www.holytrinitystirling.org

Holy Trinity Church

Albert Place, Stirling, FK8 2RG

Scottish Charity: SC016471

Open
inclusive
inspiring
friendly
deep

Rector: The Revd Canon Christoph Wutscher · Tel: 01786 359821 · rector@holytrinitystirling.org

Sunday 4th February 2024 — 6.30 p.m. Evensong

CANDLEMAS

Officiant: Camayo Hyde

Organ Prelude Denis Bédard: Chant du soir (Sept Offrandes)

Opening Sentence

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness: let the whole earth stand in awe of him. *Psalm 96.9*

Hymn (*please stand*)

1 Name of all majesty,
fathomless mystery,
King of the ages
by angels adored;
power and authority,
splendour and dignity,
bow to his mastery,
Jesus is Lord!

2 Child of our destiny,
God from eternity,
love of the Father
on sinners outpoured;
see now what God has done
sending his only Son,
Christ the belovèd One,
Jesus is Lord!

3 Saviour of Calvary,
costliest victory,
darkness defeated
and Eden restored;
born as a man to die,
nailed to a cross on high,
cold in the grave to lie,
Jesus is Lord!

4 Source of all sovereignty,
light, immortality,
life everlasting
and heaven assured;
so with the ransomed, we
praise him eternally,
Christ in his majesty,
Jesus is Lord!

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Confession & Absolution (*please sit or kneel*)

DEARLY beloved, the Scripture moveth us in sundry places to acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness; and that we should not dissemble nor cloke them before the face of Almighty God our heavenly Father; but confess them with an humble, lowly, penitent, and obedient heart; to the end that we may obtain forgiveness of the same, by his infinite goodness and mercy. And although we ought at all times humbly to acknowledge our sins before God; yet ought we most chiefly so to do, when we assemble

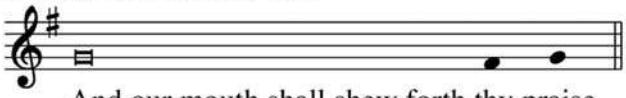
and meet together to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his most holy Word, and to ask those things which are requisite and necessary, as well for the body as the soul. Wherefore I pray and beseech you, as many as are here present, to accompany me with a pure heart and humble voice unto the throne of the heavenly grace, saying after me:

ALMIGHTY and most merciful Father, We have erred, and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep, We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, We have offended against thy holy laws, We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, And we have done those things which we ought not to have done, And there is no health in us: But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us miserable offenders; Spare thou them, O God, which confess their faults, Restore thou them that are penitent, According to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesu our Lord: And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, That we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life, To the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

ALMIGHTY God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who desireth not the death of a sinner, but rather that he may turn from his wickedness, and live; and hath given power, and commandment, to his Ministers, to declare and pronounce to his people, being penitent, the Absolution and Remission of their sins: He pardoneth and absolveth all them that truly repent, and unfeignedly believe his holy Gospel. Wherefore let us beseech him to grant us true repentance, and his Holy Spirit, that those things may please him, which we do at this present; and that the rest of our life hereafter may be pure, and holy; so that at the last we may come to his eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

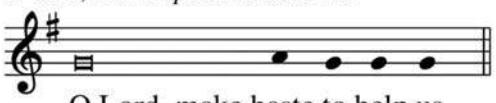
The Versicles & Responses

O Lord, open thou our lips.



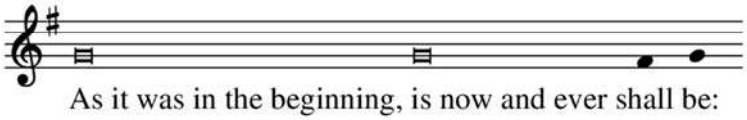
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.

O God, make speed to save us.

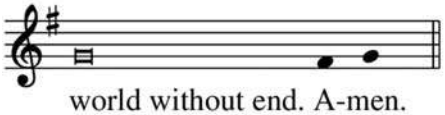


O Lord, make haste to help us.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:

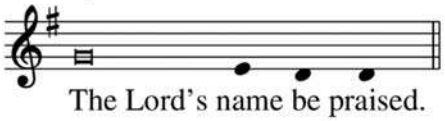


As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be:



world without end. A-men.

Praise ye the Lord.



The Lord's name be praised.

