

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

(Candlemas)



All In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit
Amen

All May the light and peace of Jesus Christ our Lord be with you.
The Lord bless you.

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.

All Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

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.

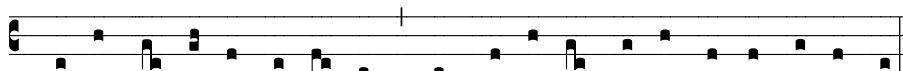
All **Blessed be God for ever.**

All hold candles aloft, while they are blessed, sprinkled and censed.

Lord God, the springing source of everlasting light,
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. **Amen.**

Antiphon after every verse of the Nunc Dimittis:

(candles are lit after the censing)



A light to lighten the na - tions and the glo - ry of your people Is- ra - el.

Cantors:

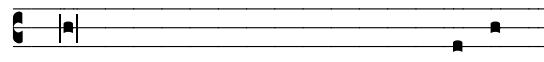
Lord, now you let your sérvant gó in peace *
your wórd has béeen fulfilled.

My own eyes have séen the salvátion *
which you have prepared in the sight of évery péople.

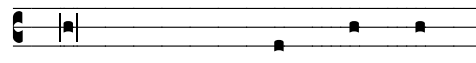
A light to reveal you tó the nátions *
and the glory of your péople Ísrael.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Hóly Spírit; as
it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be for éver. Ámen.

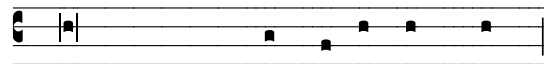
Before the Procession:



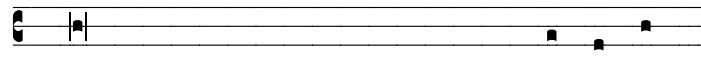
We wait for your loving-kindness, O Lord,



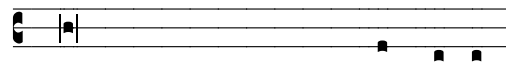
All in the midst of your temple.



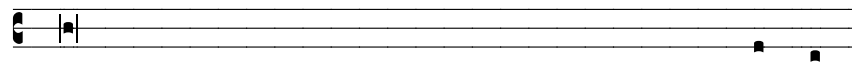
Open to us the gates of righteousness,



All that we may enter and give thanks to the Lord.



God is the Lord who has shown us light.



All Let us offer in his dwelling an oblation with great gladness.

The Procession

Hail to the Lord who comes,
comes to his temple gate!
not with his angel host,
not in his kingly state:
no shouts proclaim him nigh,
no crowds his coming wait.

But borne upon the throne
of Mary's gentle breast,
watched by her duteous love,
in her fond arms at rest;
thus to his Father's house
he comes, the heavenly guest.

There Joseph at her side
in reverent wonder stands;
and, filled with holy joy,
old Simeon in his hands
takes up the promised child,
the glory of all lands.

Hail to the great first-born,
whose ransom-price they pay!
The Son before all worlds;
the child of man today,
that he might ransom us
who still in bondage lay.

O light of all the earth,
thy children wait for thee:
come to thy temples here,
that we, from sin set free,
before thy Father's face
may all presented be.

John Ellerton 1826-93

Gloria 2



Glo-ry to God in the highest, * and peace to his people on earth.



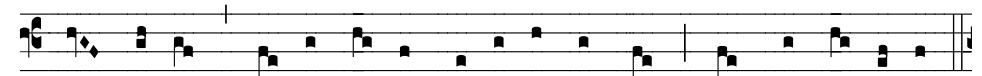
Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father.



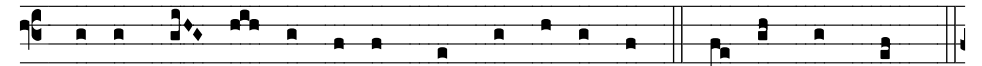
We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.



