



Holy Trinity Church
446 Hamilton St. Southbridge, Massachusetts 01550
A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts
www.holytrinitysouthbridge.org 508.765.9559

The Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord
February 2, 2025
Scout Sunday
11:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist
Family Worship

The Reverend Judith Lee, *Celebrant & Preacher*
Anne Bouvier-Monroe, *Organist*
Tamsin Lucey, *Eucharistic Minister*
Acolytes: Jack Burns, Teddy DeMings
Readers & Intercessors:
Anna Burns, Lucy Burns, David DeMings,
Jace Reith-Lowery, Jones Reith-Lowery

Prelude: *Will you come and follow me?*

J Bell

Processional Hymn: *Christ whose glory fills the skies*

Blue Hymnal #7

Acclamation

Blessed are you, holy and living One.

You come to your people and set them free.

In unison:

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

Gloria

Blue Hymnal #5277

Collect of the Day *(in unison)*

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 forever. *Amen.*

The Liturgy of the Word

The First Lesson: A Reading from the Prophet Malachi [3:1-4]

Look! I am sending my Messenger ahead to prepare the way for me. Suddenly, out of the blue, the leader you have been looking for will come to the Temple. Yes! The Messenger, the one you have been waiting for. Look! He is on his way!" But who will be ready? He will be like white-hot fire from a furnace. He will be like the strong soap at the laundry. He will take his place as a refiner of silver, as a cleanser of dirty cloths. He will scrub the priests clean, until they are fit to present offerings of your hopes and thanksgivings. Then, and only then, will Judah and Jerusalem be ready and pleasing to God, the way they used to be long ago.

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**

Silence

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.

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.

Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.

Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

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.

They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.

Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.

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.

For the Lord God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;

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

O Lord of hosts,
Happy are they who put their trust in you!

Silence

Sequence Hymn: *I want to walk as a Child of the Light v. 1 & Refrain*

I want to walk as a child of the light. / I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world. / The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain: *In him there is no darkness at all. / The night and the day are both alike.*

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. / Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ According to Luke [2:22-40]

Response **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 Rev. Judith Lee

Blessing of the Candles

Priest: Light and Peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord

Response: **Thanks be to God**

Priest: A Light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel

Response **A Light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.**

Priest: Lord, you now have set your servant free to go in peace as you have promised.

Response **A Light to enlighten the nations and the glory of your people Israel.**

Priest: For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,
whom you have prepared for all the world to see.

Response **A Light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.**

Priest: We have waited on your loving-kindness, O Lord, in the midst of your temple.

Response: **Your praise like your name, O God, reaches to the world's end;
your right hand is full of justice.**

Priest Let us pray.

God our Father, source of all light, today you revealed to the aged Simeon your light which enlightens the nations. Bless + these candles and make them holy. Fill our hearts with the light of faith, so that we may walk in the path of goodness, and come to the light that shines forever, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Sermon Hymn *Bring Forth the Kingdom*

Insert Vs 3 & 4

The Nicene Creed

BCP, 358

Prayers of the People

L: God of generations, you instilled in Anna and Simeon faith, dreams, and the welcome of a child. Bless elders who embody faith and hope; bless the newly baptized. Energize us to share faith from generation to generation. God of grace,

C: we walk in love.

L: God of creation, in you the sparrow finds a home and we find lush valleys and living water. Bless the birds of the air, the animals of the valley, and renew our stewardship of this bountiful creation. God of grace,

C: we walk in love

L: God of the nations, strengthen our resolve to care for all children and strive for peace among nations. Refine our nation where we have failed to root out racism (especially as we honor Black History Month) and guide us in truth-telling and reconciliation. God of grace,

C: we walk in love

L: God of hope, many long to see your presence revealed amid challenging circumstances. We hold in prayer all longing for sustainable housing, secure employment, access to medical care, and health and wellness *especially those we name aloud or silently in our hearts before you now.* **(Pause for names)**

God of grace,

C: we walk in love

L: God of the people, you are made known in caring ministries. Bless those who serve as communion servers, homebound visitors, baptismal sponsors, confirmation mentors, and as prayer support. Reveal yourself in the neighborly care we give and receive. God of grace,

C: we walk in love

Here other intercessions may be offered.

