



CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL  
CONNECTICUT'S CATHEDRAL

Christ Church Cathedral

Hartford, Connecticut

The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple

February 8, 2026

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We acknowledge the Tunxis, Sicaog, Wangunks and Poquonook people, the traditional custodians on the land on which Christ Church Cathedral is located. We pay respect to their elders, past and present. We respect their people and traditions as a continued call to live out the ministry of reconciliation to which we are called.

Welcome to our community! Wherever life is taking you, know that we are honored by your presence and invite you to experience God's life-giving grace with us at Christ Church Cathedral. As a community of faith we celebrate God's graciousness by proclaiming in word and deed that God's love is abundant and unconditional. At the Lord's Table, all baptized are welcome to receive Communion. Please turn off your cell phones once the prelude begins. Should you like to speak with a priest following the service, please contact an usher.

Hymns are in *The Hymnal 1982 and Lift Every Voice and Sing II* (LEVAS).

At the 8 a.m. service, hymns and the second reading are omitted.

The Gloria is recited at the 8 a.m. service. It can be found on page 356 of the Book of Common Prayer.

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## The Liturgy of the Word

**Prelude** ~ O word immortal

George Dyson

Altar party begins in the back of the nave.

Celebrant Light and peace in Jesus Christ our Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The Celebrant continues:

Dear people of God, forty days ago we celebrated the joyful feast of the incarnation of Jesus. Today we recall the day on which he was presented in the temple, fulfilling the laws of Moses. Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the temple, recognized the child as the Christ, and proclaimed him with joy. United by the same Spirit, we now enter the house of God, where we shall recognize Christ in the breaking of bread.

Let us pray.

O eternal God, who have created all things; on this day you fulfilled the petitions of the just Simeon; we humbly ask you to bless and sanctify these candles for our use. Graciously hear our prayers and be merciful to us, whom you have redeemed by your Son, who is the light of the world, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The *Nunc dimittis* is sung while the candles are lit:

**Canticle** ~ *Nunc dimittis*

Ralph Vaughan Williams

*The Celebrant says the following prayer:*

God our Father, source of all light, today you revealed to the aged Simeon your light which enlightens the nations. Fill our hearts with the light of faith that we who bear these candles may walk in the path of goodness, through Jesus Christ the Light of the World.

## **The Procession**

*Celebrant* Let us go forth in peace.

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

*The congregation is invited to join the procession.*

**Processional Hymn ~ 1982 Hymnal # 7** Christ, whose glory fills the skies

Ratisbon

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity.

*People* **And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. 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.**

**1982 Hymnal S60** - Phos Hilaron (O Gracious Light)

Ronald Arnatt

## **The Collect**

*Celebrant* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* 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.**

*Please be seated for the reading of Holy Scripture.*



## A Reading From ~ Malachi 3:1-4

Thus says the Lord, 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.

Lector      The word of the Lord.

People      **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 15 *Domine, quis habitabit* (sung by the choir)~

James Nares

1 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle? \*  
who may abide upon your holy hill?

2 Whoever leads a blameless life and does what is right, \*  
who speaks the truth from his heart.

3 There is no guile upon his tongue;  
he does no evil to his friend; \*  
he does not heap contempt upon his neighbor.

4 In his sight the wicked is rejected, \*  
but he honors those who fear the Lord.

5 He has sworn to do no wrong \*  
and does not take back his word.

6 He does not give his money in hope of gain, \*  
nor does he take a bribe against the innocent.

7 Whoever does these things \*  
shall never be overthrown.

## A Reading From - Hebrews 2:14-18

Since God's 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, 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..

*Lector* The word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

**Gradual Hymn ~ LEVAS #192** I need thee every hour

**The Gospel ~ Luke 2: 22-40**

*Deacon* The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus 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.

*Deacon* The Gospel of our Savior.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

**The Sermon ~** The Venerable Bonnie Matthews, Cathedral Deacon

Following the Sermon, the Celebrant stands. Please stand as you are able.

## **The Nicene 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 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 of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human.**

**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,  
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped 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.**

## **The Prayers of the People**

In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

For the Archbishop of Canterbury Sarah Mullally. For Sean, our Presiding Bishop; Jeff and Laura, our Bishops; Harlon, our Interim Dean; Tony, our Canon for Latino Ministry; Bonnie, our Deacon; Dana, Jay, Ranjit, D, Kevin and Rebekah, our Associate Clergy; and for our Congregation Committee and Ministry Teams. For our sister diocese of Aberdeen and Orkney, and for all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in the Church.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation; for those who have asked our prayers:  
**Will, Kathleen R., Connie, Joan Z, Maña, Lee, Almeta, Camille, Gerard, Lourdes, Lenora, Ardyce, Mike R., Jennifer, Andrew, Benjamin, Adrienne, Felicity, Sherrod, Graham, Richard, Mark, Bill, Betty Jo, Michael, Jason, Andrew, Jeannie, Denise, Shelly N., Dennis, Charlene, Marcia, Sean, Mary, Diane, Andrew, David, Shaun, Thomas, Alberto, Kelley, Allison, Dina, Aubrey, Bill, Grace, Ben, Frank, Eric, Nelson, Joan, Treviana, Bob, Tyrone, Locksley, Todd, Javon, Debbie, Julian, Rose, Samy, Eugenia, Louis, Sylvia, Anne, Harmony, Cristianne, Joslin, Mary Ellen, Sheila, Priscilla, Guale, Mercy, Deborah, John, Mark C., John, Heather, Susan, Lanny, Grayson, Becky, David M., Nancy, Edgar, Connie, Marcia, Shaun, Goodwin; Ralph** and for those those we name in our hearts.

