

Welcome to St. John's Church



The Presentation Of Our Lord Jesus Christ In The Temple: Candlemas

*February 6, 2022
8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.*

WELCOME TO IN-PERSON WORSHIP!

The health and safety of the most vulnerable in our congregation and community remains the highest concern to St. John's. Remember that many in our communities are not vaccinated; all of those under 5 years old, those who are immuno-compromised, and those who have chosen not to be fully vaccinated for other reasons. While many are now vaccinated, remember that a percentage of those vaccinated can contract the corona virus, and while their symptoms may be milder, they can also spread the virus to loved ones and friends back home. We have not yet reached herd immunity as a nation. So please remain vigilant in safety protocols, mindful of the risk in our community, masked indoors, social distancing and getting fully vaccinated if possible. And be assured that we will continue to 'live stream' our worship to both our St. John's YouTube Page and our St. John's Facebook page.

THE HOLY EUCHARIST

*The Liturgy for the Proclamation of the Word of God
and Celebration of the Holy Communion*

St. John's asks everyone to wear masks inside the church, whether vaccinated or not.

Choral Prelude *Almighty and Everlasting God* Thomas Tomkins (1572-1656)

The Call to Worship with the tolling of the church bell

Opening Hymn # 259 *Hail To The Lord Who Comes*

- 1 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.*
- 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 O Light of all the earth,
thy children wait for thee!
Come to thy temples here,
that we, from sin set free,
before thy Father's face
may all presented be!*

The Word of God

The people standing, the Celebrant may say

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.***

The Celebrant says

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

The Trisagion S # 102 *(sung three times)*

***Holy God, Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.***

The Collect of the Day

The Celebrant says to the people

The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Let us pray.

The Celebrant says the Collect.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The Lessons

INTRODUCTION: In the reading from the Hebrew Bible, the prophet Malachi promises that, as the day of the Lord's judgment nears, God will send a messenger to prepare the way.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi (3:1-4)

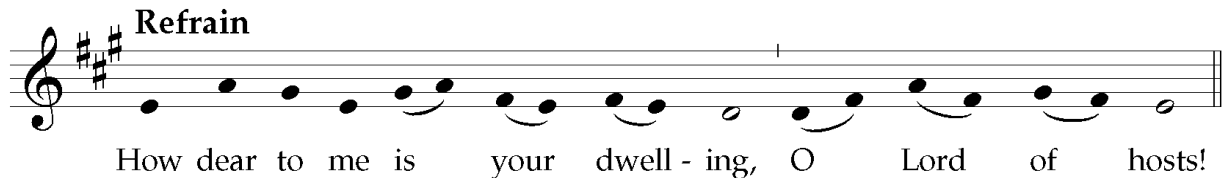
Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight --- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand 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.

After each Reading, the Reader may say
The Word of the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Psalm 84 *the congregation is invited to join in the Refrain*



- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;

11 No good thing will the LORD withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.

12 O LORD of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!

INTRODUCTION: In this New Testament reading, we are reminded that Jesus shared in all aspects of human life. By experiencing death, Jesus has broken the power of death over us.

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews (2:14-18)

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus 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.

After each Reading, the Reader may say

The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Gradual Hymn # 499 *Lord God, You Now Have Set Your Servant Free*

***1 Lord God, you now have set your servant free
to go in peace as promised in your word;
my eyes have seen the Savior, Christ the Lord,
prepared by you for all the world to see,
to shine on nations trapped in darkest night,
the glory of your people, and their light.***

Then, all standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Gospel, first saying

INTRODUCTION: In our Gospel story, Jesus is brought to the temple in Jerusalem to be presented to God in accordance with the Jewish Law.

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to St. Luke (2:22-40)**

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him 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.

After the Gospel, the Reader says

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, Priest-in-Charge

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together, all standing

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

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;

***He was conceived by power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the Virgin Mary,***

***He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.***

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

*He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.*

The Prayers of the People

Knit together with Mary and Joseph, the parents of Jesus; Simeon; Anna; and all the righteous, let us offer our prayers, responding to each petition, "Kyrie eleison."

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the prayers

+ That our young people may be brought up in the mystery of faith, rooted in God's Word, participants in the Holy Meal, honored by the community of the baptized, and active members in the life of the Church; for this we pray.

Kyrie eleison.

+ In thanksgiving for those who give sacrificially to God's mission in this place, supporting creative programs and good works, ministering to those in need, and revealing the divine kingdom in our time; for this we pray.

Kyrie eleison.

+ That we may acknowledge our individual suffering, seeing the presence of Christ in the midst of our despair, and helping others who are experiencing their time of testing; for this we pray.

Kyrie eleison.

+ That those who live in slavery may be freed from their bondage, especially the victims of human trafficking, children throughout the world, and all who are innocent victims of the evil ways of some; for this we pray.

