

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**

**31 January 2020
at 10.00 am**

A very warm welcome to everyone who is joining us “virtually” through our Facebook page.

We continue to do all we can to ensure the safety of our congregation members, and are grateful for your patience as we work through these challenging times together as the people of God in this place.

President & Sermon: The Revd Canon Chris Newlands, Vicar of Lancaster

Readers: Peter Hopwood, Dawn Cheetham MBE

Intercessor: Hilary Hopwood

Organist: Ian Pattinson FRCO, Priory Organist

Introit: Herr Christ der einige Gottes-Sohn (Bach)

Offertory: Mit Fried und Freud ich fahr dahin (Nunc Dimittis) (Bach)

Final Voluntary: Sortie (Lefébure-Wély)

We hope you may be able to follow the Live Stream of our Evening Service at 6.30 pm as this will be the final service and Farewell to Chris and David.

6.30pm Evening Prayer and Farewell Service (BCP)

Officiant and Sermon: The Vicar

This will be followed by the broadcast of a Farewell Video on our Facebook page.

Services next Sunday 7 February—Second Sunday before Lent

10.00am Priory Eucharist

President The Revd Canon John Roff, Hon Associate Priest

Sermon: Mrs Lois Kirtley

6.30pm Evening Prayer (BCP)

Officiant: The Revd Carol Backhouse

A Prayer to use during this present crisis.

***Keep us, good Lord,
under the shadow of your mercy
in this time of uncertainty and distress.
Sustain and support the anxious and fearful,
and lift up all who are brought low;
that we may rejoice in your comfort
knowing that nothing can separate us
from your love in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Amen.***

THE WELCOME and Notices—The Revd Canon Chris Newlands, Vicar of Lancaster
*Please join in saying the words in **bold** type.*

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 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 priest 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 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**

PSALM 24

The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Lift up your heads, O gates;
be lifted up, you ever lasting doors;
and the King of glory shall come in. R/

Who is the King of glory?
The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord who is mighty in battle. R/

Lift up your heads, O gates;
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;
and the King of glory shall come in. R/

Who is this King of glory?
The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory. R/

The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

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**

THE GOSPEL

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation:

Priest: 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 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 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 Vicar

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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

**Though he was divine,
he did not cling to equality with God,
but made himself nothing.**

**Taking the form of a slave, he was born in human likeness.
He humbled himself and was obedient to death,
even the death of the cross.**

**Therefore God has raised him on high,
and given him the name above every name:
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
and every voice proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. 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.**

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

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 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 SANCTUS AND BENEDICTUS

**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.**

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.

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

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

As an Act of Spiritual Communion, you may wish to give thanks for the saving death and resurrection of Jesus and ask him to be with you now by saying this prayer:

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ,
for all the benefits you have given me
for all the pains and insults you have borne for me.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
I ask you to come spiritually into my heart.
O most merciful redeemer, friend and brother,
may I know you more clearly,
love you more dearly,
and follow you more nearly, day by day.
Amen.

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 BLESSING

Priest: Christ, whose glory fills the skies, fill you with radiance and scatter the darkness from 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 always. **Amen.**

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

**THE SERVICE SHEET THIS WEEK
IS SPONSORED BY
THE REVD CANON CHRIS NEWLANDS
& DR DAVID CHEUNG**

*In thanksgiving for the privilege of being a part of
God's Family in this Church Community and Parish
for the last eleven years*

In your prayers, please remember those who are sick:
**Gwendolen Boyd-Wasson, Esme Bradbury, Matt Clark,
Vona Corbet, Ian Corbet, Bron England, Wendy Foster,
Stephen Gardner, Anne Goulding, Michael Greenhalgh, Christine Heywood,
Marilyn Kenny, Joan Pinches, Brenda Storrie,
Richard Thompson, Gordon Tyson and Janis Whitlock.**

The Priory is taking a big hit from a drop in visitor income, venue income, and service collections.

If your income is keeping up, please consider using the barcode to make a donation to the work of the Priory.

We share a great sense of thanksgiving for all that God is inspiring around us in these difficult times.



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