

THE CHAPEL OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

Presentation Sunday (Candlemas), 2nd February 2025
Theme: “Jesus Christ revealed as the Light of the World”

THE GATHERING & PREPARATION

Candles are lit, the clergy enter in silence, kindles incense and the Celebrant says

Let us proceed in peace: **In the name of Christ Amen.**

† Processional Hymn **361 O Praise ye the Lord!**

Welcome & Call to Worship

Christ has brought us out of darkness to live in his marvellous light.

Blessed be God:

1 Peter 2: 9

Blessed be God’s reign for ever. Amen.

Prayer of Preparation *Page 1 of the Liturgy Books*

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom 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.

Call to Penitence

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

SILENCE as we recollect our sins of omission and commission

Confession

Christ came in humility to share our lives: forgive our pride.

Lord, have mercy. **Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**

Christ came with good news for all people: forgive our silence.

Christ, have mercy. **Christe Eleison, Christe Eleison, Christe Eleison**

Christ came in love to a world of suffering: forgive our self-centredness.

Lord, have mercy. **Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison, Kyrie Eleison**

Absolution

Almighty God, who pardons all who truly repent, and are themselves forgiving, 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. **Amen.**

The Gloria

Page 3 of the Liturgy Books

**Glory be to God on high, 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, Jesus 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 Spirit,

Art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

COLLECT *for the day*

God, the Ultimate Reality, at the Presentation of your Son in the Temple, the mother completed a time of purification and at the meeting with the prophets Simeon and Anna, the Baby Jesus was declared to be the Light of the world. We pray that we and all our peoples will be led by your Spirit to do right, love justice, hate wrong and to walk humbly in that Light; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Old Testament 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 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.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 84

1. How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
2. **My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing joy to the living God.**
3. Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.
4. **Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise.**
5. Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.
6. **As they go through the valley of Baca they make it a place of springs; the early rain also covers it with pools.**
7. They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion.
8. **O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob!**
9. Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed.
10. **For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness.**
11. For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he bestows favour and honour. No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly.
12. **O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.**
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
As it was in the beginning is now and shall be forever. Amen.

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 2: 14 – 18

Since, therefore, 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 sisters² 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.

Gradual

277 **I am the Light whose brightness shines**

Acclamation

Alleluia, **Alleluia.** a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.

Alleluia.

Gospel

St. Luke 2: 22 – 40

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 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 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.

Sermon

Canon Rev’d Joshua Ratnam

Affirmation of Faith *Page 5 of the Liturgy Books*

**We Believe in one God, 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 his 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, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin

Mary, and was made man, 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 we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, Who proceedeth from the Father, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spake by the Prophets.

And we believe in One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And we look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the life of the world to come. Amen

Prayers of the People

Lord, in your mercy:

Hear our prayer.

The Peace

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring from on high has broken upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you:

And also with you.

Offertory Hymn

281

I heard the voice of Jesus say

Offertory Prayer

First prayer on Page 7 of the Liturgy Books

MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

(From page 8 of the Liturgy Books)

Proper Preface

And now we give thee thanks because by appearing in the Temple he brings judgement on the world. The Word made flesh searches the hearts of all thy people, to bring to light the brightness of thy splendour. Therefore...

Communion Hymn

303

Jesu, the very thought of thee

AFTER COMMUNION

Thanksgiving

Give thanks to the Lord for God is gracious:

God's mercy endures for ever.

Sentence

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. *Matthew 5: 16*

Prayer

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.

Recessional Hymn

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Thou whose almighty Word

During the Recessional Hymn the Celebrant changes the vestments from White to Green, indicating the end of the Season of Christmas and the beginning of the period before lent. Afterwards, the Altar Party recesses to the Baptismal Font for the special Candlemas Dismissal. The candles of the congregation are lit from the Tapers held by the Servers while the procession makes it ways down.

Dismissal

Father, here we bring to an end our celebration of the Saviour's birth.

Help us, in whom he has been born, to live his life that has no end.

Here we have offered the Church's sacrifice of praise

Help us, who have received the bread of life, to be thankful for your gift.

Here we have rejoiced with faithful Simeon and Anna.

Help us, who have found the Lord in his Temple, to trust in your eternal promises.

Here we have greeted the light of the world.

Help us, who bear these candles, never to forsake the light of Christ.

Here we stand near the place of Baptism.

Help us, who are marked with the cross, to share the Lord's death and resurrection.

Here we turn from Christ's birth to his passion.

Help us, for whom Lent is near, to enter deeply into the Easter mystery.

Here we bless one another in your name.

Help us, who now go in peace, to shine with your light in the world.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

The Nunc dimittis (Song of Simeon) will then be sung by the Choir.

1. Lord now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace : according to thy word.

2. For mine eyes have seen : thy salvation

3. Which thou hast prepared : before the face of all people

4. 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 Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be : World without end. Amen.

Thank you for using the online pew sheet. We will continue to use this in the service in order to reduce the cost of printing. We will continue to print a few pew sheets for those who still prefer to have a printed copy of the same.