

Welcome to  
your Parish Church  
in the Diocese of Birmingham



ALL SAINTS  
KINGS HEATH



Giotto 14<sup>th</sup> Century

# Presentation of Christ

Holy Communion Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2023

**We gather**

*If you are worshipping at home, have ready in an honoured place a portion of food and something to drink. It may be bread and wine or something else. Set your Bible alongside. You might light a candle.*

*Music as we gather in Church:*

1. When candles are lighted on Candlemas Day  
the dark is behind us, and spring's on the way.

*A glory dawns in ev'ry dark place,  
the light of Christ, the fullness of grace.*

2. The kings have departed, the shepherds have gone,  
the child and his parents are left on their own.

3. But Anna and Simeon recognise there  
the Christ-child who came at the turn of the year.

4. Like Anna and Simeon, may we have trust,  
the eyes to see Jesus, and peace at the last.

5. The candles invite us to praise and to pray  
when Christmas greets Easter on Candlemas Day.

*(words: Elizabeth J Cosnett alt; music: Trad French melody)*

*When the song ends we stand to sing:* [Lead us, heavenly Father, lead us](#)

1. Lead us, heav'nly Father, lead us  
o'er the world's tempestuous sea;  
guard us, guide us, keep us, feed us,  
for we have no help but thee;  
yet possessing ev'ry blessing  
if our God our Father be.

2. Saviour, breathe forgiveness o'er us,  
all our weakness thou dost know,  
thou didst tread this earth before us,  
thou didst feel its keenest woe;  
lone and dreary, faint and weary,  
through the desert thou didst go.

3. Spirit of our God, descending,  
fill our hearts with heav'nly joy,  
love with ev'ry passion blending,  
pleasure that can never cloy;  
thus provided, pardoned, guided,  
nothing can our peace destroy.

*(words: James Edmeston; music: Friedrich Filitz)*

Priest: In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with *us* all.

**All: And also with you.**

WELCOME, BANNS and NOTICES

*We pray:* **Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known and from whom no secrets are hidden: 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.**

## We seek forgiveness

### CONFESSION

Deacon: Sisters, brothers, siblings, remembering God's call upon Simeon, Anna, Mary and Joseph, I invite you to join in candidly confessing those things that inhibit our service of God and neighbour.

On our clumsiness and pride,  
on our wilful and unwitting exclusion,  
on our sins of omission,  
pour your grace.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

On the Church's dysfunction and prejudice,  
on our fear of rejection and scarcity,  
on our disunity and suppression of vocation,  
pour your grace.  
Christ, have mercy.  
**Christ, have mercy.**

On pleasure in blame and avoidance of responsibility,  
on naivety and frantic self-justification,  
on disabling cynicism and the inertia of regret,  
pour your grace.  
Lord, have mercy.  
**Lord, have mercy.**

*Forgiveness is declared:*

Priest: The God of love and power  
who raised Jesus from the dead,  
forgive *us* and free *us* from *our* sins,  
heal and strengthen *us* by his Spirit,  
and raise *us* to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GLORIA

1. Glory be to God in heaven,  
peace to those who love him well;  
on the earth let all his people  
speak his grace, his wonders tell:  
Lord, we praise you for your glory,  
mighty Father, heavenly King;  
hear our joyful adoration  
and accept the thanks we bring.

2. Only Son of God the Father,  
Lamb who takes our sin away,  
now with him in triumph seated,  
for your mercy, Lord we pray:  
Jesus Christ, most high and holy;  
Saviour, you are God alone  
in the glory of the Father  
with the Spirit: Three in One!

*We pray* THE COLLECT for the Presentation of Christ

Almighty and ever living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

BIBLE READINGS [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. <sup>2</sup> 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; <sup>3</sup> 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.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>4</sup> Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

*and* [Hebrews 2:14-end](#)

<sup>14</sup> 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, <sup>15</sup> and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. <sup>16</sup> For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. <sup>17</sup> Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters<sup>[a]</sup> 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. <sup>18</sup> Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

HYMN      1. Faithful vigil ended, watching, waiting, cease;  
Master, grant thy servant his discharge in peace.

