

## **Candlemas Communion Service**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

We wait for your loving-kindness, O Lord,

**In the midst of your temple.**

Open to us the gates of righteousness,

**That we may enter and give thanks to the Lord.**

God is the Lord who has shown us light.

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

Prayers of Penitence

Hear the words of our Saviour Jesus Christ, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me shall never walk in darkness but shall have the light of life." Let us therefore bring our sins into his light and confess them in penitence and faith. John 8:1

Confession

**All Father eternal, giver of light and grace,**

**we have sinned against you and against our neighbour,**

**in what we have thought, in what we have said and done,**

**through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault.**

**We have wounded you love, and marred your image in us.**

**We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins.**

**For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, who died for us,**

**forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness**

**to walk as children of the light. Amen**

The Absolution

Gloria

**Glory 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 you glory.**

**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;**

**you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.**

**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.**

The Collect for Candlemas

Readings

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

Gospel

Alleluia, alleluia.

The child is the light to enlighten the nations,  
and the glory of your people Israel.

Luke 2:32

**Alleluia.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to *N.*

**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

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of the God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten not made,  
of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

Prayers

Lord, in your mercy                    **hear our prayer.**

*At the end all say* **Merciful Father, accept these prayers for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Peace

In the tender of 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.

Hymn

Preparation of the Table

Father, in Christ there has sprung up a light for the righteous;  
accept the gifts we bring before you  
and grant that Christ may shine in us  
to the praise and glory of your name.  
**Amen.**

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.  
**His Spirit is with us.**

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.**

*The president praises God for his mighty acts ending with*

Therefore with angels and archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven,  
we proclaim your great and glorious name,  
for ever praising you and saying:

**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.**

*The president recalls the last supper including the acclamation*

Great is the mystery of faith.  
**Christ has died:  
Christ is risen:  
Christ will come again.**

The Lord's prayer

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.**

*The priest breaks the consecrated bread.*

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.  
**Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world,  
grant us peace.**

Giving of Communion

Jesus is the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world.  
Blessed are they who are called to his supper.  
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you,  
but only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

*The priest and people receive communion.*

*At the end of the administration candles are lit and the following prayer is said.*

**Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna,  
who lived to welcome the Messiah:  
may we, who have received these gifts beyond words,  
prepare to meet Christ Jesus when he comes to bring us eternal life;  
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.**

**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.**

*The ministers process a lighted candle round the church. As they do so the following words are said.*

**A light to lighten the nations and the glory of your people Israel.**

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: your word has been fulfilled.

**A light to lighten the nations and the glory of your people Israel.**

My own eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people.

**A light to lighten the nations and the glory of your people Israel.**

A light to reveal you to the nations and the glory of your people Israel.

**A light to lighten the nations and the glory of your people Israel.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever.

**Amen. A light to lighten the nations and the glory of your people Israel.**

*Blessing (following which the candles are extinguished)*

Hymn

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

**In the name of Christ. Amen.**