

# The Presentation of our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple

Feb 2, 2025



St. Helen's  
Anglican Church of Canada  
Diocese of New Westminster

## GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

*All stand*

OPENING HYMN Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness CP 385

## GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
be with you all.

**And also with you.**

As we gather, we acknowledge with respect and gratitude  
our presence on the traditional, ancestral and unceded lands  
of the Musqueam People.

## CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins to God.

*Silence for confessions is kept.*

God of all mercy,  
**we confess that we have sinned against you,  
opposing your will in our lives.  
We have denied your goodness in each other,  
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.  
We repent of the evil that ensnares us,  
the evil we have done,  
and the evil done on our behalf.**

**Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ,  
that we may abide in your love  
and serve only your will. Amen.**

THE ABSOLUTION

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

GLORIA

CP 376

**Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria. Gloria, alleluia, alleluia! (x3)**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

Blessed are you, O Lord our God,  
for you have sent us your salvation.  
Inspire us by your Holy Spirit  
to recognize him who is the glory of Israel  
and the light for all nations,  
your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING MALACHI 3:1-4

Rhodri Windsor–Liscombe

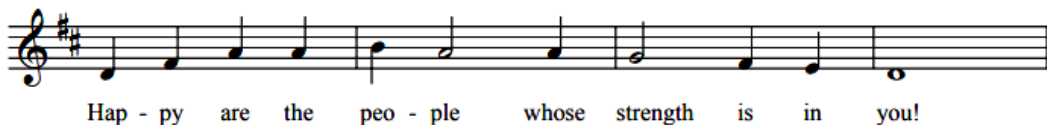
A reading from the book of Malachi

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 84



How dear to me is your dwelling, O God of hosts!  
My soul has a desire and longing for your courts;  
my heart and my flesh rejoice in you, O living God. **R.**

The sparrow has found her a house  
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young;

by the side of your altars, O God of hosts,  
my God who reigns over me. **R.**

Happy are they who dwell in your house!  
they will always be praising you.  
Happy are the people whose strength is in you!  
whose hearts are set on the pilgrim's way. **R.**

Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of  
springs,  
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.  
They will climb from strength to strength;  
the God of gods will be seen in Zion.  
O God of hosts, hear my prayer;  
hearken, O God of Jacob. **R.**

Behold our defender, O God;  
and look upon the face of your anointed.  
For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own  
room,  
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked. **R.**

You, God, are both sun and shield,  
you will give grace and glory.  
No good thing will you withhold  
from those who walk with integrity.  
O God of hosts,  
happy are they who put their trust in you! **R.**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

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, 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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**Thanks be to God.**

*All stand for the Gospel*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.**

**Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!**

**Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 2:22-40

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

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 (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 worshipped 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 favour of God was upon him.

The Gospel of Christ.

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

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.**

**Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!**

**Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!**

*Please be seated.*

#### SERMON

The Rev. Mark Munn

#### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(All stand)*

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

**We believe in God, the Source of Life,  
by whom every being in heaven and earth  
is created, named, and sustained.**

**We believe in God, the Living Word,  
who restores us to relationship  
and speaks to us through faith.**

**We believe in God, the Holy Spirit,  
who comforts, guides, and strengthens us  
to share the good news of grace.**



**We believe in God,  
one, holy, undivided Trinity:  
Source of Life, Living Word, Comforter:  
Mystery. Amen.**

*Please stand, sit or kneel as is your custom for prayer.*

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Hepsi Chand

*After the prayers, those who wish may gather in a circle around the altar.*

THE PEACE

You shall go out in joy and be led back in peace;  
the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song,  
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

**And also with you.**

*The people greet one another with signs of God's peace (a handshake, an embrace, or a nod and wave are all appropriate signs). Please remain standing.*

THE OFFERTORY

*As the altar is prepared for Holy Communion, the congregation is invited to make an offering as an expression of gratitude for God's generosity.*

OFFERTORY HYMN At the Name of Jesus

CP 375

*Please remain standing until communion.*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

### PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Almighty God,  
accept the joyful offering of your Church,  
and grant that your Son may shine in us  
as the light that lightens every nation.  
We ask this in the name of the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.**

We give you thanks and praise, almighty God,  
for the gift of a world full of wonder,  
and for our life which comes from you.  
By your power you sustain the universe.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

You created us to love you with all our heart,  
and to love each other as ourselves,  
but we rebel against you by the evil that we do.

In Jesus, your Son, you bring healing to our world  
and gather us into one great family.

Therefore, with all who serve you on earth and in heaven,  
we praise your wonderful name, as we sing :

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

CP 735

We give you thanks and praise, loving Father,  
because in sending Jesus, your Son, to us  
you showed us how much you love us.  
He cares for the poor and the hungry.  
He suffers with the sick and the rejected.

