



LANCASTER PRIORY

A welcoming, inclusive, Christian community

THE EUCHARIST

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

30th January 2022

10.00am

Welcome to Lancaster Priory

We are really pleased that you are worshipping with us today. Wherever you have come from, this is your church and you are unconditionally welcome.

Candlemas commemorates the ritual purification of Mary, forty days after the birth of her son Jesus. This day also marks the ritual presentation of the baby Jesus to God in the Temple at Jerusalem. The Gospel of Luke says that Jesus was met by Anna and Simeon. Simeon held the baby Jesus and called him a Light to the World. The festival is called Candlemas because this was the day that all the Church's candles for the year were blessed.

The restrictions under which our services are being conducted at the moment are part of our responsibility to ensure that all who worship and visit the priory feel safe and valued. These are available on an additional flyer at the back of church. Thank you for your patience.

Today's service (The Presentation of Christ in the Temple):

President: The Revd Canon Brenda Harding, Hon. Associate Priest

Preacher: The Revd Leah Vasey-Saunders, Vicar of Lancaster

The Readers: Hermione Roff, Nigel Stewart. Intercessor: Gill Jenkinson

Organists: Ian Pattinson FRCO, Priory Organist, Karl Westermann (Junior Organ Scholar)

Choir: Full Choir. Setting: Spatzenmesse (Mozart)

Today's Booklet is sponsored by...

Barbara Bland

In loving memory of William Wilcock Bland

12.3.1906-31.1.1994

Acknowledgements

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The Welcome and Notices

Please stand as the choir, servers and clergy enter during an organ improvisation, we then sing the hymn and the altar is censed.

Hymn (33)

Of the Father's heart begotten,
Ere the world from chaos rose,
he is Alpha: from that Fountain
All that is and hath been flows;
He is Omega, of all things
Yet to come the mystic Close,
Evermore and evermore.

2. By his word was all created;
He commanded and 'twas done;
Earth and sky and boundless ocean,
Universe of three in one,
All that sees the moon's soft radiance,
All that breathes beneath the sun,
Evermore and evermore.

3. He assumed this mortal body,
Frail and feeble, doomed to die,
That the race from dust created
Might not perish utterly,
Which the dreadful Law had
sentenced
In the depths of hell to lie,
Evermore and evermore.

4. This is he, whom seer and sibyl
Sang in ages long gone by;
This is he of old revealed
In the page of prophecy;
Lo! he comes, the promised Saviour;
Let the world his praises cry!
Evermore and evermore.

5. Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praises;
Angels and Archangels, sing!
Wheresoe'er ye be, ye faithful,
Let your joyous anthems ring,
Every tongue his name confessing,
Countless voices answering.
Evermore and evermore.

Prudentius 348-413 Tr RF Davis 1866-1937

The Greeting *The president says*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
Today the Lord is presented in the Temple **in substance of our mortal nature.**
Today the Blessed Virgin comes **to be purified in accordance with the law.**
Today old Simeon proclaims Christ **as the light of the nations and the glory of Israel.**
The Lord of glory be with you. **The Lord bless you.**

Prayers of Penitence and Forgiveness *The deacon says*

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.' Let us therefore bring our sins into his light and confess them in penitence and faith.

Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us. We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.

The Kyrie *The choir sings*

Kyrie eleison, *Lord have mercy upon us,*
Christe eleison, *Christ have mercy upon us,*
Kyrie eleison. *Lord have mercy upon us.*

The Absolution *The priest says*

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 *The Choir sing*

Gloria in excelsis Deo,
et in terra pax
hominibus bonae voluntatis.

*Glory be to God on high,
and in earth peace,
goodwill towards men.*

Laudamus te, Benedicimus te,
Adoramus te, Glorificamus te.
Gratias agimus tibi
propter magnam gloriam tuam,
Domine Deus, Rex coelestis
Deus Pater omnipotens.

*We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee, we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee
for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King,
God the Father almighty.*

Domine Fili unigenite, Jesu Christe.
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei,
Filius Patris,
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.
Qui tollis peccata mundi,
suscipe deprecationem nostram.
Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,
miserere nobis.
Quoniam tu solus sanctus.
Tu solus Dominus.
Tu solus altissimus, Jesu Christe.
Cum sancto Spiritu, in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.

*O Lord, the only-begotten Son Jesu Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God,
Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God
the Father, have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory
of God the Father. Amen.*

The Collect *The priest says 'let us pray' and silence is kept.*

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.

The First Reading Malachi 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 24.7-10

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

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

‘Who is the King of glory?’

‘The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord who is mighty in battle.’

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

‘Who is this King of glory?’ ‘The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.’

