



CHORAL EVENSONG

The Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple
February 2, 2025 at 4 o'clock in the afternoon

ST PETER'S CHURCH IN ESSEX FELLS

A PARISH OF THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF NEWARK

271 Roseland Avenue, Essex Fells, NJ 07021

973.226.6500 • stpetersef.org



Welcome to St. Peter's Church

We are glad you are here, and we invite you to enter fully into worship today. No matter where you are on your spiritual journey, you are welcome here. We are a church rooted in Christian tradition, and open to new ideas, committed to service in community and world as part of the world-wide Anglican Communion and the Episcopal Diocese of Newark. The work of worship is shared by all, and we invite you to participate in the spoken and sung responses and hymns as you are able. Help us to make this a place where God's grace is freely shared by everyone.

Candlemas

'Candlemas' is the ancient name for the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple observed on February 2, forty days after Christmas. It is one of five moveable feasts of the Church Year that take precedence over a Sunday. The scriptural root of Candlemas, Luke 2:22-29, is the story of the greeting of the child Jesus by Simeon and Anna. It is a story full of joy and tinged with sorrow: joy in that the Messiah is indeed come among us; sorrow in that "this child is destined for the falling and rising of many," and because of him Mary's destiny is that "a sword will pierce your own soul also." Simeon recognizes Christ as the promised Savior and proclaims the words of the *Nunc dimittis*: "Lord, now let your servant depart in peace."

Evensong

Episcopalians celebrate services called "offices" at the beginning and the ending of the day. These daily services of prayer and praise are rooted in the Jewish and early Christian traditions of saying prayers at fixed hours of the day (Acts 10:9, 16:25). Many cathedrals, monastic houses, and collegiate chapels throughout the world celebrate these services daily, and choral Evensong is one of the most distinctive parts of the Episcopal/Anglican musical tradition. Settings of the *Magnificat* (The Song of Mary) and *Nunc dimittis* (The Song of Simeon) have formed the foundation of our choral literature since the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. The pairing of these canticles at Evensong is meant to illustrate that God's promise and fulfillment of salvation are a never-ending circle, just as the regular celebration of Evensong is a liturgical conversation that was begun long before we were here and will continue long after we are gone. We invite you to pray, enter into the music and allow it to transform you, and to give thanks for the blessings that it brings.

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EVENSONG

Please stand as the ministers enter. The Officiant begins the service with this sentence

Seek him that made the Pleiades and Orion, that turneth deep darkness into the morning, and darkeneth the day into night; that calleth for the waters of the sea, and poureth them out upon the face of the earth: The Lord is his Name. —Amos 5:8

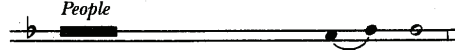
INVITATORY & PSALTER

Officiant



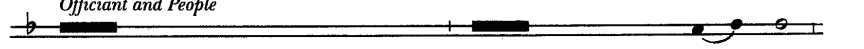
O God, make speed to save us.

People

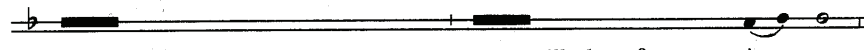


O Lord, make haste to help us.

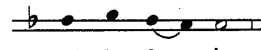
Officiant and People



Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spi - rit:



as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. A - men.




Al - le - lu - ia.

PHOS HILARON

TALLIS' CANON

Text: Greek 3rd century; tr. F. Bland Tucker

Tune: Thomas Tallis, 1567



1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, in
 2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth, the
 3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O

you the Fa - ther's glo - ry shone. Im - mor - tal, ho - ly,
 lamps are lit to pierce the night. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and
 Son of God, Life - giv - ing Lord; where - fore you are through

blest is he, and blest are you, his ho - ly Son.
 Spi - rit: God who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.
 all the earth and in the high - est heaven a - dored.

