



Great St Mary's

THE UNIVERSITY CHURCH CAMBRIDGE

THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE CANDLEMAS



30 JANUARY 2022

4PM

A few reminders about -Covid-safe worship:

- *Please consider wearing a face covering.*
- *We ask that you help maintain physical distancing between households, to protect the vulnerable in our community.*
- *Please use your NHS Covid-19 App to check in, using the QR code on this page.*



These rules apply even if you have been vaccinated. Thank you!

Happy Candlemas! The Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, which is actually February 2nd, has been celebrated for around 1600 years. The earliest Christians discerned the bitter-sweet tone of the story of Jesus' presentation in the Temple – the mixture of joy and pain, of light and darkness – hence this symbolic date marking 40 days after the birth of Jesus, a clear reference to wilderness and waiting. The themes are rich and strong, with light the most prevalent among them. So much so, that in England the feast grew a nickname – Candlemas.

Our desire is to make you feel at home, and part of the family here– so don't worry if anything seems strange; you are welcome, and amongst friends. Don't worry about tiny children making a noise. We are a family, and we understand!

Please feel free, when the time comes, to receive Holy Communion. If it is not your usual custom or practice, please come forward for a blessing.

Everyone is welcome at Great St Mary's, a church which has been witnessing to Christian truth in the centre of Cambridge for over 800 years. We seek to be an inclusive, friendly church, with a large, gathered congregation of all ages, great music and preaching, and a particular calling as the spiritual heart of the University of Cambridge.

THE GATHERING

Please STAND to sing the opening

HYMN

Of the Father's love begotten
ere the worlds began to be,
he is Alpha and Omega,
he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see,
evermore and evermore.

O that birth for ever blessed!
when the Virgin, full of grace,
by the Holy Ghost conceiving,
bare the Saviour of our race,
and the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
first revealed his sacred face,
evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of heaven, adore him;
angel-hosts, his praises sing;
powers, dominions bow before him,
and extol our God and King:
let no tongue on earth be silent,
every voice in concert ring,
evermore and evermore.

This is he whom seers and sages
sang of old with one accord;
whom the writings of the prophets
promised in their faithful word;
now he shines, the long-expected:
let creation praise its Lord,
evermore and evermore.

**Christ, to thee, with God the Father,
and the Spirit, unto thee,
hymn and chant and high thanksgiving
and unwearied praises be.
Honour, glory, and dominion,
and eternal victory,
evermore and evermore.**

Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-c.410)
translated J M Neale (1818-1866), H W Baker (1821-1877) and others
Tune DIVINUM MYSTERIUM, from Piae Cantiones 1582,
arr. David Willcocks (1919-2015)

GREETING

The Vicar, The Reverend Canon Adrian Daffern, says

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

All **Amen.**

The light and peace of Jesus Christ be with you

All **and also with you.**

Today the Lord is presented in the Temple.

All **Alleluia! Praise to Christ, the light of the world.**

The president invites everyone to SIT and introduces the service

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 recognised 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.

The liturgical deacon says

Hear the words of our Saviour Jesus Christ:

‘I am the light of the world.

Whoever follows me shall never walk in darkness
but shall have the light of life.’

Let us therefore bring our sins into his light
and confess them in penitence and faith.

Silence is kept

All **Father eternal,
giver of light and grace,
we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,
in what we have thought, in what we have said and done,
through ignorance, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.
We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us.
We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us,
forgive us all that is past;
and lead us out from darkness
to walk as children of light.
Amen.**

The president says

May the God of all healing and forgiveness draw you to himself,
that you may behold the glory of his Son, the Word made flesh,
and be cleansed from all your sins, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

The president says

Let us hear again the song of the angels:
Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Please **STAND** as the choir sings

GLORIA

*Gloria in excelsis Deo.
Et in terra pax hominibus
bonae voluntatis.
Laudamus te. Benedicimus te.
Adoramus te. Glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi
propter magnam gloriam tuam.
Domine Deus, Rex caelestis,
Deus Pater omnipotens.
Domine Fili unigenite,
Jesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,
Filius Patris.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus Sanctus.
Tu solus Dominus.
Tu solus Altissimus,
Jesu Christe.
Cum Sancto Spiritu,
in gloria Dei Patris.
Amen.*

Glory be to God on high,
and in earth peace,
goodwill toward 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 sins of the world,
have mercy on us.
Thou that takest away the sins of
the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of
God the Father, have mercy on 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.

Missa Brevis – Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594)

THE COLLECT

Let us pray that we may know and share the light of Christ.

