

# THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

FEBRUARY 2, 2025 5:00 PM | THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER  
Holy Eucharist in the Celtic Tradition

*This liturgy is adapted from "A Celtic Liturgy for Every Season" by Elizabeth Grover.*



## PRELUDE

HOLY MANNA  
THE GENTLE MAIDEN

*The people's response is in bold.*

## OPENING WORDS

The God of love is with us.

**The Spirit of love is in us.**

Risen Lord, light of all peoples, come stand among us.

**Scatter the darkness before us that we may walk as children of light.**

## THE LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

We will light a light in the name of the Maker

**God who said, "Let there be light!"**

We will light a light in the name of Christ

**Jesus whose birth was announced by the shining of a star.**

We will light a light in the name of the Spirit

**The Holy One whose love enlightens our hearts.**

## **A HYMN OF PRAISE**

God brings light to our darkened lives.

**O Christ, be our light;**

**shine in the darkness and guide us on our path.**

**O Christ, be our shield;**

**enfold us in your love and protect us in your care.**

**O Christ, envelop us;**

**be beside us, on left and on right.**

**O Christ, lead and support us;**

**be before us and be behind us.**

**O Christ, be our light;**

**illumine and guide us on our way. Amen.**

## **A PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Lord God, who by the incarnation of Jesus cast away the darkness of the world; be near us as the dark approaches and dispel the gloom of night that we may see your light and that your brightness may shine through us to your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

## **FIRST LESSON**

MALACHI 3:1-4

Thus says the Lord, 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.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## THE RESPONSE

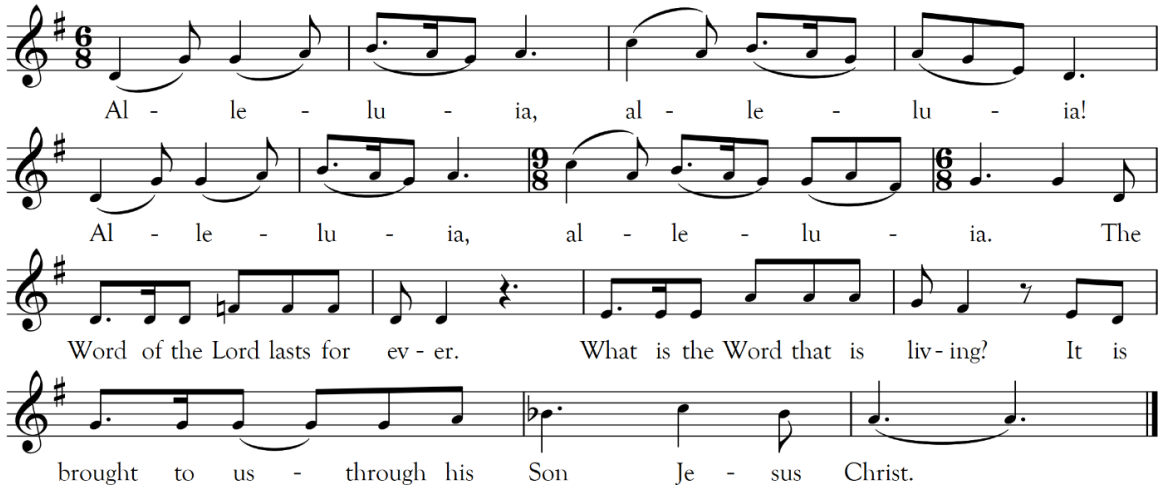
*A Sonnet for Candlemas*

Malcolm Guite

They came, as called, according to the Law.  
Though they were poor and had to keep things simple,  
They moved in grace, in quietness, in awe,  
For God was coming with them to His temple.  
Amidst the outer court's commercial bustle  
They'd waited hours, enduring shouts and shoves,  
Buyers and sellers, sensing one more hustle,  
Had made a killing on the two young doves.  
They come at last with us to Candlemas  
And keep the day the prophecies came true  
We glimpse with them, amidst our busyness,  
The peace that Simeon and Anna knew.  
For Candlemas still keeps His kindled light,  
Against the dark our Saviour's face is bright.

## GOSPEL SONG

*Only sung when a musician is present.*



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. The  
Word of the Lord lasts for ev - er. What is the Word that is liv - ing? It is  
brought to us - through his Son Je - sus Christ.

## THE GOSPEL

LUKE 2:22-40

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

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus 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.

The Gospel of the Lord.  
Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## THE HOMILY

*There will be a pause for silent reflection immediately following the homily.*

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The Celebrant says*

We pray now for the needs of all people throughout the world, remembering that God brings light to any darkness. Let us pray.

