

# ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD & CANDLEMAS FEBRUARY 2, 2025 YEAR C

## **Prelude**

**“Fugue, Trio, Dialogue”**

**François Couperin (1668-1733)**

*The congregation stands.*

*The Presider greets the people with these words*

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People **Thanks be to God.***

*Presider* 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.

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 following canticle is then said, during which the candles are lighted, if the people are not already holding them.*

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

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

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

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

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

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

*The Presider then says the following prayer*

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.***

*The Procession*

*Presider* Let us go forth in peace.

*People* ***In the name of Christ. Amen.***

*Procession of lighted candles*

**Hymn VF 31 “When candles are lighted on Candlemas Day”** (*see page 11*)  
***(repeat as necessary)***

## THE WORD OF GOD

**The Collect of the Day**

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

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

*Presider* Let us pray.

***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 Lesson: 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.

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

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 24: 7-10

*Domini est terra*

*John Goss*

7. Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O ever-  
lasting | doors; \*  
and the King of | glory | shall come | in.

8. "Who is this | King of | glory?" \*  
"The Lord, strong and mighty, the | Lord, | mighty • in |  
battle."

9 Lift up your heads, O gates; lift them high, O ever-  
lasting | doors; \*  
and the King of | glory | shall come | in.

10 "Who is he, this | King of | glory?" \*  
"The Lord of hosts, | he • is the | King of | glory."

## The Lesson: 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.

*Reader* Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

**Sequence Hymn 259 “Hail to the Lord who comes”** (Blue 1982 Hymnal)

*Presider* The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ according to Luke

*People* ***Glory to you, Lord Christ.***

**The Gospel: Luke 2:22-40**

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.

*Presider* The Gospel of the Lord

*People* ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

**The Homily**

The Rev. Dr. Teresa K.M. Danieley

## **Affirmation of Faith**

Let us declare our faith in God.

*All: We believe in God the Creator,  
infinite in wisdom, mercy and love,  
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.  
We believe in Jesus Christ,  
Son of God and Son of man,  
the gift of God's unfailing grace, the ground of our hope,  
and the promise of our deliverance from sin and death.  
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
the divine presence in our lives,  
who sustains and strengthens us, especially in our time of need.  
We believe in one God: Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit,  
and that our faith should manifest itself in the service of love  
as set forth in the example of our blessed Savior,  
that the realm of God may come upon the earth. Amen.*

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Leader* As we join Simeon and Anna in the temple and behold the salvation of God, let us pray to bring the light of Christ to all peoples; saying, God of abundant love and light, ***“Protect all your children, we pray.”***

We pray for the holy catholic church throughout the world, that the light of our faith may shine in our hearts;

For Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Deon our Bishop, for Teresa and Jerre our clergy, for Delaney our Rector-Elect, and for all the holy People of God;

In the Diocesan Cycle, we pray for the people and ministry of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion in University City; we pray for our companion parish of St. John and St. James in Sullivan;

In the Anglican Communion, we pray for the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia;

In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico, we pray for the Colegio Episcopal San Andres;

We pray for our Jubilee Ministry partner Isaiah 58 Ministries and our outreach partner Doorways Interfaith Housing;

We give thanks on her birthday with Sarah Mehta. God of abundant love and light, ***Protect all your children, we pray.***

We pray for prophets in every land who rebuke the spirits of greed and violence, oppression and despair, and for all who teach the truth of God; God of abundant love and light,

***Protect all your children, we pray.***

We pray for this country, for all nations and their leaders, and for those who guard the peace; God of abundant love and light,

***Protect all your children, we pray.***

We pray for the world, that our conflicts may cease, and that peace and justice may reign, praying especially for the people of Ukraine, Sudan, and the Middle East; God of abundant love and light,

***Protect all your children, we pray.***

We pray for all those burdened by anguish or illness, and for those who care for them with love and healing. We pray for prisoners, captives, and immigrants, the hungry, homeless, and oppressed; we pray for the victims of the wildfires in California; God of abundant love and light,

***Protect all your children, we pray.***

We pray for our deliverance from all affliction, strife, and need;

We pray for those on our Parish Prayer list, and those whom we name, either silently or aloud [pause];

We pray for all who struggle with addiction, that God may strengthen them in their recovery;

We pray for those serving in the armed forces; God of abundant love and light,

***Protect all your children, we pray.***

We pray for the dying and the dead, especially Anne Hennig, and for those who grieve, that they may know the comfort of your eternal light; God of abundant love and light,

***Protect all your children, we pray.***

*The Presider offers this concluding collect.*

Draw your Church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving him in his mission to the world, and together witnessing to his love. ***Amen.***

## Confession and Absolution

*Presider* Let us confess our sins to God.

*Presider and People*

***Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us to amend what we are, and direct what we shall be; that we may do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen***

*Presider*

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. ***Amen.***

## The Peace

*Presider* The peace of Christ be always with you.

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

*The Congregation greets one another with the peace of Christ.  
Announcements, Birthday and Anniversary Prayers*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

**Offertory Anthem “Christ, Be Our Light” Bernadette Farrell (b. 1957)**

Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.

Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.

*Refrain:*

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.

Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice. *Refrain.*

Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst.

Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed. *Refrain.*

Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.

Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come. *Refrain.*

© 1993 Bernadette Farrell

Eucharistic Prayer 2 from Enriching Our Worship

*Presider* The Lord be with you.

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





is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me.”

