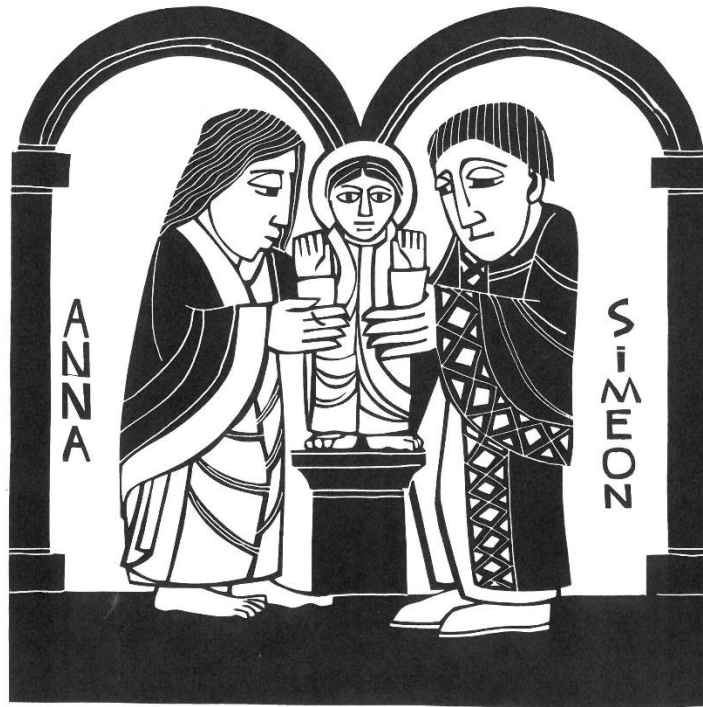


**THE HOLY EUCHARIST
AND
CANDLEMAS PROCESSION
FOR THE
FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION**



February 2, 2025

10:00 am

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Foley, AL
Diocese of the Central Gulf Coast**

Prelude

Hymn
1982 #93

Angels from the realms of glory

Hymnal

Opening Acclamation

Presider Blessed be the One, Holy, and Living God.

People ***Glory to God for ever and ever.***

Presider We wait for your loving kindness, O Lord,

People ***in the midst of your temple.***

Presider Open to us the gates of righteousness

People ***that we may enter and give thanks to the Lord.***

Presider God is the Lord who has shown us light,

People ***Let us offer in this dwelling an oblation with great gladness.***

Presider

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. 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.

And now, as the angels did at the occasion of his birth, let us join with them in singing the Song of the Angels.

Gloria in excelsis

Hymnal 1982 #S280

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. *(silence)*

Almighty Father, whose Son Jesus Christ was presented in the Temple and acclaimed the glory of Israel and the light of the nations: grant that in him we may be presented to you and in the world may reflect his glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The Word of God

The People may be seated for the Lessons.

A reading from 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

Thanks to be God.

Psalm 84 *Read responsively by whole verse*

- 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!**

A reading from 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's People.

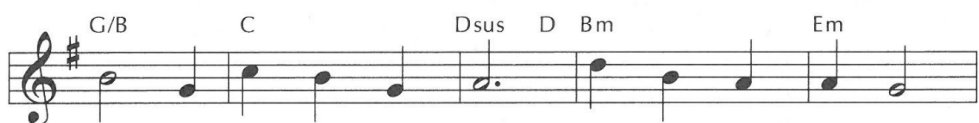
Thanks to be God.

Hymn

Mary and Joseph came to the Temple



1 Mar-y and Jo - seph came to the tem - ple brought the boy
2 An - na had prayed there, wid - owed, long wait - ing, wor - ship - ing
3 Sim - e - on sings now: God prof - ers bless - ing, bril - liant - ly



Je - sus, of - fered him there. Peo - ple were wait - ing
God by day and by night. Now she is prais - ing,
gild - ing dawn of his day. Light in the dark - ness,



want - ing to greet him; long had they sought him, so - lace for care.
filled with e - la - tion: here is God's prom - ise, Christ is her light.
nev - er ex - tin - guished, Light of all na - tions, light up our way.

See endnote for copyright notice

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (2:22-40)

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Nicene Creed

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: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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 the People

Let us pray to the God our Creator through Christ who is our Light and Life.

Faithful God, your Christ is acclaimed as the glory of Israel:

Look in mercy on your Church, sharing his light.

Lord, have mercy. *Christ, have mercy.*

Compassionate God, your Christ in his temple brings judgement on the world:
Look in mercy on the nations, who long for his justice.
Lord, have mercy. ***Christ, have mercy.***

Loving God, your Christ, who was rich, for our sakes became poor:
Look in mercy on the needy, suffering with him.
Lord, have mercy. ***Christ, have mercy.***

Living God, your Christ is the one in whom faithful servants find their peace:
Look in mercy on the departed, who see your salvation.
Lord, have mercy. ***Christ, have mercy.***

Forgiving God, your Christ is revealed as the one destined to be rejected:
Look in mercy on us who now turn towards his passion.
Lord, have mercy. ***Christ, have mercy.***

Presider

Lord God, you kept faith with Simeon and Anna and showed them the infant King.
Give us grace to put all our trust in your promises, and the patience to wait for their fulfilment;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. ***Amen.***

Confession of Sin

Presider

Jesus says, 'I am the light of the world. He who follows me shall not walk in darkness,
but will have the light of life.' Let us then bring our secret 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 neighbor,
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.***

Presider

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 Peace

Presider The peace of Christ be always with you.

