

# Saint Thomas's Church



*The Presentation of Christ in the Temple  
from the Sherbrooke Missal, c. 1315*

The Presentation of  
our Lord Jesus Christ  
in the Temple  
Commonly called Candlemas

Blessing of Candles  
and  
High Mass

**Celebrant & Homilist:** Fr. Humphrey  
**Deacon:** Fr. D'Angelo  
**Intercessor:** Andrew Smith  
**Organist & Director of Music:** Matthew Whitfield

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**MUSIC OF THE MASS** – Missa 'Corde natus ex parentis,' *Healey Willan*

**PRELUDE:** Mit Fried' und Freud' ich fahr dahin, BWV 616, *J.S. Bach*

*Please stand.*

### **THE BLESSING OF THE CANDLES**

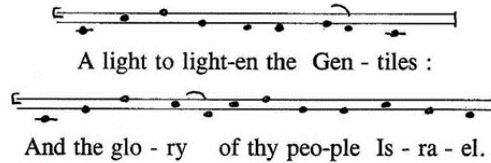
FORTY DAYS ago we celebrated the great festival of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Today we recall that holy day on which Mary and Joseph brought him to the Temple where he was received and recognized by Simeon and Anna. In the Spirit, let us also welcome the Lord in his Word and Sacrament, and let us recognize him in the breaking of Bread until he comes again in glory.

Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, who as 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 carry, lighted in honour 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. *Amen.*

*Following the blessing of the candles, the Nunc Dimittis will be sung  
with its proper Antiphon repeated after each verse:*

*The Choir sings:*



A light to light-en the Gen - tiles :  
And the glo - ry of thy peo-ple Is - ra - el.

### STATION

Thy Light is come, O Jerusalem;  
**And the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.**

### COLLECT

O Lord Christ, who art thyself the temple of the heavenly city and its light, and its surpassing splendour: Grant that we who in this earthly house do offer to thee our worship, may be brought in peace to the vision of thy glory in heaven; where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit thou livest and reignest, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### HYMN

- VIRGIN BORN, we bow before thee:  
Blessèd was the womb that bore thee;  
Mary, Mother meek and mild,  
Blessèd was she in her Child.  
Blessèd was the breast that fed thee;  
Blessèd was the hand that led thee;  
Blessèd was the parent's eye  
That watched thy slumb'ring infancy.

2 Blessed she by all creation,  
Who brought forth the world's salvation,  
And blessed they for ever blest,  
Who love thee most and serve thee best.  
Virgin born, we bow before thee:  
Blessèd was the womb that bore thee;  
Mary, Mother meek and mild,  
Blessèd was she in her Child.

*MON DIEU, PRÊTE MOI L'OREILLE*  
*French Psalter 1542 (Ps 86)*

*Reginald Heber 1783-1826*

*At the conclusion of the hymn, please kneel as the Choir sings:*

### **KYRIE ELEISON**

Kyrie Eleison : Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christe Eleison : Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Kyrie Eleison : Lord, have mercy upon us.

*Please stand. The Choir sings:*

### **GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO**

*Celebrant:* Glory be to God on high,

*Choir:* and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

*Please remain standing for the Collect.*

*Celebrant:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And with thy spirit.**

### **COLLECT OF THE DAY**

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly beseech thy Majesty, that, as thy only begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in substance of our flesh, 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, world without end. **Amen.**

### **FIRST READING: Malachi 3.1-4**

The First Lesson is written in the third chapter of the book of the prophet Malachi, beginning at the first verse.

“Behold, I send 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, behold, 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 sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, till they present right offerings to the LORD. 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.**

*Please stand.*

**SEQUENCE HYMN 823**– From east to west

- 1 From east to west, from shore to shore,  
Let ev'ry heart awake and sing  
The Holy Child whom Mary bore,  
The Christ, the everlasting King
- 2 Behold! the world's Creator wears  
The form and fashion of a slave;  
Our very flesh our Maker shares,  
His fallen creature, man, to save.
- 3 For this how wondrously he wrought!  
A maiden, in her lowly place,  
Became, in ways beyond all thought,  
The chosen vessel of his grace.
- 4 She bowed her to the angel's word  
Declaring what the Father willed,  
And suddenly the promised Lord  
That pure and hallowed temple filled.
- 5 He shrank not from the oxen's stall,  
He lay within the manger bed,  
And he whose bounty feedeth all  
At Mary's breast himself was fed.
- 6 And while the angels in the sky  
Sang praise above the silent field,  
To shepherds poor the Lord most high,  
The one great Shepherd, was revealed.
- 7 All glory for this blessed morn  
To God the Father ever be;  
All praise to thee, O Virgin-born,  
All praise, O Holy Ghost, to thee. Alleluia.

