

St. Paul's Church, 166 High Street, Newburyport, MA

Sunday, January 31, 2021 9:00 am

Candlemas: The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple

Liturgical Year B, Holy Eucharist Rite II

Prelude: Two organ settings of "Christ, whose glory fills the skies"

Jan Bender (1909-1994) and James D. Kimball

Hymn: "O Zion, open wide thy gates"

#257 *The Hymnal 1982*

1 O Zi - on, o - pen wide thy gates, let
2 A - ware of hid - den de - i - ty, the
3 The a - ged Si - meon sees at last his
4 But si - lent knelt the mo - ther blest of
5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther be, all

1 sym - bols dis - ap - pear; a priest and vic - tim,
2 low - ly Vir - gin brings her new - born babe, with
3 Lord, so long de - sired, and An - na wel - comes
4 the yet si - lent Word, and pon - dering all things
5 glo - ry to the Son, all glo - ry, Ho - ly

1 both in one, the Truth him - self, is here.
2 two young doves, her hum - ble of - fer - ings.
3 Is - rael's hope, with ho - ly rap - ture fired.
4 in her heart, with speech - less praise a - dored.
5 Ghost, to thee, while end - less a - ges run.

Opening Acclamation

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: ***And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

Celebrant: Dear friends, forty days ago we celebrated the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Now we recall the day on which he was presented in the Temple, when he was offered to the Father and shown to his people. As a sign of his coming among us, his mother was purified, as we now come to him for cleansing. In their old age Simeon and Anna recognized him as their Lord, as we today sing of his glory. In this eucharist, we celebrate both the joy of his coming and his searching judgement, looking back to the day of his birth and forward to the coming days of his passion.

Blessing of the Candles

Celebrant: Blessed are you, Lord our God, King of the universe. You make our darkness to be light. For with you is the well of life and in your light shall we see light.

People: **Blessed be God for ever.**

The people hold up candles and the celebrant blesses them, saying:

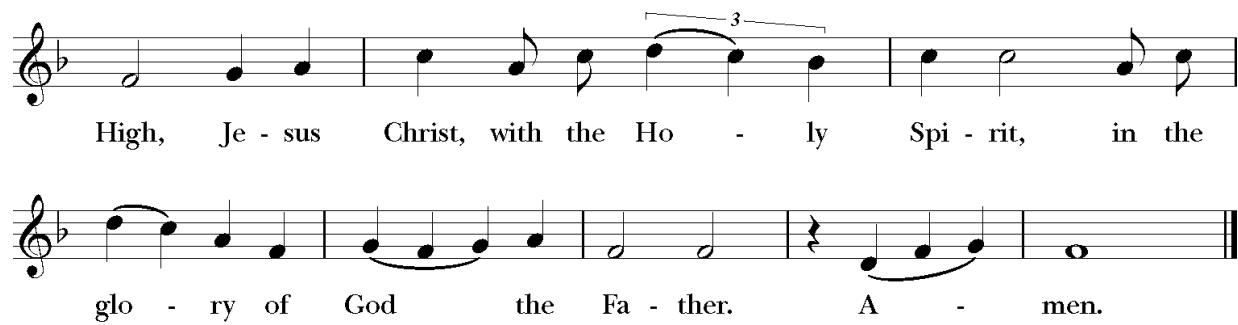
Lord God, the springing source of everlasting light, bless these candles and pour into the hearts of your faithful people the brilliance of your eternal splendour, that we, who by these kindling flames light up this temple to your glory, may have the darkness of our souls dispelled, and so be counted worthy to stand before you in that eternal city where you live and reign, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

People: **Amen.**

Gloria

S - 280 *The Hymnal 1982*

1. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and
peace to his peo - ple on earth. 2. Lord God, heaven - ly
King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we
give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry. 3. Lord Je - sus
Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God, 4. you
take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy
on us; 5. you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re -
ceive our prayer. 6. For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One,
you a - lone are the Lord, 7. you a - lone are the Most



Collect of the Day

p.239 BCP

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Celebrant: Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Malachi 3:1 – 4

Reader: A Reading from the book of the prophet 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: "How lovely is thy dwelling-place"

#517 *The Hymnal 1982*

Paraphrase of Psalm 84, the psalm appointed for this day

1 How love - ly is thy dwell - ing - place, O Lord of hosts, to
2 Be - side thine al - tars, gra - cious Lord, the swal - lows find a
3 They who go through the des - ert vale will find it filled with
4 One day with - in thy courts ex - cels a thou - sand spent a -

me! My thirst - y soul de - sires and longs with -
nest; how hap - py they who dwell with thee and
springs, and they shall climb from height to height till
way; how hap - py they who keep thy laws nor

in thy courts to be; my ve - ry heart and
praise thee with - out rest, and hap - py they whose
Zi - on's tem - ple rings with praise to thee, in
from thy pre - cepts stray, for thou shalt sure - ly

flesh cry out, O liv - ing God, for thee.
hearts are set up - on the pil - grim's quest.
glo - ry throned, Lord God, great King of kings.
bless all those who live the words they pray.