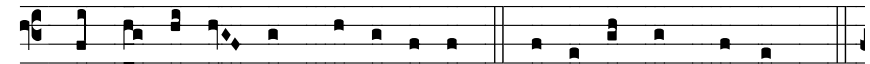
Lord Je - sus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God,



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us:



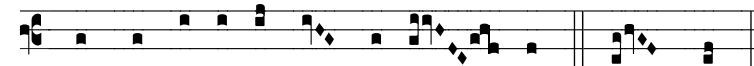
you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Father : re- ceive our prayer.



For you a- lone are the ho-ly one, you a-lone are the Lord,



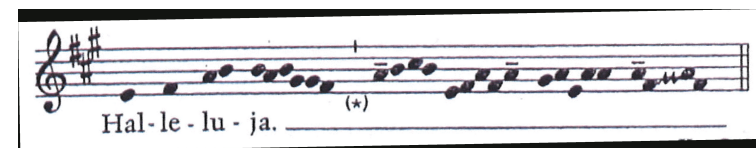
you a- lone are the most high, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho- ly Spi- rit,



in the glo-ry of God the Fa - - ther. A - men.

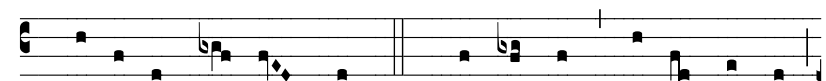
Collect and First Reading

Alleluia *Candles are lit*




The Gospel

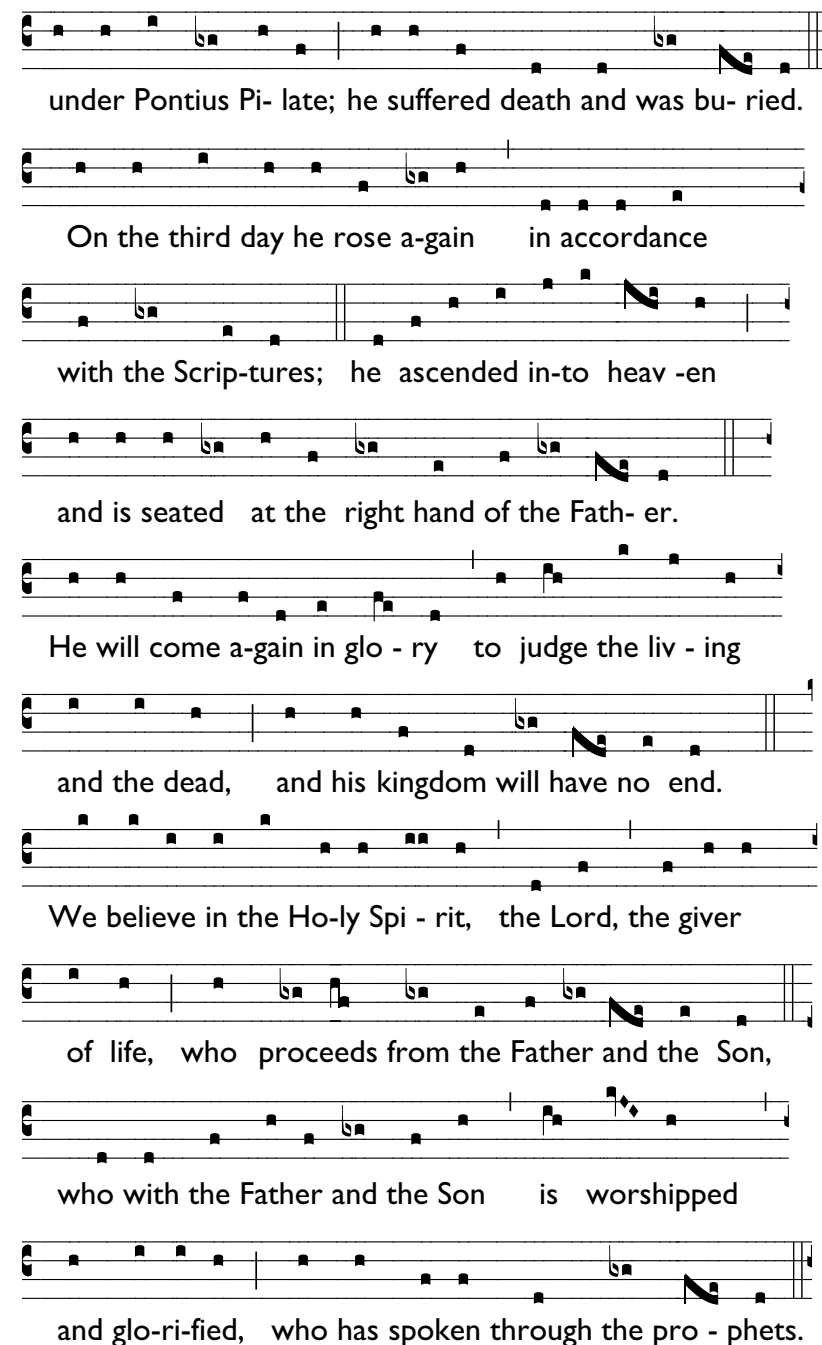
Candles are extinguished




We be-lieve in one God, * the Father, the Al-mighty



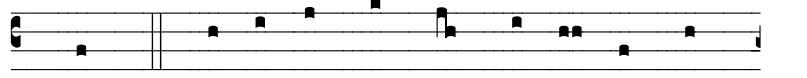
mak-er of heaven and earth, of all that is,
seen and un-seen. We believe in one Lord,
Je - sus Christ, the only Son of God,
e-ternal-ly be-gotten of the Fath - er, God from God,
Light from Light, true God from true God,
be-gotten, not made, of one Be-ing with the Father;
through him all things were made. For us and for our
sal-va- tion he came down from heaven : was in-carnate
from the ho-ly spi - rit and the Vir-gin Ma - ry,
and was made man. For our sake he was cru-ci - fied




under Pontius Pi- late; he suffered death and was bu- ried.
On the third day he rose a-gain in accordance
with the Scrip-tures; he ascended in-to heav - en
and is seated at the right hand of the Fath- er.
He will come a-gain in glo - ry to judge the liv - ing
and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Ho-ly Spi - rit, the Lord, the giver
of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped
and glo-ri-fied, who has spoken through the pro - phets.




We be - lieve in one ho-ly catho-lic and a- posto-lic



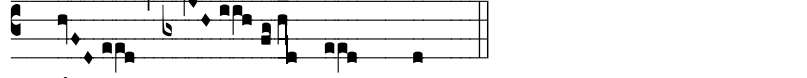
Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the



forgiveness of sins. We look for the re-surrection



of the dead, and the life of the world to come.



A - - - - - men.

To us a Child of hope is born,
to us a Son is given;
him shall the tribes of earth obey,
him all the hosts of heaven.

His name shall be the Prince of Peace
for evermore adored,
the Wonderful, the Counsellor,
the great and mighty Lord.

His power increasing still shall spread,
his reign no end shall know;
justice shall guard his throne above
and peace abound below.

John Morrison 1750-98
Based on Isaiah 9.2-7

Intercessions


The Peace

Candles are lit during the Offertory hymn:


The race that long in darkness pined
have seen a glorious light;
the people dwell in day, who dwelt
in death's surrounding night.

To hail thy rise, thou better Sun,
the gathering nations come,
joyous as when the reapers bear
the harvest-treasures home.

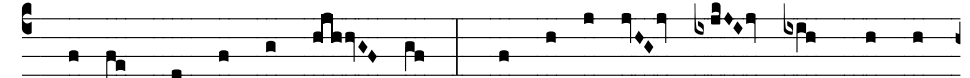
Sanctus 2




Ho - ly,* ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power —



and might, hea-ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.



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.

Our Fa-ther in heav'n, hal-low-ed be your name, your king-dom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heav'n. Give us to-

- day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins, as we for - give

those who sin a - gainst us. Lead us not in - to temp - ta - tion,

but de - li - ver us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the

power and the glo-ry are yours, now and for e - ver. A - men.

Candles are extinguished

Agnus Dei 2

Lamb of God, * you take a-way the sin of the world :

have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of

the world: have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way

the sin of the world : grant us peace.

Prayer

Blessing

Dismissal