

***THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN  
THE TEMPLE  
CANDLEMAS  
February 02, 2025***



**THE CHURCH OF GOOD SHEPHERD  
PARISH OF LANCASTER  
*Diocese of Fredericton  
Anglican Church of Canada***

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*Bishop*

*Interim Priest-in-charge*

*Church Wardens*

*Parish Administrator*

*Organist & Choir Director*

*Sexton*

Archbishop David Edwards

Fr Keith Joyce

Susan Jack, Terry Ricketts

Lori Maker

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We acknowledge that the land on which  
we gather is the traditional unceded  
territory of the Wolastoqiyik (Maliseet)  
and Mi'kmaq Peoples.

The liturgy is according to *The Book of Alternative Services*.

**THE CHURCH GATHERS TO WORSHIP**

**Prelude**

**Welcome and Scripture Sentence**

**Processional Hymn** “*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*” **CP 486**

**Greeting** *page 185*

**Collect for Purity** *page 185*

**Canticle** “*Glory to God*” *page 186*

**Collect of the Day** *as given by the presider*

**THE WORD IS READ AND PROCLAIMED**

**First Reading**      Malachi 3:1-4 *Pew Bible p. 778*

A reading from Malachi.

<sup>1</sup>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. <sup>2</sup>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; <sup>3</sup>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 <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years. *[NRSV-A]*

Hear God’s word for God’s people.

**Thanks be to God.**

***Psalm 24:7-10***

- 7      Lift up your heads, O gates;  
lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.
- 8      **“Who is this King of glory?” \***

**“The Lord, strong and mighty,  
the Lord, mighty in battle.”**

9 Lift up your heads, O gates;  
lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.

10 **“Who is he, this King of glory?” \***  
**“The Lord of hosts,  
he is the King of glory.”**

**Second Reading** Hebrews 2:14-18

*Pew Bible p. 971*

A reading from Hebrews.

<sup>14</sup> 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, <sup>15</sup> and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup> For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. <sup>17</sup> Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters<sup>[a]</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested. *[NRSV-A]*

Hear God’s word for God’s people.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn** *“King of Kings”*

1 In the darkness, we were waiting  
Without hope, without light  
’Til from Heaven You came running  
There was mercy in Your eyes  
To fulfill the law and prophets  
To a virgin came the word,  
From a throne of endless glory  
To a cradle in the dirt

*Refrain-Praise the Father, praise the Son  
Praise the Spirit, Three in one  
God of glory, Majesty  
Praise forever to the King of Kings*

- 2 To reveal the kingdom coming'-  
And to reconcile the lost  
To redeem the whole creation,  
You did not despise the cross.  
For even in your suffering  
You saw to the other side  
Knowing this was our salvation  
Jesus for our sake you died
- 3 And the morning that You rose,  
All of Heaven held its breath  
'Til that stone was moved for good  
For the Lamb had conquered death  
And the dead rose from their tombs  
And the angels stood in awe  
For the souls of all who'd come  
To the Father are restored  
And the church of Christ was born  
Then the Spirit lit the flame.  
Now this gospel truth of old  
Shall not kneel, shall not faint  
By His blood and in His name  
In His freedom I am free  
For the love of Jesus Christ  
Who has resurrected me

**Gospel**      Luke 2:22-40 *Pew Bible p. 833*

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

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

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>22</sup> When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord’), <sup>24</sup> and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, ‘a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.’

<sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon;<sup>[a]</sup> this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah.<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>27</sup> Guided by the Spirit, Simeon<sup>[c]</sup> came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, <sup>28</sup> Simeon<sup>[d]</sup> took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

<sup>29</sup> ‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant<sup>[e]</sup> in peace,  
according to your word;

<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation,

<sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel.’

<sup>33</sup> And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon<sup>[f]</sup> 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 <sup>35</sup> so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.’

<sup>36</sup> There was also a prophet, Anna<sup>[g]</sup> the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup> then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup> At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child<sup>[h]</sup> to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup> When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of

Nazareth. 40 The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him. [NRSV-A]

The Gospel of Christ.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Sermon** Fr Keith Joyce

***Brief quiet time held for reflection***

**The Nicene Creed**

*page 188*

**The Prayers of the People** *Litany #13*

*page 120*

(In joy and humility let us pray to the creator of the universe, saying, “Lord, grant us peace.”)

