

Feast of the Presentation of the Lord (Candlemass)



St Edmund the King
Northwood Hills

The Order of Eucharist

Please stand and face the font when the bell rings

Introductory Rite

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

Amen

May the light and peace of Jesus Christ our Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Dear friends, forty days ago we celebrated the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Now we recall the day on which he was presented in the Temple, when he was offered to the Father and shown to his people. As a sign of his coming among us, his mother was purified, as we now come to him for cleansing. In their old age Simeon and Anna recognized him as their Lord, as we today sing of his glory. In this Eucharist, we celebrate both the joy of his coming and his searching judgement, looking back to the day of his birth and forward to the coming days of his passion.



As the candles are lit we sing the following

When candles are lighted on Candlemas Day the dark is behind us, and spring's on the way.

Refrain:

***A glory dawns in every dark place,
the light of Christ, the fullness of grace.***

The priest blesses the candles, saying

Lord God, the springing source of everlasting light, pour into the hearts of your faithful people the brilliance of your eternal splendour, that we, who by these kindling flames light up this temple to your glory, may have the darkness of our souls dispelled,
and so be counted worthy to stand before you in that eternal city where you live and reign, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The kings have departed, the shepherds have gone,
the child and his parents are left on their own. *Refrain*

They go to the temple, obeying the law,
and offer two pigeons, the gift of the poor. *Refrain*

But Anna and Simeon recognize there
the Christ-child who came at the turn of the year. *Refrain*

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

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

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

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

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

Great Spirit of Yahweh, with courage inspire
your everyday saints who face up to despair. *Refrain*

They pass through temptation, through failure, through death.
When darkness descends, they plod onward in faith. *Refrain*

Like Anna, like Simeon, may they have trust,
the eyes to see Jesus, and peace at the last. *Refrain:*

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



Penitential Rite

The priest invites us to remember and confess our sins

Priest Lord you are our light and
our salvation
Lord have mercy

All Lord have mercy
Lift up the light of your
countenance upon us and
we shall be healed
Christ have mercy

All Christ have mercy
Send out your light and
your truth that they may
lead us and bring us to your
dwelling
Lord have mercy

All Lord have mercy

The priest tells us we are forgiven and all respond

Amen.

Gloria in Excelsis

Gloria Gloria in excelsis Deo
Gloria Gloria in excelsis Deo

Lord God heavenly King peace you bring to us;

We Worship you we give you thanks we sing our song of praise

Gloria Gloria in excelsis Deo...

Jesus Saviour of all Lord God Lamb of God

You take away our sins, oh Lord, have mercy on us all

Gloria Gloria in excelsis Deo..



At the Father's right hand Lord receive our prayer
for you alone are the Holy One and you alone are Lord.
Gloria Gloria in excelsis Deo....

Glory Father and Son Glory Holy Spirit
to you we raise our hands up high we glorify your name
Gloria Gloria in excelsis Deo....

Collect

The priest says the special prayer for the day

Lord Jesus Christ,
light of the nations and glory of Israel:
make your home among us,
and present us pure and holy
to your heavenly Father,
your God, and our God. **Amen**

Liturgy of the Word

Sit for the reading

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi

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.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



We stand to sing

Gradual Hymn

Purify my heart,

Let me be as gold and precious silver.

Purify my heart,

Let me be as gold, pure gold.

(Chorus)

Refiner's fire,

My heart's one desire

Is to be... holy;

Set apart for You, Lord.

I choose to be... holy;

Set apart for You, my Master,

Ready to do Your will.



Purify my heart,

Cleanse me from within

And make me holy.

Purify my heart,

Cleanse me from my sin, deep within.

Chorus twice

Brian Doerksen ©1990 Mercy/Vineyard Music

*After the hymn turn to face the Gospel
This acclamation heralds the Gospel reading*

Priest Halle Halle Halle—luiah
Halle Halle Halle-- luiah
Halle Halle Halle-- luiah
Halleluiah halleluiah

All Halle Halle Halle-- luiah
Halle Halle Halle-- luiah
Halle Halle Halle-- luiah
Halleluiah halleluiah

This child is the light to enlighten the nations
And the glory of your people Israel

All Halle Halle Halle—luiah.....

Gospel Reading

(please remain standing)

The Lord be with you

And also with you

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.

Homily

The Creed

Let us stand to declare our faith in God.

We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.

We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.

We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

cf Ephesians 3

Prayers of the faithful

Blessing of Church Candles

God our Father, source of all light,
today you revealed to Simeon
your Light of revelation to the nations.
Bless these candles and make them holy.
May we who use them in the service of your Church
to praise your glory walk in the path of goodness
and come to the light that shines for ever.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All Amen.

Blessing of Home Candles

Lord Jesus Christ,
light of the nations and glory of Israel:
Bless these candles that,
wherever they are used,
to acknowledge your presence
in prayer or in fellowship,
our eyes may be opened to your glory,
our hearts may be opened to your Spirit,
and our minds opened to your eternal truth,
who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
One God, now and for ever.

All Amen.



