

**Welcome to our service of
Sung Eucharist at St Mary's, Shirehampton
Candlemas Sunday 1st February 2026**

Welcome:

Today is the feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple.
It is also called the feast of Candlemas.

We gather as family to ask God's blessing on us all,
that we might walk in the light of God's love all our lives.

Gathering:

God is spirit

Let us worship him in spirit and truth.

The Lord is with us

Let us praise his name together.

Lord speak to us

that we may hear your word.

Move among us

that we may behold your glory.

Receive our prayers

that we may learn to trust you.

Hymn:

1 When morning gilds the skies,
my heart awaking cries,
may Jesus Christ be praised.
Alike at work and prayer
to Jesus I repair;
may Jesus Christ be praised.

3 In heaven's eternal bliss
the loveliest strain is this:
may Jesus Christ be praised.
Let air, and sea, and sky
from depth to height reply:
may Jesus Christ be praised.

2 The night becomes as day,
when from the heart we say:
may Jesus Christ be praised.
The powers of darkness fear,
when this sweet chant they hear:
may Jesus Christ be praised.

4 Be this, while life is mine,
my canticle divine:
may Jesus Christ be praised.
Be this the eternal song
through all the ages on:
may Jesus Christ be praised.

German (19th century) trans. Edward Caswall (1814-1878)
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We light the candles

We light a candle to say thank you for the sun,
which brightens our days and shows us all the beauty of your world.

We thank God and say:
Thank you for the light.

We light a candle to say thank you for the moon and stars which light up the
night sky and show travellers the way.

We thank God and say:
Thank you for the light.

We light a candle to say thank you for Jesus, the Light of the World,
who came to show us the way to God our Father.

We thank God and say:
Thank you for the light

Confession:

Lord Jesus,
illuminate the darkness in our hearts:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus,
open our eyes to your saving love:

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus,
unstop our ears to hear your living word:

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Absolution:

May the God of love and power
forgive us and free us from our sins,
heal and strengthen us by his Spirit,
and raise us to new life in Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Gloria – Sung

**1 Glory to God in the highest,
peace to his people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest,
peace to his people on earth.**

**2 Glory to God in the highest,
peace to his people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest,
peace to his people on earth.**

**3 Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**4 Glory to God in the highest,
peace to his people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest,
peace to his people on earth.**

**5 Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us, have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive, receive our prayer.**

**6 Glory to God in the highest,
peace to his people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest,
peace to his people on earth.**

**7 For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen
in the glory of God the Father. Amen**

The Collect:

**Lord Jesus Christ,
light of the nations and glory of Israel:
make your home among us,
and present us pure and holy
to your heavenly Father,
your God, and our God.
Amen**

First Reading

Hebrews 2: 14 - end

please sit for the reading

***At the end of the reading the reader may say:
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.***

Hymn:

1 Make way, make way,
for Christ the King In splendour arrives;
fling wide the gates
and welcome him into your lives.

*Make way, make way,
for the King of kings;
make way, make way,
and let his kingdom in!*

2 He comes the broken hearts to heal,
the prisoners to free.
The deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance,
the blind shall see.

3 And those who mourn with heavy
hearts,
who weep and sigh,
with laughter, joy and royal crown
he'll beautify.

4 We call you now to worship him
as Lord of all,
to have no gods before him,
their thrones must fall!

*Graham Kendrick (b. 1950)
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Gospel Reading: Luke 2: 22 - 40

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord

At the end the reader says,
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon:

The Creed:

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Intercessions:

The Peace:

We are all one in Christ Jesus.
We belong to him through faith,
heirs of the promise of the Spirit of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
and also with you.

Hymn:

1 King of glory, King of peace,
I will love thee;
and, that love may never cease,
I will move thee.
Thou has granted my request,
thou hast heard me;
thou didst note my working breast,
thou hast spared me.

2 Wherefore with my utmost art,
I will sing thee,
and the cream of all my heart
I will bring thee.
Though my sins against me cried,
thou didst clear me,
and alone, when they replied,
thou didst hear me.

3 Seven whole days, not one in seven,
I will praise thee;
in my heart, though not in heaven,
I can raise thee.
Small it is, in this poor sort
to enrol thee;
e'en eternity's too short
to extol thee.

George Herbert (1593 – 1633)
CCL Licence Number 5935

Preparation of the Table:

Heavenly Father,
as we set before you these gifts of bread and wine,
bless also the gift of our hearts and minds
as we offer our lives in your service;
for Jesus Christ's sake. **Amen**

The Eucharistic Prayer:

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 thanks and praise.

Almighty God, good Father to us all,
your face is turned towards your world.
In love you gave us Jesus your Son
to rescue us from sin and death.
Your Word goes out to call us home
to the city where angels sing your praise.
We join with them in heaven's song:

(sung)

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power, God of might,
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,
in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest,
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.

Father of all, we give you thanks
for every gift that comes from heaven.
To the darkness Jesus came as your light.
With signs of faith and words of hope
he touched untouchables with love and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story.
This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.

The crowds came out to see your Son,
yet at the end they turned on him.
On the night he was betrayed
he came to table with his friends
to celebrate the freedom of your people.

This is his story.
This is our song:
Hosanna in the highest.

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
he took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:
This is my body, given for you all.

Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
he took the cup, gave it and said:
This is my blood, shed for you all for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.

(sung)

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Christ has died:

Christ is risen:

Christ will come again.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free.
Defying death he rose again
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

This is our story.

This is our song:

Hosanna in the highest.

Send your Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.

May we and all who share this food
offer ourselves to live for you and be welcomed at your feast in heaven
where all creation worships you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

(sung)

**Blessing and honour and glory and Power
be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer: Please be seated

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray

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.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For the Kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,

now and for ever, Amen.

Alleluia!

This living bread is broken for the life of the world.

Alleluia! Let us keep the feast.

Agnus Dei - Sung

Jesus, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world:

Have mercy on us. Have mercy on us.

Jesus, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world:

Have mercy on us. Have mercy on us.

Jesus, Lamb of God,

you take away the sin of the world:

Grant us your peace. [x4]

Communion is received:

Post Communion Prayer:

Almighty God,
you have taught us through your Son
that love is the fulfilling of the law:
grant that we may love you with our whole heart
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Blessings:

Notices:

Birthdays:

Hymn:

Come, people of the risen King,
Who delight to bring Him praise.
Come, all and tune your hearts to sing
To the Morning Star of grace.
From the shifting shadows of the earth
We will lift our eyes to Him,
Where steady arms of mercy reach
To gather children in.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice, O Church of Christ, rejoice!*

Come, those whose joy is morning sun
And those weeping through the night.
Come, those who tell of battles won,
And those struggling in the fight.
For His perfect love will never change,
And His mercies never cease,
But follow us through all our days
With the certain hope of peace.

Come, young and old from every land,
Men and women of the faith.
Come, those with full or empty hands,
Find the riches of His grace.
Over all the world, His people sing,
Shore to shore we hear them call
The Truth that cries through every age;
'Our God is all in all'.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Let every tongue rejoice!
One heart, one voice, O Church of Christ, rejoice!*

*Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty and Stuart Townend
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Sending:

Go now to where you find friends and neighbours,
as well as family and strangers.

We will share that never-ending love of the Healer of all.

Go now, with that faith which dares to touch the stranger,
with hearts that break for the pain of others.

We will share the compassion of the Friend of the broken.

Blessing:

May the God of love touch your hearts
and fill your lips with praise for him
that the gospel story will be told anew to all you meet.

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

Amen.