



Christ Episcopal Church

Service · Faith · Community · Inclusion

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Candlemas Service

Year B

2 February 2024

Noon



Welcome

If you are new or visiting and would like more information,
please fill in a guest card and sign our guest book.

If the liturgy is new to you, please participate as you feel comfortable.
Restrooms are located in the Parish Hall.

Servers

Presider & Homilist

The Reverend Diane Ramerman

Deacon

The Reverend Deacon Eric Johnson

Holy Communion

*In the Anglican/Episcopal tradition, communion is received in two kinds:
in the bread and in the wine.*

*The bread is offered first and is placed in one's opened palm with the words,
"The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven." The bread may then be consumed.*

The full grace of the sacrament is received with the bread alone.

A chalice bearer will then offer the wine with the words,

"The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation."

*As the cup is presented, please either take the cup from the chalice bearer
or gently take hold of the base of the chalice, helping the chalice bearer
to guide it toward your lips.*

Please sanitize your hands before receiving Communion.

Gluten-free hosts are available. Please ask if you need one.

The Holy Eucharist: Rite II

Candlemas Procession

We gather in the Narthex.

Presider Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Presider Dear people of God, forty days ago we celebrated the joyful feast of the incarnation of Jesus. Today we recall the day on which he was presented in the temple, fulfilling the law of Moses. Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the temple, recognized the child as the Christ, and proclaimed him with joy. United by the same Spirit, we now enter the house of God, where we shall recognize Christ in the breaking of bread.

Let us pray.

O eternal God, who have created all things; on this day you fulfilled the petitions of the just Simeon: we humbly ask you to bless and sanctify these candles for our use. Graciously hear our prayers and be merciful to us, whom you have redeemed by your Son, who is the light of the world, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

People Amen.

The candles are lighted as the following canticle is recited.

All A Light to enlighten the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.
*A Light to enlighten the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.*

Lord, you now have set your servant free *
to go in peace as you have promised.
*A Light to enlighten the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.*

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, *
whom you have prepared for all the world to see.
*A Light to enlighten the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.*

Presider Let us pray.
O God, source of all light, today you revealed to the aged Simeon your light which enlightens the nations. Fill our hearts with the light of faith, that we who bear these candles may walk in the path of goodness, through Jesus Christ the Light of the World.

People Amen.

Deacon Let us go forth in peace.
People In the name of Christ. Amen.

We process to the altar, all carrying lighted candles, and gather in a semi-circle.

Collect

Presider Let us pray. O God, you have made this day holy by the presentation of your Son in the Temple, and by the purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Mercifully grant that we, who delight in her humble readiness to be the birth-giver of the Only-begotten, may rejoice for ever in our adoption as his sisters and brothers; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen.

Presider We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O Lord, in the midst of your temple. Your praise, like your Name, O God, reaches to the world's end; your right hand is full of justice.

Psalm

Psalm 48:1-2,10-13

Great is the LORD, and highly to be praised; *
in the city of our God is his holy hill.

Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is the hill of Zion, *
the very center of the world and the city of the great King.

Let Mount Zion be glad and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments.

Make the circuit of Zion; walk round about her; *
count the number of her towers.

Consider well her bulwarks; examine her strongholds; *
that you may tell those who come after.

This God is our God for ever and ever; *
he shall be our guide for evermore.

Gloria

Refrain

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o!

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994); Copyright GIA Publications, Inc.

Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

All **Almighty and everlasting God, you govern all things both in heaven and on earth: Mercifully hear the supplications of your people, and in our time grant us your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Candles are extinguished and congregants are seated.

First Reading

A reading from 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 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.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 24:7-10

Lift up your heads, O gates;
lift them high, O everlasting doors; *
and the King of glory shall come in.

“Who is this King of glory?” *
“The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord, mighty in battle.”

Lift up your heads, O gates;
lift them high, O everlasting doors; *
and the King of glory shall come in.

“Who is he, this King of glory?” *
“The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory.”



Second Reading

A reading from Hebrews 2:14-18

Since 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.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand.

Gospel

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus 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 turtledoves 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 worshiped 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 favor of God was upon him.

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Please be seated.

Homily

The Reverend Diane Ramerman

Please observe a period of silence.

Please stand.

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:
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 and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped 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.**

Prayers of the People

The Deacon invites the Prayers of the People:

Deacon In peace, let us offer our prayers through the Son of God who comes with
power and great glory."

*Prayers are offered responsively; you are invited to offer the following
intercessions as the Spirit moves you.*

Leader For the church in the world and the faithful in every place;
People **May we be a people who prepare the way for you.**

Leader For all who serve Christ in the midst of conflict, and especially for the people
of Emmanuel Church, Ramleh, of the Episcopal Diocese of Jerusalem;
People **May the peace that passes all understand fill the hearts of all your people.**

Leader For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Melissa, our Bishop, for all bishops and other ministers;
People For all who serve God in his church.

Leader Bless Mayor Miller and all those appointed to govern in every land;
People May your Spirit be with them so that they may serve the common good.

Leader We thank you for the diversity of this earth and all the living things of the Salish Sea;
People Grant us wisdom in our stewardship of all creatures great and small.

Leader For those who have no homes; for the broken and the forgotten, the overlooked and the downtrodden;
People Bless our efforts to create a more just and caring society.

Leader For those on our Prayer List;
People For our families, friends and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Leader For all who have died in the communion of your Church, and those whose faith is known to you alone. Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them.
People Who put their trust in you.

Leader For our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need;
People And in thanksgiving for the gifts you have given us.

Please add your own intercessions, supplications, and thanksgivings.

Deacon Joining our voices with all the saints, let us commend ourselves and one another and all our life to Christ our God.
People To you, O Lord our God.

Silence

Presider God of faithful surprises: mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will, through Jesus Christ our Savior.
People Amen.

Presider A prayer for the election of a Bishop:
Almighty God, giver of every good gift: Look graciously on your Church, and so guide the minds of those who shall choose a bishop for this Diocese that we may receive a faithful pastor, who will care for your people and equip us for our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
People Amen.

Confession & Absolution

Deacon Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence

People **God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.**

Presider Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

People **Amen.**

The Peace

Presider The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

The Holy Communion

Presider Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. (*Ephesians 5:2*)

Please rise as the bread and wine we offer to God for our nourishment and the life of the world are brought forward and presented at the altar.

Great Thanksgiving

Inclusive Liturgies Eucharistic Prayer B

Presider May God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift our hearts to God.**

Presider Let us give thanks to the One who created us.

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



Presider:

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, the Maker 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 the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

All **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 give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. Through Mary's Holy Child, you have delivered us from evil and made us worthy to stand before you. You have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus 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, Jesus 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Presider Therefore, according to his command, O God,

All **We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Presider:

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Dear One; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, gather all things into the circle of Christ's love, and bring us to that heavenly country where with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of all your children; through Jesus Christ, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Most Blessed One, now and forever.

All **AMEN.**

Presider As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,
All 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. Save us from
the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept as the bread is broken.

Presider Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast.

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.
Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you,
and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.
All are welcome at this Table.

Please stand.

Post Communion Prayer

Presider Let us pray.

All Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us
as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.



Blessing

Presider May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light
to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the
Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

People Amen.

Dismissal

Deacon Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.