

The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple

February 2, 2025

THE HOLY EUCHARIST (RITE II)

10:00 am



The Church of the Holy Spirit (Episcopal)

Knowing • Loving • Serving
God + Neighbor

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The Word of God

The Prelude

Jesus Christ, my Life's Light

arr. Max Drischner

Please stand as you are able as the bell is rung.

The Opening Hymn 490 I want to walk as a child of the light

Houston

Celebrant

Blessed be God: Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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.

The Collect of the Day

People The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

Almighty and ever living 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 forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated for the scripture appointed.

The Lessons

A reading from the book of 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.

People The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

A reading from the Letter to the 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.

People The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able for the sequence hymn and the reading of the gospel.

The Sequence Hymn 7 Christ, whose glory fills the sky

Ratisbon

People The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
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.

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

The Sermon

The Rev. Patrick C. Ward

Please stand as you are able for the creed; you may sit, stand or kneel for the prayers as your personal piety guides you.

The 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 human. 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; who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified; who 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.

The Prayers of the People

In the light of this season, we bring our prayers before God.

As we worship and meet together as your church on this Annual Meeting Sunday, we pray that we may live as witnesses of Christ's Gospel of love to all people. For strength to speak the truth, care for the vulnerable, and build beloved community.

Enlighten the Church, O God.

For Julia, our bishop, and for all who minister in and from the church, that they may proclaim with zeal and pastor with tenderness. In our Diocesan cycle of prayer, we remember St. Mark's Church, St. Mary's Church and Epiphany School, Dorchester and The Diocesan Council. In our parish cycle of prayer, for all past, present and future members of our vestry..

Enlighten our Ministers, O God.

For all in public authority, especially those beginning new terms of office in this new year, that they may serve the common good with mercy and integrity and be ever mindful of those without power or property.

Enlighten our State, O God.

For ourselves, that we may be mindful and actively supportive of those of us who are poor, those of us who are homeless and destitute, and all who suffer due to human greed.

Enlighten our Conscience, O God.

For those who live in fear for their lives, their families, and their homes, that their prayers for relief and asylum may be heard and their lives of dignity restored. We remember before you those regions of the world torn apart by war or civil unrest: Ukraine and Russia, Gaza, The West Bank, Israel and Lebanon, Haiti and Sudan. We remember all in greater Los Angeles who have lost their homes, communities and livelihoods to fire. We give thanks for the cease fire between Israel and Gaza pray for its permanence.

Enlighten our World, O God.

For those among us who are sick and infirm, especially Gerry Ainslie, Elizabeth Beattie, Robert Blanchet, Terese Brown, Sally Drew, Joan Payne, Jennifer Peters, Henry Shepherd, Barbara and Philip Sousa, Linda Staab, Pam Thomas, Eloise Thompson, Meg Zaks, Brant, Carole, Dave, David, Kathy, Lauren, Linnea, Maggie, Marcos, Pat, Sarah Jane, and those we now name silently or aloud, *(Pause)*.

We name silently or aloud those for whom we pray.

that they may be delivered from their pain and distress and restored to wholeness of life.

Enlighten our Darkness, O God.

For all who have died, and for those we now name, *(Pause)*

We name silently or aloud those who have died.

that they may know God's peace and perfect freedom in a kingdom that is forever.

Enlighten our Hopes, O God.

The Concluding Collect

Almighty and ever living God, ruler of all things in heaven and on earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the weary, comfort the afflicted and shield the joyous. Grant us all things necessary for our common life through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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

Please stand as you are able.

The Absolution

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

The Peace

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

The Greeting and Announcements

The Holy Communion

The Offertory

Nunc Dimittis from Service in F

George Dyson

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.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Please stand as you are able as our offering is presented.

Hymn 124



To God the Fa - ther, heaven - ly Light, to
Christ, re - vealed in earth - ly night, to
God the Ho - ly Ghost we raise our e - qual and un -
end - - ing praise.

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.

People **And of thine own have we given thee. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, God Almighty, Creator 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 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:

Sanctus S-125 Holy, holy, holy Lord

Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

You may remain standing, sit or kneel for the continuation of the Eucharistic prayer.

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 Christ. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, 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, our Lord Jesus Christ 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 he 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.*”

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

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

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; 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, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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.**

The Breaking of the Bread

Hymn S-155

Near

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

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is

sac - ri - ficed for us; there - fore let us keep the feast.

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

The gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived, died and rose for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Prayer for Spiritual Communion

Holy Jesus, Redeemer of the World, we believe that you are present in the Blessed Sacrament of this altar. Even while some of us are unable to receive you in the elements of bread and wine, we invite you to enter our hearts and be our companion along the way. Waiting in hope, we know that you are present in every moment of our lives and will never leave us comfortless. For all good things come from you O Lord, and from that goodness, lead us to the love of others. For you live with the Father and the Holy Spirit now and forever. Amen.

All are welcome to receive the bread and/or the wine. You may stand or kneel to receive. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are also available; simply make your needs known to the person serving you. If you wish a blessing instead of the elements, cross your arms over your chest as the priest approaches you.

The Communion Hymns

Hymn 499 (repeat 3 times) Lord God, you now have set your servant free

Song 1

Hymn 325 Let us break bread together

Spiritual

Please stand as you are able.

The Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Eternal God, by grace you accept us as living members of your Son Jesus Christ and feed us with spiritual food in this sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace to do your work of reconciliation as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To Him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit may all creation sing hymns of thanks and praise. Amen.

The Sending *(when lay eucharistic visitors are scheduled to make home or hospital visits)*

Celebrant: In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People: **We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread and the one cup.**

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