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made. In the fullness of time bring us with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

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

**Fraction Anthem S164**      *Schubert*      *(Blue 1982 Hymnal)*

*Jesus, Lamb of God:  
have mercy on us.*

*Jesus, bearer of our sins:  
have mercy on us.*

*Jesus, redeemer, redeemer of the world:  
Give us your peace, give us your peace.*

### **The Ministration of Communion**

*All who hunger and thirst for God are welcome to receive the Holy Communion at this altar. Gluten free hosts are available. Please let the minister know that you require gluten free.*

**Communion Hymn 489 “The great Creator of the worlds”**      *(Blue 1982 Hymnal)*

## **Prayer After Communion**

*Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.*

## **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, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

**Closing Hymn 7 “Christ, whose glory fills the sky”** (*Blue 1982 Hymanl*)

## **The Dismissal**

*Presider* Go in peace to proclaim the Word made flesh.

*People* ***Thanks be to God.***

## **Postlude**

**“Caprice sur les grands jeux”**

**Louis-Nicolas Clérambault (1676-1749)**

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## **ASSISTING IN OUR WORSHIP**

*Lector:* Ed Rich

*Usher:* Diane Nienkemper

*Greeter:* Marti Robards

*Altar Guild:* Jon Danieleley

*Chalice:* Marilyn Wiethop

*Livestream:* Scott Thompson

*Crucifer:* Jonathan Robards *Godly Play:* Mehta

**Today we welcome flutist Clara Richter.  
Many thanks to her for her beautiful playing!**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS 2025 ST.MARK'S DIRECTORY**

The new directory will be available after the Annual Meeting and after the new Rector begins so all new vestry and delegate and Rector information can be included. If you have had any changes to address, telephone or email since January 2024 or if you would like to include a birthday or anniversary that has been missed, please provide that information to the Parish Office [parishoffice@saintmarks-stl.org](mailto:parishoffice@saintmarks-stl.org) or call 314-832-3588.

# When candles are lighted

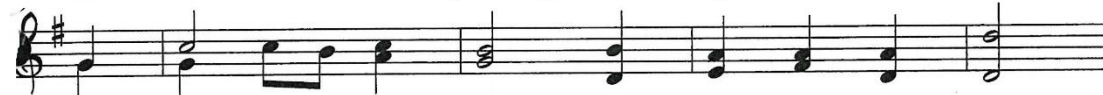
31



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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*(repeat as necessary)*

## **Full-Year 2024 Parishioner Donation Statements Arriving Soon**

Updated Parishioner Donation Statements are going in the mail shortly and will soon be arriving at your home address. The Statements cover the full year of 2024 and include the amount of your 2024 pledge as well as payments made towards your pledge. The Statements also show any additional donations that you have made, such as for Easter, Christmas, or for the Music and/or Flower Funds. ***You are encouraged to save this statement in your files and to share it with your income tax return preparer.***

If you have any questions or concerns about your Statement, please direct them to our Treasurer, Greg Diekemper, at [gdiekemper@gmail.com](mailto:gdiekemper@gmail.com).

Thanks to everyone for your continued financial support of St. Mark's!

**We Pray** for Sean our Presiding Bishop, for Deon our Bishop, for Michael, Teresa, and Jerre our clergy, for Delaney our Rector-elect, and for all the holy People of God;

**In the Diocesan Cycle**, we pray for the people and ministry of the Episcopal Church of the Holy Communion in University City; we pray for our companion parish of St. John and St. James in Sullivan;

**In the Anglican Communion**, we pray for the Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia;

**In our companion Diocese of Puerto Rico**, we pray for the Colegio Episcopal San Andres;

**We pray** for our Jubilee Ministry partner Isaiah 58 Ministries and our outreach partner Doorways Interfaith Housing;

**We pray for those who are ill, in trouble or distress of any kind**, especially the Anderson family, Lynn Kiamie Bianchini, Jim Blum, Cherie Blumenkamp, Tom Bradley, Bruce Bramoweth & family, Yulia Borjte, Joan Cap, John Carrol, Steve Chamberlin, Janet Chance, Alicia Crowe, John and Carol Dequire and Sophia, Kayla Deguire, Donna Duffy, Candace Farmer, Mary Carol Fischer, Don Frank, Carol Garbs, Jeanne Gardener, Sue and Ty Garrett, Robin Harris, Allan Harvard, Rob Heritage, Sherry Hicks and family, Carol Hohenberger and her mission team, Cindy Hooks, Margaret and Sandy Hvatum and their family, Tor Hvatum, Doug Jeffery, Jodi Keuney, Jane Koziolec, Richard Liermann, Kathy Lynch, Guy Medley, John Meyer, Donna Musgrave, Francis Neuner, Betty Orlando, Scott Schmidt, Joan Schneider, Becky Schroeder, Cheryl Schulz, Blair Schrautemeier, Rick Schubert, Mitchell and Tracy Shelton, Tim Smith, Jeanette Swallow, Bonnie Tesson, Scott Thomas, Kathy Tracy and family, Marilyn Wiethop, Justin and Lindsay Williams, Hulene Woody, Walter Zimmerman, Eric, Elizabeth, Leo, Marian, Jim.

**We give thanks** on her birthday with Sara Mehta.

**We pray** for those who have died especially Anne Hennig.

**We pray for** those serving in the armed forces, especially Jesse Foy, Robert McCarthy, Brandon George, Noah Johnson, Jon Moore, Paul Malabar, Shawn Russell, Logan Smith.

### **SAINT MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**4714 Clifton Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63109**

314/832-3588

[www.saintmarks-stl.org](http://www.saintmarks-stl.org)

[parishoffice@saintmarks-stl.org](mailto:parishoffice@saintmarks-stl.org)

The Rt. Rev. Deon K. Johnson	Bishop of MO	Barbara Raedeke	Organist and Choir Director
The Rev. Jerre Birdsong	Deacon	Celeste Kocot	Youth Christian Formation
The Rev. Dr. Teresa K.M. Danieley	Priest Associate	Melissa Engle	Parish Administrator