

WEB COPY

The Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple



Candlemas

Sung Eucharist at 9:30 a.m.
Contemporary Rite

Welcome

We welcome you to Saint Thomas's on this Feast Day – The Presentation of our Lord in the Temple, also known as the Purification of our Lady, and Candlemas.

The music of the Mass is printed in the booklet. The hymns not printed in this booklet are found in the blue hymn book in your pew.

When the bell rings please come to the Narthex for the blessing of candles, bringing your taper and this booklet with you. After the blessing, light your candle and return to your pew while singing the hymn "All Prophets Hail Thee".

All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Holy Eucharist. You are welcome to kneel or stand as you prefer. If you would like to receive a blessing instead of the Sacrament, please come forward and cross your arms over your chest.

Children are very welcome at the service. Please ask the Greeters about the Children's Activity Box. If you wish, please inquire about other child care arrangements during the service.

If you have particular prayer requests please speak with the Greeter who will show you the Intercession Book on the table in the centre aisle.

There is no collection taken at this service, but if you would like to make a financial donation to the parish we would be very grateful. Donations are placed in the basin on the table in the aisle, next to the bread and wine. To receive a charitable tax donation receipt please fill out the envelope on the pew shelf.

After the Eucharist we would be delighted to have you join us for refreshments in the Parish Hall, adjacent to the church.

Blessing of the Candles

Presider: Eternal God, whose Son was presented in your holy temple, and received into the arms of Saint Simeon; we ask you to kindle with the light of your heavenly benediction these candles, which we your children desire to take up and carry in honour of your Name. Bless + and sanctify these candles, that by offering them to you, our Lord God, and inflamed by the holy fire of your most sweet brightness, we may be found worthy to be presented in the holy temple of your glory; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

O Heavenly Father, who made holy this day by the presentation of your Son in the temple, and by the purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary: mercifully grant that we who delight to call her blessed, may rejoice for ever in our adoption into his heavenly family; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn: All prophets hail thee, from of old announcing,
By the inbreathèd SPIRIT of the FATHER,
GOD'S Mother, bringing prophecies to fullness,
Mary the maiden.

Thou the true Virgin Mother of the Highest,
Bearing incarnate GOD in awed obedience,
Meekly acceptest for a sinless offspring
Purification.

In the high temple Simeon receives thee,
Takes to his bent arms with a holy rapture
That promised SAVIOUR, vision of redemption,
CHRIST long awaited.

Now the fair realm of Paradise attaining,
And to thy SON'S throne, Mother of th'Eternal,
Raised all glorious, yet in earth's devotion
Join with us always.

Glory and worship to the LORD of all things
Pay we unresting, who alone adorèd,
FATHER and SON and SPIRIT, in the highest
Reigneth eternal.

*CCELITES PLAUDANT
From the Rouen Antiphoner 1728*

Archbishop Rabanus Maurus, 9th c.

The Liturgy of the Word

The Presider greets the people, saying

Presider: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Almighty God,

People: **To you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hidden.
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.**

Gloria in Excelsis

Presider: Glory to God in the highest,

People: **and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly king,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,**

**Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of
the Father: receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

Please remain standing

Presider: Let us pray:
Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for you have sent us
your salvation. Inspire us by your Holy Spirit to
recognize him who is the glory of Israel and the light
for all nations, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

The Proclamation of the Word

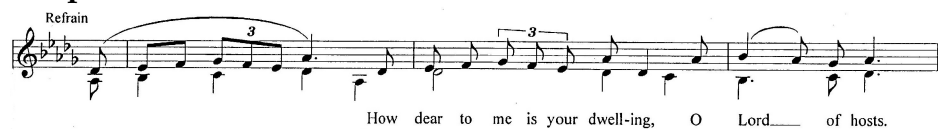
Please be seated

First Reading: Malachi 3.1-4

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 fuller's 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 **R/. Thanks be to God**

Responsorial Psalm: 84.1-7



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. **R/.**

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. **R/.**

Second Reading: Hebrews 2.14-18

Since, therefore, the 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
R/. Thanks be to God

Please stand

Gospel Acclamation: Luke 3.32

Alleluia. Alleluia. This is a light to reveal God to the nations and the glory of his people Israel. Alleluia.

Gospel: Luke 2.22-40

Gospeller: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Gospeller: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought Jesus 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 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.

At the conclusion of the Gospel

Gospeller: The Gospel of Christ.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Sermon

A silence for reflection may follow.

The Nicene Creed

Presider: Let us confess our faith, as we say,

People: **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.
With the Father and the Son he is
worshipped 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.

Confession and Absolution

Presider: Dear friends in Christ, let us humbly confess our sins
to almighty God, so that, as Mary came to the Temple
for purification, we may be made clean by God's
forgiveness.

Please kneel. A Silence is kept.

Presider: Most merciful God,
All: **we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us,
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Celebrant:

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

People: **Amen.**

The Peace

Please stand

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Please greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Celebration of the Eucharist

The Preparation of the Gifts & Offertory Hymn (*Please see
leaflet*). A hymn is sung while the Gifts of the People, (the bread, wine, and
monetary offering), are brought to the altar.

