

FESTAL CHORAL EVENSONG

WITH THE BLESSING OF CANDLES

FOR

THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD
JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE: CANDLEMAS



*Sung by the combined Choirs & Choristers of
Saint Paul's Church, Fairfield, Grace Church, Providence, &
Saint Luke's Church, East Greenwich
directed by Dr. Barry Rose, OBE*

~ FEBRUARY 3RD, 2024 ~

4:00 PM



WELCOME!

Welcome to Grace Church! While our congregation has been around for almost two centuries, people from miles around become part of our community every week, so we are always becoming a “new” church. We are also an incredibly diverse church, which is a source of great joy for us. No matter who you are, we are thrilled that you have found your way to us this evening! And while we are a big church, we are also an open and welcoming one, so do not let Grace’s size and downtown location prevent you from jumping right in and asking us whatever questions you might have. So welcome, and many blessings to you!

The Rev. Canon Jonathan Huyck+
Rector

Please turn off or silence all mobile devices prior to the service. Thank you and welcome!

VOLUNTARY

Fiat Lux *from* Douze Pièces pour Grand Orgue

Théodore Dubois (1837-1924)

Please stand, as you are able, at the entrance of the Cross, Clergy, and Choir.

THE INTROIT

O nata lux de lumine,
Jesu redemptor saeculi,
dignare clemens supplicum
laudes precesque sumere.

Qui carne quondam contegi
dignatus es pro perditis,
nos membra confer effici
tui beati corporis.

*O Light born of Light,
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
with loving-kindness deign to receive
suppliant praise and prayer.*

*Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh
for the sake of the lost,
grant us to be members
of thy blessed body.*

*Words: Office Hymn for Lauds on the Feast of the Transfiguration
Music: Thomas Tallis (c 1505-1585)*

THE INVITATORY & PSALTER

THE OPENING SENTENCES

Said by the Clergy

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world;
he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life.”

John 8:12

Let my prayer be set forth in thy sight as the incense,
and let the lifting up of my hands be an evening sacrifice.

Psalms 141:2

THE PRECES

Sung by the Choir

Cantor O Lord, open Thou our lips.
Choir And our mouth shall show forth Thy praise.
Cantor O God, make speed to save us.
Choir O Lord, make haste to help us.
Cantor 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.
Cantor Praise ye the Lord.
Choir The Lord's name be praised.

Setting: for Magdalene College, Oxford, Bernard Rose (1916-1996)

Please stand as you are able and join in singing the hymn.

THE PHOS HILARON, HYMN 25



1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, in
 2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth, the
 3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O



you the Fa - ther's glo - ry shone. Im - mor - tal, ho - ly,
 lamps are lit to pierce the night. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and
 Son of God, Life - giv - ing Lord; where - fore you are through



blest is he, and blest are you, his ho - ly Son.
 Spi - rit: God who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.
 all the earth and in the high - est heaven a - dored.

*Words: Greek, 3rd Cent.; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); paraphrase of O Gracious Light
 Music: The Eighth Tune, Thomas Tallis (c 1505-1585); Descant: John Abdenour (b. 1962)*

Please be seated.



- 1 O sing unto the LORD a new song; *
let the congregation of saints praise him.
- 2 Let Israel rejoice in him that made him, *
and let the children of Sion be joyful in their King.
- 3 Let them praise his Name in the dance: *
let them sing praises unto him with tabret and harp.
- 4 For the LORD hath pleasure in his people, *
and helpeth the meek-hearted.
- 5 Let the saints be joyful with glory; *
let them rejoice in their beds.
- 6 Let the praises of God be in their mouth; *
and a two-edged sword in their hands;
- 7 To be avenged of the nations, *
and to rebuke the peoples;
- 8 To bind their kings in chains, *
and their nobles with links of iron;
- 9 To execute judgment upon them; as it is written, *
Such honour have all his saints.

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.

Setting: Sir Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

THE LESSONS

THE FIRST READING

Haggai 2:1-9

Reader A reading from the Prophet Haggai

IN THE SECOND YEAR OF KING DARIUS, in the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the LORD came by the prophet Haggai, saying: Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say, Who is left among you that saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing? Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the LORD; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the LORD; work, for I am with you, says the LORD of hosts, according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear. For thus says the LORD of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land; and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations shall come, and I will fill this house with splendour, says the LORD of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the LORD of hosts. The latter splendour of this house shall be greater than the former, says the LORD of hosts; and in this place I will give prosperity, says the LORD of hosts.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

MAGNIFICAT

The Magnificat is Mary's song of praise sung during the visitation to her cousin Elizabeth.

