

LANCASTER PRIORY

St Mary with St George and St John

**A WELCOMING,
INCLUSIVE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY,
SERVING THE PEOPLE OF LANCASTER**



PRIORY EUCHARIST

CANDLEMAS

THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

**3 February 2019
at 10.00 am**

A very warm welcome to all our visitors, especially if you are visiting us for the first time. Please join us for refreshments after the service. The Welcome, including Notices and Banns of Marriage, takes place just before 10.00am and is followed by a short period of silence. For the very young there are books and entertainment packs and a rug with soft toys available in the Refectory.

President: The Revd Canon Chris Newlands, Vicar of Lancaster
 Sermon: The Revd Dr Anderson Jeremiah, Associate Priest
 Choir: Girls and ATB
 Setting: Spatzenmesse (Mozart)
 Readers: Malachi Powers; Nigel Stewart
 Intercessor: Awena and Richard Carter
 11.15am Prayers in St Thomas Chapel
 6.30pm Choral Evensong
 Officiating: The Vicar
 Sermon: Mrs Lois Kirtley, Reader



Services next Sunday 10 February—The Fourth Sunday before Lent

8.00am Holy Communion (BCP)
 Presiding: The Revd Steve Evans, Hon. Associate Priest
 10.00am Priory Eucharist
 Presiding: The Revd Dr Rebecca Aechtner, Assistant Curate
 Sermon: The Revd Canon John Roff, Hon. Associate Priest
 11.15am Prayers in St Thomas Chapel
 12.15pm Baptisms: Archie Lee Gardner; James Jon Jones-Turner
 6.30pm Choral Evensong
 Officiating: The Revd Anna Walker, Placement Ordinand
 Sermon: Professor Richard Carter, Reader

Today we welcome the **Beavers from the 13th Lancaster Scout Group** who are based at the Scout Hut at the Giant Axe. They visited the Priory yesterday and have come again today as they work on their Faith Badge.

Prayers—If you would like someone to talk to or pray with you, please make your way to the St Thomas Chapel after the service. If you're not sure where to go, please ask a sidesperson and they will be happy to direct you.

If you contribute to the Priory through the committed Giving Scheme, please take a yellow card to put into the collection Plate.



**THE SERVICE SHEET THIS WEEK
 IS SPONSORED BY
 ANNE AND KEN MAUNDER
 TO REMEMBER AND CELEBRATE
 THEIR MARRIAGE IN THIS PLACE
 50 YEARS AGO ON 8 FEBRUARY**



THE WELCOME and Notices—The Revd Canon Chris Newlands

*Please join in the singing of the hymns and in saying the words in **bold** type.*

We stand at the entry of the ministers to sing the opening

HYMN (393)

Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us

James Edmeston 1791-1867

The priest greets the congregation:

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

The Lord be with you
and also with you.

The junior members of our congregation gather at the chancel steps and after a prayer they go to their classes.

The priest introduces the service

Dear friends, forty days ago we celebrated the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Now we recall the day on which he was presented in the temple, when he was offered to the Father and shown to his people. As a sign of his coming among us, his mother was purified, as we now come to him for cleansing. In their old age Simeon and Anna recognised him 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 and forward to the coming days of his passion.

The deacon invites us to confess our sins

God be gracious to us and bless us,
and make your face shine upon us:

Lord have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

May your ways be known on the earth,
your saving power among the nations:

Christ have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

You, Lord, have made known your salvation,
and reveal your justice in the sight of the nations:

Lord have mercy.

The priest pronounces the

WORDS OF ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THE CHOIR SINGS THE GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Please sit for

THE FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi

(Mal 3. 1-5)

Thus says the Lord God: 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. Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts

For the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

HYMN (282)

Faithful vigil ended,

THE SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

(Hebrews 2. 14-end)

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, 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.

For the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation:

THE GOSPEL

Cantor: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

This child is the light to enlighten the nations,
and the glory of your people Israel.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia

Deacon: The Lord be with you.

And also with you

Deacon: Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord

(Luke 2.22-40)

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus 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 turtle-doves 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 worshipped 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 favour of God was upon him. This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON The Revd Dr Anderson Jeremiah, Associate Priest

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of 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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

These responses may be used

Leader: Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

Leader: Merciful Father,
**accept these prayers for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

COMMISSIONING OF SIDESPERSONS

All stand for **THE PEACE**

In the tender mercy of our God the dayspring from on high has broken upon us, to give light to those who dwell in darkness and in 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

Deacon: Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

All may exchange a sign of peace

THE OFFERTORY

The Gifts are brought to the Altar. The collection is taken as the HYMN is sung.