Please be seated

PSALM 48 *Magnus Dominus*

*Tone V.2
sung by the Choir*

- 1 Great is the LORD, and highly to be praised *
in the city of our God, even upon his holy hill.
- 2 The hill of Sion is a fair place, and the joy of the whole earth; *
upon the north side lieth the city of the great King:
God is well known in her palaces as a sure refuge.
- 3 For lo, the kings of the earth *
were gathered, and gone by together.
- 4 They marvelled to see such things; *
they were astonished, and suddenly cast down.
- 5 Fear came there upon them; and sorrow, *
as upon a woman in her travail.
- 6 Thou dost break the ships of the sea *
through the east-wind.
- 7 Like as we have heard, so have we seen
in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city of our God; *
God upholdeth the same for ever.
- 8 We wait for thy loving-kindness, O God, *
in the midst of thy temple.
- 9 O God, according to thy Name,
so is thy praise unto the world's end; *
thy right hand is full of righteousness.
- 10 Let the mount Sion rejoice,
and the daughters of Judah be glad, *
because of thy judgments.
- 11 Walk about Sion, and go round about her; *
and tell the towers thereof.
- 12 Mark well her bulwarks, set up her houses, *
that ye may tell them that come after.
- 13 For this God is our God for ever and ever: *
he shall be our guide unto death.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

THE LESSONS

FIRST LESSON

Malachi 3:1-4

Reader A reading from the Book of Malachi: 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.

Reader Here endeth the Lesson.

Please stand as the choir sings

MAGNIFICAT *Service in D major*

A. Herbert Brewer

My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me,
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Please be seated

SECOND LESSON

Luke 2:22-40

Reader A reading from the Gospel according to Luke. When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they 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 worshiped 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 favor of God was upon him.

Reader Here endeth the Lesson.

Please stand as the choir sings

NUNC DIMITTIS *Service in D major*

A. Herbert Brewer

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,
according to thy word;

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen.

Please remain standing and sing

APOSTLES' CREED

ALL

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.

He descended to the dead.

The third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father. almighty.

From thence he will come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.



The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit. Let us pray.

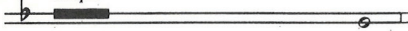
ALL Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Cantor or Officiant



V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

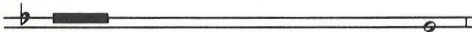
People



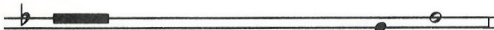
R. And grant us thy salva - tion.



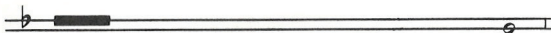
V. Endue thy ministers with right - eous - ness;



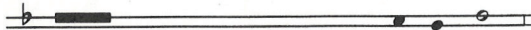
R. And make thy chosen people joy - ful.



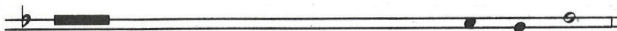
V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;



R. For only in thee can we live in safe - ty.



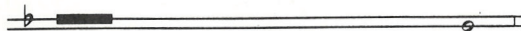
V. Lord, keep this nation un - der thy care;



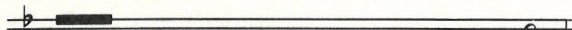
R. And guide us in the way of jus - tice and truth.



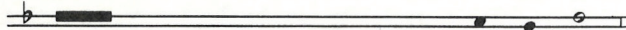
V. Let thy way be known up - on earth;



R. Thy saving health among all na - tions.



V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgot - ten;



R. Nor the hope of the poor be ta - ken a - way.



V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;



R. And sustain us with thy Holy Spi - rit.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Officiant Almighty and everliving God, we humbly beseech thee that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

ALL Amen.

A COLLECT FOR PEACE

Officiant O God, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior.

ALL Amen.

A COLLECT FOR AID AGAINST PERILS

Officiant Lighten our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

ALL Amen.