**GOSPEL:** Luke 2.22-40

The Lord be with you.

**And with thy spirit.**

The Holy Gospel is written in the second chapter of the Gospel according to Saint Luke, beginning at the twenty-second verse.

**Glory be to thee O Lord.**

And 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 male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”) and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said 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, and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. And inspired by the Spirit he came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, “Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word; for mine eyes have seen thy salvation which thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to thy people Israel.” And his father and his mother marvelled at what was said about him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, “Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed.” And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phan’u-el, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her virginity, and as a widow till she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshipping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. And when they had performed everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

## SERMON

*Please stand. All who are able to kneel, please do so at 'And was made incarnate.'*

## NICENE CREED

*Missa de Angelis*

*Celebrant:* I believe in one God

*Choir & People:* **the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of the Father before all worlds; God, of God; Light, of Light; Very God, of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; Through whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, (*Kneel.*) And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man, (*Rise.*) And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, The Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.**



## THE OFFERTORY HYMN

- 1 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.
- 2 Thou the true Virgin Mother of the Highest,  
Bearing incarnate God in awed obedience,  
Meekly acceptest for a sinless offspring  
Purification.
- 3 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.
- 4 Now the fair realm of Paradise attaining,  
And to thy Son's throne, Mother of th' Eternal,  
Raisèd all glorious, yet in earth's devotion  
Join with us always.
- 5 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.

*COELITES PLAUDANT*  
*From the Rouen Antiphoner 1728*

*Archbishop Rabanus Maurus, 9th c.*

## PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Almighty God, accept the joyful offering of thy Church, and grant that thy 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. **Amen.**

*Please kneel.*

## INTERCESSIONS

*Celebrant:* Dear friends in Christ, let us pray for the Church and for the world.

*Intercessor:* I bid your prayers for the church universal throughout the world; for Andrew our bishop, for \_\_\_\_\_ according to the Anglican cycle of prayer, for \_\_\_\_\_ according to the Diocesan prayer cycle, and for all who serve and minister to God's people.

*silence*

Lord, in thy mercy

**We beseech thee, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* I bid your prayers for the Queen and for all in authority in our country, province, and city. May God guide us in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honour one another and serve the common good.

*silence*

Lord, in thy mercy

**We beseech thee, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* I bid your prayers for God's blessings upon all people, and we give thanks to God for the people, neighbours, and friends of this parish, and especially for all those present with us in person or via livestream; our newcomers and visitors this morning, both near and far; and for all other thanksgivings we now name, silently or aloud \_\_\_\_\_ [we pray especially for \_\_\_\_\_ on the anniversary of his/her baptism / ordination/ confirmation, etc.]. May God's abiding presence be with us always, and may we be a blessing to all people.

*silence*

Lord, in thy mercy

**We beseech thee, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* I bid your prayers for all those in need, for the sick\_\_\_\_\_, and all those suffering from Covid-19, and for an early end to the pandemic, for elders in isolation, for prisoners, for refugees and migrants, for the oppressed, for those who mourn, and for all others for whom our prayers are asked\_\_\_\_\_, that they will be comforted by the ever-present love of our Lord.

*silence*

Lord, in thy mercy

**We beseech thee, hear our prayer.**

*Intercessor:* I bid your prayers for the souls of the departed, especially\_\_\_\_\_ who have died in recent days, and on their year's mind for\_\_\_\_\_, that they may share with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas, and all the saints in God's eternal kingdom.

