

# Presentation of Christ in the Temple Sunday 31 January 2021

when you have finished with this sheet pass it on to someone unable to get to church today

## **COLLECT**

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for you have sent us your salvation. Inspire us by your Holy Spirit to recognize him who is the glory of Israel and the light for all nations, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **FIRST READING Malachi 3.1–5**

A reading from the book of the prophet Malachi.

Thus says the LORD God: 1 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.

*For the word of the Lord. THANKS BE TO GOD*

## **Responsorial Psalm Psalm 84**

### **R Happy are they who dwell in your house!**

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. **R** 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. **R** 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. **R** 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. **R** 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. **R** 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! **R**

## **SECOND READING Hebrews 2.14–18**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

14 Since the children share flesh and blood, Jesus 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, 15 and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. 16 For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. 17 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. 18 Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

*For the word of the Lord THANKS BE TO GOD*

## **GOSPEL Luke 2.22–40**

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. Glory to Christ our Saviour*

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph 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 turtle-doves 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 worshipped 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 favour of God was upon him.

*Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel Praise to Christ our Lord.*

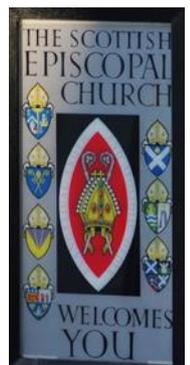
## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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 share in your eternal kingdom; for he is Lord for ever and ever. Amen

## **BLESSING**

Christ the Son of God, born of Mary, fill you with his grace to trust his promises and obey his will; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen

*The notices for the week are on the reverse of this sheet—take this pewsheets home to pass on to neighbours and friends.*





# The Joint Charges of St Johns Johnstone & St Margarets Renfrew

The Scottish Episcopal Church United Diocese of Glasgow and Galloway  
St John's Church, Floors Street, Johnstone PA5 8QS St Margaret's Church, Oxford Road, Renfrew PA4 0SJ

**National lockdown: Church buildings closed for physical worship services**

we are online at [www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk](http://www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk)

Facebook: [@stmargaretsrenfrew.org.uk](https://www.facebook.com/stmargaretsrenfrew.org.uk) [@StJohnsJohnstone](https://www.facebook.com/StJohnsJohnstone)

Twitter: [@JohnsJohnstone](https://twitter.com/JohnsJohnstone)

Zoom/Telephone is Tel: **01314601196** Meeting ID: **832 4184 0407**

Passcode: **076546** or use the link on the newsletter or website



## **Worship today** Presentation of Christ in the Temple **Candlemas**—(trans from 2 Feb)

**0945 Online Service at**

<http://tinyURL.com/SECStJohnStMargaret>

**1800 Zoom Evensong to join in with (40mins)**

**7pm Light a Candle** and place it in your window as we pray for the Nation using the prayer on the Intercessions leaflet each week



**Monday 1 February**—comm-Bride of Kildare, Abbess, c.525

**Tuesday 2 February**—Festival—Presentation in the Temple

**Wednesday 3 February**—feria

**2pm Telephone Church**

**7pm Zoom/Telephone Evening Service** led by LWL Pat

**Thursday 4 February**—comm—Charles Mackenzie of Central Africa, Bishop, Missionary, Martyr, 1862 (translated from 31 January)

**Friday 5 February**—feria

**Saturday 6 February**—comm—Paul Miki, Priest, and the Martyrs of Japan, 1597

Next Sunday—**Epiphany 5**

**0945 Online Service at**

<http://tinyURL.com/SECStJohnStMargaret>

**1800 Zoom Evensong to join in with (40mins)**

**Your Candlemas OoF**—do have a go at the activity and see how you get on as we celebrate the end of the Christmas season.



**LENT Course begins on Thursday 18 February**  
**Stepping towards the Light**

*You have been told, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?* Micah 6.8

Full details in Newsletter and on website—let Lisa know that you want to join in [SEIstudent@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk](mailto:SEIstudent@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk)

## **Intercessions**

**The sick and in need we have promised to pray for:** Liz Fairns, Elsbeth Carberry, Sandra Ferguson, Pauline Campbell, Alasdair Woods, Jenna McKernan, Audrey Callaghan, Adam Semple, Margaret Kerrigan, May Burton, Joan Harrison, Isobel Reid, Adrian Bull, Isobel Trail, Ellen Jones, Isabel Cummings, Margaret Gibb, Lisa in Oxford, Carol, Joanna, Barbara Clark, Steve Elliott, Charlotte, Moira Bruce, Alex Bruce, Jean Souter, Graham Taylor, Laurie Henderson

**The Departed:** Thomson Watson

We pray for parents coping with children learning at home

We pray for the companies producing the vaccines and distributors

**Covid19 prayers in the Weekly Intercession leaflet**

**As our Church buildings are closed you can find the Weekly downloads from [www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk](http://www.SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk) Pewsheets & Intercessions & Reflection**

## **PRAYING AT HOME TOGETHER**

Live-streaming

**Morning Prayer 9am & Evening Prayer 5.30pm**



**REVIEWING OUR CONNECTION TO EACH OTHER:** in the coming months we shall be asking the question... "how

**have we kept connected during the pandemic?"**

What has worked well for you? *What have you joined in with?* What have you avoided?

*What stopped you taking part?* What would have helped you? *What can we ditch?*

What could we focus on? *What are your thoughts and feelings?*

**There is always time to talk—**

**keeping connected...**

## **Church Contacts**

**The Rector:** Reuben Preston, 29 Gleniffer Road, Renfrew PA4 ORD 07971 895897

[Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk](mailto:Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk)

**Items for inclusion should be sent to [Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk](mailto:Rector@SECStJohnStMargaret.org.uk) by 0900 on Wednesdays.**

To ask about arrangements for Weddings, Funerals, Baptisms/Christenings, Confessions, House Blessings etc. please contact the Rector

**Sponsorship: in prayer for each other as we conclude our Christmas celebrations at home**

If you would like to sponsor this sheet please send you £5 donation to the Rector along with details of the sponsorship (even if anonymous)