Betrayed and forsaken, he did not strike back  
but overcame hatred with love.

On the cross he defeated the power of sin and death.

By raising him from the dead

you show us the power of your love to bring new life to all your  
people.

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

On the night before he gave up his life for us,

Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread,

gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, saying,

“Take this, all of you, and eat it:

this is my body which is given for you.”

After supper, Jesus took the cup of wine,

said the blessing, gave it to his friends, and said,

“Drink this, all of you: this is the cup of my blood,

the blood of the new and eternal covenant,

which is shed for you and for many, so that sins may be forgiven.  
Do this in memory of me.”

**Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Gracious God, with this bread and wine  
we celebrate the death and resurrection of Jesus,  
and we offer ourselves to you in him.

Send your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts,  
that we may know the presence of Jesus in the breaking of bread,  
and share in the life of the family of your children.

Father, you call us to be your servants;  
fill us with the courage and love of Jesus,  
that all the world may gather in joy at the table of your kingdom.

We sing your praise, almighty Father,  
through Jesus, our Lord, in the power of the Holy Spirit,  
now and for ever.

**Glory to you for ever and ever. Amen.**

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught us, let us 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.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

#### THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

We break this bread  
to share in the Body of Christ.  
**We who are many are one body,  
for we all share in the one bread.**

#### INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

These are the gifts of God for all God's people.  
**Thanks be to God**

Lamb of God

CP 747

COMMUNION HYMN How Lovely Is thy Dwelling Place

CP 498

Dona Nobis Pacem

CP 562

*All stand.*

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

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 new people, forgiven, healed, renewed;**  
**that we may proclaim your love to the world**  
**and continue in the risen life of Christ our Saviour. Amen.**

#### DOXOLOGY

Glory to God,  
**whose power, working in us,**  
**can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine.**  
**Glory to God from generation to generation,**  
**in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever.**  
**Amen.**

#### BLESSING

Live without fear: your Creator has made you holy, has always protected you and loves you as a mother. Go in peace to follow the good road and may the blessing of God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with you always. **Amen.**

#### DISMISSAL

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

RECESSIONAL HYMN Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

CP 486

*Please be seated for the postlude. The community disperses in silence.  
In respect of those who may linger in contemplation, conversation is  
reserved for the narthex.*

### **Candlemas Evensong: THIS EVENING!**

Feb 2, 6-8pm

Join us for a contemplative service of candlelight and sun prayer, as we notice the light that is coming into our world. As our days get longer and daylight grows stronger, we commemorate the day that Mary brought the infant Christ into the temple and head of the promised light he would bring to all peoples. You are invited to bring a candle to light during this service.

In France, it is customary to eat crepes on Candlemas, we will be hosting a crepe dinner following the service. All are welcome!

### **Vestry Meeting: Feb 23**

Please mark your calendars for St. Helen's Annual Vestry Meeting, which is scheduled for February 25th 2024, (the last Sunday of February). This meeting is a vital opportunity for our church community to come together, review the accomplishments of the past year, and discuss budgets and plans for the upcoming year.

Date: Sunday February 23rd, 2024

Time: Approximately 11:45am to 2:30pm.

Location: Parish Hall

Your participation and input are important and invited. The Annual Vestry Meeting provides a platform for open dialogue within our community, where your thoughts and ideas contribute to the collective vision of our church.

Motions: If there is anyone who would like to make a motion at the Annual Vestry Meeting, it must be submitted in writing to the Parish Office before February 12th, 2025.

Ministry Reports: If you lead a ministry here at St. Helen's, we kindly ask that you submit your 2024 ministry report to Cynthia at the office before Wednesday February 12th.

Nominations: There are several ways you can participate in the leadership and ministry of St. Helen's. If you would like to participate in one of these positions, or nominate someone, please email the office. In addition, one of the wardens will be collecting nominations for ministry positions in the coming weeks. Stay tuned for their announcements on roles needing filling.

## How to Contribute to St. Helen's Financially

If you'd like to contribute financially to our shared congregational life and mission here at St. Helen's, you can:



- Use one of the envelopes available at the back of the church by the offering plate for cheques or cash
- Scan the QR code at left to contribute via credit card or Apple Pay
- Visit our website ([pointgreyanglican.com/pages/give](http://pointgreyanglican.com/pages/give)) to contribute via credit card or PayPal
- Set up a Pre-Authorized Donation (PAD). To do this, please reach out to our Envelope Secretary, Monica O'Brien via our office ([sthelenswpg@gmail.com](mailto:sthelenswpg@gmail.com)).