Second Reading: Hebrews 2:14 – 18

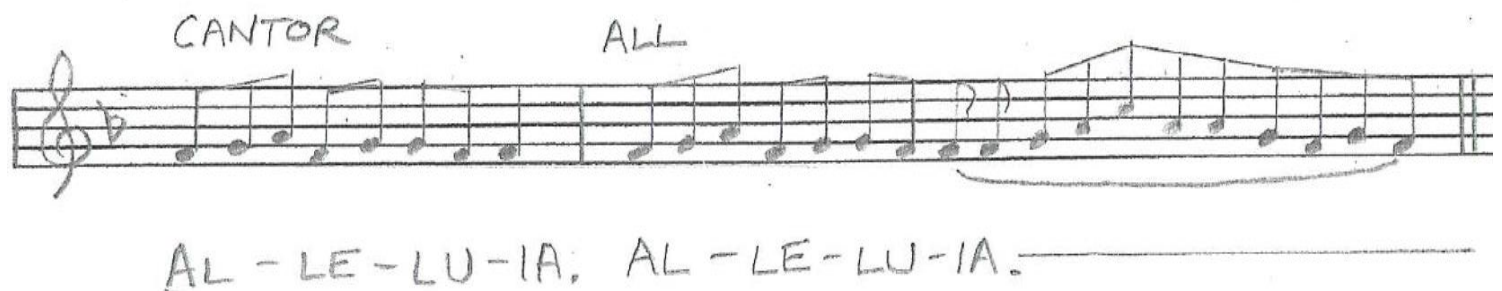
Reader: A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation: “Alleluia”



Holy Gospel: Luke 2:22 – 40

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

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

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Jesus’ parents 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 worshiped 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 favor of God was upon him.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Fr. Jarred

Nicene Creed

All stand and together say

We believe in one God,

*the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.*

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

*the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.*

For us and for our salvation

*he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.*

*For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.*

*On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;*

*he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.*

*He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.*

*We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*

*who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.*

Prayers of the People:

Celebrant: Let us pray to the Father through Christ who is our light and life.

Father, your Christ is acclaimed as the glory of Israel: look in mercy on your Church, sharing his light; on this family of St. Paul's, that we might live as the community of Christ's love and grace in the world around us, lighting the darkness and bringing hope and peace; and on the Church throughout the world, that as the communion of the saints we would, as Simeon and Anna, receive Christ among us and proclaim him in the world.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Father, your Christ in his temple brings judgement on the world: look in mercy on the nations, who long for his justice and peace.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Father, your Christ, who was rich, for our sakes became poor: look in mercy on the needy, suffering with him. Among those who have asked for our prayers, we pray for:

Marie Buckman – Mother of Linda Davis Siess
Walter Blumenscheid – Father of Richard Blumenscheid
Lois Schofield – Parishioner
Mary Snowdon – Parishioner
Ken Leistler – Friend of Susan Flint
David Sanborn – Brother of Wayne Sanborn
Laura Hobbs – Friend of Susan Flint
Jeanne Rainoldi – Friend of Ann Staffeld
Vikas Chandhoke – Friend of Alison & Peter Novello
Richelle Stephens – Friend of Susan Flint

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Father, your Christ is the one in whom faithful servants find their peace: look in mercy on the departed, that they may see your salvation. Among those who have died recently, David Williamson, Noel, and all those who have lost their lives due to the coronavirus; and we pray for all whose anniversary of death falls at this time, especially Pauline Koch.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Father, your Christ is revealed as the one destined to be rejected: look in mercy on us who now turn towards his passion.

Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Rejoicing in our fellowship with Blessed Mary, Joseph, Simeon, Anna, Paul and all your saints, we offer our whole lives to you and in a moment of silence our own prayers.

Celebrant: Lord God, you kept faith with Simeon and Anna, and showed them the infant King. Give us grace to put all our trust in your promises, and the patience to wait for their fulfilment; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Confession & Absolution

Celebrant: Hear the words of our Saviour Jesus Christ: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me shall never walk in darkness but shall have the light of life." Let us therefore bring our sins into his light and confess them in penitence and faith.

