



EVENSONG

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

February 2, 2025

FIVE O'CLOCK IN THE EVENING

SUNG BY: THE CATHEDRAL SCHOLA

OFFICIANT & DEAN: THE VERY REV. PENNY BRIDGES

LECTOR: KATHRYN BUNCH

The Rev. Canon Brooks Mason, Canon Liturgist

Bruce Neswick, Guest Organist and Conductor

Canon Lucinda Parsons, Head Usher

Bob Longstreth, Tom Simmons, Ushers

We welcome all to this service. If you are here this evening to experience the service as a “sound bath” we invite you to find a space on the floor at the front of the south aisle (to the left), in the area with a rug. Please use the QR code on page 11 to make a contribution.

Assisted hearing devices are available from an usher.

For the link to the webpage with the announcements and bulletins, use this QR code:

Services are regularly streamed and recorded and you can find them:

<http://www.stpaulcathedral.org/watch>

If you're interested in more information about the cathedral's ministries, we would like to hear from you: <http://stpaulcathedral.org/im-new/>



This service is being streamed live and if you don't wish to be seen on camera, please ask an usher for appropriate seating.

As a courtesy to others, please silence electronic devices.

St. Paul's Cathedral acknowledges that we gather on unceded Kume yaay land. We value the knowledge, culture, and worldview of Indigenous people. We commit to the vital work of educating ourselves, increasing community awareness, and promoting reconciliation with our Indigenous neighbors. As we examine actions and practices that perpetuate harm against Indigenous communities, we pledge to work toward a meaningful and respectful relationship as we follow their example in honoring this sacred land. *Approved by the Cathedral Chapter, May 2023*

About the cover print:

The subject of this woodcut by Albrecht Dürer is the bringing of the infant Jesus by Mary and Joseph to the Temple in Jerusalem to be consecrated to the Lord. According to the Bible, the Jewish rite of the 'purification' of the mother, which required the sacrifice of a pair of turtle doves or young pigeons, was celebrated simultaneously with the consecration of the infant.

A devout man, Simeon, who had been told he would not die until he had seen the Messiah, came to the Temple and took the infant Christ in his arms saying 'Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace...'. At the same time he prophesied that through her child Mary would be pierced to the heart. An aged prophetess, Anna, was also present.

Dürer has produced a dramatic and highly memorable representation of these events, crowded with onlookers and set in a monumental architectural setting. Simeon, dressed as a High Priest of the Temple, holds the infant Christ above the altar. A female attendant kneels in the foreground with the cage of birds. Joseph stands behind her and next to him stands Mary, with the prophetess Anna pointing at her.

The Victoria and Albert Museum Collections

adapted from: <https://collections.vam.ac.uk/item/O129357/the-presentation-of-christ-in-woodcut-dürer-albrecht/>

The people gather and prepare for worship during the following voluntary.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Mit Fried und Freud ich fahr dahin, BWV 616
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

INTROIT

Senex puerum
William Byrd (1540-1623)

Senex puerum portabat: puer autem senem regebat: quem virgo peperit, et post partum virgo permansit: ipsum quem genuit, adoravit.

An ancient held up an Infant, but the Infant upheld the ancient. A Child he was that a Virgin bore, and kept her as Virgin evermore. The one whom she brought forth, she did adore.

¶ *Please stand as you are able at the tolling of the bell.*

OPENING SENTENCE (*Officiant*)

PRECES

John Barnard (b. 1948)

Officiant O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

Officiant O God, make speed to save us.

Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.

Officiant Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

Choir as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end.

Amen.

Officiant Praise ye the Lord.

Choir The Lord's name be praised.

¶ *Please remain standing as able for the hymn.*

OFFICE HYMN 259



1 Hail to the Lord who comes, comes to his tem - ple gate;
 2 but, borne up - on the throne of Ma - ry's gen - tle breast,
 3 There Jo - seph at her side in rev - erent won - der stands;
 4 O Light of all the earth, thy chil - dren wait for thee!

not with his an - gel host, not in his king - ly state;
 watched by her du - teous love, in her fond arms at rest,
 and, filled with ho - ly joy, old Si - meon in his hands
 Come to thy tem - ples here, that we, from sin set free,

no shouts pro - claim him nigh, no crowds his com - ing wait;
 thus to his Fa - ther's house he comes, the heaven - ly guest.
 takes up the prom - ised child, the glo - ry of all lands.
 be - fore thy Fa - ther's face may all pre - sent - ed be!

Words: John Ellerton (1826-1893), alt. Music: *Old 120th*, melody from *The Whole Booke of Psalmes*, 1570; harm. Thomas Ravenscroft (1592?-1635?), after Richard Allison (16th cent.); adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

¶ *Please be seated.*

Psalm 87 *Fundamenta ejus.*

chant: Peter Hurford

HER foundations are upon the holy hills: * the Lord loveth the gates of Sion more than all the dwellings of Jacob.

2 Very excellent things are spoken of thee, * thou city of God.

3 I will make mention of Egypt and Babylon, * among them that know me.

4 Behold, Philistia also; and Tyre, with Ethiopia; * lo, in Sion were they born.

5 Yea, of Sion it shall be reported, this one and that one were born in her; * and the Most High shall stablish her.

6 The Lord shall record it, when he writeth up the peoples; * lo, in Sion were they born.
7 The singers also and trumpeters shall make answer: * All my fresh springs are in thee.

Glory be to the Father * and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be; World without end. Amen.

FIRST READING

1 Samuel 2:1-10

The first reading is taken from the Hebrew Scriptures.

