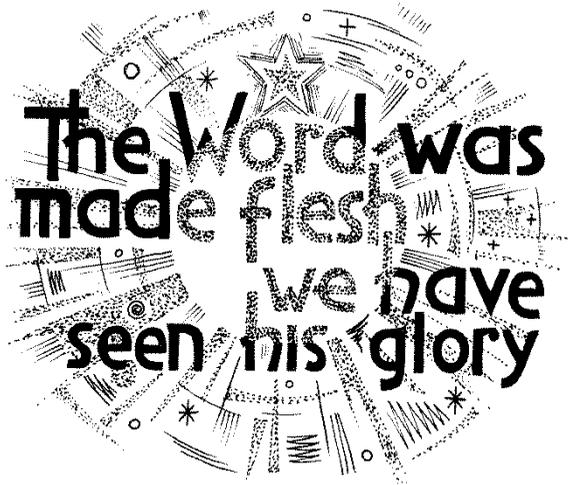


Welcome to the Parish Church of St Mark

Serving the people of Broomhill & Broomhall

SEEING CHRIST



A Service of Christian Hospitality
for the Feast of the
Presentation of Christ at the Temple

Sunday 2 February 2014 at 10.00 am

Welcome

Welcome and greetings, especially if you are new to St Mark's. May you soon discover what you are seeking and find companions for life's journey. This communion is more complete with you being a part of it.



To use the *Induction Loop*, please select the *T Setting* on your hearing aid. We ask that *mobile phones* and *paggers* be switched off or set to silent mode. LARGE PRINT versions of worship materials are available.

Before the service begins, we are all invited to share in a few moments of quietness in preparation for worship.

The Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas) celebrates the mystery of Christ's presence. As Anna and Simeon encountered the sacrament of God's healing light in the infant Jesus so we are invited to reflect on where and in whom Christ makes his presence felt.

Falling at the end of Poverty and Homelessness Action Week, this invitation gains focus and poignancy as we are challenged to seek Christ among those counted in our society to be of little worth or value.

Preparing for worship

Is there any truer devotion to Christ
than to serve him among the poor
and dispossessed?

Gathering

Organ Voluntary: The Lucis ante Terminum (op. 38, no. 5)
- Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

Welcome

Hymn

CHRIST, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only light,
Sun of righteousness, arise,
banish all the shades of night;
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee:
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine;
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine;
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

Charles Wesley (1707-88).
Tune: Ratisbon

Prayers of Approach

The Lord be with you:
and also with you.

LIGHT ETERNAL,
you bring to light things hidden in darkness
and know the shadows of our hearts:
cleanse and renew us by your Spirit,
that we may walk in the light
and glorify your name;
through Jesus Christ,
the Light of the world. Amen.

We remain standing until after the Collect; if you would be more comfortable seated, please feel free to sit down.

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel
the darkness of our hearts.
In his light let us examine our lives and confess our sins.

Pause for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,
help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be;
that we may do justly,
love mercy,
and walk humbly with you, our God. Amen.

Common Worship.

May God forgive you,
Christ renew you
and the Spirit enable you to grow in love. **Amen.**

Gloria

GLORY TO GOD, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.
Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father
Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.

We worship you,
Glory in the highest,
give you thanks,
Glory in the highest,
praise you for your glory.
Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.

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 our prayer,
Receive our prayer.

Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.
Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.

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 glory of God the Father
Glory to God, glory in the highest.
Peace to his people, peace on earth.

*from Coventry Music
by Peter Jones*

Collect

Let us pray. *(please remain standing)*

God of Anna and Simeon,
whose law makes known the gift of life,
whose love exposes our hardness of heart:
by your Spirit,
may we receive your faithful word
to Gentile and Jew
and know your reconciling presence
offered for all the world;
through Jesus Christ, the Light and the Glory of God.
Amen

Prayers for an Inclusive Church.

Journeying together in Faith

As young members prepare to leave for their groups, a prayer is offered.