Silence.

Celebrant & People

Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you

in thought, word, and deed,

by what we have done,

and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,

have mercy on us and forgive us;

that we may delight in your will,

and walk in your ways,

to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Celebrant stands and says

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

The Peace

All stand.

Celebrant: The peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

*All share signs of Christ's peace with one another,
especially seeking to amend any hurts or conflicts.*

MINISTRY OF THE TABLE

The offering is taken and the altar is set for the Eucharist.

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his name, bring offerings and come into his courts.

Offertory Hymn: "Sing of Mary, pure and lowly"

#277 *The Hymnal 1982*



1 Sing of Ma - ry, pure and
2 Sing of Je - sus, son of
3 Glo - ry be to God the



low - ly, vir - gin - mo - ther un - de - filed; sing of
Ma - ry, in the home at Naz - a - reth, toil and
Fa - ther; glo - ry be to God the Son; glo - ry



God's own Son most ho - ly, who be - came her lit - tle
lab - or can - not wea - ry love en - dur - ing un - to
be to God the Spi - rit; glo - ry to the Three in



child. Fair - est child of fair - est mo - ther, God the
death. Con - stant was the love he gave her, though he
One. From the heart of bless - ed Ma - ry, from all



Lord who came to earth, Word made flesh, our ve - ry
went forth from her side, forth to preach, and heal, and
saints the song a - scends, and the Church the strain re -



bro - ther, takes our na - ture by his birth.
suf - fer, till on Cal - va - ry he died.
ech - oes un - to earth's re - mot - est ends.

Sanctus: "Holy, holy, holy Lord"

S - 130 *The Hymnal 1982*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na

in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Celebrant continues the Eucharistic Prayer

We praise and bless you, loving Father, through Jesus Christ, our Lord; and as we obey his command, send your Holy Spirit, that broken bread and wine outpoured may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends and, taking bread, he praised you. He broke the bread, gave it to them and said: Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine. Again he praised you, gave it to them and said: 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.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did, in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice made once for all upon the cross. Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation, we proclaim his death and resurrection until he comes in glory.

Great is the mystery of faith:

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Lord of all life, help us to work together for that day when your kingdom comes and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth. Look with favour on your people, gather us in your loving arms and bring us with Blessed Mary, Paul, Peter, and all the saints to feast at your table in heaven.

The Celebrant continues with the Doxology, to which all respond with the "great Amen."



Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the



u - ni - ty of the Ho - ly Spi - rit, to you be hon - or,



glo - ry, and praise, for ev - er and ev - er. A - MEN.

The Celebrant then continues

Believing the promises of God, as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

Celebrant & People

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.

Celebrant: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ

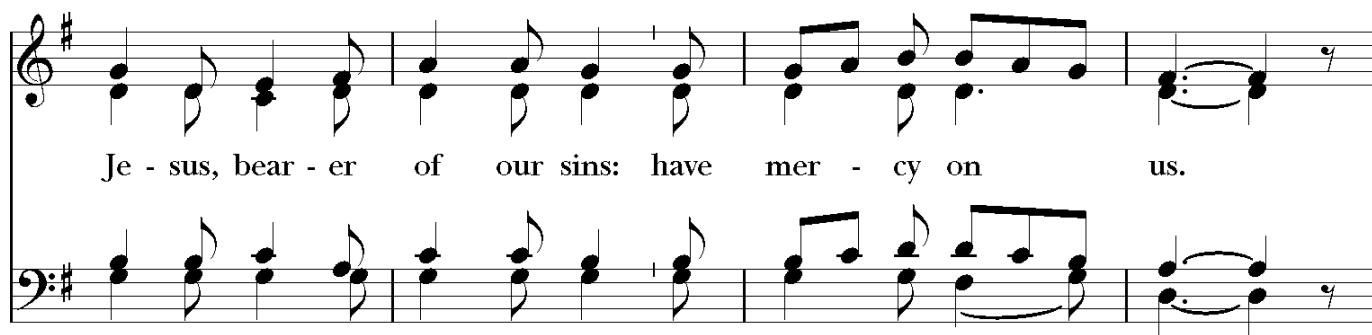
People: ***We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.***

Agnus Dei: "Jesus, Lamb of God"

