



Morning Prayer and Holy Eucharist at the Church of St. Paul, Cambria

• The Feast of the Presentation • February 2, 2025 •

Opening Hymn 126

Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
**And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever.
Amen.**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Penitential Rite

God of light, your Son shared our flesh and blood and built us into a living temple where you might dwell. Like Simeon and Anna, our eyes behold your salvation. Guide us by the Spirit to welcome your Christ as the Gentiles' light and Israel's glory by whose sacrifice we are presented before you to be the people of your covenant. To be worthy receivers of your light, let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

The Lord has shown forth his glory:
Come let us adore him. Alleluia!

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Venite: Psalm 95:1-7

Come, let us sing to the Lord; * let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving
* and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God, * and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, * and the heights of the hills are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it, * and his hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, * and kneel before the Lord our Maker.

For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. *

Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!

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Psalm 84

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts! * My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD; my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; * by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! * they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! * whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, * for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, * and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; * hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; * and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, * and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; * he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the LORD withhold * from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O LORD of hosts, * happy are they who put their trust in you!

The Celebrant says to the people
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray.

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.**

The first reading is from the Book of Malachi (3:1-4)

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.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
Thanks be to God.

Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah

Surely, it is God who saves me;* I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,* and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing* from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say,* Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples;* see that they remember that his Name is exalted,

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,* and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,* for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

The second reading is from Hebrews (2:14-18)

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was

tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
Thanks be to God.

Canticle 18 A Song to the Lamb *Dignus es*

Revelation 4:11;5:9-10,13

Splendor and honor and royal power * are yours by right, O God Most High,

For you created everything that is, * and by your will they were created and have their being;

And yours by right, O Lamb that was slain, * for with your blood you have redeemed for God,

From every family, language, people, and nation, * a royal priesthood to serve our God.

And so, to the One who sits upon the throne, * and to Christ the Lamb,

Be worship and praise, dominion and splendor, * for ever and for evermore.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke (2:22-40)

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they 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 Sermon

Music

Affirmation of Faith:

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.

The Prayers of the People

Made like us in every respect, our high priest knows our suffering and intercedes for us before the throne of mercy. Let us pray through Christ, saying: Lord, have mercy.

(As the Spirit moves you, please take turns reading one or more of the petitions. Please observe a short silence at the indicated times.)

For our church, that it be a light to all nations and a beacon for all peoples (Silence.) let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For God’s people Israel, first to hear the word of God, may they seek peace and pursue it (Silence.) let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For enlightened minds and hearts among those who act and work for the public good, may they be

respecters of all peoples and cultures (Silence.) let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For God’s reign of peace, that no people need live in the fear of death and destruction (Silence.) let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who speak and those who hear the prophetic word today (Silence.) let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For wisdom in old age and for fidelity in youth (Silence.) let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who suffer from winter’s cold (Silence.) let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all who walk in darkness, facing illness, death, and misfortune (Silence.) let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

(Here other intercessions may be offered.)

For all those who bear arms in the defense of our nation and our communities, may they be protectors and not persecutors (Silence.) let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

God of mercy, be our light in times of darkness and our comfort in times of affliction. May we be as light in a darkened world, proclaiming your faithful love. We ask this through Christ, our one high priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2*

Offertory Hymn 488

Prayer over the gifts:

Almighty God, accept the joyful offering of your Church, and grant that your Son may shine in us as the light that lightens every nation. We ask this in the name of the same Jesus Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

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 him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glory in the face of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

We give thanks to you, O God,

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

Because in Christ we have received the Spirit of adoption, as sons and daughters of God we dare to 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.
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-

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Behold the true Light of the world, the Beloved of God, anointed by the Spirit. Blessed are those who are called to the banquet of the Lamb.

After Communion, the Celebrant says

God for whom we wait, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon, who did not die till he had welcomed the Messiah. Complete in us your perfect will, that we in Christ may shar in your eternal kingdom..

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for
feeding us with the spiritual food of the most
precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior**

**Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy
mysteries that we are living members of the
Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal
kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the
work you have given us to do, to love and serve
you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To
him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and
glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

Knowing that all of our community cannot share the Eucharist in person, we affirm that the true mystical communion of Christ and His Church is a bond of spirit and heart, grounded in faith. Therefore, we commit ourselves to the reality that Christ is with us wherever we are. **Amen.**

Blessing

Lord, send your light upon your family, infuse them with your grace that they may always do what is right in your sight.

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

The Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you._
And also with you.

Announcements

Anniversary/Thanksgiving Prayer

We give you thanks, O God, for your many blessings: for our days of celebration, for the love that surrounds us, for your healing presence in our lives. Keep us in your care, we pray, and help us to live as truly thankful people. **Amen.**

Closing hymn *Lorienne to Provide*

Enlightened by Christ and anointed by the Spirit,
go now in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.