HYMN (439)

Praise to the Holiest in the height,

John Henry Newman 1801-1890

The priest prepares the bread and wine

Father, in Christ there has sprung up a light for the righteous;
accept the offering of your Church and grant that Christ may shine in us
to the praise and glory of your name.

Amen.

Please remain standing, if you feel able, until after we have recited the Lord's Prayer together and seen the bread broken before us.

THE PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you **and also with you**

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 indeed right and good, always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ, who is one with you from all eternity.

For on this day he appeared in the temple in substance of our flesh to come near to us in judgement. He searches the hearts of all your people and brings to light the image of your splendour. Your servant Simeon acclaimed him as the light to lighten the nations while Anna spoke of him to all who looked for your redemption. Destined for the falling and rising

of many, he was lifted high upon the cross and a sword of sorrow pierced his mother's heart when by his sacrifice he made our peace with you.

And now we rejoice and glorify your name that we, too, have seen your salvation and join with angels and archangels in their unending hymn of praise:

THE CHOIR SINGS THE SANCTUS

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

How wonderful the work of your hands, O Lord. As a mother tenderly gathers her children, you embraced a people as your own. When they turned away and rebelled your love remained steadfast. From them you raised up Jesus our Saviour, born of Mary, to be the living bread, in whom all our hungers are satisfied. He offered his life for sinners, and with a love stronger than death he opened wide his arms on the cross.

On the night before he died, he came to supper with his friends and, taking bread, he 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.

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 and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Deacon:

This is the mystery of faith

Christ has died: Christ is risen: Christ will come again.

Father, we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross; we remember his dying and rising in glory, and we rejoice that he intercedes for us at your right hand. Pour out your Holy Spirit as we bring before you these gifts of your creation; may they be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

As we eat and drink these holy things in your presence, form us in the likeness of Christ, and build us into a living temple to your glory. Remember, Lord, your Church in every land. Reveal her unity, guard her faith, and preserve her in peace. Bring us at the last with all the saints to the vision of that eternal splendour for which you have created us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, by whom, with whom, and in whom, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, we worship you, Father almighty, in songs of everlasting praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:
(each in our own language)

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.

THE 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.**

Please kneel or sit as

THE CHOIR SINGS THE AGNUS DEI

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world, grant us peace.*

The priest invites the congregation to receive communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

THE GIVING OF COMMUNION

All Christians who are members in good standing of their own denominations are invited to receive Holy Communion. If you would prefer to receive a Blessing, please bring this order of service with you. If you require a gluten free wafer please bring a green card which you can find near the entrance to the church.

During the Communion the choir sings the anthem: O nata lux (Tallis)

*O nata lux de lumine, Jesu redemptor saeculi, Dignare clemens supplicum
Laudes precesque sumere. Qui carne quondam contegi, Dignatus es pro
perditis, Nos membra confer effici, Tui beati corporis.*

*O Light born of Light, Jesus, redeemer of the world, with loving-kindness
deign to receive suppliant praise and prayer. Thou who once deigned to be
clothed in flesh for the sake of the lost, grant us to be members of thy
blessed body.*

and then, still sitting, we sing

HYMN (8 t. 128ii *Gonfalon Royal*)

Lift up your heads ye mighty gates,

George Weissel 1590-1635

Tr Catherine Winkworth 1827-78 and Editors

FINAL RESPONSORY

Father, we have sung your praise with shepherds and angels: may Christ be born in our hearts today.

Praise to Christ our light.

We have shared in the joy of Simeon and Anna; help us, like them, to trust your word.

Praise to Christ our light.

We have greeted Jesus, the light of the world; may we be filled with the light of your love.

Praise to Christ our light.

The choir and clergy move to the back of the Church as we sing:

HYMN

Love divine, all loves excelling,

(408) Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

THE CONCLUSION

We stand near the place of new birth.

Let us shine with the light of your love.

We turn from the crib to the cross.

Let us shine with the light of your love.

We go to carry his light.

Let us shine with the light of your love.

Thanks be to God.

Deacon: Our Eucharist is ended, let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord
In the name of Christ. Amen

Organ Voluntary: Toccata (Sark)

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