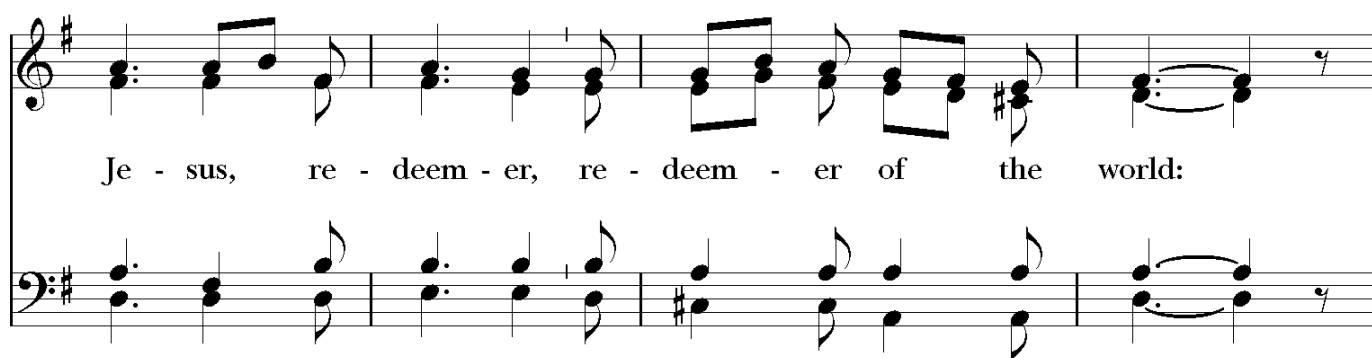
#S-164 *The Hymnal 1982*



Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.



Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:



give us your peace, give us your peace.

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.
Blessed are those who are called to his supper.

People: ***Lord I am not worthy to receive you,
but only say the word, and I shall be healed***

Prayer of Spiritual Communion (*candles are extinguished*)

Celebrant: As we are not all gathered to receive the sacrament together, we pray this prayer of spiritual communion:

All: Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

(St. Alphonsus de Liguori, 1696-1787)

Post Communion Hymn: “O Lord, now let your servant”

Text: Ernest E. Ryden (1886-1981); setting: Mark G. Meyer (b. 1949)

Post Communion Prayer

Let us pray.

Celebrant & People

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
*you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Nunc Dimittis (*the prayer of Simeon*) (*candles are relit*)

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.

**A light to lighten the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.**

My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people.

**A light to lighten the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.**

A light to reveal you to the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.

**A light to lighten the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and will be for ever.

Amen.

Blessing and Dismissal

Father, here we bring to an end our celebration
of the Saviour's birth.

**Help us, in whom he has been born,
to live his life that has no end.**

Here we have offered the Church's sacrifice of praise.

**Help us, who have received the bread of life,
to be thankful for your gift.**

Here we have rejoiced with faithful Simeon and Anna.

**Help us, who have found the Lord in his temple,
to trust in your eternal promises.**

Here we have greeted the light of the world.

**Help us, who extinguish these candles,
never to forsake the light of Christ.**

Here we stand near the place of baptism.

**Help us, who are marked with the cross,
to share the Lord's death and resurrection.**

Here we turn from Christ's birth to his passion.

**Help us, for whom Lent is near,
to enter deeply into the Easter mystery.**

Here we bless one another in your name.

**Help us, who now go in peace,
to shine with your light in the world.**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The celebrant pronounces a blessing, after which all respond

Amen.

Celebrant: Go in the light and peace of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn: “Christ, whose glory fills the skies”

#7 *The Hymnal 1982*

1 Christ, whose glo - ry fills the skies, Christ, the true, the on - ly Light,
2 Dark and cheer-less is the morn un - ac - com - pan - ied by thee;
3 Vis - it then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief!

Sun of Right-eous - ness, a - rise! Tri-umph o'er the shades of night:
joy-less is the day's re - turn, till thy mer - cy's beams I see,
Fill me, ra - dian - cy di - vine; scat - ter all my un - be - lief;

Day-spring from on high, be near; Day-star, in my heart ap - pear.
till they in - ward light im - part, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
more and more thy - self dis - play, shin - ing to the per - fect day.

Postlude: “Trumpet Tune” (from an Overture for Harpsichord)

Maurice Greene (1695-1775)

Choir: Richard Blumenscheid, Elaine Bucher, Joyce Cejka, Virginia Meyer, Jane Niebling

Today's Service Leaders

Clergy: The Rev. Dr. Jarred A. Mercer, Rector

Music Director: Mark Meyer

Lay Eucharistic Minister: Bev Brennan

Lector: Bob Keller

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Valid for: 03/18/2020 – 03/17/2021

Cycle of Prayer

Today as we worship we keep in our prayers the *Parishes of the Boston Harbor Deanery*; St. John's Church, Jamaica Plain (Boston); Northeastern University Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry; St. Cyprian's Church, Roxbury (Boston); St. John & St. James Church, Roxbury (Boston); Veterans Ministries, and in the *local cycle of prayer*: Greek Orthodox Church, Newburyport.

