



## The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord: Candlemas

February 7, 2021

The Service of Holy Eucharist on Zoom @ 9 am

*Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs,  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water. [Psalm 84.5]*

### Ministers of the Liturgy

The Rev. Judith Lee

#### Our Youth

Allison Kee, Emily Kee, Nathan Pirelli,  
Teagan Richards, Zoey Richards,  
Lauren Ruggiero, Landon Sweet

Musicians: Randy Bloom, Mary Johnson, Jeff Lukas, Cathy Poch

*Today we observe the day that Jesus was presented at the temple forty days after he was born. On this day we proclaim that Christ is the Light of the world, and we remember that we are at the halfway point between the winter solstice and the spring equinox. It is a traditional on this day to bless candles for our homes. We begin the service by expressing our trust that Christ will be our light, and our promise to be a light in the world.*

### Organ Prelude

#### **Mother Judith & Lauren Ruggiero**      **Opening: Blessing of our Candles**

*Please put the candles to be blessed on a table in front of you or hold them in front of the camera.*

**Mother Judith** Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please light the candles.*

A light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.

**A light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.**

Lord, you now have set your servant free to go in peace as you have promised.

**A light to enlighten the nations, and glory of your people Israel.**

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,

whom you have prepared for all the world to see.

**A light to enlighten the nations, and glory of your people Israel.**

**Lauren** Holy and Incarnate God, source of all light, today you revealed to the aged Simeon your light which enlightens the nations. Fill our hearts with the light of faith, that we who bear these candles may walk in the path of goodness and come to the Light that shines forever, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Mary Johnson A Song of Praise Psalm 100 Jubilate**

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; \*serve the Lord with gladness  
and come before his presence with a song.

Know this: The Lord himself is God; \* he himself has made us, and we are his;  
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter his gates with thanksgiving; go into his courts with praise; \*  
give thanks to him and call upon his Name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting; \*  
and his faithfulness endures from age to age

**Mother Judith Collect of the Day**

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.**

**Liturgy of the Word**

**Nathan Pirelli A Reading from the Prophet Malachi [3:1-4]**

*from The Message by Eugene Peterson*

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way for me. And suddenly, out of the blue, the Lord whom you seek will suddenly enter his temple. The messenger of the covenant whom you have been waiting for. Look! He is on his way says the Lord of Hosts. But who will be able to stand up to that coming? Who can survive his appearance? For he is like white-hot fire from the smelter's furnace. He will be like the strongest lye soap at the laundry. He will take his place as a refiner of silver, as a cleanser of dirty clothes. He will scrub the Levite priests clean, refine them like gold and silver, until they are fit for God, fit to present offerings of righteousness. Then, and only then, will Judah and Jerusalem be fit and pleasing to God, as they used to be in the years long ago.

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

**Landon Sweet Psalm 84**

The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \*  
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.

Happy are they who dwell in your house! \* they will always be praising you.

Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \* whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, \*  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

They will climb from height to height, \*and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; \* hearken, O God of Jacob.  
Behold our defender, O God; \* and look upon the face of your Anointed.  
For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, \*  
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.  
For the Lord God is both sun and shield; \* he will give grace and glory;  
No good thing will the Lord withhold \* from those who walk with integrity

## Sequence Hymn

## *Morning has broken*

Hymnal #8

*Morning has broken like the first morning  
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird  
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning  
Praise for them springing fresh from the world*

*Sweet the rains new fall, sunlit from Heaven  
Like the first dewfall on the first grass  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden  
Sprung in completeness where His feet pass*

*Mine is the sunlight, mine is the morning  
Born of the one light, Eden saw play  
Praise with elation, praise every morning  
God's recreation of the new day*

## Allison & Emily Kee; Landon Sweet

### The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ According to Luke [2:22-40]

#### Glory to you, Lord Christ

**Narrator #1: Allison** When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to offer him to God as commanded in God's Law ("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."