By the good news of our salvation brought to Mary by the angel, hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

By the mystery of the Word made flesh, hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

By the birth in time of the timeless Son of God, hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

By the manifestation of the King of glory to the shepherds and magi, hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

By the submission of the maker of the world to Mary and Joseph of Nazareth, hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

By the baptism of the Son of God in the river Jordan, hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

Grant that the kingdoms of this world may become the kingdom of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ; hear us, O Lord.

**Lord, grant us peace.**

**Confession and Absolution**

*page 191*

**The Peace**

*page 192*

## THE EUCHARIST IS CELEBRATED

### Offertory Hymn “Worthy of Worship”

- 1 Worthy of worship, worthy of praise,  
Worthy of honor and glory;  
Worthy of all the glad songs we can sing,  
Worthy of all the offerings we bring.

*Refrain: You are worthy, Father Creator.  
You are worthy, Savior, Sustainer.  
You are worthy, worthy and wonderful;  
Worthy of worship and praise.*

- 2 Worthy of reverence, worthy of fear,  
Worthy of love and devotion;  
Worthy of bowing and bending of knees,  
Worthy of all this and added to these.

- 3 Almighty Father, Master and Lord,  
King of all kings and Redeemer,  
Wonderful Counselor, Comforter, Friend,  
Savior and Source of our life without end.

*Words: Terry W. York, 198  
Music: Judson, Mark Blankenship, 1988  
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### **Prayer over the Gifts** as given by the presider

#### **THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

#### **Eucharistic Prayer** as announced

#### **The Lord’s Prayer**

*page 211*

#### **The Breaking of the Bread** as directed

*page 213*

#### **The Communion**

*page 213*

*While the church receives communion, in silence take this time to reflect or pray or sit in silence and to enable others to do so, and/or at any time to join in the singing of the following music:*

### **“Lamb of God”**

*page 226*

**“Light of the World, in Grace and Beauty” CP 15**

**“Purify My Heart”**

- 1 Purify my heart,  
Let me be as gold and precious silver,  
Purify my heart,  
Let me be as gold, pure gold.

*Refiner’s fire, my heart’s one desire  
Is to be holy,  
Set apart for You, Lord;  
I chose to be holy,  
Set apart for You, my master,  
Ready to do Your will.*

- 2 Purify my heart,  
Cleanse me from within  
And make me holy,  
Purify my heart,  
Cleanse me from sin, deep within.

**Prayer after Communion**

*page 214*

**Blessing** *as given by the presider*

**THE CHURCH DEPARTS TO WITNESS AND TO SERVE**

**Dismissal**

Let us bless the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Recessional Hymn** *“Let Us Light a Candle”*

- 1 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 over-come the night,  
 Though the shadows linger all around us,  
 Let us turn our faces to the light.*

2 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.

3 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.

*Robert Willis (1947)*

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## **Postlude**

### **Those serving today's worship and learning:**

<i>Bulletin preparation</i>	Lori Maker (Parish Office)
<i>Altar Guild</i>	Marilyn G. & Wendy Maxwell
<i>Sunday School</i>	Laura Janes
<i>Sound system</i>	Chris Titus
<i>Greeter</i>	Margaret Penchoff & Lina Toole
<i>Layreader &amp; First Reader</i>	Joyce Mitchell
<i>Second Reader</i>	Deanna Morrison
<i>Prayer Leader</i>	Layreader
<i>Organist &amp; Choir Director</i>	David Mitchell
<i>Presider &amp; preacher</i>	Keith Joyce
<i>Counters</i>	Terry Ricketts & Janet Brown
<i>Building care</i>	Susan Jack

### **Those serving in our outreach this week:**

<b>Sun, Feb 2, 11:45 am</b>	Sharon/Chris Titus
HVHS Lunch Programme preparation (Large Hall kitchen)	Wendy Maxwell Patti Vaughan Carol Patterson
<b>Mon, Feb 3, 11:30 am</b>	Rick Cunningham
HVHS Lunch Programme delivery	Ken Lewell

(from Large Hall)