*The intercessor continues*

Gracious God, empower the Church throughout the world in its life and witness. Break down the barriers that divide, so that united in your truth and love, the Church may confess your name, share one baptism, sit at one table, and serve you with one accord.

**Light of the world, be known to us.**

Guide the rulers of the nations. Move them to set aside their fear, greed and vain ambition, and to strive for justice and peace, so that all your children may be free.

**Light of the world, be known to us.**

Hear the cries of those experiencing hunger, homelessness, and suffering; those near and those far. Give those of us who consume most of the earth's resources the will to reorder our lives, so that all may have their rightful share of food, care, shelter, and fullness of life.

**Light of the world, be known to us.**

Look with compassion on all who suffer illness and distress, especially those we now name. Support them with your love and lead us to be healers for all we encounter, in the name of Christ.

**Light of the world, be known to us.**

With thanksgiving, we remember those who have died, saints who bore witness to your light, especially those we now name.

Allow us to persevere in faith, mercy, and love, and at the end of our lives to behold your glory.

**Light of the world, be known to us.**

*The celebrant continues*

O God, in your loving purpose, answer our prayers for your creation. By your grace, grant us the will and the wisdom to make this world new, and all for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

## **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

We gather in search of wholeness, but our brokenness separates us from God and from one another. Let us confess our sin against God and our neighbor.

God of glory, you sent Jesus among us  
as the light of the world,  
to reveal your love for all people.

We confess that our sin and pride  
hide the brightness of your light.

We turn away from the poor, we ignore cries for justice,  
and we do not strive for peace.

In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin,  
and baptize us once again with your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed,  
we may show forth your glory  
shining in the face of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent,  
have mercy on you and set you free from sin, strengthen you in goodness,  
and keep you in eternal life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **SHARING THE PEACE**

God makes peace within us.

**Let us claim it.**

God makes peace between us.

**Let us share it.**

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## OFFERTORY

LEAVING STOER

We encourage you to give your offering electronically today through our CoR App. (Search Redeemer Cincy in your app store.) Or you may choose to give online via our secure online system located here:

<https://redeemercincy.tpsdb.com/Give/offering> There are also two collection spots in the narthex (look for the Give Here signs) where you may deposit your offering safely.

## 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 God thanks and praise.

We offer you praise and hearts lifted high, O God, whose light enlightens every human being, and whose love offers to all hope for new life. And with the whole realm of nature around us, with earth, sea, and sky, with the light of sun and stars, with the angels, and with saints of heaven and of earth, we join in the song of your unending greatness:

*Celebrant and People*

*Spoken unless a musician is present.*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,   
 heav'n and earth are filled with your glo - ry, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is the   
 One who comes in the name of the Lord. ho -   
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est

Holy in the heights of heaven, holy in the depths of earth, O God, your glory knows no bounds, and your love is without end. The Word that was in the beginning, and through whom all things were made, you sent to dwell among us, full of grace and truth, that believing in him we may have springs of life. We bless you that in love for the world, your

Son laid down his life and overcame death's powers to be our hope of life everlasting; that in love he poured out his Spirit to lead us into all truth; and that in love he returned to you drawing all the earth to him.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and having blessed it, he broke the bread and gave it to his friends, saying, "Take, eat, this is my body which is broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." In the same way he took wine and, having given thanks for it, poured it out and gave the cup to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you: This is my blood which is poured out for you. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

**Remembering his eternal self-giving, we proclaim the mystery of Christ among us. Made one with him and one with each other, we offer these gifts and with them ourselves, a single, holy living sacrifice.**

Hear us now, O Christ, and breathe your Spirit upon us; sanctify this bread and this wine, that they may be the body and blood of Christ, heaven's food and drink for us, for you are the living bread that comes down from heaven to give life to the world; you are the true vine without whom we can do nothing. We ask these things in the name of Jesus, by whom, with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty God, world without end. **Amen.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now say,

**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 forever. Amen**

## **THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

The Spirit we await is with us in the bread.

The voice of the Holy One speaks to us in the cup.