Silence is kept

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty,
whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple,
in substance of our flesh:
grant that we may be presented to you
with pure and clean hearts,
by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Please SIT

READING

Malachi 3.1-4

'I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,' says the LORD Almighty.

But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver.

Then the LORD will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the LORD, as in days gone by, as in former years.

For the light of God's word

All **let us bless the Lord.**

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 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.

For the light of God's word

All **let us bless the Lord.**

The choir sings

PSALM 24

chant by Richard Widdess (1951-),

based on the 'Cambridge Quarters', by William Crotch (1775-1847)

- ¹ THE earth is the Lord's, and all that therein is :
the compass of the world, and they that dwell therein.
- ² For he hath founded it upon the seas :
and prepared it upon the floods.
- ³ Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord :
or who shall rise up in his holy place?
- ⁴ Even he that hath clean hands, and a pure heart :
and that hath not lift up his mind unto vanity,
nor sworn to deceive his neighbour.
- ⁵ He shall receive the blessing from the Lord :
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.

- 6 This is the generation of them that seek him :
 even of them that seek thy face, O Jacob.
- 7 Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
 and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors :
 and the King of glory shall come in.
- 8 Who is the King of glory :
 it is the Lord strong and mighty, even the Lord mighty in battle.
- 9 Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
 and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors :
 and the King of glory shall come in.
- 10 Who is the King of glory :
 even the Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Please STAND

THE GOSPEL

Luke 2.22-40

Org. **All** Cantor

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

All

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Org. **f**

Glo-ry to you, O Lord.

When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord'); and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: 'a pair of doves or two young pigeons'.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts.

When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

The choir sing Nunc Dimittis to the setting by Arthur H Mann (1850-1929) in E

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.

The child's father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: 'This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped night and day, fasting and praying.

Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem.

When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Please SIT

THE SERMON

The Reverend Shirley Holder, Senior Curate

THE PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Please SIT or KNEEL

The president introduces the intercessions, saying

Let us pray to the Father through Christ who is our light and life.

Father, your Christ is acclaimed as the glory of Israel:

look in mercy on your Church, sharing his light.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Father, your Christ in his temple brings judgement on the world:

look in mercy on the nations, who long for his justice.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Father, your Christ, who was rich, for our sakes became poor:

look in mercy on the needy, suffering with him.

Lord, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Father, your Christ is the one
in whom faithful servants find their peace:
look in mercy on the departed, that they may see your salvation.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

Father, your Christ is revealed as the one destined to be rejected:
look in mercy on us who now turn towards his passion.
Lord, have mercy.

All **Christ, have mercy.**

The president concludes the intercessions saying

Lord God, you kept faith with Simeon and Anna,
and showed them the infant King.
Give us grace to put all our trust in your promises,
and the patience to wait for their fulfilment;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

Please STAND

THE PEACE

The president says

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

All The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

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.

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.

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.

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!

John Ellerton (1826-93)

Tune OLD 120TH, melody from Thomas Este's Psalter, 1592

The president prays

Father, in Christ there has sprung up
a light for the righteous;
accept the gifts we bring before you
and grant that Christ may shine in us
to the praise and glory of your name.

All **Amen.**

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Please **REMAIN STANDING**



The Lord___ is here. **His spi - rit is with_ us.**



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 president praises God for his mighty acts, and the choir sings:

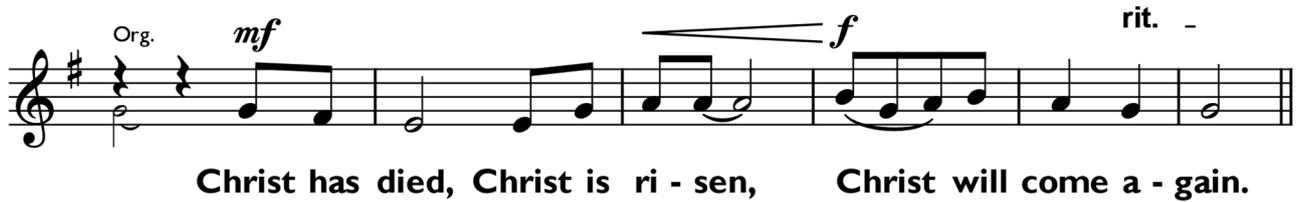
*Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus
Dominus Deus Sabaoth.
Pleni sunt caeli et terra
Gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.*

Holy, holy, holy,
Lord God of hosts,
heaven and earth are full
of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Missa Brevis – Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594)

The president recalls the Last Supper, and the deacon leads us in this acclamation:

Great is the mystery of faith

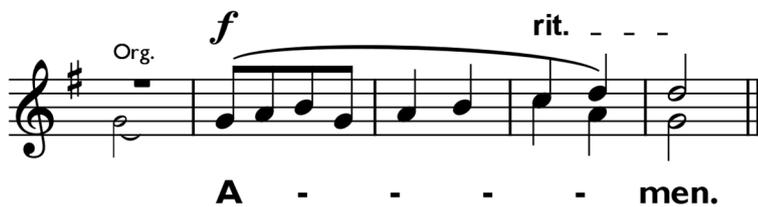


Org. *mf* *f* rit. -

Christ has died, Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain.