*Who's serving next week is on the Narthex bulletin board.*

### **THIS WEEK**

- Wed, Feb 5, 10:00 am**      Saint John and District Senior's Shuffleboard (Large Hall) For more info contact Pauline Wilson at 506 738-8677
- Wed, Feb 5, 7:00 pm**      Choir practice (Small Hall) For more info contact David Mitchell at 506 738-2798

### **LOOKING AHEAD**

- Thurs, Feb 13, 2:00 pm**      L.I.F.T. [Ladies in Fellowship Together] (Small Hall) For more info contact Janet Brown at 506 657-7707
- Sat, Feb 15, 9:00 am**      Vestry (Small Hall) For more info contact Terry Ricketts at 506 672-4696 or Susan Jack at 506 333-9931
- Sun, Feb 23, noon**      **ANNUALL GENERAL MEETING right after worship** – a "*bagged lunch*" will be provided for all who attend!

### **FOR OUR WORSHIP AND LEARNING**

#### **Notes on Today's Scripture Readings**

**Next Sunday – February 9 *Fifth Sunday after The Epiphany*** Scripture readings Isaiah 6:1-8; Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

## **NOTICES**

Highlights of January's Vestry Meeting:

- We will host the Bishop on May 25<sup>th</sup> when he confirms two young people in our congregation.
- There will be a week-long bible school for youth at the church in early July.
- We finished the year with a deficit just over \$8000. This is significantly better than our Q4 projection and due to an increase in rental income. The final detailed financial results will be available in the annual report.
- Despite the billing errors identified in Q1, our Natural Gas bill for 2024 was on target with the budget at \$13,645.
- Vestry approved a budget for 2025 for inclusion in the Annual Report which you will receive via email. Printed copies will be available in the narthex.
- Our church wardens (Terry and Susan) have agreed to stay for another 1-year term but we do need new people to be part of Vestry. Vestry manages the day-to-day operations of our church and sets our future direction. One or two new members each year ensure fresh perspectives and new ideas! Monthly meetings (excluding July and August) are held on Saturdays at 9am. If you are interested, please let your wardens know.
- The Annual Meeting is February 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Small Hall shortly after the 10:30 service concludes and a bagged lunch is distributed. We hope you will stay to get a full update on church operations and how your generous donations are employed. Your questions and input are important.

### ***Happy Birthday this Week to:***

February 2 – Jamie Galbraith

February 4 – Rebecca Snow & Grenville Ingraham

February 5 – Gordon Spinney & Raymond Roy



## **PRAYER**

**Prayer for folks in nursing or special care homes**

Ginny Abbott, Diane Cormier, Frances Finley, Ruth Northeast, Elizabeth Parks, Elsie Rusling.

**Prayer for those in hospital or sick at home**

Andrew Aalund, Paula Baldwin, Diane Basque, Margaret Boyer, Edith Chilton, Shelly Clark Collins, Bea Conley, Linda Cunningham, Jo-Ann Diamond, Bonnie Dean, Wendy DeWitt, Ernest Ellingwood, Barb Ellis, Debbie Green, Ann Hoben, David Maxwell, Pam Melanson, Gordon Morrell, Michael Penchoff, Susan Penchoff, Carol Price, Margaret Ann Reid, Lois Shaw, Bob Sherwood, Mykayla Spinney, Norm Toole, Joe Totton, Robbie Wong.

**Parish Cycle of Prayer for Week of February 2-8**

- Mon:** Janet Leith and Family
- Tue:** Karen Urquhart
- Wed:** George and Carol Vair
- Thur:** Stephen and Linda Vair
- Fri:** Beacon's Cove Youth Shelter

*Please pray for these parishioners and ministry this week.*

**Saint John Mission to Seafarers Prayer Cycle**

In February, we pray for marine safety, that the International Maritime Organizations and all the Marine Safety inspectors may be blessed in their efforts to ensure that ships are safe and crews are well trained.

***OUR PARISH PRAYER TREE***

A team of volunteers is available upon request, to pray for you or your loved one (with their permission) daily, for two weeks. These prayers will be treated with the strictest confidence. Prayer-requests should be short and to the point and will be passed on verbatim. The Lord knows best what we need! A follow-up of thanks or an update encourages our intercessors in their ministry.

**To initiate the prayer-tree ministry please call your request to our "Captain", Ngaire Nelson 672-8666**

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