**May God guide each of us,
whatever our age or experience,
in the way of Christ –
the love of God go with you. Amen.**

Children, teenagers and group leaders set off.

Attending

Reading – Malachi 3:1 - 5, read by Miranda Myers

A reading from the prophecy of Malachi.

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. ² 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; ³ 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. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years. ⁵ Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the Lord of hosts.

Let us listen for the word of the Lord.

Silence for reflection.

Hymn

King of glory, King of peace,
I will love thee;
and, that love may never cease,
I will move thee.
Thou hast granted my appeal,
thou hast heard me;
thou didst note my ardent zeal,
thou hast spared me.

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.

Sev'n whole days, not one in sev'n,
I will praise thee;
in my heart, though not in heav'n,
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)
Tune: Gwalchmai

Gospel – Luke 2. 22 – 40.

The good news is proclaimed from the heart of the worshipping community.

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

WHEN THE TIME CAME for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord’), ²⁴ and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, ‘a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.’ ²⁵ 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. ²⁶ It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah.

²⁷ 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, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹ ‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹ which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.’

³³ And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴ 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 ³⁵ so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too.’

³⁶ 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, ³⁷ 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. ³⁸ 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.

³⁹ When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰ The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon – The Rev'd Michael Bayley.

Followed by a time of quietness for reflection.

Responding

Prayers of Solidarity & Concern, led by David Price

The following chant is sung at the beginning and end of the intercessions.

Through our lives and by our prayers ,
your Kingdom come.

Wild Goose Resource Group.

After each petition.

Light of the world.

Bring healing, bring peace.

At the end.

Christ, Light of the world.

**May your healing peace
bring hope to our troubled world;
be born in us, we pray. Amen.**

Greeting of Peace

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high has broken upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

*Gestures of peace and goodwill are shared, especially with those
who are unfamiliar or from whom we are estranged.*

Hymn

A collection is taken for the ministry of St Mark's. If you are a taxpayer and are not currently a member of the church's planned giving scheme, please place your gift in one of the envelopes provided, writing your name and address on the front. Thank you.

Christ in us the hope of glory!
Christ the dying, living Lord!
Summoned by the Holy Spirit,
we are called to live for God.
In a world of thrilling science,
in an age of threatening force,
in a time of moral questions:
Lord, direct the Church's course.

Christ in us the hope of glory!
Christ, God's love among us here:
greeting outcasts, helping widows,
blessing children, conquering fear.
This same love the Spirit brings us:
let it overflow today
on our neighbours' nest of troubles;
send the peace for which they pray.

Christ in us the hope of glory!
Christ, the Father's trusted Son,
help us now - your diverse body -
to attend to everyone.
As with thoughtful care we listen
and Christ's wisdom firmly seek,
may we gain the right perspective,
glimpse the truth we need to speak.

Christ in us the hope of glory!
Sown the seed, yet harvest waits.
Christ our Lord, the world is longing
for good news at city gates.
Usher in your promised kingdom,
nourish justice, put down wrong!
Let earth join God's Easter people,
sing the alleluia song.

*David Mowbray (b 1938).
Tune: Austria*

Abiding

Preparation

Tokens of our response to God, bread and wine, and the collection, are offered.

We bring to this table symbols of our lives.

**Bread to sustain us,
wine to gladden the heart
and money, the fruit of our labours.**

As shepherds and sages worshipped the Prince of Peace.

These are our offerings of thanksgiving and praise.

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Let us pray. *(please sit or kneel)*

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.

We thank you loving God,
for you did not abandon us or stand far off
but came in awful nearness with the urgency of love.

In creation's dawn,
you gave birth to all that is;
to the people of Israel
you revealed yourself a Father
and shared our human story.

We praise you,
God of many names,
whose Spirit runs free
through all the earth,
whose image lies deep
in every mortal soul.

In your grace
your Word is made known to every people,
calling forth the best they have to offer;
your Beloved is immersed in the waters of creation
healing the chaos that floods our world;
your Son is the guest who offers new wine
changing hearts grown withered and cold.

