



Church of the Nativity, Hamilton

Sunday Prayers

The Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the
Temple
6 February 2022



Called to Life — Compelled to Love



Welcome & Territorial Acknowledgement

The Prelude

The Gathering

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

Blessed are you, Sovereign God,
king of the nations,
to you be praise and glory for ever.
From the rising of the sun to its setting
your name is proclaimed in all the world.
As the Sun of Righteousness dawns in our hearts
anoint our lips with the seal of your Spirit
that we may witness to your gospel
and sing your praise in all the earth.
Blessed be God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Blessed be God for ever.

Jubilate

The Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.
The Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.

O be joyful in the Lord, all the earth;
serve the Lord with gladness
and come before the Lord's presence with a song.
The Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.

Know that the Lord is God;
it is the Lord that has made us and we are God's;
we are God's people and the sheep of the Lord's pasture.
The Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.

Enter God's gates with thanksgiving
and the courts of the Lord with praise;
give thanks to God, and bless the Lord's holy name.

The Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.

For the Lord is gracious, with steadfast love that is everlasting,
and faithfulness that endures from generation to generation.

Psalm 100

The Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.

**Glory to God,
Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.**

The Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,
who creates us, redeems us, and calls us by name.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another.

Merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned against you
and your beloved children.
We have turned our faces away from your glory
when it did not appear as we expected.
We have rejected your word
when it made us confront ourselves.
We have failed to show hospitality
to those you called us to welcome.
Accept our repentance for the things we have done
and the things we have left undone.
For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.
Forgive us and lead us, that we may bathe
in the glory of your Son born among us,
and reflect your love for all creation.
Amen**

Almighty God have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,

and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.

Amen.

The Psalm

How lovely is your dwelling-place, Lord God of power and might. •
My soul has a desire and longing to enter the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

**The sparrow finds for herself a house,
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young. •
Even so have the singers a home at your altars;
they stand always praising you my king and my God.**

O Lord God of hosts, •
blessèd are those who dwell in your house.
**Blessèd are those whose strength is in you, •
who have set their hearts on pilgrimage.**

Going through the arid valley, they find a spring from which to drink •
the early rain covers it with pools of water.
**They go from strength to strength •
and appear every one before God in Zion.**

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; •
give ear, O God of Jacob.
**Show favour, O God, to the king our defender, •
and look upon the face of your anointed prince.**

Truly one day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. •

I would rather stand at the threshold
of the house of my God than live in the homes of the wicked.

**For the Lord God is a defence and shield, •
the Lord will give grace and honour,**

and no good thing will be withheld •
from those who live a blameless life.

Psalm 84

**Glory to God,
Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

The First Reading

A reading from the prophet 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.

Malachi 3.1—4

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Saint Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they 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 turtle-doves 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 for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped 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 favour of God was upon him.

Luke 2.22—40

The gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Reflection

Stand Up and Bless the Lord

**Stand up, and bless the Lord,
you people of God's choice;
stand up, and bless the Lord of hosts
with heart and soul and voice.**

**Though high above all praise,
above all blessing high,
who would not fear God's holy Name,
and laud and magnify?**

**God is our strength and song,
who makes salvation ours;
then be God's love in Christ proclaimed
with all our ransomed powers.**

**Stand up and bless the Lord;
the Lord your God adore;
stand up, and bless the glorious Name
henceforth for evermore.**

The Prayers of the People

The Spirit of the Lord is poured out upon us in abundance; so we are bold to pray for the church, the world, and all that God has made.

Versicle and Response:

V God of grace,
R hear our prayer.

Since we have such great hope in your promises, O God, we lift these and all of our prayers to you in confidence and faith; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.
Amen.

Let us gather our prayers and praise into one,
and pray as Jesus teaches us in the language and version of our comfort:

**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.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

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

The Collect

God of steadfast love,
you sent your Son to be the light of the world,
saving people everywhere from sin and death.
As Anna gave thanks for the freedom he would bring,
and Simeon saw in him the dawn of redemption,
complete your purpose once made known in him.
Make us the vessels of his light,
that all the world may glory in the splendor of your peace,
through the same your Son Jesus Christ;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Announcements

The Blessing

... and the blessing of God ...
always.
Amen.

The Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the light of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

The Postlude



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