*silence*

Lord, in thy mercy

**We beseech thee, hear our prayer.**

*Celebrant:* Almighty God who refinest silver and shelter the sparrow's nest, accept the prayers of thy people this day, for thou knowest all that tests and troubles us. Embrace our needs in thy blessing, so that we may be sustained through times of trial. All this we ask through Christ Jesus, our Lord. **Amen.**

#### INVITATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

Almighty God, **Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we from time to time most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that 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.**

### **EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER**

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks unto our Lord God. **It is meet and right so to do.**

*All remain standing while the Celebrant sings the preface.*

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, Creator and Preserver of all things. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory, in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying:

*The Choir sings:*

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.

Blessing and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and 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 memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, 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 Covenant, 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 Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy Bread of eternal life and the Cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded; And we entirely 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 we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy Communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER, FRACTION AND PEACE

*Celebrant:* As our Saviour Christ hath commanded and taught us we are bold to say:

*Choir & People:* **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 them that 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.**

*The consecrated Bread is broken.*

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And with thy spirit.**

*The Celebrant greets the Sacred Ministers and People with bows, then kneels to begin the Prayer of Humble Access.*

## HOLY COMMUNION

*All who intend to receive Holy Communion pray together:*

*Celebrant:* We do not presume

**to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, Trusting in our own righteousness, But in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy So much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, Whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, So to eat the Flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, And to drink his Blood, That our sinful bodies may be made clean by his Body, And our souls washed through his most precious Blood, And that we may evermore dwell in him, And he in us. Amen.**

*The Choir sings:*

## AGNUS DEI

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.

## AN ACT OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

**My Jesus, I believe that thou art truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive thee sacramentally, I beseech thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself unto thee, and embrace thee with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from thee. Let me live and die in thy love. Amen.**

## ANIMA CHRISTI

**Soul of Christ, sanctify me.  
Body of Christ, save me.  
Blood of Christ, inebriate me.  
Water from the side of Christ, wash me.  
Passion of Christ, strengthen me.  
O good Jesu, hear me.  
Within thy wounds hide me.  
Suffer me not to be separated from thee.  
From the malicious enemy defend me.  
In the hour of my death call me.  
And bid me come to thee,  
That with thy saints I may praise thee,  
For ever and ever. Amen.**

## MOTET

Nunc dimittis Op. 69 No. 1, *Felix Mendelssohn*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word. For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, and to be the glory of thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

## POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

O Almighty God, who didst fulfil the hope of Simeon and Anna who did not die until they welcomed the Messiah: Grant that we who have received these thy gifts beyond words may prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us eternal life; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## BLESSING

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will: And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## ANGELUS

The Angel of the Lord brought tidings unto Mary  
**And she conceived by the Holy Ghost.**

Hail Mary, full of grace; the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now  
and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

Behold the handmaid of the Lord;  
**Be it unto me according to thy word.**

HAIL MARY, full of grace; the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now  
and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

The Word was made flesh;  
**And dwelt among us.**

HAIL MARY, full of grace; the Lord is with thee; blessed art thou among women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.

**Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now  
and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

Pray for us, O holy Mother of God;  
**That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.**



## COLLECT

We beseech thee, O Lord, pour thy grace into our hearts; that as we have known the incarnation of thy Son Jesus Christ by the message of an angel, so by his cross + and passion we may be brought unto the glory of his resurrection; through the same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

May the Divine assistance remain with us always. **Amen.**

## HYMN

- 1 Hail to the Lord who comes,  
Comes to his temple gate!  
Not with his angel host,  
Not in his kingly state;  
No shouts proclaim him nigh,  
No crowds his coming wait;
- 2 But borne upon the throne  
Of Mary's gentle breast,  
Watched by her duteous love,  
In her fond arms at rest;  
Thus to his Father's house  
He comes, the heavenly Guest.
- 3 There Joseph at her side  
In reverent wonder stands;  
And, filled with holy joy,  
Old Simeon in his hands  
Takes up the promised Child,  
The glory of all lands.
- 4 Hail to the great First-born  
Whose ransom-price they pay!  
The Son before all worlds,  
The Child of man to-day,  
That he might ransom us  
Who still in bondage lay.

5 O Light of all the earth,  
Thy children wait for thee!  
Come to thy temples here,  
That we, from sin set free,  
Before thy Father's face  
May all presented be!

*OLD 120th*  
*Melody as in Este's Psalter 1592*

*John Ellerton 1826-93*

**POSTLUDE:** Pavilioned in Splendour, *Richard Lloyd*