

St Mary the Virgin, Mortlake

Eucharist for Candlemas

31st January 2021 at 10am

Welcome

A churchwarden welcomes us

Opening Hymn

In a world where people walk in darkness
Let us turn our faces to the light,
to the light of God revealed in Jesus,
to the Daystar scattering our night.

*For the light is stronger than the darkness
And the day will overcome the night.*

*Though the shadows linger all around us,
Let us turn our faces to the light.*

In a world where suffering of the helpless
Casts a shadow all along the way,
Let us bear the Cross of Christ with gladness
And proclaim the dawning of the day.

For the light

Let us light a candle in the darkness,
In the face of death, a sign of life.
As a sign of hope where all seems hopeless,
As a sign of peace in place of strife.

For the light

The Greeting

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The Prayers of Penitence

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness of our hearts. In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you
and against our neighbour
in thought and word and deed,
through negligence, through weakness,
through our own deliberate fault.**

We are truly sorry 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 grant that we may serve you in newness of life
to the glory of your name.
Amen.**

Absolution

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 Gloria

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest
Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest**

The Collect

Lord Jesus Christ, light of the nations and glory of Israel: make your
home among us, and present us pure and holy to your heavenly Father,
your God, and our God. **Amen**

Old Testament Reading: Malachi 3:1-5

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 pre-
sent 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. Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to
bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those

who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 24

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14-18

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he 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.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading Luke 2:22-40

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke

Glory to you, O Lord

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.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Prayers of Intercession

The Peace

Our Saviour Christ is the Prince of Peace.
Of the increase of his government and of peace there shall be no end.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Taking of the Bread and Wine

With this bread that we bring

We shall remember Jesus.

With this wine that we bring

We shall remember Jesus.

Bread for his body, wine for his blood,
gifts from God to his table we bring.

We shall remember Jesus.

Eucharistic Prayer E (with Extended Preface)

The Lord be with you

and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

All honour and praise be yours always and everywhere,
mighty creator, ever-living God,
through Jesus Christ your only Son our Lord:
And now we give you thanks
because, by appearing in the Temple he brings judgement on the world.
The Word made flesh searches the hearts of all your people,
to bring to light the brightness of your splendour.
Therefore with all the angels of heaven
we lift our voices to proclaim the glory of your name
and sing our joyful hymn of praise:

**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 praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.
On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and taking bread, he praised you.
He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, 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.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.
Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

**Christ has died:
Christ is risen:
Christ will come again.**

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.
Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with Mary the Mother of our Lord and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.
Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father, for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (we sit or kneel)

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

**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.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever.
Amen**

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.
**Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.**

Agnus Dei (sung by the choir)

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world,
grant us peace.

The Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

During Communion

Anthem Nunc Dimittis, Dyson in C Minor

Prayers after Communion

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna, who lived to welcome the Messiah: may we, who have received these gifts beyond words, prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us to eternal life; for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. **Amen**

We pray together

**Father of all, we give you thanks and praise,
that when we were still far off
you met us in your Son and brought us home.
Dying and living, he declared your love,
gave us grace, and opened the gate of glory.
May we who share Christ's body, live his risen life;
we who drink his cup, bring life to others;
we whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.
Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us,
so we and all your children shall be free,
and the whole earth live to praise your name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

Notices

Closing Liturgy

In our hearts, in the lives of our families and friends, in our Church,
let your light shine

In the streets of Mortlake and Sheen, in hospitals, vaccination centres,
schools and workplaces and in the hearts of all your people,
let your light shine

Where doors have to be closed and lights turned off, in the places we
cannot go together,
let your light shine

Father, here we bring to an end our celebration of the Saviour's birth.
**Help us, in whom he has been born,
to live his life that has no end.**

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 bless one another in your name.

Help us, who now go in peace, to shine with your light in the world.

Closing hymn

Like a candle flame, flickering small in our darkness

Uncreated light, shines through infant eyes

God is with us, alleluia

Come to save us, alleluia

Alleluia!

Stars and angels sing, yet the earth sleeps in shadows

Can this tiny spark, set a world on fire?

God is with us, alleluia

Come to save us, alleluia

Alleluia!

Yet his light shall shine, from our lives, Spirit blazing

As we touch the flame, of his holy fire

God is with us, alleluia

Come to save us, alleluia

Alleluia!

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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 among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Dismissal

Go in the peace of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

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