

Sunday 29th January 2017



**The Presentation of Christ in the Temple,
(Candlemas)**

(White or Gold)

*A very warm welcome to everyone worshipping with us today.
All Christians who are full members of any denomination are
invited to receive Communion; or if not a communicant,
to come to the altar rail for a blessing.*

*If you are visiting, please take our greetings back to your church, or
if you have recently moved into the area, please make yourself known
to our priest, the Revd. Canon Rachel Watts, or a churchwarden.*

Collect: 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 for ever. **Amen**

First Reading: Malachi 3. 1-5

¹ 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. ² 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; ³ 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. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

⁵ 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.

Second Reading: Hebrews 2. 14-18

¹⁴ 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, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ 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. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Gospel: Luke 2. 22-40

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

²⁵ 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. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷ 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, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹ 'Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.'

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

³⁶ 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 for seven years after her marriage, ³⁷ 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. ³⁸ 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.

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

Please remember in your prayers:

We remember in our prayers the victims of war and terrorist attacks across the world, especially those caught up in the fighting in Syria and Iraq. Nearer to home we pray for those known to us in need help and assistance.

Post Communion:

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna,
who lived to welcome the Messiah:
may we, who have received these gifts beyond words,
prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes
to bring us to eternal life;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.. **Amen**

Hymns

49	Brightest and best are the sons of the morning
391	King of glory, King of peace
52	O worship the king in the beauty of holiness

Please join us for tea / coffee after the service



Forthcoming Services & Events

Date	Location	Time	Service / Event
29 th January Candlemas	St. Peter's church	9:00 AM	Holy Communion (cw)
Wednesday 1 st February	St. Peter's church	8:15 AM	Morning Prayer (<i>said</i>)
5 th February Fourth Sunday before Lent	St. Peter's church	9:00 AM	Holy Communion (bcp)
Wednesday 1 st February	St. Peter's church	8:15 AM	Morning Prayer (<i>said</i>)
12 th February Third Sunday before Lent	St. Peter's church	9:00 AM	Holy Communion (cw)

bcp = Book of Common Prayer

cw = Common Worship

If you would like to include a community event here, please contact the editor (Tel: 01572-822271, email: editor@belton-wardley.org.uk)

*You could advertise
your community event
on this page*



Would you like to learn to ring?

Ringing training courses are now held in Uppingham church on Saturday mornings.

If you are interested in learning to ring, please get in touch with John Webster (821922)

These Parish Notes are available in the church throughout the following week, and are also published weekly by email. If you would like to be added to the distribution list, please email:

["editor@belton-wardley.org.uk"](mailto:editor@belton-wardley.org.uk)

Further information on our website: www.belton-wardley.org.uk

