

# FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Cycle C

## ENTRANCE HYMN

1. Sing, all creation, sing to God in gladness!  
Joyously serve him, singing hymns of homage!  
Chanting his praises, come before his presence!  
Praise the Almighty!
2. Enter his temple, ringing out his praises!  
Sing in thanksgiving as you come before him!  
Blessing his bounty, glorify his greatness!  
Praise the Almighty!

## GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,  
we adore you, we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world:  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:  
have mercy on us.

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.  
Amen.

## FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Malachi 3:1-4

*The Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his Temple.*

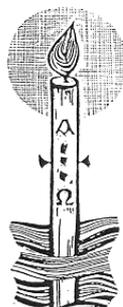
The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his Temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fullers' alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

The word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM** Ps 23:7-10. R] v. 8

**R. Who is the king of glory?  
It is the Lord.**

1. O gates, lift up your heads;  
grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)
2. Who is the king of glory?  
The Lord, the mighty, the valiant,  
the Lord, the valiant in war. (R.)
3. O gates, lift high your heads;  
grow higher, ancient doors.  
Let him enter, the king of glory! (R.)



4. Who is he, the king of glory?  
He, the Lord of armies,  
he is the king of glory. (R.)

## SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews 2:14-18

*It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers.*

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

The word of the Lord.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 2:32

Alleluia, alleluia!  
The light to enlighten the Gentiles  
and give glory to Israel, your people.  
Alleluia!

## GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 2:22-40

*My eyes have seen your salvation.*

*\* Shorter Form, Luke 2:22-32.*

\* When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord - observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first-born male must be consecrated to the Lord - and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the law required, he took him into his arms and blessed God; and he said:

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace,  
just as you promised;  
because my eyes have seen the salvation  
which you have prepared for all the nations to see,  
a light to enlighten the pagans  
and the glory of your people Israel.\*'

As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected - and a sword will pierce your own soul too - so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare.'

There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and

day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem.

When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

\*The Gospel of the Lord.\*

## APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
(All bow)

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried;  
he descended into hell;  
on the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;  
from there he will come 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 life everlasting. Amen.



## OFFERTORY HYMN

*Come to the Lord, Come join us in this offering  
Come to the Lord, Come with us as we go  
Come to the Lord, this bread and wine we'll offer Him  
Bread for His body, wine to be His blood*

1. He is our maker, He is our God  
He is our Father, He is our Saviour and our Lord.  
(Come to the Lord, come join us in this offering,  
Come to the Lord, come with us as we go)
2. New life He'll give us, our strength renew  
And by His presence, His Spirit in our lives will grow.  
(Come to the Lord, come join us in this offering,  
Come to the Lord, come with us as we go)

## COMMUNION HYMNS

[\* sung to the tune of: My soul proclaims the Lord my God]

1. Lord, bid your servant go in peace  
your word is now fulfilled  
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn  
this child so long foretold.
2. This is the Saviour of the world  
the Gentile's promised light  
God's glory dwelling in our midst  
the joy of Israel.
3. This child shall see the rise, the fall  
of those in Israel  
God's sign raised high for all to see  
whom some shall yet deny.
4. His mother's soul a sword shall pierce  
of sorrow keen and deep  
and secret thoughts of many hearts  
through him shall be revealed.
5. Blest be the Father, who has giv'n  
his Son to be our Lord,  
blest too that Son, and with them both  
the Spirit of their love.

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1. Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!  
His the scepter, his the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph,  
his the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion  
thunder like a mighty flood.  
Jesus, out of every nation,  
has redeemed us by his blood.
  2. Alleluia! Not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! He is near us;  
faith believes nor questions how.  
Though the cloud from sight received him  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise,  
"I am with you evermore"?
  3. Alleluia! Heavenly High Priest,  
here on earth our help, our stay;  
Alleluia! Hear the sinful  
cry to you from day to day.  
Intercessor, friend of sinners,  
earth's Redeemer, hear our plea,  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.
  4. Alleluia! King eternal,  
you the Lord of lords we own:  
Alleluia! born of Mary,  
earth your footstool, heaven your throne:  
you within the veil, have entered,  
robed in flesh, our great High Priest:  
by your Spirit, left us heavenward,  
in the Eucharistic feast!

## RECESSIONAL HYMN

1. Mary most holy, from your hands falling  
are heaven's blessings. Hear us, now calling.  
Teach us to pray, and work for God's glory.  
Ave Maria, ave.
2. Help us to witness Christ is still living,  
service to others cheerfully giving.  
Teach us to pray, and work for God's glory.  
Ave Maria, ave.
3. Through joy and sorrow, each day's condition,  
ever, dear Mother, hear our petition.  
Teach us to pray and work for God's glory.  
Ave Maria, ave.