

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD -FEAST

ENTRANCE HYMN

*All the earth proclaim the Lord,
sing your praise to God.*

1. Serve you the Lord, heart filled with gladness.
Come into his presence, singing for joy.
2. Know that the Lord is our creator.
Yes, he is our Father, we are his sons.

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!

GOSPEL

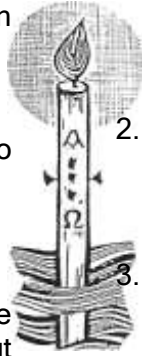
A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke
2:22-40

My eyes have seen your salvation.

* 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

1. Take these gifts we offer, Lord,
take these gifts we offer you.
Take these gifts and help us, Lord,
to see you more clearly.
2. Take this bread we offer, Lord,
take this bread we offer you.
Take this bread and help us, Lord,
to love you more dearly.
3. Take this wine we offer, Lord,
take this wine we offer you.
Take this wine and help us, Lord,
to follow you more nearly.

COMMUNION HYMNS

*Jesus meek and humble of heart,
Make my heart like yours.*

Come to me you who are heavily broken
And I will give you rest.
Take my yoke and learn from me
I am meek and humble of heart.

Come to me you who are thirsting for water
And I will give you drink
Come and stay beneath my cross.
From my heart flows living streams

Follow me why do you walk in the darkness?
When I'm the light of life?
Come to where my Father dwells
I'm the way the truth and the life.

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1. O let the Son of God enfold you
with His Spirit and His love
let Him fill your heart and satisfy your soul
O let Him have the things that hold you,
and His Spirit like a dove
will descend upon your life and make you whole.

*Jesus, we thank you for your word of truth
Jesus, we thank you for the bread of life*

2. O come and sing this song with gladness,
As your hearts are filled with joy
Lift your hands in brave surrender to His name
O give Him all your tears and sadness,
Give Him all your years of pain
And you'll enter into life in Jesus' name.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

*Great indeed are your works, O Lord
now and evermore!
Great indeed are your works, O Lord
now and evermore!*

1. The universe, night and day
tells of all your wonders
You are our light and our life
We shall praise you always
2. You are the path which we tread,
you will lead us onward
From every corner of earth
All the nations gather