# THE SHARING OF A HOLY MEAL

## COMMUNION MUSIC

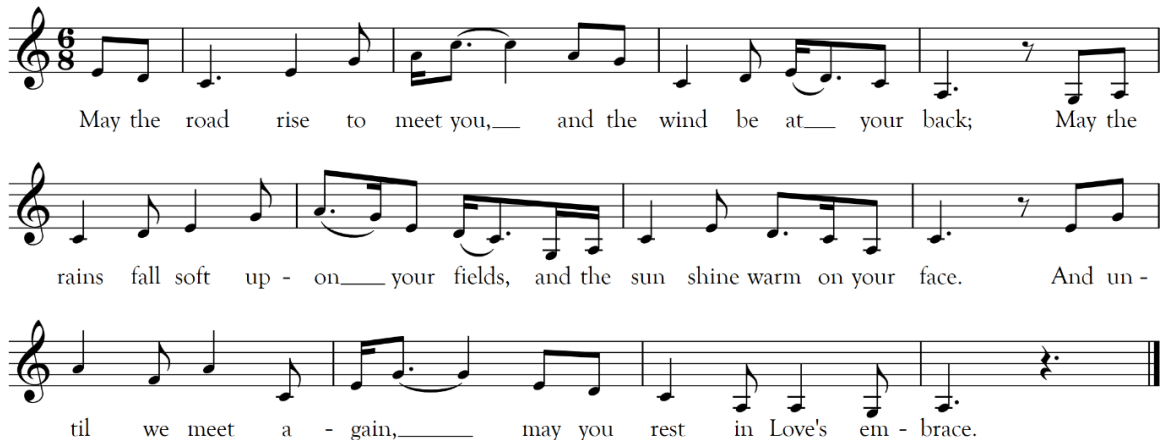
HERR ROLOFF'S FAREWELL

## POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Let us stand and join in thanking God for this holy meal  
O God, in love you have called us to be your people,  
and in love we have shared this bread and wine.  
May the flame of your love be rekindled in our hearts  
by this holy meal and may its light guide us  
on our journey and lead us home to you;  
in the name of God, Creator, Redeemer,  
and Sanctifier. Amen.

Lord of all light, as we go forth into the world, we extinguish this light.  
But we will carry the light in our hearts and we pray that as we go about our work in the  
world, we will shine with the love of God. Amen.

## CELTIC BENEDICTION



May the road rise to meet you, — and the wind be at — your back; May the  
rains fall soft up - on — your fields, and the sun shine warm on your face. And un -  
til we meet a - gain, — may you rest in Love's em - brace.

## THE BLESSING

May the blessing of light be upon us,  
light without and light within.

May the blessed sun shine on us and warm each heart  
until it glows like a great fire.

And may the light of Christ's love so fill us  
that we may be lights to the world.

And the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
be with you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

## CLOSING SONG

'LORD OF TIMES ...'

TUNE: HOLY MANNA

1. Lord of \_\_\_ times and Lord of \_\_\_ sea - sons, \_\_\_  
2. Lord of \_\_\_ foes and Lord of \_\_\_ friend - ships, \_\_\_  
Lord of \_\_\_ calm - ness, Lord of stress, heart that \_\_\_ sees our  
Lord of \_\_\_ laugh - ter, Lord of tears, Lord of \_\_\_ toil and  
se - cret \_\_\_ ter - rors, \_\_\_ Lord of \_\_\_ strength and  
Lord of \_\_\_ Sab - bath, \_\_\_ Mas - ter \_\_\_ of the  
gent - tle - ness. Lord of storms and Lord of \_\_\_ sun - sets,  
hur - ry - ing years. Lord of hope and Lord of \_\_\_ hun - ger,  
Lord of dark - ness, Lord of \_\_\_ light, cast the \_\_\_ shad - ow  
Lord of at - oms, Lord of \_\_\_ space, take this \_\_\_ world we  
of your \_\_\_ bless - ing \_\_\_ on us \_\_\_ gath - ered in your sight.  
bring be - fore you \_\_\_ to the \_\_\_ ha - ven of your grace.

## THE DISMISSAL

Let us go forth into the world to share the light of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

## THE POSTLUDE

CAROLAN'S WELCOME

## PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S WORSHIP

Celebrant & Preacher..... The Rev. Joyce Keeshin  
Lector ..... Nancy Hodges  
Lay Reader .....Mark Sesler  
Intercessor .....Margie Johnson  
Celtic Guild..... John Calhoun  
Bread Guild..... Ryan Andrews  
Altar Guild .....Andrea Rogers, John Morabito, Pattie Kovach, Julia Joyce  
Flower Guild .....Melanie Schottelkotte, Kathe Kissel, Christine Bennett, Cindy Bryden

## IN MEMORY AND THANKSGIVING

The flowers that beautify our worship spaces are given to the glory of God in memory of David Knoll by Pat Knoll, Wilford Lawrence Romney by Nicky Bade, and Cliff and Jacque Weake by Gay Weake.



### VISION STATEMENT

We have a vision of a worshipping community  
that **knows Jesus and grows in love:**

- **United** in relationships of holy connection and communion;
- **Growing** with people of every age, race, gender, sexual orientation, socioeconomic situation, and political persuasion;
- **Inspired** by our understanding of why we are Christian, why we are Episcopalian, why Redeemer matters to us;
- **Sent** into the world, rooted and grounded in love, to serve all people with humility, compassion, and faithfulness.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH OF THE REDEEMER



# The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer

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