

**Evening Prayer With Lucernarium
and Holy Communion**
**The Presentation of Our Lord
in the Temple: Candlemas**

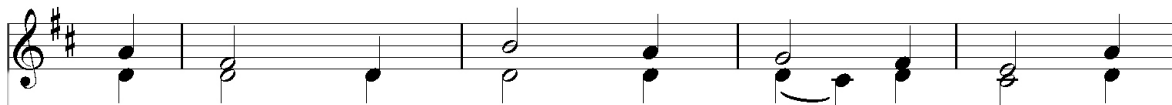
Friday, February 2, 2024— 5:00 p.m.



St. Luke's Episcopal Church
Los Gatos, California

Opening Hymn 257

“O Zion, open wide thy gates”



1 O Zi - on, o - pen wide thy gates, let
 2 A - ware of hid - den de - i - ty, the
 3 The a - ged Si - meon sees at last his
 4 But si - lent knelt the mo - ther blest of
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther be, all



1 sym - bols dis - ap - pear; a priest and vic - tim,
 2 low - ly Vir - gin brings her new - born babe, with
 3 Lord, so long de - sired, and An - na wel - comes
 4 the yet si - lent Word, and pon - dering all things
 5 glo - ry to the Son, all glo - ry, Ho - ly



1 both in one, the Truth him - self, is here.
 2 two young doves, her hum - ble of - fer - ings.
 3 Is - rael's hope, with ho - ly rap - ture fired.
 4 in her heart, with speech - less praise a - dored.
 5 Ghost, to thee, while end - less a - ges run.

Words: Jean-Baptiste de Santeul (1630-1697), tr Edward Caswall (1814-1878), alt; Music: Edmonton, William Wheel (1690-1727), Harmonia Sacra, c1760; harm Hymnal 1982, @ The Church Pension Fund, All rights reserved. Reprinted, podcast and streamed with permission under One License #A-706525. All rights reserved.

Celebrant Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant

Dear people of God, forty days ago we celebrated the joyful feast of the incarnation of Jesus. Today we recall the day on which he was presented in the temple, fulfilling the law of Moses. Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the temple, recognized the child as the Christ, and proclaimed him with joy. United by the same Spirit, we now enter the house of God, where we shall recognize Christ in the breaking of bread.

The Celebrant then blesses the candles.

Let us pray.

O eternal God, who has created all things; on this day you fulfilled the petitions of the just Simeon: we humbly ask you to bless and sanctify these candles for our use. Graciously hear our prayers and be merciful to us, whom you have redeemed by your Son, who is the light of the world, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people approach the altar to receive their lit votive candles, while those at home light their candles.

Hymn 31 (Voices Found)

“When Candles Are Lighted”



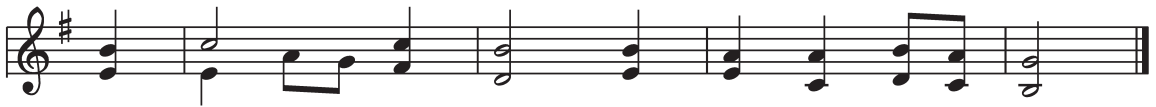
1 When can - dles are light - ed on Can - dle - mas Day
2 The kings have de - part - ed, the shep - herds have gone,
3 They go to the tem - ple, o - bey - ing the law,



the dark is be - hind us, and spring's on the way.
the child and his par - ents are left on their own.
and of - fer two pi - geons, the gift of the poor.



A glo - ry dawns in ev - ery dark place,



the light of Christ, the full - ness of grace.

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Music: *Lourdes*, French traditional melody.

Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, source of all light, today you revealed to the aged Simeon your light which enlightens the nations. Fill our hearts with the light of faith, that we who bear these candles may walk in the path of goodness, through Jesus Christ the Light of the World. **Amen.**

Please be seated, and keep your candles lit through the reading of the Gospel.

Psalm 84

- 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!