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

Offertory Hymn

Sing of Mary, pure and lowly

Hymnal 1982 #277

The People stand as the gifts are brought to the Altar

Blessing of candles and oils

Before the throne burn seven lamps of fire, which are the seven spirits of the Lord.

V. You, O Lord, are my lamp

R. My God, you make my darkness bright.

Let us pray.

O heavenly Father, who revealed to us the vision of your Son in the midst of the candlesticks, and of your Spirit in seven lamps of fire before your throne: Grant that these candles and this oil, which will be kindled and lit for your glory, may be to us signs of your eternal presence and the promise of your eternal light, through Jesus Christ, who is himself the Light of the World. **Amen.**

The Holy Communion

Presider The Lord be with you.

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

Presider Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Pastor proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and every- where to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin and receive power to become your children. 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:

**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.**

Then the Pastor 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

Presider and People

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

The Presider continues

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 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 pray with confidence

**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 Presider breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

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

Fraction anthem

***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.***

***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.***

Hymn at Communion

Virgin born we bow before thee

Hymnal 1982 #258

Postcommunion Prayer

***Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna,
who did not die until they welcomed the Messiah.
May we, who have received these your gifts beyond words
prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us eternal life;
for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.***

The Candlemas Procession

The People stand. The Presider says

Lord God, the springing source of everlasting light, pour into the hearts of your faithful people the brilliance of your eternal splendor, that we, who by these kindling flames light up this temple to your glory, may have the darkness of our souls dispelled, and so be counted worthy to stand before you in that eternal temple where you live and reign, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. ***Amen.***

The people light their candles.

Hymn

Lord God you now have set your servant free

Hymnal 1982 #499

After the hymn the People join the procession out, responding to the psalm with the following verse.

A light to lighten the nations and the glory of your people Israel.

When the People have arrived in the Parish Hall the Presider concludes the service.

Father, here we bring to an end our celebration of the Savior's birth. Help us, in whom he has been born, to live his life that has no end. Here we have offered the Church's sacrifice of praise. Help us, who have received the bread of life, to be thankful for your gift. Here we have rejoiced with faithful Simeon and Anna. Help us, who have found the Lord in his temple, to trust in your eternal promises. Here we have greeted the Light of the world. Help us, who now extinguish these candles, never to forsake the light of Christ.

All now extinguish their candles.

The Blessing

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always. ***Amen***

The Dismissal

Go in the light and peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

For healing: Adriene, Al, Amber, Amy, Arnfinn, Arlene, Becky, Betsy, Bev, Carol, Charles, David, Debbie, Dennis, Don, Donna, Doug, Earl, Elsie Claire, Emma, Gwen, Helen, Jake, Jan, Jerry, Joan, Joanna, Joey, John, Joyce, Judith, Judy, Julie, Karla, Karen, Kate, Kay, Kirsten, Larry, Lee, Leigh, Linda, Lisa, Louise, Lynn, Margaret, Marie, Massey, Meg, Mickey, Mike, Morgan, Ralph, Rebecca, Rita, Ron, Rosellen, Sally, Sandy, Sarah, Shelley, Sherry, Stan, Stephanie, Steve, Sue, Tim, Tony, Tracie, Vera, Wayne and those who care for them. *For those serving in the military:*, Gerromy, Noel, Taylor, Wayne & those serving with them. *For those in prison:* for the prisoners, staff and families of prisoners and staff at Washington County Jail, Chipley, FL.

SAINT PAUL'S THIS WEEK

TODAY

- 7:30 am Holy Eucharist
- 9 am Formation Class
- 9 am Choir Practice
- 10 am Holy Eucharist
- 7 pm NA Meeting

MONDAY

- Noon NA Meeting
- 8 pm AA Meeting

WEDNESDAY

- 10:30 Pastor Brent's Bible Study

- Noon Holy Eucharist with Healing
- 3:15 pm to 4:15 pm Children's Choir Practice
- 5 pm to 6 pm Choir Practice
- 7 pm NA Open Meeting

THURSDAY

- Noon NA Meeting
- 6 pm AA Meeting
- 8 pm AA Open Meeting

SATURDAY

- 10 am AA Meeting

SUPPER CLUBS TO BEGIN IN FEBRUARY

Twice a year St. Paul's organizes members into small groups of 8 to 10 people to get together once a month in someone's home or a restaurant for a meal. In homes the host prepares the main course and the other members provide the sides. Everyone brings a beverage of their choice. If you decide to meet in a restaurant everyone pays their own bill. Please let Penny know if you would like to be part of a group or if you have any questions either by email saintpaulsfoleyoffice@gmail.com or phone 251 943-2173. This is a great way to get to know people.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST FUNDRAISER FOR BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

(Rescheduled from January 25)

On, Saturday, February 15, we will host this year's Pancake Breakfast fundraiser for the Boys and Girls Club. We will need help with set up on Friday and in the kitchen on Saturday. A signup sheet is in the Parish Hall. Pastor Brent has tickets for \$10.00 each.

REMEMBER EMI WHEN YOU SHOP

Pancake mix, syrup, powdered milk, tuna & saltine crackers.

BLESSING BOX

Our Blessing Box is in need of donations of food and toiletries. Drop off on Sundays in the Parish Hall or in the office during the week. You are always welcome to put food & supplies directly into the Blessing Box.

**St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Foley, AL
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Angels from the realms of glory

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Tune: Louis Bourgeois, Harm. by Claude Goudimel; Text: Reginald Heber

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Lord, God you now have set your servant free

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