

CANDLEMAS

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Sunday 31 January 2021

WELCOME TO THIS FESTIVE EUCHARIST

*At Candlemas we remember how
Jesus was taken to the Temple in
Jerusalem as a little baby and
recognised as the presence of God
among us: the Light of the World.*

WELCOME

ENTRANCE HYMN (SP13)
...sung by the Contracovids

**Longing for light,
we wait in darkness,
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own,
your holy people,
light for the world to see.**

***Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church
gathered today.***



**Longing for peace,
our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your world alone has power to
save us.
Make us your living voice.
*Refrain:***

**Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for
others,
shared until all are fed.
*Refrain:***

**Longing for shelter, many are
homeless,
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering
others,
walls made of living stone.
*Refrain:***

THE GATHERING

† In the name of God, Father,
Son, and Holy Spirit. **Amen**

THE GREETING

The Lord be with you.
and also with you.

Forty days ago we celebrated the Birth of Jesus.

Now we remember the day on which he was presented in the Temple, when he was offered to God. In their old age Simeon and Anna recognised Jesus 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 at Christmas and forward towards Easter to the coming days of his passion.

PRAYERS OF PENITENCE

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.'

So let us confess those times when we have turned away from the light of Christ, and not loved God, our neighbour and ourselves

THE CONFESSION

We have not always worshipped God our creator.

Lord have mercy.

Lord, have mercy

We have not always followed Christ, our Saviour.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy

We have not always trusted in the Spirit, our guide.

Lord have mercy

Lord have mercy

THE ABSOLUTION

May the God of love bring us back to himself, forgive us our sins, and assure us of his eternal love in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA

(NHWS 411)

...sung by the Contracovids

**Gloria, gloria
in excelsis deo!
Gloria, Gloria,
alleluia, alleluia!**

THE COLLECT

Lord Jesus Christ, light of the nations and glory of Israel: make your home among us, and present us pure and holy to your heavenly Father, your God, and our God.

Amen.

GRADUAL HYMN

(SP 12)

...sung by the Contracovids

**Into the darkness of this world,
into the shadows of the night,
into this loveless place you came,
lightened our burden, eased our
pain, and made these hearts your
home.**

**Into the darkness once again,
O come, Lord Jesus, come.**

***Come with your love to make
us whole.***

***Come with your light to lead
us on,
driving the darkness far from
our souls:***

O come, Lord Jesus, come.

**Into the longing of our souls,
 into these heavy hearts of stone,
 shine on us now your piercing light,
 order our lives and souls aright,
 by grace and love unknown,
 until in your own hearts unite—
 O come, Lord Jesus, come.**

Refrain:

**O Holy Child, Emmanuel,
 Hope of the ages, God with us,
 visit again this broken place,
 till all the earth declare your praise
 and your great mercies own.
 Now let your love be born in us—
 O come, Lord Jesus, come.**

*Come in your glory, take your place,
 Jesus, the Name above all names,
 we long to see you face to face:
 O come, Lord Jesus, come.*

THE GOSPEL

Reader: Jane Tozer

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus
 Christ according to Luke

St Luke 2: 22-40

When it is announced:

Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end:

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ

SERMON

NICENE CREED

Let us declare our faith in God:

**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,
 was incarnate from the Holy Spirit
 and the Virgin Mary and was made
 man.
 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
 worshipped 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.**

INTERCESSIONS

Leader: Paul Budgen

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

At the end:

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. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

In the tender mercy of our God, the dayspring 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.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

and also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace

HYMN (SP 21)
...sung by the Contracovids

**Like a candle flame,
flickering small in our darkness,
uncreated light shines through
infant eyes.**

***God is with us, alleluia,
come to save us, alleluia.***

**Stars and angels sing,
yet the earth sleeps in shadows ;
can this tiny spark set a world on
fire ?**

***God is with us, alleluia,
come to save us, alleluia.***

**Yet his light shall shine
from our lives, Spirit blazing,
as we touch the flame of his holy
fire.**

***God is with us, alleluia,
come to save us, alleluia.***

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER (H)
The Lord is here.

His Spirit 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.**

It is right to praise you Father, Lord of all creation;
in your love you made us for yourself.
When we turned away you did not reject us,

but came to meet us in your son

**You embraced us as your
children and welcomed us to
sit and eat with you.**

In Christ you shared our life
that we might live in him and he
in us

**He opened his arms of love
upon the cross and made for
all the perfect sacrifice for sin.**

On the night he was betrayed,
at supper with his friends
he took bread, and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is
given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in
remembrance of him:
his body is the bread of life.**

At the end of supper, taking the
cup of wine,
he gave you thanks, and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you for the
forgiveness of sins;
do this in remembrance of me.

**Father, we do this in
remembrance of him:
his blood is shed for all.**

As we proclaim his death and
celebrate his rising to glory,
send your Holy Spirit that this bread
and this wine may be to us the body
and blood of your dear Son.

**As we eat and drink these
holy gifts make us one in
Christ, our risen Lord.**

With your whole church throughout the
world we offer you this sacrifice of
praise and lift our voice to join the
eternal song of heaven:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of
your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessèd is he, who comes in
the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As we look for the coming of the
Kingdom, Lord, teach us to 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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread to share in the
body of Christ.

**Though we are many, we are
one body, because we all
share in one bread.**

AGNUS DEI

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world,
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away
the sins of the world,
grant us peace.**

**THE ADMINISTRATION OF HOLY
COMMUNION / SPIRITUAL
COMMUNION**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

**Father of all,
we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and
brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared
your love,
gave us grace, and opened the
gates of glory.
May we who share Christ's body
live his risen life;
we who drink his cup bring life
to others;**

**we whom the Spirit lights give
light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have
set before us,
so we and all your children shall be
free, and the whole earth live to
praise your name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

NOTICES

HYMN

*...the Choral Scholars of St Martin-in-
the-Fields*

**In a world where people walk in
darkness,
let us turn our faces to the light,
to the light of God revealed in
Jesus,
to the day-star scattering our night.**

***For the light is stronger than the
darkness
and the day will overcome the night,
though the shadows linger all
around us,
let us turn our faces to the light.***

**In a world where suffering of
the helpless
casts a shadow all along the way,
let us bear the cross of Christ
with gladness
and proclaim the dawning of
the day.
*Refrain:***

**Let us light a candle in the darkness,
in the face of death a sign of life;
as a sign of hope where all seemed hopeless,
as a sign of peace in place of strife.**
Refrain:

THE BLESSING

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
fill you with radiance and scatter the darkness from before your path.

Amen

Christ, the Sun of Righteousness,
gladden your eyes and warm your heart.

Amen

Christ, the Dayspring from on high,
draw near to guide your feet into the way of peace.

Amen

and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son † and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you this day and always.

Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen

Voluntary:

Schumann's 'Widmung' sung by
Jamie Coskun

COLLECTION

If you'd like to make a donation towards the life and work of St Peter's today, we ask for all donations to be made in the following ways:

Online giving

You can give a one-off amount via our Give.net page:

<https://www.give.net/20291285>

or by scanning the QR code below.



Text giving

You can donate any whole value up to £20 by texting STPETER (amount) to 70085. For example texting STPETER 10 will donate £10.

Cheque

Alternatively you can also drop a cheque into the Parish Office made payable to St Peter's Limpsfield. Please put this in an envelope clearly marked '**Collection**'
Thank you.