Liturgy of the Eucharist

The Peace

The priest introduces the peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you

And also with you

Let us offer one another a sign of Peace

We share the Peace

Offertory Hymn *is sung as the Gifts are place on the Altar*

Lord the light of Your love is shining

In the midst of the darkness, shining

Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us

Set us free by the truth You now bring us Shine on me Shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine

Fill this land with the Father's glory

Blaze, Spirit, blaze, Set our hearts on fire

Flow, river, flow Flood the nations with grace and mercy

Send forth Your Word, Lord And let there be light

Lord, I come into Your awesome presence

From the shadows into Your radiance

By the blood I may enter Your brightness

Search me, try me, consume all my darkness Shine on me Shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine

As we gaze on your kingly brightness,

so our faces display your likeness, ever changing from glory to

glory; mirrored here may our lives tell your story. Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine

Graham Kendrick©1987 Make Way Music

Preparation Of The Gifts

Pray my brothers and sisters that this my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the Almighty Father

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and Glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his Church

The priest says the Prayer over the gifts after which all reply

Amen

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

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 priest praises God for his mighty acts and all respond

Holy Holy Holy is the Lord

Holy is the Lord God Almighty

Holy Holy Holy is the Lord

Holy is the Lord God Almighty

Who was and is and is to come,

Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord.

Blessed, Blessed, Blessed is the Lord

Blest is he who comes in the Lord's name

Blessed, Blessed, Blessed is the Lord

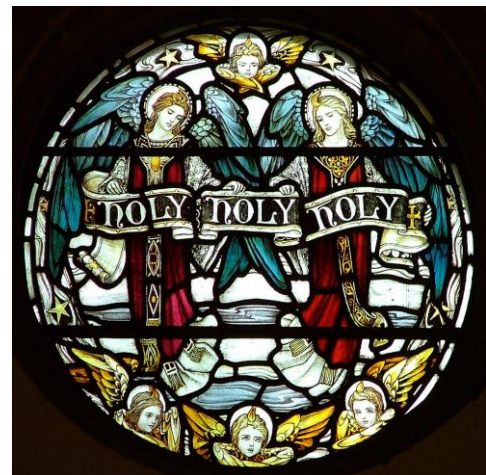
Blest is he who comes in the Lord's name

Hosanna in the highest heaven

Blessed, blessed, blessed is the Lord

Please kneel

The priest recalls the Last Supper



Great is the mystery of faith
Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again

The Prayer continues and leads into the doxology

Priest Through him with him and in him in the unity of the Holy Spirit
All Glory and honour is yours Almighty Father
For ever and ever

All Amen

We lift our hearts and voices to you as we sing

AMEN

So shall it be for ever AMEN

AMEN

We lift our hearts and voices to you as we sing

AMEN

So shall it be for ever AMEN

As our Saviour has taught us so we pray

**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 priest 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 the same bread



Agnus Dei

Lamb of God **Lamb of God**

You take away **You take away**

The sin of all **The sin of all**
the world **the world**

Miserere Nobis (*have mercy on us*)

Miserere Nobis

Bread of Life **Bread of Life**

You take away **You take away**

The sin of all **The sin of all**
the world **the world**

Miserere Nobis **Miserere Nobis**

Agnus Dei (*Lamb of God*) **Agnus Dei**

You take away **You take away**

The sin of all **The sin of all**
the world **the world**

Dona nobis pacem (*Give us your peace*)

Dona nobis pacem

Dona nobis pacem **Dona nobis pacem**

Dona nobis pacem **Dona nobis pacem**



This is the Lamb of God

who takes away the sin of the world.

Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Giving of Communion

Members of all Christian Churches who normally receive communion in their own Church are invited to come forward to receive communion, those who have not been admitted to Holy Communion please also come forward for a blessing.

The Body of Christ **Amen**
The Blood of Christ **Amen**



After communion we sing

- 1 As I kneel before you,
as I bow my head in pray'r,
take this day, make it yours
and fill me with your love.
Ave Maria, gratia plena,
Dominus tecum, benedicta tu
- 2 All I have I give you,
ev'ry dream and wish are yours.
Mother of Christ, Mother of
mine,
present them to my Lord.
Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus
tecum. benedicta tu.
- 3 As I kneel before you,
and I see your smiling face,
ev'ry thought, ev'ry word
is lost in your embrace
Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum. benedicta tu

Maria Parkinson©1978 Kevin Mayhew Ltd

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**

**We thank you, Lord that you have fed us in this sacrament,
united us with Christ,
and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet
prepared for all peoples. Amen**

Notices (please sit)



Blessing

(please stand)

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
fill you with radiance
and scatter the darkness from your path. **Amen.**

Christ, the Sun of Righteousness,
gladden your eyes and warm your heart. **Amen.**

Christ, the Dayspring from on high,
draw near to guide your feet into the way of peace. **Amen.**

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 the light and peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

Final Hymn

1 Colours of day dawn into the
mind,
The sun has come up, the night
is behind.
Go down in the city, into the
street,
And let's give the message to
the people we meet.

*So light up the fire and let the
flame burn,
Open the door, let Jesus return.
Take seeds of his Spirit, let the
fruit grow,
Tell the people of Jesus, let his
love show.*

2 Go through the park, on into the
town;
The sun still shines on, it never
goes down.
The light of the world is risen
again;
The people of darkness are
needing our friend

3 Open your eyes, look into the
sky,
The darkness has come, the sun
came to die.
The evening draws on, the sun
disappears,
But Jesus is living, and his Spirit
is near.

Sue McLennan, John Paculabo, Keith Rycroft ©1977 Thankyou music



*Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England,
material from which is included in this service, is copyright
© The Archbishops' Council 2000.*