2. All thy Spirit promised, all the Father willed,  
now these eyes behold it, perfectly fulfilled.

3. This thy great deliv'rance sets thy people free;  
Christ, their light, uplifted all the nations see.

4. Christ, thy people's glory! watching, doubting, cease;  
grant to us thy servants our discharge in peace.

*(words & music: Timothy Dudley-Smith, based on Luke 2:29-32; music: Friedrich Silcher)*

*We remain standing for the* GOSPEL READING [Luke 2:22-40](#)

*In church, when it is announced, we say:*

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>22</sup> 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 <sup>23</sup> (as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), <sup>24</sup> 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.'

<sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon;<sup>[a]</sup> this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. <sup>26</sup> It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah.<sup>[b]</sup> <sup>27</sup> Guided by the Spirit, Simeon<sup>[c]</sup> came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, <sup>28</sup> Simeon<sup>[d]</sup> took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

<sup>29</sup> 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant<sup>[e]</sup> in peace,  
according to your word;

<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation,

<sup>31</sup> which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles  
and for glory to your people Israel.'

<sup>33</sup> And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. <sup>34</sup> Then Simeon<sup>[f]</sup> 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 <sup>35</sup> so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

<sup>36</sup> There was also a prophet, Anna<sup>[g]</sup> 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, <sup>37</sup> 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. <sup>38</sup> At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child<sup>[h]</sup> to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup> When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup> The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

*At the end:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON *in Church is from Tariro whose sermon will be available on the website shortly.*

## We affirm our faith

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*We stand and at home, if able, we turn to look in the direction of Church, to affirm our faith:*

Deacon: Remembering the vulnerable holy family in the Temple, buffeted by events, let us declare our Faith in God who came to affirm all our different shaped families:

**All: We believe in God the Father  
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.  
We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.  
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us with power from on high.  
We believe in one God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

(Cf Ephesians 3)

INTERCESSIONS in Church *are led by Margaret Healey Pollett. At home:*

*Picture the scene in the Temple, perhaps with the help of Giotto's painting. See the three generations together: two wise older people, sharing their opinions whether wanted or not; two young adults in the vulnerability and joy of new parenthood; an infant wrapped, carried, dependent, passed around between them.*

*See who comes to mind for you, among those generations, and pray for their well being and for the relationships between them.*

*Among those who are unwell, please pray for Charlotte Morgan, Norman Brookes, Maddie Hemms, Iain Galloway and John Wesson (David's Training Incumbent 1992-6).*

*We give thanks for the arrival and homecoming of Evelyn, Angela's granddaughter, and pray for Hannah recovering. We give thanks for the Revd David Barber's recovery.*

*Among those who have died we remember Mary Priday and Peter Harris.*

## THE PEACE

*We pause to remember each other: those worshipping at home, and those worshipping in Church. In Church, if able, we stand.*

Deacon: Christ came to preach peace to those who are far off and peace to those who are near. The Peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

## HYMN

1. [Lord, the light of your love](#) is shining,  
in the midst of the darkness, shining;  
Jesus, Light of the World, shine upon us,  
set us free by the truth you now bring us.  
Shine on me, shine on me.

*Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;  
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.  
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;  
send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.*

2. Lord, I come to your awesome presence,  
from the shadows into your radiance;  
by the blood I may enter your brightness,  
search me, try me, consume all my darkness.  
Shine on me, shine on me.

3. As we gaze on your kingly brightness,  
so our faces display your likeness,  
ever changing from glory to glory;  
mirrored here may our lives tell your story.  
Shine on me, shine on me.

*(words & music: Graham Kendrick)*

*The Table is prepared in Church. At home, now is the time to say the Lord's Prayer (below) and consume the food and drink you have prepared, first praying:*

God, whose Spirit unites and inspires us, with this symbolic meal bind me into the fellowship of the world wide church, and assure me of my place in your heart. **Amen.**

## We celebrate God's faithfulness

*In Church we stand, if able, for the Eucharistic Prayer<sup>i</sup>*

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 God thanks and praise.**

God, in your love you called all things into being:  
trembling atoms, cosmic storms;  
elliptical orbit, flaming star;  
molten rock and soaring crag,  
flowers turned toward the sun;  
teeming seas and fertile earth,  
microbe, insect, bird, mammal;  
indeed, all creation seems to praise you,  
beckoning us to join them with human voices,  
finally evolved with hearts and minds able to love you back.