Please be seated

ANTHEM

arr. Alice Parker

*Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Nought be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought by day or by night,
Waking or Sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father, thine own may I be;
Thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.*

*Riches I heed not, nor the world's empty praise,
 Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
 Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
 High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.*

*High King of heaven, my victory won,
 May I reach heav'ns joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
 Heart of my own heart, whatever be fall,
 Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.*

—Ancient Irish poem 'Rob to mo bhoile'; tr. Mary Byrne, Eleanor Hull

ANNOUNCEMENTS & WELCOME

All are welcome to make a gift and offering in thanksgiving to God for the many blessings we have received. To take advantage of our electronic giving options, please follow the QR code with your capable electronic device. The Offering today will go to the St. Peter's Music Fund.



HYMN

ST. CLEMENT

Text: John Ellerton, 1870, alt.

Tune: Clement C. Scholefield, 1874

1 The day thou gav - est, Lord, is end - ed, the dark - ness
 2 We thank thee that thy Church, un - sleep - ing while earth rolls
 3 As o'er each con - ti - nent and is - land the dawn leads
 4 So be it, Lord; thy throne shall nev - er, like earth's proud

falls at thy be - hest; to thee our morn - ing hymns a -
 on - ward in - to light, through all the world her watch is
 on an - oth - er day, the voice of prayer is nev - er
 em - pires, pass a - way; thy king - dom stands, and grows for

scend-ed, thy praise shall sanc-ti-fy our rest.
 keep-ing and rests not now by day or night.
 si-lent, nor dies the strain of praise a-way.
 ev-er, till all thy crea-tures own thy sway.

Officiant Let us pray.

ALL Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
 we thine unworthy servants
 do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
 for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
 to us and to all whom thou hast made.
 We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
 and all the blessings of this life;
 but above all for thine inestimable love
 in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,
 for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
 And, we beseech thee,
 give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
 that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
 and that we show forth thy praise,
 not only with our lips, but in our lives,
 by giving up our selves to thy service,
 and by walking before thee
 in holiness and righteousness all our days;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
 be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

Officiant Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our
 common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved
 Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in
 the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants

as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting.

People Amen.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Officiant The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore.

People Amen.

Please join us for a reception in the Upper Room following the service



MINISTERS IN THE LITURGY

The Rev. Dr. J. Brent Bates
Rector, Grace Church in Newark

The Rev. Nathaniel K.M. Darville
Rector, St. Peter's, Essex Fells

Joseph Wohltmann
Acolyte, St. Peter's, Essex Fells

ST PAUL'S CHOIR SCHOOL, ENGLEWOOD

Jackson Gibbs, Justin Gibbs, Sophia Gibbs, Eileen Lihanda, Calla McKnight,
Shirl Osei, Dalia Stefanovch, Andy Thompson
Giulia Utz, *Director*

ST. PETER'S PARISH CHOIR, ESSEX FELS

Michael Barretti*, Kevin Johnson*, Joan Loiacano, Diane Kazimir,
Carl Sturcke, Meghan Tanella*, Giulia Utz*
Mark A. Trautman, *Director*
**section leader*

GRACE CHURCH IN NEWARK CHOIR SCHOOL

Ulani Foster, Rainey Foster, Thea Foster, Sydney Ross; Rachel Nicastro, *cantor*
Wolff von Roos, *Director*

HOLY INNOCENTS' CHOIR, WEST ORANGE

Elaine Corrao, Mark Davies, Caio Elias, Elizabeth Engelberth, Donna Graham, Gordon King,
Mike Lisa, Maxime Long, Elaine Loveless, Christina Rogers, Caroline Sargent, Margaret Walker
Dr. Laura Greenwald, *Director*



ST. PETER'S STAFF

The Rev. Nathaniel K.M. Darville, *Rector* (darville@stpetersef.org)
Mark A. Trautman, *Director of Music and Administrator* (trautman@stpetersef.org)
Dana Leach, *Care and Connect* (leach@stpetersef.org)
Debra Jean Elmore, *Bookkeeper* (bookkeeper.stpeters@gmail.com)