L: O God, we ask for your blessing to guide us in building and rejoicing in the partnership between Holy Trinity and Bethlehem. Strengthen the bonds of faith and fellowship between our people and give us the grace to fulfill your purpose. God of grace,

C: we walk in love.

L: Lord of the People, you made us in your image and you call us good. Silence voices of shame and hatred – including the ones in our own heads – and inspire us to love ourselves and one another the way you so desperately, passionately, and deeply love us. Teach us to love all our neighbors, those who are familiar to us as well as all who are marginalized due to their race, gender, abilities and nationalities. Make us bold in our proclamation that all people matter to you and so they matter to us. God of grace,

C: we walk in love

L: God of life, we thank you for Jesus' life and for his death that has destroyed death. We remember the dearly departed (*especially*), as they dwell with you in your holy courts now and forever. God of grace,

C: we walk in love

We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.

Amen.

A Litany for Scout Sunday

A Scout is Trustworthy, Loyal, Helpful, Friendly, Courteous, Kind, Obedient, Cheerful, Thrifty, Brave, Clean, and Reverent.

The Scout law is a guiding light to millions of young people and adults throughout the world today, but the principles of the law have been brought to us from ancient days.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. (Exodus 20:16)

Congregation: A Scout is trustworthy.

The one who is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and the one who is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. (Luke 16:10)

Congregation: A Scout is loyal

You shall not take vengeance or bear any grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself. (Leviticus 19:18)

Congregation: A Scout is helpful

Love one another with respectful affection; outdo one another in showing honor. (Psalm 133)

Congregation: A Scout is friendly

Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for edifying, as fits the occasion, that it may impart grace to those who hear. (Ephesians 6:1-3)

Congregation: A Scout is courteous

A righteous person has regard for the life of animals, but the mercy of the wicked is cruel. (Proverbs 12:10)

Congregation: A Scout is kind

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. Honor the first commandment with promise, that it may be well with you and you may live long on the earth. (Ephesians 6:1-3)

Congregation: A Scout is obedient

A glad heart makes a cheerful countenance, but by sorrow of heart the spirit is broken. The mind of the one who has understanding seeks knowledge, but the mouths of fools feed on folly. All the days of the afflicted are evil, but a cheerful heart has a continual feast.

Congregation: A Scout is cheerful

Go to the ant, O lazy one; consider her ways, and be wise. Without having any chief, officer or ruler, the ant prepares her food in summer, and gathers her sustenance in harvest. (Proverbs 6:6-8)

Congregation: A Scout is thrifty

Be strong and of good courage, do not fear or be in dread of anyone; for it is the Lord your God who goes with you; God will not fail you or forsake you. (Deuteronomy 31:6)

Congregation: A Scout is brave

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in God's holy place? Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.

They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of our salvation.

(Psalm 24:3-5)

Congregation: A Scout is clean

And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. This is the first commandment. (Mark 12:30)

Congregation: Scouts are reverent. They are reverent toward God. They are faithful in their religious duties, and they respect the convictions of others in matters of custom and religion.

Prayer for the Parish *in unison*

O Great Creator, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, by your grace, may we be so filled with your love that the Light of the World shines from within us. May all with whom we come into contact experience your love and mercy. That in thought, word and deed we may proclaim the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ. And when we stray from what is what is good and righteous in your sight, by your mercy may we repent and begin anew. All this we ask in the name of Jesus our, Savior. AMEN

Prayer for the Partnership between Holy Trinity and Bethlehem Lutheran:

O God, we ask for your blessing to guide us in building and rejoicing in our partnership. Strengthen the bonds of faith and fellowship between our people and give us the grace to fulfill your purpose. Amen.

