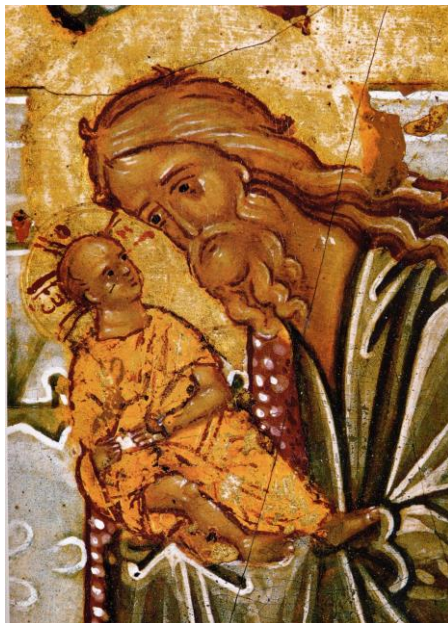


*By Thy nativity, Thou didst  
sanctify the Virgin's womb;  
And didst bless Simeon's hands,  
O Christ our God.  
Now Thou hast come and saved  
us through love.  
Grant peace to all Christians,  
O only Lover of man*



## The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (also called Candlemas)

Sunday, 30 January 2022

## Greeting & Opening Prayer

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

**Amen.**

The Lord of glory be with you.

**and also with you.**

## 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 Anna and Simeon recognise there  
the Christ-child who came at the turn of the year.

The old who have suffered and waited so long  
see hope for the world as they welcome the young.

They gaze at God's wonderful answer to prayer,  
the joy of the Jews and the Gentiles' desire.

The light is increasing and spring's in the air.  
Look back with thanksgiving! Look forward with awe!

They see before Mary a heart-piercing grief,  
but trust is complete at the end of their life.

For Mary will follow, with tears in her eyes,  
her Saviour and Son to the foot of the cross.

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

Elizabeth J. Cosnett (b.1936)

Tune: Lourdes, French Traditional

### **Confession & Absolution**

Hear the words of our Saviour Jesus Christ:

‘I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me shall never walk in darkness  
but shall have the light of life.’

Let us therefore bring our sins into his light  
and confess them in penitence and faith.

*cf John 8.12*

**Father eternal, giver of light and grace,  
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,  
in what we have thought,  
in what we have said and done,  
through ignorance, through weakness,  
through our own deliberate fault.**

**We have wounded your love,  
and marred your image in us.**

**We are sorry and ashamed,  
and repent of all our sins.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
who died for us,  
forgive us all that is past;  
and lead us out from darkness  
to walk as children of light.**

**Amen.**

Almighty God,  
who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy upon *you*,  
pardon and deliver *you* from all *your* sins,  
confirm and strengthen *you* in all goodness,  
and keep *you* in life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **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.**

### **The Lesson & Gospel**

*Malachi 3:1-5 or Hebrews 2:14-end*

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Today the Lord is presented in the Temple  
in substance of our mortal nature. **Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Luke 2: 22-40*

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Sermon**

## **The Nicene Creed**

**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,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and 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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who 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.**

## Intercessions

*Led by Carole*

## 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.**

## Offertory Hymn

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

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

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

Christ, your people's glory!  
Watching, doubting cease:  
grant to us your servants  
our discharge in peace.

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith (b. 1926)

Tune: Pastor Pastorum, Philipp Friedrich Silcher (1789-1860)

## **Preparation of the Table**

Father, in Christ there has sprung up a light for the righteous;  
accept the gifts we bring before you  
and grant that Christ may shine in us  
to the praise and glory of your name.  
**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.**

It is indeed right and good,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise  
through Jesus Christ, who is one with you from all eternity.  
For on this day he appeared in the Temple  
in substance of our flesh  
to come near to us in judgement.  
He searches the hearts of all your people  
and brings to light the image of your splendour.  
Your servant Simeon acclaimed him  
as the light to lighten the nations  
while Anna spoke of him to all who looked for your redemption.  
Destined for the falling and rising of many,  
he was lifted high upon the cross  
and a sword of sorrow pierced his mother's heart  
when by his sacrifice he made our peace with you.

And now we rejoice and glorify your name  
that we, too, have seen your salvation  
and join with angels and archangels  
in their unending hymn of praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

Accept our praises, heavenly Father,  
through your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
and as we follow his example and obey his command,  
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit  
these gifts of bread and wine  
may be to us his body and his blood;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,  
took bread and gave you thanks;  
he broke 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.

In the same way, after supper  
he took the cup and gave you thanks;  
he gave it to them, saying:  
Drink this, all of you;  
this is my blood of the new covenant,  
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.  
Do this, as often as you drink it,  
in remembrance of me.



Therefore, heavenly Father,  
we remember his offering of himself  
made once for all upon the cross;  
we proclaim his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension;  
we look for the coming of your kingdom,  
and with this bread and this cup  
we make the memorial of Christ your Son our Lord.  
Jesus Christ is Lord:

**Lord, by your cross and resurrection  
you have set us free.  
You are the Saviour of the world.**

Accept through him, our great high priest,  
this our sacrifice of thanks and praise,  
and as we eat and drink these holy gifts  
in the presence of your divine majesty,  
renew us by your Spirit,  
inspire us with your love  
and unite us in the body of your Son,  
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him, and with him, and in him,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
with all who stand before you in earth and heaven,  
we worship you, Father almighty,  
in songs of everlasting praise:

**Blessing and honour and glory and power  
be yours for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## **The Lord's Prayer**

Believing the promises of God,  
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever. Amen.**

## **Breaking of the 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.**

Draw near with faith.

Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you,  
and his blood which he shed for you.

Eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you,  
and feed on him in your hearts  
by faith with thanksgiving.

The body and blood of Christ keep you in eternal life.

*As many as intend to receive say:*

**Amen.**

## **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.**

## **Hymn**

Tell all the world of Jesus,  
our Saviour, Lord and King;  
and let the whole creation  
of his salvation sing:  
proclaim his glorious greatness  
in nature and in grace;  
Creator and Redeemer,  
the Lord of time and space.

Tell all the world of Jesus,  
that everyone may find  
the joy of his forgiveness --  
true peace of heart and mind:  
proclaim his perfect goodness,  
his deep, unfailing care;  
his love so rich in mercy,  
a love beyond compare.

Tell all the world of Jesus,  
that everyone may know  
of his almighty triumph  
defeating every foe:  
proclaim his coming glory,  
when sin is overthrown  
and he shall reign in splendour --  
the King upon his throne!

Words: James Seddon ( 1915-1983)  
Tune: Thornbury, Basil Harwood (1859-1949)

### **The Blessing**

God, who has prepared for us a city with eternal foundations,  
give you grace to share the inheritance of the saints in glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**

Materials in this booklet are drawn from *Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England*, *Common Worship: Pastoral Services*, and *Common Worship: Daily Prayer*, all of which are copyright © 2000  
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