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

The Second Reading 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 Reading Luke 2.22-40

Please stand for the Gospel Acclamation, the cantor sings

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

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

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke **Glory to you, O Lord**

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.**

The Sermon *Please sit.*

The Affirmation of Faith *Please stand*

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 *Please sit.*

This response is used Lord, in your mercy **hear our prayer.**

And at the end Merciful Father, **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace *Please stand.*

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**

The deacon says Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

We acknowledge one another with a sign of peace.

The Offertory Hymn (157) *During this hymn a collection will be taken.*

Hail to the Lord who comes,
Comes to his temple gate,
Not with his angel host,
Not in his kingly state;
No shouts proclaim him nigh,
No crowds his coming wait.

2. But borne upon the throne
Of Mary's gentle breast,
Watched by her duteous love,
In her fond arms at rest;
Thus to his Father's house
He comes, the heavenly guest.

John Ellerton (1826-1893)

3. There Joseph at her side
In reverent wonder stands;
And, filled with holy joy,
Old Simeon in his hands
Takes up the promised child,
The glory of all lands.

4. Hail to the great First-born,
Whose ransom-price they pay,
The Son before all worlds,
The child of man to-day,
That he might ransom us
Who still in bondage lay.

5. O Light of all the earth,
Thy children wait for thee;
Come to thy temples here,
That we, from sin set free,
Before the Father's face
May all presented be.

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 sing

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,

Dominus Deus Sabaoth.

Pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua.

Hosanna in excelsis.

Holy, holy, holy,

Lord God of hosts,

heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord most high

The priest continues

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me. So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

The deacon says Great is the mystery of faith:

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

The priest continues

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with all the saints to feast at your table in heaven. Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever. **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us:

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 of life and that life is the light of the world.

God here among us, light in the midst of us, bring us to light and life.

The Agnus Dei *Please sit. The choir sing*

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
dona nobis pacem.

O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

The Giving of Communion *The congregation are invited to receive communion.*

God's holy gifts for God's holy people.

Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The priest and people receive communion. We welcome communicant members of all Christian denominations to receive communion. If you would prefer to receive a blessing, please carry this booklet with you. Gluten-free hosts are available, please indicate this to the president, green cards are available from the sidespeople for this purpose.

Communion Anthem *The choir sings When to the temple Mary went (Eccard)*

1 When to the temple Mary went, and brought the Holy Child, Him did the aged Simeon see, as it had been revealed. He took up Jesus in his arms and blessing God he said: In peace I now depart, my Saviour having seen, The Hope of Israel, the Light of men.

2 Help now thy servants, gracious Lord, that we may ever be as once the faithful Simeon was, rejoicing but in Thee; and when we must from earth departure take, may gently fall asleep and with Thee wake.

Communion Hymn (494 T.413) *We remain seated*

Christ is the world's true light,
its captain of salvation,
the daystar clear and bright
of every land and nation;
new life, new hope awakes,
where peoples own his sway:
freedom her bondage breaks,
and night is turned to day.

2. In Christ all races meet,
their ancient feuds forgetting,
the whole round world complete,
from sunrise to its setting:
when Christ is throned as Lord,
lands shall forsake their fear,
to ploughshare beat the sword,
to pruning-hook the spear.

3. One Lord, in one great name
unite us all who own thee;
cast out our pride and shame
that hinder to enthrone thee;
the world has waited long,
has travailed long in pain;
to heal its ancient wrong,
come, Prince of Peace, and reign!

G.W. Briggs 1875 - 1959

Prayer After Communion *We stand and pray together*

We thank you, Lord, that you have fed us in this sacrament, united us with Christ, and given us a foretaste of the heavenly banquet prepared for all peoples. Amen.

Candlemas Procession (SP33) *The Candles are lit and we turn to face the font*

1 New light has dawned, the Son of God is here,
A holy light no earthly light outshines;
The light has dawned, the light that casts out fear,
The light that evil dreads and love defines.

2 The light of glory shines to angels' song,
The shepherds run to where a baby lies;
A servant of the Lord, who waited long,
Acclaims the light to lighten Gentile eyes.

3 And priestly men sit listening to a boy,
They see the dawning light within his face.
Such words they hear those Christ-child lips employ!
Amazing words of wisdom, truth and grace.

4 O Christ, the light who came to us on earth,
Shine through the shadow cast by human sin;
Renew the faith you gave at our new birth,
Destroy the dark, and let your light come in. Paul Wigmore 1925-2014

The Blessing *The priest prays*

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

Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus, who was wounded for our sins, that you may bear in your life the love and joy and peace which are the marks of Jesus in his disciples; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Final Responsory *The priest says*

Father, we have sung your praise with the 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 Conclusion *The Deacon says*

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 Christ's light in the world. **Thanks be to God.**

Organ Voluntary *Extemporisation & Trumpet Tune in D (Purcell)*

Please remain standing while the servers, choir and clergy depart.