The Confession

BCP, 360

The Peace

'God Moments'

Announcements

Offertory Hymn *Children go Where I sent thee*

Traditional Insert

Presentation Hymn *Doxology*

Blue Hymnal #380 Vs 3 only

The Holy Communion

Eucharistic Prayer IIb (from the Scottish Church] - Incarnation

The People are invited to stand as able.

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 our thanks and praise.

Worship and praise belong to you, God our maker. Out of nothing, you called all worlds into being, and still you draw the universe to its fulfilment. Day and night celebrate your glory until time shall be no more. In Christ, your only-begotten Son, you have revealed yourself to the world. By the guiding of a star, you made him known to the nations as the Son of David and King of Israel; that in following him, we might be led from darkness and into his marvelous light. Filled with the Spirit, who descended upon your Son at his Baptism in the Jordan, we who are baptized in his name strive for his heavenly kingdom in whose radiance we are transfigured, and the earth is transformed. As children of your redeeming purpose, who celebrate the manifestation of your Son, we offer you our praise, with angels and archangels and the whole company of heaven singing the hymn of your unending glory:

The Sanctus

Blue Hymnal #S-124

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Glory and thanksgiving be to you, most loving Father. In Jesus the Messiah you have come to us. Our hope is built on him in whom you are well pleased. Having been shown to the world as your beloved Son, he proclaimed the good news of your kingdom. The blind received their sight, the lame walked, the lepers were cleansed, and the captives set free. At his word, water became wine, the hungry were filled with bread, and the dead were raised.

Before he was given up to suffering and death, desiring to complete the work for which he came into the world, at supper with his disciples, he took bread and offered you thanks. He broke the bread, and gave it to them, saying: "Take, eat. This is my Body: it is broken for you."

After supper, he took the cup, he offered you thanks and gave it to them saying: "Drink this, all of you. This is my Blood of the new covenant; it is poured out for you, and for all, that sins may be forgiven. Do this in remembrance of me."

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

Made one with Christ, we offer you these gifts, and with them ourselves, a single, holy, living self-offering. Hear us, most merciful Father, and send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and this wine, that, overshadowed by his life-giving power, they may be the Body and Blood of your Son, and we may be kindled with the fire of your love and renewed for the service of your Kingdom. Help us, who are baptized into the fellowship of Christ's Body to live and work to your praise and glory; may we grow together in unity and love until at last, in your new creation, we enter into our heritage in the company of the Virgin Mary, the apostles, and prophets, and of all our brothers and sisters living and departed. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory be to you, Lord of all ages, world without end. AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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

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

Communion Music: *Prelude on "Picardy"* Setting by Gilbert Martin

Post-Communion Hymn *Children Go Where I Send Thee* vs 1-3 **Insert**

The Post- Communion Prayer **BCP, 365**

The Blessing

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional Hymn: *Christ Be Our Light* **Insert**

Dismissal

Postlude: *variation on "Puer Nobis nascitur"* Setting by Hopson

Music reprinted and streamed under Onelicense.net #A722242

Announcements



Souper Bowl of Caring: Next Sunday February 9th

We are joining with organizations across the country to raise funds to address local food in security. A variety of homemade soups will be available for purchase after the service. \$4/pint, \$5/quart. Please let Cat know if you are bringing soup.

The Big Way of Love: Sunday, February 16

Join us for the third monthly discussion at 10:00 AM with Heather Bousquet. The theme will be GO!

Pantry Donation for February will go to the Wales Community Food Pantry

Mission Plate for February: Worcester Community Action Fuel Assistance Program.

St Luke's Guesthouse needs volunteers to answer phones. Please call Tricia Gay at 774-230-3589 if you are available to give a few hours of time.

Food Share, Inc. welcomes volunteers during their hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 10-11:15 am.

Prayer shawls are available in the back of the church.

The February Tidings will be sent out this week. Please see the Ushers or Wardens if you do not receive your copy.

Mark your calendars:

Tuesday March 4th – Shrove Tuesday

Wednesday March 5th – Ash Wednesday

Sunday April 20th – Easter Sunday

Sunday May 18th – Bishop's Visitation, with Confirmation and Reception