

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

From the Cantic of Candlemas

Episcopal Church of the Epiphany  
Presentation of Jesus in the Temple  
Candlemas Procession and Morning Prayer  
February 2, 2020, 10:30 am

We worship today according to the appointed order for Morning Prayer, Rite Two, beginning on page 75  
of the Book of Common Prayer, occasionally from *Enriching Our Worship*, and today from the *Book of Occasional Services*.  
Congregational responses are in **boldface type**.

## Candlemas Procession

*We gather in the rear of the nave, holding our unlit candles.*

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Cantic of Candlemas

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.**

Let us pray.

*During the prayer and blessing we silently light our candles and process to  
the altar, each of us placing a lighted candle on it. We remain in the  
chancel until the prayer is concluded.*

God our Father, 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, and come to the Light that  
shines for ever, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O Gracious Father, almighty and eternal God, you created all  
things out of nothing, and by your command caused the labor  
of bees to be revealed in the perfection of wax. You  
commanded your servant Moses to keep lamps continually  
burning before you. Bless and sanctify these candles that their  
light may be for us a visible reminder of the true light who  
enlightens everyone coming into the world. As these candles,  
kindled with a visible flame, scatter the darkness of night, so  
also may our hearts be enlightened by the invisible fire of the  
Holy Spirit that we might avoid the darkness of sin, see your  
salvation, and attain the Light that never fades away. All this  
we ask through Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and  
the Holy Spirit, One God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## Morning Prayer

*Our lighted candles remain on the altar. We sing as we leave the  
chancel, repeating until all have found their place. We remain  
standing*

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. (3X)  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation  
may reach to the end of the earth.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*We stand or kneel.*

**Most merciful God,  
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 neighbors 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.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins  
through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all  
goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in  
eternal life. **Amen.**

The Invitatory and Psalter (*we stand*)

Lord, open our lips.

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

*Gloria Patri & Alleluia*.....Page 4

*Venite – Psalm 95*.....S 35

Psalm 24:7-10 (*we remain standing*)

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

8 "Who is this King of glory?" \*  
**"The Lord, strong and mighty,  
the Lord, mighty in battle."**

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

10 "Who is he, this King of glory?" \*  
**"The Lord of hosts,  
he is the King of glory."**

*Gloria Patri*.....Page 4

The Lessons

(*We sit for each lesson and stand for each canticle or hymn.*)

The First Lesson – Malachi 3:1-4

Thus says the Lord, 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Canticle 11 – *The Third Song of Isaiah*.....543

The Epistle Lesson – Hebrews 2:14-18

Since God's 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

**Thanks be to God**

The Gospel Lesson – 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Hymn – *The Great Creator of the Worlds (we stand)*.....489

## The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

## The Peace

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

## Joys and Concerns of the Congregation (*we sit*)

### The Offering

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name; bring offerings  
and come into his courts.

Hymn: *Hail To the Lord Who Comes (we remain seated)*.....259

Presentation – *As with Gladness Men of Old (we stand)*.....119:1

### The Prayers (*we stand or kneel*)

Hear our cry, O God.  
**And listen to our prayer.**  
Let us 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,**  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## Suffrage

Save your people, Lord, and bless your inheritance;  
**Govern and uphold them, now and always.**

Day by day we bless you;  
**We praise your Name for ever.**

Lord, keep us from all sin today;  
**Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.**

Lord, show us your love and mercy;  
**For we put our trust in you.**

In you, Lord, is our hope;  
**And we shall never hope in vain.**

## The Collect of the Day

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your  
only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so  
we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by  
Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and  
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## A Collect for Grace

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have  
brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your  
mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be  
overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the  
fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

## A Prayer for Mission

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole  
body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified:  
Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer  
before you for all members of your holy Church, that in  
their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly  
serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

Hymn: *O Zion, Open Wide Your Gates (we stand)*.....257

## Intercessions and Thanksgivings (*we stand or kneel*)

We pray for the souls of all those who have departed this  
life, including those we now name silently or aloud.

### *Silence*

In our parish we pray for those who are sick or recovering  
from illness, including **Mike Oniffrey, Micah Hart,**  
**Dennis Harper, Charlie Hayes, Larry and Pat Sharpton,**  
**Troy Warlick, Nancy Bush, Dezzel Oliver, Tom Haynie,**  
**Beth Hall, Maurice McCord, and the others we now name.**

### *Silence*

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for our Companion Diocese of the Virgin Islands and its bishop, Ambrose; for the Diocesan Convention; Episcopal Relief and Development; and Episcopal Ministries.

The General Thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made.

We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you - in holiness and righteousness all our days.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Hymn: *The Church's One Foundation (we stand)*.....525

Let us bless the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

*At the conclusion of the service, please wait for your candle to be extinguished before removing it from the altar.*

Serving at Epiphany this week:

Ushers: Mike Rallo and Maurice McCord  
Altar Guild: Lee Borden  
Lay Reader: Mike Rallo  
Officiant: Betty Weldon  
Refreshments: Cathy Jones

And next:

Ushers: Pam and Eddie Harper  
Altar Guild: Lavonne Hart  
Lay Reader: Suzy Wilson  
Officiant: Lavonne Hart  
Refreshments: Betty Weldon

Gloria Patri (with Alternate Alleluia)

The musical score is written for a single voice in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two staves. The first staff contains the melody for the Gloria Patri, with lyrics: "Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit: as it". Above the staff, the chords G, D, G, D, G are indicated. The second staff begins with a fermata and the lyrics "was in the be - gin - ning is now and will be for - e - ver. A - men. Al - le - lu ia!". Above the staff, the chords D, A, D are indicated. The score is presented on a light gray background.