

Eucharist on the Feast of the  
Presentation of Christ in the Temple

## Candlemas



**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2025**

*With admission to Holy Communion*

Opening Hymn: 157

Hail to the Lord who comes

## The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son,  
and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

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

## Introduction

## Prayers of Penitence

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of peace:  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary:  
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are Word made flesh  
and splendour of the Father:  
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

## Absolution

## 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.**

*Please sit for the* **First Reading from Malachi 3.1-5**

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.**

## Psalm 24.7-end

7 Lift up your heads, O ye gates, \* and be ye lift up ye ever- |

last-ing | doors :  
and the King of | glo-ry | shall come | in.

8 Who is the | King of | glory :  
it is the Lord strong and mighty, \* even the Lord — |  
mighty · in |  
battle.

9 Lift up your heads, O ye gates, \* and be ye lift up, ye ever- |

last-ing | doors :  
and the King of | glo-ry | shall come | in.

10 Who is the | King of | glory :  
even the Lord of hosts, | he · is the | King of | glory.

Glory | be · to the | Father :  
and to the Son, | and · to the | Ho-ly | Ghost ;

As it was in the beginning, \* is now, and | ever · shall | be :  
world without | end, A- | — | men.

## The Second Reading is from Hebrews 2.14-end

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he 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.

For the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Anthem: Boyce, *The Lord is my Light*

*Please stand for the* **Gospel**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to 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.**

*Please sit for the Talk*

### **Profession of Faith**

Friends, I ask you to affirm together with *these candidates* the faith of the Church.

Do you believe and trust in God the Father, source of all being and life, the one for whom we exist?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Son, who took our human nature, died for us and rose again?

**I believe and trust in him.**

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit, who gives life to the people of God and makes Christ known in the world? **I believe and trust in him.**

This is the faith of the Church.

**This is our faith. We believe and trust in one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

## **Prayers of Intercession**

### **The Peace**

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high has broken upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

**Hymn: 494, Christ is the World's true (t. Nun Danket)**

## **Admission to Holy Communion**

Jesus calls you by name, and invites you to his table. Do you wish to be admitted to Holy Communion, and share regularly in this sacred meal?

The children reply: *I do*

Parents, Godparents and sponsors: Will you help these children to grow in faith and love and come in time to Confirmation?

*With the help of God, we will.*

As the people of God in this place, we share the responsibility of encouraging one another in our worship and supporting one another in our discipleship. Will you welcome these children as communicant members of Christ's family?

***We welcome them.***

Through our fellowship, our example and our prayers, will you help them to grow in faith and love?

***With the help of God, we will.***

As these children receive today the sacrament of the body and blood of Christ, let us pray that we may all know and reflect the love of Christ.

God of life, you invite us to eat at your table; may we know your love as we share your heavenly food, and shine with your light all the days of our life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Eucharistic Prayer**

The Lord is here.

**His Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give thanks and praise.**

*The prayer continues to the sung Sanctus:*

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,**

**heaven and earth are full of thy glory.**

**Glory be to thee, O Lord most high.**

**Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*The prayer continues.*

We break the bread of life,  
and that life is the light of the world.  
**God here among us,  
light in the midst of us,  
bring us to light and life.**

*The prayer continues, end with:*  
**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **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,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

## **Breaking of the Bread**

*The president breaks the consecrated bread.*  
We break this bread  
to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body,  
because we all share in one bread.**

*The Agnus Dei is sung as the bread is broken.*

**O Lamb of God that takest away  
the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God that takest away  
the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God that takest away  
the sin of the world, grant us thy peace.**

## **Giving of Communion**

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

**Jesus Christ is holy,**

**Jesus Christ is Lord,**

**to the glory of God the Father.**

Communion Anthem: Darke, *Nunc Dimittis* in F

## Prayer after Communion

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.**

## Notices

### Giving of a Lighted Candle

God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness  
and has given us a place with the saints in light. You have  
received the light of Christ; walk in this light all the days  
of your life.

**Shine as a lights in the world,  
to the glory of God the Father.**

*The candles of the congregation begin to be lit*

Father, we have sung your praise with shepherds and angels:  
may Christ be born in our hearts today.

**Praise to Christ our light.**

We have shared in the joy of Simeon and Anna;  
help us, like them, to trust your word.

**Praise to Christ our light.**

We have greeted Jesus, the light of the world;  
may we be filled with the light of your love.

**Praise to Christ our light.**

To a troubled world  
**Peace from Christ.**

To a searching world  
**love from Christ.**

To a waiting world  
**Hope from Christ.**

### **Processional Hymn: 33, Of the Father's heart begotten**

Of the Father's heart begotten  
ere the world from chaos rose,  
he is Alpha: from that Fountain,  
all that is and hath been flows;  
he is Omega, of all things  
yet to come the mystic Close,  
*evermore and evermore.*

By his word was all created;  
he commanded and 'twas done;  
earth and sky and boundless ocean,  
universe of three in one,  
all that sees the moon's soft radiance,  
all that breathes beneath the sun.

He assumed this mortal body,  
frail and feeble, doomed to die,  
that the race from dust created  
might not perish utterly,  
which the dreadful Law had sentenced  
in the depths of hell to lie.

O how blest that wondrous birthday,  
when the Maid the curse retrieved,  
brought to birth mankind's salvation,  
by the Holy Ghost conceived,  
and the Babe, the world's Redeemer,  
in her loving arms received.

This is he, whom seer and sybil  
sang in ages long gone by;  
this is he of old revealèd  
in the page of prophecy;  
lo! he comes, the promised Saviour;  
let the world his praises cry!

Let the storm and summer sunshine,  
Gliding stream and sounding shore,  
Sea and forest, frost and zephyr,  
Day and night their Lord adore;  
Let creation join to laud thee  
Through the ages evermore,

Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praises;  
Angels and Archangels, sing!  
wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,  
let your joyous anthems ring,  
every tongue his name confessing,  
countless voices answering,  
*evermore and evermore.*

# The Blessing

May God, who in Christ gives us a spring of water  
welling up to eternal life,  
perfect in you the image of his glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

# The Dismissal

We stand out in world  
**Let us shine with the light of your love.**

We turn from the crib to the cross.  
**Let us shine with the light of your love.**

We go to carry his light.  
**Let us shine with the light of your love.**  
**Thanks be to God.**

# NOTICES

**New Electoral Roll** Forms available at the back of church or online at [st-giles-church.org/electoral-roll](http://st-giles-church.org/electoral-roll)

**Midweek Eucharists** have restarted: every Weds at 12.30pm in St Giles'.

**Jazz at St Giles':** Post Bop Jazz Showcase Sat 8 Feb 7:30pm

**Benefice youth pilgrimage** 4-8 August in Pembrokeshire – contact Claire for more information.

**St Giles' Choir Tour** Bergamo 24-29 July 2025 – contact Nicholas Prozzillo

**Daily Prayer** at St Giles':

- Morning Prayer Tue – Fri at 8.30am
- Evening Prayer Mon – Sat at 5.30pm

**Services on Sunday 9 February**

8:00am – **Holy Communion** at St Giles'

10:30am – **Joint Benefice Holy Communion** at St Giles'

6:30pm – **Choral Evensong** at St Giles'

More at: [www.StGilesStMargarets.org](http://www.StGilesStMargarets.org)

# PRAYER REQUESTS

Sick: Alison, Chris Henry

Julia, Caroline, Christina, Edward, Ian, Rosemary

Year's Mind:

3rd – Emily Davies (2007)

6th – Dick Southern (2001)

6th – Joyce Saxton (2009)

8th – Terence Banda (2014)