The prayer continues, ending:

...for ever and ever:



Org. *f* rit. - - -

A - - - - men.

We SIT or KNEEL for a time of silent prayer

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The president says

Rejoicing in the presence of God here among us,
let us pray with confidence as our Saviour taught us

All 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.

The president breaks the consecrated bread, saying

Christ is the bread which has come down from heaven.

All Lord, give us this bread for ever.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The president explains how communion will be distributed, before saying formal words of invitation. Please wait to follow the direction of the stewards.

Please maintain a distance between yourself and other households, and please keep your face covering on until it is time to receive. Extend your arms all the way forward, and the president will give you communion. If you wish a blessing instead, please cross your arms in front of your chest.

During communion the choir sings

AGNUS DEI

*Agnus Dei
qui tollis peccata mundi
Miserere nobis.*

O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

*Agnus Dei
qui tollis peccata mundi
Miserere nobis.*

O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

*Agnus Dei
qui tollis peccata mundi
Dona nobis pacem.*

O Lamb of God,
that takest away the sin of the world,
grant us thy peace.

Missa Brevis – Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (1525-1594)

ANTHEM

When to the temple Mary went – Johannes Eccard (1533-1611)

When to the temple Mary went, and brought the Holy Child,
Him did the aged Simeon see, as it had been revealed.
He took up Jesus in his arms and blessing God he said:
In peace I now depart, my Saviour having seen,
The Hope of Israel, the Light of men.

Help now thy servants, gracious Lord, that we may ever be
as once the faithful Simeon was, rejoicing but in Thee;
and when we must from earth departure take,
may gently fall asleep and with Thee wake.

Tr. John Troutbeck (1832-1899)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna,
who lived to welcome the Messiah:

All **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.**

THE PROCESSION

*The ministers process to the Font; we STAND to sing the
during which candles are lit*

HYMN

**When candles are lighted on Candlemas Day
The dark is behind us and Spring's on the way.
*A glory dawns in every dark place,
The light of Christ, the fullness of grace.***

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

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

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

**But Anna and Simëon recognise there
The Christ-child who came at the turn of the year. [Refrain]**

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

Elizabeth Cosnett (1936-)
Tune LOURDES, French traditional melody,
descant adapted from an anthem by Andrew Carter (1939-)

THE BLESSING OF THE CANDLES

The president invites the people to hold their candles aloft, and blesses them

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 temple where you live and reign,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

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

All **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.

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

Here we have rejoiced with faithful Simeon and Anna.

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

Here we have greeted the Light of the world.

All **Help us, who now extinguish these candles,
never to forsake the light of Christ.**

The people extinguish their candles, after which the president continues

Here we now stand at the place of baptism.

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

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

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

Here we bless one another in your name.

All **Help us, who now go in peace, to shine with your light in the world.
Thanks be to God! Amen!**

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

*Fugue (Sortie) sur l'Antienne: 'Lumen ad revelationem gentium' [A light to lighten the Gentiles]
Alexandre Guilmant (1871-1901)*

*Please SIT for the Organ Voluntary. A retiring collection will be taken as you exit
the church. We receive no government funding and are grateful for your generosity.*

www.greatstmarys.org
🐦📘📷 @greatstmarys

Some material in this service is from Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England, copyright ©2000, and Common Worship: Times and Seasons copyright ©2006 The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England. Service Responses: © 2021 Benedict Todd. CCLI 785960; Streaming Licence 160968

Cover image: *Historiated initial, c.1370, showing the Presentation in the Temple with Simeon and Anna holding the infant Christ on the right, Mary and Joseph on the left, and a mitred priest behind holding the knife for Christ's circumcision. From the Introit to the Mass for the Purification of the Virgin (2 February): Suscepimus, Deus, misericordiam in medio templi tui [We wait for thy loving-kindness, O God : in the midst of thy temple], from Psalm 48. Image @ The Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge, used with permission*