



St. James Episcopal Church

Our commitment: Walk with God.

CANDLEMAS
The Presentation of
Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple
February 02, 2025

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Rector

Tara Ford

Organist-Choir Director

CANDLEMAS

(Takes precedence over the Season after Epiphany, when it falls on a Sunday)

The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple

Holy Eucharist, Rite Two

February 02, 2025

Prelude

Please Stand

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. *Amen.*

Antiphon

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 48:1-2, 10-13

1. Great is the Lord, and highly to be praised*
in the city of our God is his holy hill.
2. 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.
10. Let Mount Zion be glad and the cities of Judah rejoice,*
because of your judgements.
11. Make the circuit of Zion; walk round about her;*
count the number of her towers.
12. Consider well her bulwarks; examine her strongholds;*
that you may tell those who come after.
13. This God is our God for ever and ever;*
he shall be our guide for evermore.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

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.*

(please be seated for the Lessons)

First Reading: 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.

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

Response: Psalm 84 (Please turn to page 707 in *The Book of Common Prayer*)
(*We will read responsively as instructed by the Lector*)

Second Reading: 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.

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

Sequence Hymn #259 *Hail to the Lord who comes*

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40 (*please stand*)

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

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.

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

The Sermon: The Reverend Dr. Jennifer Lazzuri

(moment of silence)

The Nicene Creed ~ Please stand and turn to page 358 in *The Book of Common Prayer*

Prayers of the People

(please kneel or be seated as you are able) (The congregation will read the italicized responses)

We long for the promise of God to be fulfilled, standing with Anna and Simeon, praying for the redemption of the world, saying “Let our eyes see your salvation.

For the Church and our call to work for reconciliation in Christ’s name, we pray, ***let our eyes see your salvation.***

For those in civil authority, that they may make decisions for the common good, we pray, ***let our eyes see your salvation.***

For all those in places of strife, war and conflict, especially those in Gaza. We pray for the continued release of hostages; for those who suffer from systems of oppression and injustice; embolden us to respond with your love, justice, and mercy, we pray, ***let our eyes see your salvation.***

For those who are without shelter, for those who hunger, for victims of inclement and violent weather; for all those who are sick and suffering, and for those who grieve. We remember the families who have lost loved ones; for those on our intercessions list, including, **John Schick, Mark Cole, Errol Flynn, David Purcell, Allen & Lisa Walton, Agnes Petrie, Debbie Jones, Jim Coleman, Jack Steele, Ann Forrestal, Kristin Zonozi, Owen, Keely Edwards, Carl Herndon, Sharon Lupichuk, Diana Rivera, Liz Blanchard, Zac Yarbrough, John Cochrane, and Nancy Miller**; open our hearts to respond in Christ’s name, we pray, ***let our eyes see your salvation.***

For all those who have died and know already the salvation that Christ promises, especially **the victims of the plane collision this week, Barbara Sue Walton, and Peggy Oliva**; for all those who mourn, we pray, ***let our eyes see your salvation.***

For the many blessings of our lives, for ourselves and all those we love; for **Linda Brickey** who is being received into the Episcopal Church today; and for First Responders everywhere, especially those in the DC area; we pray, ***let our eyes see your salvation.***

Celebrant: Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Confession

The Book of Common Prayer, pg.360

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *Moment of Silence*

Celebrant & People

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.

Absolution

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all yours 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.*

Peace & Greeting (please stand)

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

Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offering of Gifts and Praise

Celebrant “Our eyes 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.”
(*Luke-Canticle*)

Offertory Anthem: *Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil*

Handt Hanson, 1985

Doxology (please stand)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow / Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly host / Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer B

The Book of Common Prayer, pg. 367

(please remain standing)

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 him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father 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 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:

Sanctus S-130

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full, full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Celebrant 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. 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 Father,

Celebrant and People

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

Celebrant 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 James and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the first born of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

Celebrant and People

The Book of Common Prayer, pg. 364

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.

Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant 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.

Fraction Anthem S-164 *Jesus, Lamb of God*

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us. Jesus, bearer of our sins; have mercy on us.

Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world: give us your peace, give us your peace.

Communion Hymns

#517 *How lovely is thy dwelling place*

#712 *Dona nobis pacem (Grant us peace)*

Post-Communion Prayer *(please kneel)*

The Book of Common Prayer, pg. 365

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

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

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. *Amen.*

Recessional Hymn #657 *Love divine, all loves excelling*

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, Alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia, Alleluia.**

Postlude

Those Who Serve Today

Crucifer: David Koegle
Chalice: Linda Harvey
Lector: Dale Williams (8) / Michael Hagan (10)
Prayers: Kim Williams (8) / Jill Schumacher (10)
Ushers: Greg & Jill Schumacher
Altar Guild: Linda Harvey
Counters: Kelly Craig / Tom Woolfolk
Sunday School: Debbie Wesley / Terry Cole

Intercessions

Church Members: John Schick, Mark Cole, Errol Flynn, David Purcell, Allen & Lisa Walton

Family of Church Members: Agnes Petrie, Debbie Jones, Jim Coleman, Jack Steele, Ann Forrestal, Kristin Zonozi

Friends of Church Members: Owen, Keely Edwards, Carl Herndon, Sharon Lupichuk, Diana Rivera, Liz Blanchard, Zac Yarbrough, John Cochrane, Nancy Miller

For the families of the victims in the tragic plane collision on Wednesday night and for the First Responders who are working tirelessly to recover the lost

For the clergy & congregations of Christ Church, Brandy Station; Emmanuel, Greenwood; St. Christopher's, Springfield

For those in military service, especially: Jacob Laws, Garrett & Rebecca Bond, Hope Matkins, Zachary Lynch, Teri Boivin, Holly-Ann Hess, Nicholas Boivin, and Jon Geiser

For the departed: Barbara Sue Walton, Peggy Oliva, and those who lost their lives in Wednesday's plane accident

For those celebrating Birthdays/Anniversaries/Thanksgiving: 07-Phil Bennett

Jesus said, "My house shall be called a house of prayer."

We welcome all visitors to St. James. If you would like to know more about our church family, please sign a pew card or the guest register on the table in the back. Thank you for joining us this morning.

The flowers on the altar are given by Linda Brickey to the glory of God and in loving memory of her father, John H. Olson, for his birthday on February 5th.

Join us for Coffee Hour this morning following each service in the Parish Hall. Our thanks to Molly & Sam Barr (8 o'clock) and Jill Schumacher & Nancy Bashaw (10 o'clock) for hosting.

The Compassionate Care Team will meet this Tuesday, Feb. 4th, @ 12:30pm in the Parish Hall.

The readings for next week are: Old Testament-Isaiah 6:1-8, [9-13]; Psalm 138; New Testament-1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Gospel-Luke 5:1-11.