MY SOUL DOTTH MAGNIFY THE LORD, and my spirit hath rejoicèd in God my Savior. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessèd. For he that is mighty hath magnifièd me, and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath showèd strength with his arm; he hath scatterèd 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 fillèd the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, as he promisèd 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.

Words: Luke 1:46-55 & Gloria Patri

Music: The Gloucester Service, Herbert Howells (1892-1983)

THE SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-7

Reader A reading from The First Letter of John

SEE WHAT LOVE THE FATHER HAS GIVEN US, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

NUNC DIMITTIS

The Nunc Dimittis is sung by the prophet Simeon upon seeing the child Jesus presented in the temple.

LORD, NOW LETTEST THOU THY SERVANT DEPART IN PEACE, according to thy word; For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast preparèd 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.

Words: Luke 2:29-32 & Gloria Patri

Music: The Gloucester Service, H. Howells

Please stand as you are able.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Said by all

**I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY,
creator of heaven and earth;**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary,

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,

the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE SALUTATION & LESSER LITANY

Sung by the Choir

Cantor The Lord be with you.

Choir And with thy spirit.

Cantor Let us pray.

Please kneel or sit as you are able.

Choir Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Setting: for Magdalene College, Oxford, Bernard Rose (1916-1996)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sung on a single note by all

OUR FATHER, WHICH 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 them that 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 RESPONSES

Sung by the Choir

Cantor O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.
Choir And grant us thy salvation.
Cantor O Lord, save the State.
Choir And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Cantor Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.
Choir And make thy chosen people joyful.
Cantor O Lord, save thy people.
Choir And bless thine inheritance.
Cantor Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Choir Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
Cantor O God, make clean our hearts within us.
Choir And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

Setting: for Magdalene College, Oxford, B. Rose

THE COLLECTS

Sung by the Cantor & Choir

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.*

LORD JESUS, STAY WITH US, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. *Amen.*

KEEP WATCH, DEAR LORD, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give your 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 your love's sake. *Amen.*

Please be seated.

THE WELCOME

The Reverend Canon Jonathan Huyck, *Rector of Grace Church*

*During the singing of the anthem (text on the following page), an offering will be taken.
We thank you for your generosity!*



ANTHEM

What are these that glow from afar, these that lean over the golden bar?
Strong as a lion, pure as the dove, with open arms and hearts of love.
They, the blessed ones gone before, they, the blessed for evermore:
out of great tribulation they went home to their home of heaven content.

What are these that fly as a cloud with flashing heads and faces bowed;
In their mouths a victorious psalm, in their hands a robe and a palm?
Welcoming angels these that shine, your own angel, yours and mine,
who have hedged us, day and night on the left hand and on the right.

Light above light, and bliss beyond bliss whom words cannot utter, Lo! who is this?
As a King with many crowns he stands, and our names are graven on his hands,
as a priest, with God-uplifted eyes, he offers for us his sacrifice.
As the Lamb of God for sinners slain, that we too may live, he lives again.

God the Father, give us grace to walk in the light of Jesu's face;
God the Son, give us a part in the hiding place of Jesu's heart;
God the Spirit, so hold us up, that we may drink of Jesu's cup;
God Almighty, God Three in one, God Almighty, God alone.

Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894)

Music: Alan Gray (1855-1935)

Please stand as you are able as the Clergy gather around the basket of candles at the Low Altar.

THE BLESSING OF CANDLES

THE BIDDING PRAYER

Officiant Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Officiant

BELOVED IN CHRIST, forty days ago we celebrated the joyful feast of the incarnation of Jesus. Today we recall the day on which he was presented in the temple, fulfilling the law of Moses. Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the temple, recognized the child as the Christ, and proclaimed him with joy. United by the same Spirit, and gathered together in this house of God, let us recognize Christ as our Saviour and the Light of the World.

THE RESPONSORY & BLESSING OVER THE CANDLES

Officiant We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O Lord,

People **in the midst of your temple.**

Officiant Your praise, like your Name, O God, reaches to the world's end;

People **your right hand is full of justice.**

Officiant Let us pray.

The Choir and Congregation lift their un-lighted candles to be blessed as the Officiant says the following,

O ETERNAL GOD, who has created all things; on this day you fulfilled the petitions of the just Simeon: we humbly ask you to bless and sanctify these candles for our use. Graciously hear our prayers and be merciful to us, whom you have redeemed by your Son, who is the light of the world, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Clergy light their taper candles at the Low Altar and then pass the light to the Congregation and Choir. During this, please join in singing the hymn.

AT THE LIGHTING OF CANDLES, HYMN 257

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.