Prayer List

Person to Pray for and Relationship

Allison Flynn – Niece of Sue Olson & Nancy Jukins
Eve Steinberg – Friend of Sue Olson & Nancy Jukins
Judy Abby – Parishioner
Frances Calkins – Mother of Anne Tuthill
Debby Demopoulos – Sister of Pat Maslen
Marya Toffey – Niece of Ann Winslow
Keetah Life – Parishioner
Stephen Mathis – Friend of Priscilla Bellairs
Talia Duff—Niece of Lorrie and Jeff Jones
Stephen Jones—Nephew of Lorrie and Jeff Jones
Betty Moberger – Sister-in-law of Ingrid Sanborn
Marilyn Diehl – Friend of Ingrid Sanborn
Jill Davila – Niece of Carole Bishop
Tony Broer - Brother of Carole Bishop
Joanne Norris – Friend of Sheila & Jack Butler
Karen – Friend of the Budzyna family
Theresa Winslow – Mother of Ed Winslow
Olin Braids – Brother of Priscilla Bellairs
Karen & Richard Greene – Family of Wendy Colby
Betty Trowbridge – Friend of Donna Northam
Marie Buckman – Mother of Linda Davis Siess
Walter Blumenscheid – Father of Richard Blumenscheid
Lois Schofield – Parishioner
Mary Snowdon – Parishioner
Ken Leistler – Friend of Susan Flint
David Sanborn – Brother of Wayne Sanborn
Laura Hobbs – Friend of Susan Flint
Jeanne Rainoldi – Friend of Ann Staffeld
Vikas Chandhoke – Friend of Alison & Peter Novello
Richelle Stephens – Friend of Susan Flint
Paul Lucas – Parishioner
John Coliano – Friend of Cathleen Williamson
Ann Davis – Friend of Cathleen Williamson
Donna & Bob Northam – Parishioners
Larry Blondin – Parishioner
Bethany Albritton – Grandniece of Judy Jester
Kristin Corning – Parishioner
Ron Trieff – Husband of Sheila Trieff
Nancy Burkholder – Sister-in-law of Pat Maslen
Jori Guldenstern

Susan Smith – Sister of Anne Tuthill
Donald Peck – Brother of Doug Peck
Rev. Connie Reinhardt – Friend of St. Paul’s Church
Alan White – Friend of Susan Flint
Tim Coco – Friend of Susan Flint
Barbara Barnes – Cousin of Joyce Thayer
Jessica, Owen & Family – Friends of Gail Bishop-Davis
Alexander Schumann – Cousin of John Neale
Corey – Friend of Alison & Peter Novello
Kathy Steele – Friend of Ed Winslow

Statement of Call - St. Paul's Church

St. Paul's is a Christian community where people are met and accepted without judgment for who they are and are adopted into a loving and caring family. Our faith provides a framework within which we explore, honor and celebrate the presence of God in daily experiences, especially in the crises, conflicts and transitions of life, and are thereby equipped to live fully in an increasingly complex and changing world.

We believe we are called to center our life in Jesus Christ through a regular discipline of Eucharistic worship, scripture study and prayer.

We believe our faith leads us to fulfill our mission, which is to share ourselves and our resources with each other, our community and the world.

We believe we are called to discover and affirm our spiritual gifts and be responsible and committed ministers of these gifts in the name of Jesus Christ.

St. Paul's 2020 Vestry

Bronson de Stadler – Senior Warden

Ed Winslow – Junior Warden

Stu Tuthill – Treasurer

Clare Keller – Clerk

Shepherds

Class of 2023

Kerry Lagueux

John Neale

Alison Novello

Class of 2022

Vanessa Ayersman

Jane Niebling

Sam Walker

Class of 2021

Jenn Mansfield

Michelle Rogers

St. Paul's is a parish of the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

Our Bishops are:

The Rt. Rev. Alan M. Gates

The Rt. Rev. Gayle E. Harris

St. Paul's Staff

The Rev. Dr. Jarred A. Mercer, Rector – rector@stpauls-nbpt.org

Mark Meyer, Music Director – markmeyer49@gmail.com

Deb Hay, Office Manager – stpauls@stpauls-nbpt.org

Office: 978-465-5351

Office Hours

Monday – Wednesday 8am – 4pm

Thursday – Friday 8am – 2pm