Psalm 132 (*please sit*)

1 Lord, remember David,*
and all the hardships he endured;

2 How he swore an oath to the Lord*
and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:

3 'I will not come under the roof of my house,*
nor climb up into my bed;

4 I will not allow my eyes to sleep,*
nor let my eyelids slumber;

5 Until I find a place for the Lord,*
a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob.'

6 'The Ark! We heard it was in Ephratah;*
we found it in the fields of Jearim.

7 Let us go to God's dwelling place;*
let us fall upon our knees before his footstool.'

8 Arise, O Lord, into your resting-place,*
you and the ark of your strength.

9 Let your priests be clothed with righteousness;*
let your faithful people sing with joy.

10 For your servant David's sake,*
do not turn away the face of your anointed.

11 The Lord has sworn an oath to David;*
in truth, he will not break it:

12 'A son, the fruit of your body*
will I set upon your throne.

13 If your children keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall teach them,*
their children will sit upon your throne for evermore.'

14 For the Lord has chosen Zion,*
he has desired her for his habitation:

15 'This shall be my resting-place for ever;*
here will I dwell, for I delight in her.

16 I will surely bless her provisions,*
and satisfy her poor with bread.

17 I will clothe her priests with salvation,*
and her faithful people will rejoice and sing.

18 There will I make the horn of David flourish;*
I have prepared a lamp for my anointed.

19 As for his enemies, I will clothe them with shame;*
but as for him, his crown will shine.'

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

First Lesson: Haggai 2:1-9

In the seventh month, on the twenty-first day of the month, the word of the Lord came by the prophet Haggai, saying: "Speak now to Zerubbabel son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people, and say: Who is left among you who saw this house in its former glory? How does it look to you now? Is it not in your sight as nothing? Yet now take courage, O Zerubbabel, says the Lord; take courage, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest; take courage, all you people of the land, says the Lord; work, for I am with you, says the Lord of hosts, according to the promise that I made you when you came out of Egypt. My spirit abides among you; do not fear. For thus says the Lord of hosts: Once again, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land, and I will shake all the nations, so that the treasure of all nations will come, and I will fill this house with splendour, says the Lord of hosts. The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, says the Lord of hosts. The latter splendour of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts, and in this place I will give prosperity, says the Lord of hosts."

The Magnificat (*please stand*)

1 With Mary let my soul rejoice,
and praise God's holy name –
his saving love from first to last,
from age to age, the same!

2 How strong his arm, how great his power!
The proud he will disown;
the meek and humble he exalts
to share his glorious throne.

3 The rich our God will send away
and feed the hungry poor;
the arms of love remain outstretched
at mercy's open door.

4 So shall God's promise be fulfilled,
to Israel firmly made:
a child is born, a Son is given
whose crown will never fade.

5 All glory to the Father, Son
and Spirit now proclaim;
with Mary let the world rejoice
and praise God's holy name!

David Mowbray based on the Magnificat
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Second lesson: 1 John 3:1-8 (*please sit*)

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous. Everyone who commits sin is of the devil, for the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The Son of God was revealed for this purpose: to destroy the works of the devil.

The Nunc Dimittis (*please stand*)

1 Lord, now let your servant
go his way in peace –
your great love has brought me
joy that will not cease.

2 For my eyes have seen him
promised from of old -
Saviour of all people,
shepherd of one fold.

3 Light of revelation
to the Gentiles shown,
light of Israel's glory
to the world made known.

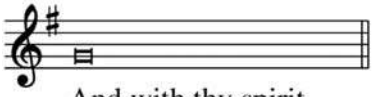
4 Glory to the Father,
glory to the Son,
with the Holy Spirit
ever three in One.

The Apostles' Creed (*please stand and turn eastwards*)

I BELIEVE in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth:
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried: he descended into hell;
The third day he rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy Catholic Church;
The Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of sins;
The Resurrection of the body, and the Life everlasting. Amen.

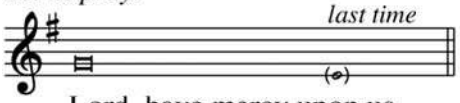
The Versicles & Responses (*please sit or kneel*)

The Lord be with you.



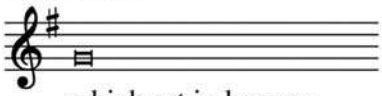
And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.



Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

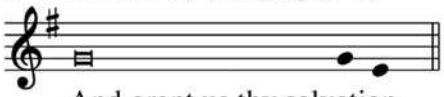
Our Father,



which art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done,
in earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive them that trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil. Amen.

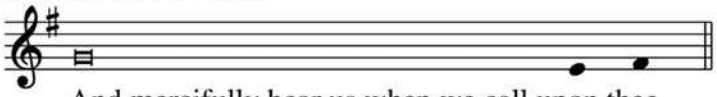
The Versicles & Responses (*please sit or kneel*)

O Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.



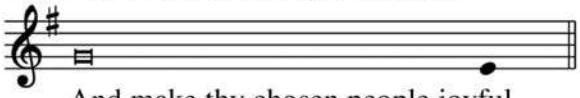
And grant us thy salvation.

O Lord, save the King.



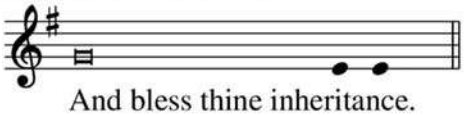
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.



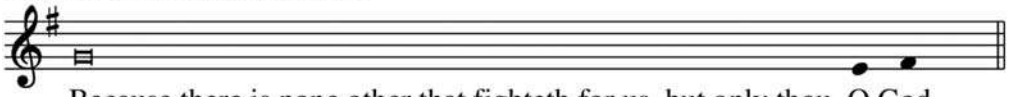
And make thy chosen people joyful.

O Lord, save thy people.



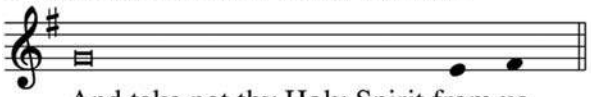
And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, O Lord.



Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.

O God, make clean our hearts within us.



And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collects

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we humbly beseech thy Majesty, that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in substance of our flesh, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts, by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

All:

Amen.

O GOD, from whom all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works do proceed: Give unto thy servants that peace which the world cannot give; that both our hearts may be set to obey thy commandments, and also that by thee we being defended from the fear of our enemies may pass our time in rest and quietness; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Saviour.

All:

Amen.

LIGHTEN our darkness, we beseech thee, O Lord; and by thy great mercy defend us from all perils and dangers of this night; for the love of thy only Son, our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

All:

Amen.

Hymn (*please stand*)

1 Hail to the Lord who comes,
comes to his temple gate,
not with his angel host,
not in his kingly state;

2 But borne upon the throne
of Mary's gentle breast:
Thus to his Father's house
he comes, a humble guest.

3 The world's true Light draws near
all darkness to dispel;
the flame of faith is lit
and dies the power of hell.

4 Our bodies and our souls
are temples now for him,
for we are born of grace;
God lights our soul within.

5 O Light of all the earth,
one glorious Trinity;
The chains of darkness gone
God's people are set free.

John Ellerton *alt.*

The Prayers (*please sit or kneel*)

A Prayer for the unity of all Christian people

O LORD Jesus Christ, who didst say unto thine Apostles, Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: Regard not our sins, but the faith of thy Church, and grant unto all Christian people that peace and unity which is agreeable to thy will; who livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, world without end. Amen.

A Prayer for sick and suffering

ALMIGHTY and immortal God, giver of life and health: We beseech thee to hear our prayers for thy servants for whom we implore thy mercy, that by thy blessing upon them and upon those who minister to them of thy healing gifts, they may be restored of health, and give thanks to thee in thy holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer for the faithful departed

O ETERNAL Lord God, who holdest all souls in life: We beseech thee to shed forth upon all the faithful departed the bright beams of thy light and heavenly comfort; and grant that they, and we with them, may at length attain to the joys of thine eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Prayer of Saint Chrysostom

ALMIGHTY God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplications unto thee; and dost promise that when two or three are gathered together in thy Name thou wilt grant their requests: Fulfil now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants, as may be most expedient for them; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn (*please stand*)

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesu, thou art all compassion,
pure unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

2 Come, almighty to deliver,
let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return, and never,
never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
serve thee as thy hosts above;
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
glory in thy perfect love.

3 Finish then thy new creation:
pure and spotless let us be;
let us see thy great salvation
perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee,
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Charles Wesley

The 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…

Organ Postlude