Said by all

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

The First Lesson

Malachi 3:1–4

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi.

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.

Here ends the First Lesson.

Please stand.

Hymn 277

"Sing of Mary"

Sing of Mar - y meek and
 Sing of Jes - us son of
 Glor - y be to God the

low - ly, Vir - gin moth - er pure and mild. Sing of
 Mar - y, in the home at Naz - a - reth. Toil and
 Fath - er, glo - ry be to God the Son; Glor - ry

God's own Son most ho - ly, who be - came her lit - tle
 lab - or can - not wear - y Love en - dur - ing un - to
 be to God the Spir - it; Glor - ry to the Three in

child. Fairest child of Fair - est moth - er, God the
 death. Constant was the love he gave her, though he
 One. From the heart of bles - sed Mar - ry, from all

Lord who came to earth, Word made flesh our ver - y
 went forth from her side, forth to preach and heal and
 saints the song as - cends, and the Church the strain re -

broth - er takes our na - ture by his birth.
 suf - er, till on Cal - va - ry he died.
 ech - oes un - to Earth's re - mot - est ends.

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Please be seated.

The Second Lesson

Hebrews 2:14–18

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

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.

Here ends the Second Lesson.

Please stand.

Hymn 499

“Lord God, you now have set your servant free”

Unison or harmony

Lord God, you now have set your ser - vant free to go in
peace as prom - ised in your word; my eyes have seen the
Sa - vior, Christ the Lord, pre - pared by you for all the
world to see, to shine on na - tions trapped in dark - est night,
the glo - ry of your peo - ple, and their light.

Words: Rae E. Whitney (b. 1927); para. of *The Song of Simeon*. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Song 1*, melody and bass Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

Please remain standing.

The Third Lesson

Luke 2:22–40

A Reading from the Gospel according to Luke.

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.

Here ends the Third Lesson.

You may now extinguish your candles and be seated.

The Homily

The Rev. Ricardo Avila

The Apostles' Creed

Please stand.

Said by all

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the 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 of 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.

Suffrages B

That this evening may be holy, good, and peaceful,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That your holy angels may lead us in paths of peace and goodwill,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be pardoned and forgiven for our sins and offenses,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That there may be peace to your Church and to the whole world,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may depart this life in your faith and fear,
and not be condemned before
the great judgment seat of Christ,
We entreat you, O Lord.

That we may be bound together by your Holy Spirit
in the communion of all your saints, entrusting one another
and all our life to Christ,
We entreat you, O Lord.

The Collect of the Day

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 Lighting of Our Intentions

*Those in church come forward to light a candle and place it in the sand.
Candles will be lit, and intentions read, for those at home.*

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Welcome and Announcements

The Holy Communion

Offertory Hymn 517

“How lovely is Thy dwelling place”



1 How love - ly is thy dwell - ing - place, O Lord of hosts, to
2 Be - side thine al - tars, gra - cious Lord, the swal - lows find a
3 They who go through the des - ert vale will find it filled with
4 One day with - in thy courts ex - cels a thou - sand spent a -



me! My thirst - y soul de - sires and longs with -
nest; how hap - py they who dwell with thee and
springs, and they shall climb from height to height till
way; how hap - py they who keep thy laws nor



in thy courts to be; my ve - ry heart and
praise thee with - out rest, and hap - py they whose
Zi - on's tem - ple rings with praise to thee, in
from thy pre - cepts stray, for thou shalt sure - ly



flesh cry out, O liv - ing God, for thee.
hearts are set up - on the pil - grim's quest.
glo - ry throned, Lord God, great King of kings.
bless all those who live the words they pray.

Words: Para. of Psalm 84; sts. 1-2, *The Psalms of David in Meeter*, 1650, alt.; sts. 3-4, Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944). Sts. 3-4, Copyright © 1982 by Hope Publishing Co., Carol Stream, IL. 60188). All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: *Brother Jame's Air*, J. L. Mcbeth Bain (1840?-1925). By permission of Oxford University Press.