*Words: Jean Baptiste de Santeuil (1630-1697); tr. Edward Caswall (1814-1878), alt.
 Music: Edmonton, from Harmonia Sacra, ca. 1760*

THE CLOSING PRAYER

Officiant Let us pray.

O GOD, SOURCE OF ALL LIGHT,

today you revealed to the aged Simeon
your light which enlightens the nations.

Fill our hearts with the light of faith,
that we who bear these candles,
may walk in the path of goodness,
through Jesus Christ the Light of the World. Amen.

THE DISMISSAL

Officiant Let us bless the Lord. — *People* Thanks be to God. —

THE GRACE

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

People Amen.

Please join in singing the hymn.

THE CLOSING HYMN

1. How shall I sing that ma - jes - ty which an - gels do — ad - mire?
2. Thy bright - ness un - to them ap - pears, whilst I thy foot - steps trace;
3. En - light - en with faith's light my heart, in - flame it with love's fire,
4. How great a be - ing, Lord, is thine, which doth all be - ings keep!

Let dust in dust and si - lence lie; sing, sing, ye hea - ven - ly choir.
a sound of God comes to my ears, but they be - hold — thy face:
then shall I sing and take my part with that ce - lest - ial choir.
Thy know - ledge is the on - ly line to sound so vast — a deep:

Thou - sands of thou - sands stand a - round thy throne, O God most high; —
They sing, be - cause thou art their sun; Lord, send a beam on me; —
I shall, I fear, be dark and cold, with all my fire and light; —
thou art a sea with - out a shore, a sun with - out a sphere;



— ten thou-sand times ten thou - sand sound thy praise; but who am I?
— for where hea-ven is but once be-gun, there al - le - lu - ias be.
— yet when thou dost ac - cept — their gold, Lord, trea - sure up — my mite.
— thy time is now and e - ver-more, thy place is e - v'ry-where.

*Words: John Mason (c 1646-1694), alt.
Music: Coe Fen, Kenneth Nicholson Naylor (1931-1991)
Descant: Composed by Barry Rose (b. 1934)*

Please remain standing as you are able, while the Cross, Choir, and Clergy depart, after which all extinguish their taper candles.

VOLUNTARY

Improvisation

All are most welcome to a reception in The Pavilion following the service.

The altar flowers are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of John E. Moore, grandfather of Angelo Yengbeh, and Robert J. Wilson, grandfather of Henry Wilson-Winter, by the Grace Church Choristers.



~ PARTICIPATING IN THE SERVICE TODAY ~

Officiant: The Reverend Canon Jonathan Huyck

Assisting Clergy: The Reverend Hartwell Hylton

Crucifer: Henry Wilson-Winter

Thurifer: Roses Laughlin

Lector: Margaret Conable

Usher: Jane Ditmars

Audio/Visual: Peter Dugan

THE CHOIR & CHORISTERS OF GRACE CHURCH IN PROVIDENCE

Vince Edwards, *Organist & Director of Music*; David Heinze, *Associate Organist*

THE CHOIR OF ST. LUKE'S, EAST GREENWICH & THE SAINT CECILIA CHOIR

Rodney Ayers, *Minister of Music & Organist*

THE CHOIR & CHORISTERS OF ST. PAUL'S CHURCH, FAIRFIELD, CT

John Abdenour, *Organist & Director of Music*

CLERGY & STAFF AT GRACE CHURCH

The Reverend Canon Jonathan Huyck, *Rector*

The Reverend Hartwell Hylton, *Associate Rector*

Vince Edwards, *Organist & Director of Music*

David Heinze, *Associate Director of Music*

Vivian Blais, *Director of Youth & Newcomer Ministries*

Sara Quinn, *Parish Administrator*

John Carbone, *Sexton*

Pedro Quinilla & Selemani Mayundo, *Assistant Sextons*

CLERGY & STAFF AT ST. LUKE'S CHURCH

The Reverend Timothy T. Rich, *Rector*

The Reverend Dr. Jonathan Malone, *Pastoral Associate*

Rodney Ayers, *Minister of Music*

Christina Imondi, *Parish Administrator*

Amy Weigand, *Youth Faith Coordinator*

Theresa Deiters Muscat, *Godly Play Coordinator*

Emma Peterson, *Social Media Specialist/ Digital Evangelist*

CLERGY & STAFF AT ST. PAUL'S CHURCH

The Reverend Curtis Farr, *Rector*

The Reverend Edrice Viechweg, *Deacon*

The Reverends Marcus Halley & Alice Mindrum, *Priest Affiliates*

John Abdenour, *Director of Music*


Cathy Comstock, *Accounts & Communications Manager*


Ben Schober, *Sexton*

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