**Narrator #2 Emily Kee** Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, a good man who lived in the prayerful expectancy of help for Israel. And the Holy Spirit was on him. The Holy Spirit had shown him that he would see the Messiah before he died. Led by the Spirit, he entered the Temple. As Mary and Joseph brought Jesus in to carry out the rituals described by the Law, Simeon took him into his arms and blessed God:

**Simeon:** **Landon Sweet** Lord, you can now set your servant free; release me in peace as you promised. With my own eyes I have seen your salvation; it is now out in the open for everyone to see: a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

**Narrator #1: Allison** Jesus' father and mother were amazed at these words. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary,

**Simeon:** **Landon** "This child marks both the failure and the recovery of many in Israel; he will be a figure misunderstood and contradicted-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too." But the rejection will force honesty, as God reveals who the faithful really are.

**Narrator #2 Emily** There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel [FAN-yew-ell] , of the tribe of Asher. She was now a very old woman. She had been married seven years and a widow for eight-four years. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment when Simeon was praying, she showed up, and she broke into a song of praise to God, She talked about the child to all who were waiting expectantly for the liberation of Jerusalem.

**Narrator #1: Allison** 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 grace of God was upon him.

**Mother Judith** The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## Homily

**Mother Judith** **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 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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.

## **Teagan and Zoey Richards** The Prayers of the People

*St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Par Ridge IL*

Holy God, we pray for our family, friends, and pets. We pray that they stay healthy, safe and happy and that they know we love them.

**God hears me when I pray.**

Holy God, we pray for doctors, teachers, and all the adults who guide us. We pray they keep believing in what they are teaching and they help us to grow. We pray that teachers make sure we are learning and doing our homework. We pray that they know we respect them.

**God hears me when I pray.**

Holy God, we pray for our President and our government leaders. We pray they are honest and open to new ideas. We pray they learn how to work together.

**God hears me when I pray**

Holy God, we pray for people who need help, people who can't be helped and people who don't know they need help. We pray that they are not afraid.

**God hears me when I pray**

Holy God, we pray for those who have died [pause]

**God hears me when I pray**

Holy God, we pray for ourselves. Help us to find the path you have chosen for us. Keep us believing in ourselves and remind us you love us and watch over us every day.

**God hears me when I pray**

God, we pray for the world. Keep the world clean, safe and peaceful. Let everyone get along and build friendships.

**God hears me when I pray**

Out of all the people in this great big world

**God knows my voice and God hears me when I pray.**

Holy God, when you who created the universe you said, "Let there be light." We pray that the light inside our hearts will blot out the darkness of this world and that You Lord may shine everywhere. **Amen.**

### **Lauren Ruggiero      The Confession**

Holy and Loving God of Peace, full of grace and truth, you create us from nothing and give us life. You give your faithful people new life in the water of baptism. You do not turn your face from us, nor cast us aside. We confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbor. We have wounded your love and marred your image in us. Restore us for the sake of your Son, and bring us to heavenly joy, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **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.**

### **The Peace**

#### **Offertory Hymn**

*O Christ Who art the Light & Day*

*Wolfgang Meusel; Translator: William John Copeland (1848)*

*Soloist: Cathy Poch*

#### **Offertory Sentence**

All things come of thee O Lord ; and of thine own have we given thee

### **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

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 by 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 forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord, God of power and might,**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory; Hosanna in the highest.**

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

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love that 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

**We remember his death. We proclaim his resurrection. We await his coming in glory.**

And we present our self-offering 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 self-offering, 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 the Blessed Virgin Mary and 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 him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **AMEN.**

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

**The Lord's Prayer**

**The Breaking of the Bread**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us. **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

**The Invitation**

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.

*During the Communion hymn families take part in Communion at home, praying in thanksgiving for the Life we share in Christ.*

**Communion Hymn**

*Jeff Lukas*

**Allison Kee Post-Communion Prayer**

Lord Jesus, Light of the World, hear our prayers, and make us reflections of your Light, so that the places of darkness in our world will be filled with your Light, and so that all people will be drawn to you and be filled with joy. **Amen.**

**Emily Kee A Prayer for a Blessing on our Homes**

Visit, O blessed Lord, all our homes with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live together with the gift of your love, and grant that they may show your love to each other and to everyone they welcome to their homes. May they grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen them; and preserve them in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Mother Judith The 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, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

**Mother Judith The Dismissal**

Let us go forth sharing the light of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**