*Silence is kept. The People may add their own petitions.*

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

*Silence is kept. The People may add their own thanksgivings,*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence is kept. The People may add their own petitions.*

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

**Who put their trust in you.**

*The Celebrant concludes with the following Collect*

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **The Confession of Sin**

*The Deacon says*

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Minister and People*

**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.**

*The Celebrant stands and says:*

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

## The Peace

Celebrant The peace of Christ be always with you.  
People **And also with you.**

## Healing Prayers

*The People greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

**Welcome and Announcements** ~ Dr.Jilda Aliotta, Chair, Congregations Committee (8 AM);  
John Decker, Vice-Chair, Congregations Committee (10 AM)

**Offertory Anthem** ~ Three Shaker songs

*Shawn Kirchner*

**The Doxology ~ LEVAS #56** Praise God from whom all blessings flow

## The Holy Communion

**The Great Thanksgiving:** Eucharistic Prayer A - Expansive Language

Celebrant God be with you.  
People **And also with you.**  
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.  
People **We lift them to the Lord.**  
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
People **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, 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 Savior.

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:

**Sanctus ~ LEVAS 255** Holy, holy, holy

*Grayson Warren Brown*

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.

Jesus stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Christ. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Savior. By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*Celebrant and People:*

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy Name,  
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
And forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those  
who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

A period of silence is kept.

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

**Agnus Dei ~ LEVAS #270** Lamb of God

*Marjorie Landmark-DeLewis*

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the people of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*All baptized Christians, regardless of age or denomination, are welcome to receive Holy Communion. When coming forward to receive Holy Communion, please follow the direction given by the ushers. If you are unable to come to the front, please let an usher know and the Sacrament will be brought to you.*

**Communion Hymn ~ 1982 Hymnal #324** Let all mortal flesh keep silence

*Picardy*

### **Prayer after Communion**

**Eternal God, you have graciously accepted us as living members of our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

**Recessional Hymn ~ 1982 Hymnal #657** Love divine, all loves excelling

*Hyfrydol*

### **The Dismissal**

Deacon      Let us go forth in the name of Christ.  
People      **Thanks be to God.**

**Postlude ~** Fanfare for organ

*Ronald Arnatt*

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**If you are visiting us for the first time, WELCOME!** We would like to keep you informed of the amazing blessings we experience in this house of prayer. Please introduce yourself to Interim Dean Dalton, Canon Garcia, or Deacon Matthews.

**IT'S SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY FOR CHURCH STREET EATS!!  
ADD YOUR DONATIONS TO THE SOUP POT AND STAY  
WARM THIS WEEKEND**





CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL  
CONNECTICUT'S CATHEDRAL

An Episcopal Church within the Anglican Communion

All faithful lay people and clergy of the Episcopal Church in Connecticut

The Rt. Rev. Jeffrey W. Mello, Bishop Diocesan

The Rt. Rev. Laura J. Ahrens, Bishop Suffragan

The Very Rev. Harlon Dalton, Interim Cathedral Dean

The Rev. Ramon Antonio Garcia, Canon for Latino Ministry

The Ven. Bonnie Matthews, Cathedral Deacon

The Rev. Dana Campbell, The Rev. Dr. Jay Cooke, the Rev. Canon Rebekah Hatch, the Rev. Canon D Littlepage,

The Rev. Canon Ranjit K. Mathews, and The Rev. Canon Dr. Kevin Olds, Priest Associates

Dr. Jilda Aliotta, Chair of Congregation Committee

John Decker, Vice-Chair of Congregation Committee

*Since 1762, this Christian community has gathered for worship. To learn more about the ministries we share in this place, you are invited to speak to the clergy or parishioners after the service.*

### **Serving at 8:00 a.m.**

<b>Celebrant</b>	The Very Rev. Harlon Dalton, Interim Cathedral Dean
<b>Assisting</b>	The Ven. Bonnie Matthews, Cathedral Deacon
<b>Preacher</b>	The Ven. Bonnie Matthews, Cathedral Deacon
<b>Psalm Leader/Altar Server</b>	Jilda Aliotta
<b>Intercessor/Verger</b>	John Scott
<b>Lector</b>	JoAnne Thomas

### **Serving at 10:00 a.m.**

<b>Celebrant</b>	The Very Rev. Harlon Dalton, Interim Cathedral Dean
<b>Preacher</b>	The Ven. Bonnie Matthews, Cathedral Deacon
<b>Assisting</b>	The Rev. Canon Ramon Antonio Garcia, Canon for Latino Ministries
<b>Dean &amp; Gospel Verger</b>	Dr. Jilda Aliotta
<b>Choir Verger</b>	Peggy Ornell
<b>Clergy Verger &amp; Server</b>	Marcia Barnett
<b>Crucifer</b>	John Scott
<b>Virtual Vergers</b>	Richard Baraglia and Dr. Deborah Simmons
<b>Digital Evangelist</b>	Samuel Hernandez
<b>First Lector</b>	Rayfield Scott
<b>Second Lector</b>	Vernell Davis
<b>Ushers</b>	Carlene Taylor and Sheila Green
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Gilbeeann Scott, Sheila Green, David Marcano, and Nagda and Ramon Echavarria
<b>Choir</b>	Kelley Kelly, Sarah Marze, Viola Mullin, Scott Patrick, Phoenix Sheerin, Deborah Simmons, Kristen Williams

### **CATHEDRAL STAFF**

David Borawski, Building Manager	Pedro Cirilo Coral, Spanish Music Coordinator
Cindy Hursty, Accountant	Nelson Mena, Spanish Music Coordinator
John Scott, Sacristan	Trish Leonard, Interim Assistant to the Dean
Marianne Vogel, Director of Music	Carolina Pujols, Office Manager & Event Coordinator

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