious, all bless - ing and all - blest:

1 He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free;
 2 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,
 3 be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;
 4 to him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows a - scend;
 5 the tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;

1 to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
 2 whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.
 3 and right - eous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.
 4 his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.
 5 his Name shall stand for ev - er, his change - less Name of Love.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 72

Music: *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*, German folk song; adapt. and harm. *A Student's Hymnal*, 1923, after Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941)

4. O Lord, the on - ly be - got - ten Son, Je - sus Christ;

5. O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Fa - ther, that
 ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -
 on us. 6. Thou that ta - kest a - way the sins of the
 world, re - ceive our prayer. 7. Thou that sit - test at the
 right hand of God the Fa - ther, have mer - cy up - on us.

8. For thou on - ly art ho - ly; thou on - ly art the Lord; 9. thou
 on - ly, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost, art most
 high in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. —
 A - - - - - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly beseech thee that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Lector A Reading from the Book of Malachi.

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The choir sings the psalm.

PSALM 84:1-6

Quam dilecta!

Anglican Chant: Charles H.H. Parry (1848-1918)

- 1 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.
- 2 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.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 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.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 2:14-18

Lector A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia, alleluia. The old man carried the Child, but the Child governed the old man. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

Priest The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

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 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 favor of God was upon him.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

1 Vir - gin - born, we bow be - fore thee: bless - ed was the
2 Bless - ed she by all cre - a - tion, who brought forth the

womb that bore thee; Ma - ry, Mo - ther meek and mild,
world's sal - va - tion, and bless - ed they, for ev - er blest, who

bless - ed was she in her child. Bless - ed was the breast that fed thee;
love thee most and serve thee best. Vir - gin - born, we bow be - fore thee;

bless - ed was the hand that led thee; bless - ed was the
bless - ed was the womb that bore thee; Ma - ry, Mo - ther

par - ent's eye that watched thy slum - bering in - fan - cy.
meek and mild, bless - ed was she in her Child.

Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826) Music: Psalm 86, Claude Goudimel (1514-1572), alt.

SERMON

The Rev. Anne Turner

Silence is kept.

THE NICENE CREED

BCP, p. 326

**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.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form III; BCP, p. 387

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.

Praying especially for those affected by the coronavirus and any illness around the world, their caregivers, and those working and serving on the front lines of the crisis; have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;
That they may be delivered from their distress.

Remembering especially, all those who have died of the coronavirus, and all those killed in acts of terror, violence and war around the world, 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.

Silence is kept. The celebrant adds a concluding collect.

Priest Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against thee, in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved thee with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways,
to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**

Celebrant Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And with thy spirit.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY ANTIPHON (choir) *Diffusa est gratia* Plainsong, Tone II

Full of grace are thy lips: because God hath blessed thee for ever. (*Ps. 45:2*)

ANTHEM Christ is the world's true Light Walter Kendall Stanton (1891-1978)

Christ is the world's true Light, its Captain of salvation; the Daystar clear and bright of ev'ry race and nation. New life, new hope awakes where'er we own his sway; freedom her bondage breaks, and night is turned to day. In Christ all peoples meet, their ancient feuds forgetting, the whole round world complete, from sunrise to its setting. When Christ is throned as Lord, we shall forsake our fear; to ploughshare beat the sword, to pruning hook the spear. One Lord, in one great Name unite us all who own thee; cast out our pride and shame, that hinder to enthrone thee. The world has waited long, has travailed long in pain; to heal its ancient wrong, come Prince of Peace and reign.

Words: George Wallace Briggs (1875-1959)

All glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

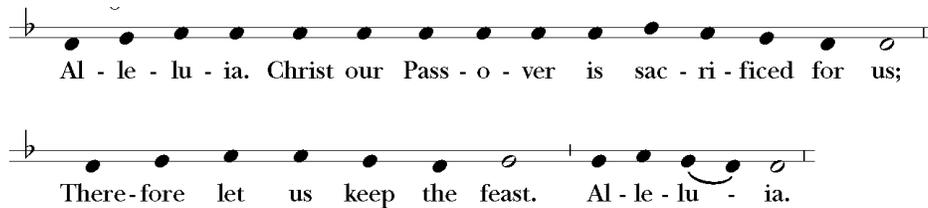
And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 Fraction Anthem

Ambrosian chant, Hymnal S-152



THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant 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.

THE ACT OF SPIRITUAL RECEPTION

My Jesus, I believe that thou art present in the Blessed Sacrament. I love thee above all things, and I desire thee in my soul. Since I cannot now receive thee sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. As though thou wert already there, I embrace thee and unite myself wholly to thee; permit not that I should ever be separated from thee. Amen.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Celebrant The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be amongst you, and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

1 Gra - cious God, you call your peo - ple to your Ta - ble through your Word:
 2 Word In - car - nate, dwell - ing with us, shar - ing hu - man joy and pain,
 3 Ho - ly Spi - rit, life - be - stow - er, po - tent wind and ur - gent flame,
 4 Tri - une God, di - verse, u - ni - ted, source of true com - mu - ni - ty,

sum - mon us through all our sen - ses, let our hearts and minds be stirred.
 heal - ing, bless - ing, dy - ing, ris - ing, mak - ing all things new a - gain:
 may your gifts and fruits bring bless - ing to all those who bear Christ's name.
 from whose shared im - plant - ed im - age comes all hu - man dig - ni - ty:

Root us in th'a - pos - tles' teach - ing, joined in fel - low - ship and prayers,
 still pro - claim your Good News through us in life's dai - ly give and take;
 Guard us from the snares of ev - il, but when on sin's path we stray,
 help us guide the plow of jus - tice well and right - ly, deep and true,

yet, like bread that breaks to feed us, give us faith that risks and dares.
 help us love and serve our neigh - bor with your grace and for your sake.
 give us grace to turn, re - pent - ant, back to God's life - giv - ing way.
 carv - ing room for peace to flou - rish op' - ning hearts to grace a - new.

Tune: *RUSTINGTON*, Charles Hubert Hastings Parry (1848-1918)

Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr. © 2005 Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

THE DISMISSAL

Priest
People

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, alleluia.
Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.

THOSE SERVING

Celebrant

Preacher

Seminarian & Crucifer

Intercessor

Lector

Thurifer

Organist

Choir

Altar Guild Crew Leader

Flower Arranger

Live Stream Crew

The Rev. Jason Roberson

The Rev. Anne Michele Turner

Paul Evans

Halina Banas-Jones

Michael Jones

Karlene Kelly

Richard Newman, DMA

An Ensemble from the Adult Choir

Nancy Robinson

Kristine Hesse

Eleanor Reed & Teresa Preston

All printed hymns used by permission from Church Publishing Incorporated.