Prayers Over the Gifts

Yours, O Lord, is the greatness, the power, the glory, the splendor, and the majesty. For everything in heaven and on earth is yours. All things come from you, **and of your own have we given you. Amen.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation; through your goodness we have this bread to offer, which earth has given and human hands have made. It will become for us the Bread of Heaven. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation; through your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of the vine and work of human hands. It will become for us the Cup of Salvation. **Blessed be God for ever.**

Pray, friends, that this our sacrifice may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty. **May the Lord receive this sacrifice at your hands, to the praise and glory of God's Name, both to our benefit and that of all God's Holy Church. Amen.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant 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 our God.

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

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:

**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.

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,

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 blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Joseph, blessed Simeon, blessed Anna, 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.**

The Lord's Prayer

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

Said by all

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

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Celebrant The gifts of God for the people of God.

Communion Hymn (Taizé)

“The Lord is my light and my salvation”

Theme I

Calmly ♩ = 66

The Lord is my light, my light and sal-vation: in him I trust, in him I trust. The

Theme II

The Lord is my light, my light and sal-vation: in him I trust, in him I trust. The

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

Said by all

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 Blessing

Closing Hymn 324

“Let all mortal flesh keep silence”



1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and
 2 King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on
 3 Rank on rank the host of hea - ven spreads its van - guard
 4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph; cher - u - bim with



trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly -
 earth he stood, Lord of lords in hu - man
 on the way, as the Light of Light de -
 sleep - less eye veil their fac - es to the



mind - ed, for with bless - ing in his hand
 ves - ture, in the Bo - dy and the Blood
 scend - eth from the realms of end - less day,
 Pres - ence, as with cease - less voice they cry,



Christ our God to earth de - scend - eth,
 he will give to all the faith - ful
 that the powers of hell may va - nish
 “Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!”



our full hom - age to de - mand.
 his own self for heaven - ly food.
 as the dark - ness clears a - way.
 Al - le - lu - ia, Lord Most High!”

Words: Liturgy of St. James; para. Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885) Music: Picardy, French carol, 17th cent.; melody from *Chansons populaires des Provinces de France*, 1860; harm. after *The English Hymnal*, 1906

The Dismissal

The clergy dismisses the People and they respond

Thanks be to God.

Postlude

The Lord Bless You and Keep You

John Rutter



Servers—February 2, 2023

Celebrant/Preacher	The Rev. Ricardo Avila
Lay Assistant	William Bonnell
Lectors	Lewis Pollard & Barbara Stafford
Organist	Laura Green
Singers	Members of the St. Luke's Choir
Live-streaming Director	Art Feather
Usher	Ron Victor



Cover: *Katedrala* by František Kupka (1871–1957) b. Czech Republic

***St. Luke's Episcopal Church is a place of peace, beauty,
and relationship that reflects God's saving presence
through our rich Tradition, our intellectual curiosity,
and our work in the wider community.***

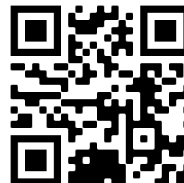
Saint Luke's Clergy & Staff

Rector	The Rev. Ricardo Avila revrico@stlukeslg.org
Assisting Clergy	The Rev. Ernest Cockrell The Rev. R. Clark Emerson The Rev. Nayan McNeill, Ph.D. The Very Rev. William S. Stafford, Ph.D.
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Treasurer	Mr. Art Feather afeather@stlukeslg.org
Altar Guild Coordinator	Ms. Carol Graham
Outreach/Pantry Director	Ms. Jo Greiner
Rector Emeritus	The Rev. David R. Breuer

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Martha Sterne (Senior Warden)	Paul Fait
Glenn Katz (Clerk)	Grady Jeter
John Cleveland	Loren Schlesinger
Kelly Conway	Janet Souza
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