

CONCLUSION

God our Father,
you have made known to us again
the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ:
confirm our faith and fix our eyes on him
until the day dawns
and Christ the Morning Star rises in our hearts.

To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.

When the Word became flesh
earth was joined to heaven in the womb of Mary:
may the love and obedience of Mary be our example.

Amen.

May the peace of Christ
rule in our hearts and homes.

Amen.

May we be filled with the joy of the Spirit
and the gifts of our eternal home.

Amen.

And may the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among us and remain with us always.

Amen.

A Service of the Word

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple (Candlemas Year A)

Please join in with the words in bold.

◆ *Invites a pause between lines.*

PREPARATION

God in Christ has revealed his glory.

Come let us worship.

From the rising of the sun to its setting

the Lord's name is greatly to be praised.

Give him praise, you servants of the Lord.

O praise the name of the Lord!

Faithful one, whose word is life:

come with saving power

to free our praise,

inspire our prayer

and shape our lives

for the kingdom of your Son,

Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A hymn may be sung

CONFESSION

Christ the light of the world has come to dispel the darkness
of our hearts.

In his light let us examine ourselves and confess our sins.

A short period of silence for reflection

Christ came in humility to share our lives:

forgive our pride.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Christ came with good news for all people:

forgive our silence.

Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Christ came in love to a world of suffering:

forgive our self-centredness.

Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

May the God of all healing and forgiveness

draw us to himself

and cleanse us from all our sins,

that we may behold the glory of his Son,

the Word made flesh,

Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Common Worship: Services and Prayers for the Church of England; New
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DIOCESE OF LINCOLN
faithful • confident • joyful

LITURGY OF THE WORD

*The Gospel printed on the Homilies Project sheet and at least one other reading is read (Malachi 3:1-5, Psalm 24, Hebrews 2:14-end, **Luke 2:22-40**)*

At the end of each reading the reader may say:

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Nunc dimittis is read (The Song of Simeon)

- 1 Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace: ♦
your word has been fulfilled.**
- 2 My own eyes have seen the salvation ♦
which you have prepared in the sight of every people;**
- 3 A light to reveal you to the nations ♦
and the glory of your people Israel.**

Luke 2.29–32

**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.**

HOMILY (*see the Homilies Project sheet*)

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.**

PRAYERS

Let us pray to the Father through Christ who is our light and life.

Father, your Christ is acclaimed as the glory of Israel:
look in mercy on your Church, sharing his light.
Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Father, your Christ in his temple brings judgement on the world:
look in mercy on the nations, who long for his justice.
Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Father, your Christ, who was rich, for our sakes became poor:
look in mercy on the needy, suffering with him.
Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Father, your Christ is the one in whom faithful servants find their peace:

look in mercy on the departed, that they may see your salvation.

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Father, your Christ is revealed as the one destined to be rejected:

look in mercy on us who now turn towards his passion.

Lord, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord God, you kept faith with Simeon and Anna,
and showed them the infant King.

Give us grace to put all our trust in your promises,
and the patience to wait for their fulfilment;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT for Candlemas

Almighty and ever-living God,
clothed in majesty,
whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple,
in substance of our flesh:
grant that we may be presented to you
with pure and clean hearts,
by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen**

LORDS PRAYER

As our Saviour has 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.**