¶ *Please stand as you are able.*

MAGNIFICAT

in F

George Dyson (1883-1964)

The Magnificat is Mary's song (Luke 1:46-55) responding to the declaration that the child she is to bear will fulfill the promises of the Hebrew Scriptures.

MY SOUL doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me,
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat,
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel,
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed forever.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, * world without end. Amen.

¶ *Please be seated.*

SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-8

The second reading is taken from the New Testament which tells of the life and teaching of Jesus and the witness of the early Church.

¶ *Please stand as you are able.*

NUNC DIMITTIS

Dyson

The Nunc Dimittis is the song of Simeon (Luke 2:29-32) who, before he dies, sees the Infant Jesus and holds him in his arms.

LORD, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace,
according to thy word.

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation,
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles,
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, * and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, * world without end. Amen.

¶ *Please remain standing.*

THE APOSTLES' CREED *(led by the Officiant and choir)*

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost,

the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints,

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and the life everlasting. Amen.

SALUTATION

Officiant The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Officiant Let us pray.

THE LESSER LITANY (choir)

Barnard

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(led by the Officiant and choir)*

Our Father, who art in heaven,

hallowed be thy Name,

thy kingdom come,

thy will be done,

in earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,

for ever and ever. Amen.

THE SUFFRAGES

Officiant O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

Choir And grant us thy salvation.

Officiant O Lord, save the State.

Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Officiant Endue thy ministers with righteousness.

Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.

Officiant O Lord, save thy people.

Choir And bless thine inheritance.

Officiant Give peace in our time, O Lord.

Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

Officiant O God, make clean our hearts within us.

Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECTS

The Collect for The Presentation

ALMIGHTY AND EVERLIVING GOD, we humbly beseech thee that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

A Collect for Peace

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee, we, being defended from the fear of all enemies, may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

A Collect for Mission

KEEP WATCH, DEAR LORD, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for thy love's sake. **Amen.**

¶ Please be seated for the anthem.

Offerings at Evensong directly support ministries at the Cathedral. See page 11.

AT THE OFFERING, ANTHEM

Nunc dimittis

Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

*Nunc dimittis servum tuum,
Domine, secundum verbum tuum in pace:
Quia viderunt oculi mei salutare tuum
Quod parasti ante faciem omnium populorum:
Lumen ad revelationem gentium,
et gloriam plebis tuae Israel.
Gloria Patri, et Filio, et Spiritui Sancto:
Sicut erat in principio, et nunc, et semper, et in
sæcula sæculorum. Amen.*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in
peace: according to thy word.
For mine eyes have seen: thy salvation,
Which thou hast prepared:
before the face of all people;
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles: and to be
the glory of thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son:
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever
shall be: world without end. Amen.

THE WELCOME

¶ Please stand as you are able.

CLOSING PRAYERS

DISMISSAL

The grace ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all evermore. **Amen.**

¶ Please remain standing.

HYMN 258

1 Vir - gin - born, we bow be - fore thee: bless - ed was the
 2 Bless - ed she by all cre - a - tion, who brought forth the

womb that bore thee; — Ma - ry, Mo - ther meek and mild, —
 world's sal - va - tion, and bless - ed they, for ev - er blest, who

bless - ed was she in her child. Bless - ed was the breast that fed thee;
 love thee most and serve thee best. Vir - gin - born, we bow be - fore thee;

bless - ed was the hand that led thee; bless - ed was the
 bless - ed was the womb that bore thee; Ma - ry, Mo - ther

par - ent's eye that watched thy slum - bering in - fan - cy.
 meek and mild, — bless - ed was she in her Child.

Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826). Music: *Psalm 86*, Claude Goudimel (1514-1572), alt.

Cantor Let us bless the Lord.
Choir Thanks be to God.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Air (1963)
Gerre Hancock (1934-2012)

If you choose not to remain for the Organ Voluntary, please leave quietly out of respect for those who would like to stay and pray for a while. Thank you.

You may give online now by using your phone's camera to scan the quick response code:



or text stpaulcathedral to 73256 using your cell phone. Thank you!

In the unlikely event of an emergency requiring us to evacuate the cathedral please follow the directions of the ushers and vergers and remain as quiet and calm as possible.

Please locate an exit nearest you.

The exit doors are:

- ❖ South porch doors at Nutmeg Street and Fifth Avenue*
- ❖ North porch doors to Fifth Avenue Courtyard*
- ❖ South transept east and west doors to Nutmeg Street*
- ❖ Northeast hallway door to Fifth Avenue breezeway*
- ❖ West chapel (to the left of chapel altar) stairs leading down to landing.*

2025 PLEDGE CAMPAIGN

Patient

ENDURANCE

And the seeds that fell on the good soil represent honest, good-hearted people who hear God's word, cling to it, and patiently produce a huge harvest. -Luke 8:15

Patient Endurance: As we look at the weeks, months, and year ahead, we recognize that so many are hurting in the world, and that our nation is in turmoil and tumult with an election and other events making our lives seem more fractured than ever. Yet God promises peace to God's people. If we cling to the good news of Christ's love, we can sow seeds of peace, and harvest rewards of joy. Through patient endurance, together we will make space for new life and growth among us and our community. We invite you to join with us this year in offering something back to God through this community, your cathedral, supporting our common mission and vision with the gifts God bestows to each of us. You can help us achieve our \$1.1 million goal that will help produce a huge harvest of love, a blessing that endures forever.

Make your pledge online:



Thank you!



ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL
E P I S C O P A L