

HOLY COMMUNION

Candlemas

THE GATHERING

Processional Hymn

Please stand as you are able

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

All Amen.

The Greeting

The Lord of glory be with you.

All The Lord bless you.

Please be seated

Introduction

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 recognized 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.

Prayers of Penitence

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.

cf John 8.12

Silence is kept.

Lord Jesus, illuminate the darkness in our hearts
Lord, have mercy.
A// Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, open our eyes to your saving love
Christ, have mercy.
A// Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, unstop our ears to hear your living word
Lord, have mercy.
A// Lord, have mercy.

The Absolution

May almighty God have mercy on you,
forgive you your sins,
and bring you to everlasting life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

A// Amen.

The Gloria in Excelsis

Please stand as you are able

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

The special prayer for the day is read

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

The Readings

We sit for readings from Old and New Testament Scripture. At the end of each reading the reader may say:

This is the word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn

Please stand as you are able

The Gospel Reading

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

Today the Lord is presented in the Temple
in substance of our mortal nature.

All/ Alleluia.

Today the Blessed Virgin comes
to be purified in accordance with the law.

All/ Alleluia.

Today old Simeon proclaims Christ
as the light of the nations and the glory of Israel.

All/ Alleluia. Praise to Christ, the light of the world.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*

All/ Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All/ Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Following an opening prayer please be seated

The Nicene Creed

Please stand as you are able

Let us declare our faith in God

We believe in one God,

the Father, the Almighty,

**A// 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,

**A// God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,**

begotten, not made,

of one Being with the Father.

A// 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.

**A// 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;

**A// 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,
A// **the Lord, the giver of life,**
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
A// **With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified.**
He has spoken through the prophets.
A// **We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.**
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
A// **We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession and Thanksgiving

A lay member of the congregation leads us in prayer. At the end the leader may say

Merciful Father,
A// **accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

THE LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

The Peace

Please stand as you are able

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 the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.78,79

The peace of the Lord be always with you
All and also with you.

All may exchange a sign of peace which may be a wave or handshake

Offertory Hymn

Please remain standing as you are able

PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

Let us pray,

**All Father, in Christ there has sprung up
a light for the righteous;
accept the gifts we bring before you
and grant that Christ may shine in us
to the praise and glory of your name.**
Amen.

EUCARISTIC PRAYER B

The Lord be with you.

A// And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

A// We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

A// 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:

**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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness;
grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit,
and according to your holy will,
these gifts of bread and wine
may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus
Christ;

who, in the same night that he was betrayed,
took bread and gave you thanks;
he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way, after supper
he took the cup and gave you thanks;
he gave it to them, saying:
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.

Great is the mystery of faith
All **Christ has died:**
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross,
his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole
world;
rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious
ascension, and looking for his coming in glory,
we celebrate this memorial of our redemption.
As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and
thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this
cup and we thank you for counting us worthy
to stand in your presence and serve you.

Send the Holy Spirit on your people
and gather into one in your kingdom
all who share this one bread and one cup,
so that we, in the company of Edburgha and all the
saints, may praise and glorify you for ever,
through Jesus Christ our Lord;
by whom, and with whom, and in whom,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory be yours, almighty Father,
for ever and ever.

All Amen.

We kneel or sit for the Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All **Our Father in heaven**
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours now and forever.
Amen.

The president breaks the consecrated bread, saying

We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

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

Giving of Communion

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you, and his blood which he shed for you, eat and drink in remembrance that he died for you, and feed on him in your hearts, by faith, with thanksgiving.

Agnus Dei

**All 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 president and the people receive communion or a blessing

Prayer after Communion

After receiving the bread and wine or a blessing we keep silence

The president says the Prayer After Communion, followed by

**All Father of all, we give you thanks and praise that when
we were still far off you met us in your Son and
brought us home. Dying and living, he declared your
love, gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory. May
we who share Christ's body live his risen life; we who
drink his cup bring life to others; we whom the Spirit
lights give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope
you have set before us, so we and all your children
shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your
name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Parish notices are given, and Wedding Banns are read.

Candlemas Procession

The president lights candles at the high altar

Blessed are you, Lord our God,
King of the universe.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Your light shines on us
and all peoples shall see your glory.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

You gave us Jesus to be the light of the world;
he makes our darkness to be light.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Through the Holy Spirit your love burns within us,
bearing witness to your truth.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

As we bear your light,
may our lips never cease to sing your praise.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

All **Blessed be God for ever.**

Recessional Hymn

Please stand as you are able

The Final Responses

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

A// Praise to Christ our light.

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

A// Praise to Christ our light.

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

A// Praise to Christ our light.

The Blessing

Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
fill you with radiance
and scatter the darkness from your path.

A// Amen.

Christ, the Sun of Righteousness,
gladden your eyes and warm your heart.

A// Amen.

Christ, the Dayspring from on high,
draw near to guide your feet into the way of peace.

A// Amen.

And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always.

A// Amen.

The Dismissal

We go into the world
to walk in God's light,
to rejoice in God's love
and to reflect God's glory.

All In the name of Christ. Amen.

The ministers and people depart.



Please join us for tea and coffee in the north aisle.



THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

A Christian presence in
every community

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