Therefore we celebrate
the rays of morning light
that bathe the world in glory
and kindle a new song:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of truth and love,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

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

Setting from 'St Anne's Mass,' by James Macmillan (b 1959).

We ask that your Holy Spirit
will fall upon us and upon these gifts
that these fragile, earthly things
may be to us the body and blood
of our lord and brother, Jesus Christ;
who, on the night that he was betrayed,
gathered with his friends for a meal that tasted of freedom.

Calling them to his table,
he took bread, gave thanks,
broke it and said:
'This is my body, which is given for you.
Do this to remember me.'

In the same way after supper,
he took the cup, saying:
'This cup is the new covenant in my blood.
Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me.'

As on that night, so here and now
he offers himself in touch and taste
beyond all words can hold.

**Come, Holy Spirit,
fill the hearts of your people
and kindle in us the fire of your love.**

Therefore we come in memory and hope,
responding to your call
and the promise that echoes from the dawn of all time.

May mind and heart be held
by your self-giving sacrifice
as, celebrating your birth,
we catch a glimpse of your destiny
in gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh.

Draw us into the intensity of your love
that your life may be renewed in us
and our lives may present you to the world. **Amen.**

Prayers for an Inclusive Church.

Lord's Prayer & Communion

Rejoicing in the presence of God among us,
we pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

The bread is broken with these words of invitation.

We break the bread of life
and that life is the light of the world

**God here among us
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

Common Worship.

Everyone is invited to share in the communion through receiving the bread and wine or if preferred, a prayer of blessing. Please approach the altar rail with those around you. Gluten-free bread rolls are used.

During administration, we sing together the following chant:

Take, oh take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart
and live in me.

John Bell (b 1949).

Afterwards, the choir will sing: Nunc Dimitis, by Charles Villiers Stanford (1852 - 1924)

At the conclusion, silence is shared.

Venturing

Prayers of Commitment

Let us pray.

**GOD of the stable,
God of the manger,
we thank you for revealing your glory
in the humility of our humanity
and in ordinary things made holy:
we offer you our lives in the service
of those who walk in darkness
and those who have seen a great light;
that Christ may be found among us
and his beauty transfigure the world. Amen.**

Announcements

Blessing

MAY CHRIST, who draws the nations to himself,
teach us to love our enemies;

may Christ, who enters the water of baptism,
lead us to die to all but love;

may Christ, who gives new wine for the world,
turn our bitterness into joy; *Prayers for an Inclusive Church.*

and the blessing of God,
Creator, Christ and Sacred Spirit,
rest upon you and those whom you love,
both living and departed, now and always. **Amen.**

Hymn

O worship the Lord
in the beauty of holiness;
bow down before him,
his glory proclaim;
with gold of obedience
and incense of lowliness,
kneel and adore him:
the Lord is his name.

Low at his feet lay
thy burden of carefulness:
high on his heart
he will bear it for thee,
comfort thy sorrows,
and answer thy prayerfulness,
guiding thy steps
as may best for thee be.

Fear not to enter
his courts in the slenderness
of the poor wealth
thou wouldst reckon as thine:
truth in its beauty,
and love in its tenderness,
these are the offerings
to lay on his shrine.

These, though we bring them
in trembling and fearfulness,
he will accept
for the name that is dear;
mornings of joy give
for evenings of tearfulness,
trust for our trembling
and hope for our fear.

John Samuel Bewley Monsell (1811-1875)
Tune: Was Lebet

Commission *(please face the back of church)*

We stand near the place of new birth,
Let us shine with the light of your love.

We turn from the crib to the cross,
Let us shine with the light of your love.

We go to carry his light,
Let us shine with the light of your love.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Organ voluntary: Placare Christe Servulis (op. 38, no. 16) - Marcel Dupré

Refreshments are served in the lounge. Everyone is invited!



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