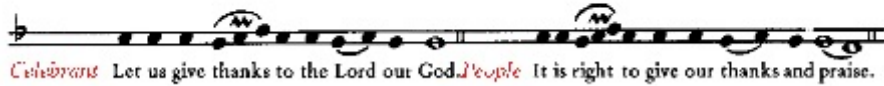
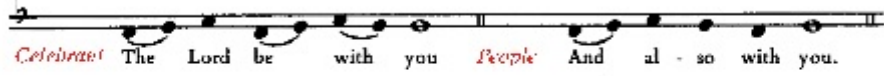
The Prayer over the Gifts

Presider: Let us pray:

Almighty God, accept the joyful offering of your
Church, and grant that your Son may shine in us as
the light that lightens every nation. We ask this in the
name of the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

People: **Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving



Presider: Blessed are you, gracious God,
creator of heaven and earth,
because in the mystery of the Word made flesh
you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts,
to give knowledge of salvation
in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Now with angels and archangels
and the whole company of heaven,
we lift our voices
to proclaim the glory of your name.

Sanctus and Benedictus

**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.**

Presider: We acclaim you, holy Lord, glorious in power;
your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love.
You formed us in your own image,
giving the whole world into our care,
so that, in obedience to you, our creator,

we might rule and serve all your creatures.
When our disobedience took us far from you,
you did not abandon us to the power of death.
In your mercy you came to our help,
so that in seeking you we might find you.
Again and again
you called us into covenant with you,
and through the prophets
you taught us to hope for salvation.

Father, you loved the world so much
that in the fullness of time
you sent your only Son to be our Saviour.
Incarnate by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
he lived as one of us, yet without sin.
To the poor
he proclaimed the good news of salvation;
to prisoners, freedom;
to the sorrowful, joy.
To fulfil your purpose
he gave himself up to death
and, rising from the grave, destroyed death
and made the whole creation new.

And that we might live no longer for ourselves,
but for him who died and rose for us,
he sent the Holy Spirit,
his own first gift for those who believe,
to complete his work in the world,
and to bring to fulfilment
the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for him to be glorified
by you, his heavenly Father,
having loved his own who were in the world,

he loved them to the end:
at supper with them he took bread;
and when he had given thanks to you,
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples,
and said, "Take, eat:
this is my body which is given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine;
and when he had given thanks,
he gave it to them,
and said, "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.
Whenever you drink it,
do this for the remembrance of me."

Father,
we now celebrate the memorial of our redemption.
Recalling Christ's death
and descent among the dead,
proclaiming his resurrection
and ascension to your right hand,
awaiting his coming in glory;
and offering to you,
from the gifts you have given us,
this bread and this cup,
we praise you and we bless you.

**All: We praise you, we bless you,
we give thanks to you,
and we pray to you, Lord our God.**

Presider: Father,
we pray that in your goodness and mercy
your Holy Spirit may descend upon us,

and upon these gifts,
sanctifying them and showing them
to be holy gifts for your holy people,
the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and this cup
may become one body and one spirit,
a living sacrifice in Christ
to the praise of your name.
Remember, Lord,
your one holy catholic and apostolic Church,
redeemed by the blood of your Christ.
Reveal its unity, guard its faith,
and preserve it in peace.

Remember Colin our bishop, and
[*the Anglican and Diocesan Cycles of Prayer*],
and all who minister in your Church.

Remember all your people, particularly the sick
[*Names*], and those with other needs [*Names*].
Remember all women carrying child, and young
families.

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ,
[*Names, who has/have died in recent days*],
and on their Year's Mind [*Names*],
and those whose faith is known to you alone;
Bring them into the place of eternal joy and light.

And grant that we may find our inheritance
with the blessed Virgin Mary,
with patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs,
with Saint Thomas our patron, and all the saints
who have found favour with you in ages past.

We praise you in union with them and give you glory through your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honour and glory are yours, almighty God and Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever.

People: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer



Celebrant As our Sav-iour taught us, let us pray,
Music by McNeil Robinson
All Our Fa-ther in heav-en, hal-lowed be your name, your king-dom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heav-en. Give us to-day our dai-ly
bread. For-give us our sins as we for-give those who sin a-against us.
Save us from the time of trial, and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom,
the pow-er, and the glo-ry are yours, now and for 'ev-er. A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread and Communion

The Presider breaks the consecrated bread for distribution

Presider: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

People: **We, being many, are one body, for we all share in the one bread.**

Presider: The gifts of God for the People of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Agnus Dei

Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God,
you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.

*All baptized Christians are welcome to come forward to receive Communion. The sacrament is given with the following words: "The body of Christ (given for you)"... "The blood of Christ (shed for you)"; or "The body of Christ, the bread of heaven"... "The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation". The communicant responds each time, **Amen.***

During the communion, the choir may sing a motet

Hymn after Communion *(Please see leaflet)*

Prayer after Communion

Please remain standing

Presider: Let us pray:
God for whom we wait, you fulfilled the hope of
Simeon, who did not die till he had welcomed the
Messiah. Complete in us your perfect will, that we in
Christ may share in your eternal kingdom; for he is
Lord for ever and ever.

People: **Amen.**

Dismissal & Blessing

The Presider blesses the people saying:

Presider: May the Lord of his great mercy bless you,
and give you understanding
of his wisdom and grace;
May he nourish you with the riches
of the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic faith,
and make you to persevere in all good works;
May he keep your steps from wandering,
and direct you in the paths of love and peace;
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the
Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you
always.

People: **Amen.**

Presider: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**