Kyrie eleison.

+ In thanksgiving for foster parents, who bring hope to young people who long for stable and loving family life; may they be worthy of the trust invested in them; for this we pray.

Kyrie eleison.

+ That all who are dying may depart this life in peace, trusting in Christ's promise of eternal life; for this we pray.

Kyrie eleison.

Gathered together with all who serve with joy in the house of the Lord, let us continue our prayers.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

God our Father, you see your children growing up in an unsteady and confusing world: Show them that your ways give more life than the ways of the world, and that following you is better than chasing after selfish goals. Help them to take failure, not as a measure of their worth, but as a chance for a new start. Give them strength to hold their faith in you, and to keep alive their joy in your creation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the confession

Minister and People

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

The Celebrant says to the people

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Then the Ministers and People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

The Holy Communion

The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with one of the sentences of Scripture.

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us,
an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Anthem

Nunc Dimittis

T. Tertius Noble (1867-1953)

The Great Thanksgiving

The Celebrant faces the congregation and sings or says

The Lord be with you.

People ***And also with you.***

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People ***We lift them to the Lord.***

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord God.

People ***It is right to give God thanks and praise.***

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus *Missa Sidus Ex Claro* - Orlando di Lasso (c. 1530-1594)

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The congregation may wish to sit or kneel for the consecration prayer

Then the Celebrant continues

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he 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. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

***We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;***

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, St. John, our Patron, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

***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,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.***

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept. Then may be sung or said

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei *Missa Sidus Ex Claro* - Orlando di Lasso (c. 1530-1594)

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

Facing the people, the Celebrant says the following Invitation

The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

All baptized Christians of all ages and denominations are welcome to receive Communion in this place. This is God's house and the Lord's table, not ours

Communion will be distributed in one kind only, the bread, and will be received in the pews, as the Celebrant moves along to share. If an attendee does not wish to receive Communion, they need only to cross their hands over their chest so to signify. Others may receive as they wish, standing, kneeling, or seated. Please wait until the Celebrant has passed before removing your masks and consuming the bread.

Communion Hymn # 324 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

- 1** *Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded,
for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
our full homage to demand.*
- 2** *King of kings, yet born of Mary,
as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
in the Body and the Blood
he will give to all the faithful
his own self for heavenly food.*
- 3** *Rank on rank the host of heaven
spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of Light descendeth
from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish
as the darkness clears away.*

**4 At his feet the six-winged seraph;
cherubim with sleepless eye
veil their faces to the Presence,
as with ceaseless voice they cry,
“Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, Lord Most High!”**

for online worshippers, and for those who for other reasons choose not to receive, here is the Prayer for Spiritual Communion:

A Prayer for Spiritual Communion

In union, O Lord, with the faithful at every altar of your Church where the Holy Eucharist is celebrated, we desire to offer our praise and thanksgiving. We present to you our souls and bodies with the earnest desire that we may always be united to you. And since we are not now receiving you physically, we ask you to come into our hearts spiritually. We embrace you with all the affections of our souls, confident that nothing can ever separate us from the love God, in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

After Communion, the Celebrant says
Let us pray.

The People may join in saying this prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Bishop when present, or the Priest, gives the blessing

The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn # 657 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

***1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,***

enter every trembling heart.

2 *Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
nevermore thy temples leave.
Thee we would be alway blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.*

3 *Finish then thy new creation;
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee:
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.*

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Organ Postlude

Worship Ministers Today:

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Celebrant*

Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster*

John Magee, *8:00 Reader*

Laura Daly, *10:00 Reader*

Joseph Claro, *Veejay (VJ)*

Susie Magee, MB Witt: *Altar Guild*

ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

**78 Green Hill Road
Washington, CT 06793**

Staff

The Reverend Dr. Geoffrey Hahneman, *Priest-in-Charge*
Tom Brand, *Organist & Choirmaster*
Dawn Rosiello, *Parish Administrator*
Joan Burgess, *Foundation Administrator*

Vestry

David Gillespie, Mary Davis, *Wardens*
Laura Daly, *Clerk*
Joseph Claro, *Treasurer*
Hunter Brown, *Assistant Treasurer*
Class of 2022
Jay Bauer, Sara Coles, Andris Kalnins
Class of 2023
Laura Daly, Veronique Dulack, Joseph Claro
Class of 2024
Rebecca Bent, Larry Littlefield, Susan McFeely

Diocesan Delegates: Sara Coles, MB Witt.

Parish Office Telephone: (860) 868-2527

Parish Office Hours: *Wednesdays and Fridays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.*

St. John's Email: stjohnschurch@snet.net

St. John's Website: <http://stjohnswashington.com/>

St. John's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsChurchWashingtonCT>

St. John's YouTube Page:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoOwTnqIRss4BT8VwFul4qg>