In the freedom you so daringly give,  
our pride, like static, obscures your call to love;  
soon we compete, forgetting all is gift.  
We abuse this little planet and each other,

nursing fear of difference and plotting war.  
Yet still your Wisdom seeks us out,  
inviting us, comically unworthy guests, to feast with Her,  
turning difference from threat, back to gift again,  
making our crises and mistakes the fertile ground for grace.

Your Spirit ordains us, however flawed and clumsy,  
each uniquely to fulfil some ministry  
to make your love known in our place and time.  
For in Christ, born of a woman and presented in the Temple,  
once and for all you affirm our fleshliness and invite us to holiness,  
so earth and heaven can be joined at last in unembarrassed praise:

**All: 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.**

Lord, you are holy indeed, the source of all holiness; grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit, and according to your holy will, these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took bread and gave you thanks; he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

*A bell is rung.*

In the same way after supper he took the cup and gave you thanks; he gave it to them, saying: 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.

*A bell is rung.*

Deacon: Great is the mystery of faith.

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

And so, Father, calling to mind his death on the cross, his perfect sacrifice made once for the sins of the whole world, rejoicing in his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming in glory, we celebrate this memorial of our redemption. As we offer you this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, we bring before you this bread and this cup and we thank you for counting us worthy to stand in your presence and serve you. Send the Holy Spirit on your people and gather into one in your kingdom all who share this one bread and one

cup, that we, in the company of all the saints, may praise and glorify you for ever, through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be yours, almighty father, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Deacon: 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 for ever. Amen.**

Priest: We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

**All: Though we are many, we are one body.  
For we all share in one bread.**

Draw near with faith. Receive the body of our Lord Jesus Christ which he gave for you. Eat in remembrance that he died for you and feed on him in your hearts with thanksgiving.

**Jesus, Lamb of God, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.  
Jesus, Redeemer of the world, give us your peace. (x2)**

*We pause to remember all who pray at home, then share the bread and wine, now for us the body and blood of Christ. All are welcome to receive. If you prefer not to share the common cup, receiving just the bread is as much communion as receiving both. If you prefer not to receive but would value a prayer of blessing do come forward and simply keep your hands by your sides. We will pray for you.*

*For the sake of those with gluten intolerance, please do not dip your wafer in the wine.*

#### SONG during Communion

1. Heavenly light shining through darkness;  
halo of beauty which radiates love.  
Gift to the world if we will receive him;  
offering wholeness, offering peace.

*Light in the darkness glowing so brightly;  
warmth bringing comfort, pushing out night.  
Light in the shadows brilliantly shining;  
hope bringing radiance; it's the light of his life today.*

2. Light of the world, bringer of healing;  
offering wholeness, offering peace.  
Gift to the world, if we will receive him;  
offering wholeness, offering peace.

*(words & music: Sarah Baker)*

## We are sent out

**Almighty God, we thank you for feeding us with your Word [*and with the body and blood of Christ*]. Strengthen us in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.**

### THE BLESSING

Priest: Trust in the Lord with all your heart and be not wise in your own sight. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will make straight your paths, and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

*(from Proverbs 3)*

### HYMN [Love divine, all loves excelling](#)

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heav'n, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesu, thou art all compassion,  
pure unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

2. Come, almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy grace receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above;  
pray, and praise thee without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

3. Finish then thy new creation,  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee.  
Changed from glory into glory,  
till in heav'n we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

*(words: Charles Wesley alt; music: William Penfro Rowlands)*

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**In the name of Christ, Amen.**



This order of service is  
printed on sustainably sourced paper and will be recycled.



Hymns and Songs printed under CCL Licence No. 116429

***Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England***  
is copyright © the Archbishop's Council (2000)

**All Saints Safeguarding** and child protection coordinator is Mary Miles (0121 449 0851) - if you have any concerns or worries about children, young people or vulnerable adults and don't know what to do don't hesitate to contact me

---

<sup>1</sup> Today's Confession and Preface were written for the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of David's ordination. Self indulgent, but his birthday falling on a Sunday, they came to mind again.