



SAINT JOHN'S MALONE



Simeon's Song of Praise (Nunc Dimittis)

Date: 1700-1710

Artist: Gelder, Aert de, 1645-1727 The Hague, Nederlands

Sunday First: All Age Worship

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple: Candlemas

5th February 2022

10.30am

In the darkness the following is said
The Lord is my light and my salvation
The Lord is my light and my salvation

The Lord is the strength of my life
The Lord is my light and my salvation

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
The Lord is my light and my salvation

Jesus Christ is the light of the world,
A light no darkness can quench.

The candle representing Christ on the wreath is lit.

THE PREPARATION

GREETING

The Lord of glory be with you **The Lord bless you.**
The lighting is switched on

HYMN 328

Come and celebrate!
His gift of love we will celebrate
the Son of God who loved us
and gave us life.

We'll shout your praise, O King:
you give us joy no-thing else can bring;
we'll give to you our offering
in celebration praise.

*Come on and celebrate,
celebrate,
celebrate and sing,
celebrate and sing to the King.*



INTRODUCTION

PENITENCE Jesus says, 'I am the light of the world. He who follows me shall not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.' Let us then bring our secret sins into his light and confess them in penitence and faith.

Let us kneel and confess our sins to God our Father.

Almighty God, our Father, we come to you in sorrow and humility to confess our sins:

For turning away from you, and ignoring your will for our lives:

Father, forgive us, **Save us and help us.**

For behaving just as we wish, without thinking of you:

Father, forgive us, **Save us and help us.**

For failing you not only by what we have done, but also by our thoughts and by what we have said:

Father, forgive us, **Save us and help us.**

For letting ourselves be drawn away from you by temptations in the world about us:

Father, forgive us, **Save us and help us.**

For acting as if we are ashamed to belong to your dear Son Christ Jesus:

Father, forgive us, **Save us and help us.**

A priest pronounces this absolution: In the name of Jesus I declare to you: You are forgiven; your sins are gone. Be strong in the Holy Spirit, and live for God. **Amen.**

ACCLAMATION Stand

Let us praise God for his mercy.

And give thanks to him for his goodness.

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.

As we stand, let us pray that we may know and share the light of Christ.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Creator God, who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: We pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, shine into the hearts of all your people, and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Reading Saint Luke 2:22-40

[Simeon Praises the Lord]

²² The time came for Mary and Joseph to do what the Law of Moses says a mother is supposed to do after her baby is born.

They took Jesus to the temple in Jerusalem and presented him to the Lord, ²³ just as the Law of the Lord says, "Each first-born baby boy belongs to the Lord." ²⁴ The Law of the Lord also says parents have to offer a sacrifice, giving at least a pair of doves or two young pigeons. So that is what Mary and Joseph did.

²⁵ At this time a man named Simeon was living in Jerusalem. Simeon was a good man. He loved God and was waiting for him to save the people of Israel. God's Spirit came to him ²⁶ and told him that he would not die until he had seen Christ the Lord.

²⁷When Mary and Joseph brought Jesus to the temple to do what the Law of Moses says should be done for a new baby, the Spirit told Simeon to go into the temple. ²⁸Simeon took the baby Jesus in his arms and praised God,

²⁹“Lord, I am your servant, and now I can die in peace, because you have kept your promise to me. ³⁰With my own eyes I have seen what you have done to save your people, ³¹and foreign nations will also see this. ³²Your mighty power is a light for all nations, and it will bring honour to your people Israel.”

³³Jesus' parents were surprised at what Simeon had said. ³⁴Then he blessed them and told Mary, “This child of yours will cause many people in Israel to fall and others to stand. The child will be like a warning sign. Many people will reject him, ³⁵and you, Mary, will suffer as though you had been stabbed by a dagger. But all this will show what people are really thinking.”

[Anna Speaks about the Child Jesus]

³⁶The prophet Anna was also there in the temple. She was the daughter of Phanuel from the tribe of Asher, and she was very old. In her youth she had been married for seven years, but her husband died. ³⁷And now she was 84 years old. Night and day she served God in the temple by praying and often going without eating. ³⁸At this time Anna came in and praised God. She spoke about the child Jesus to everyone who hoped for Jerusalem to be set free.

[The Return to Nazareth]

³⁹After Joseph and Mary had done everything that the Law of the Lord commands, they returned home to Nazareth in Galilee. ⁴⁰The child Jesus grew. He became strong and wise, and God blessed him.

This is the Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God**



CANTICLE HYMN 706 based on *Benedictus* – *Song of Zechariah*

1 O bless the God of Israel,
who comes to set us free,
who visits and redeems us
and grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy,
of rescue and release;
God shall fulfil the promise
to bring our people peace.

2 He comes! the son of David
the one whom God has given;
he comes to live among us
and raise us up to heaven.
Before him goes the herald
forerunner in the way,
the prophet of salvation,
the messenger of Day.

3 Where once were fear and darkness
the sun begins to rise the dawning of
forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes,
to guide the feet of
pilgrims along the paths of peace:
O bless our God and Saviour,
with songs that never cease!

ADDRESS ~ RECTOR

HOLY BAPTISM *see yellow sheets*

The candles in the pews and the Christingles are now lit for the duration of the next hymn

Hymn 203

When candles are lighted on Candlemas Day
the dark is behind us, and spring's on the way.

Refrain:

*A glory dawns in every dark place,
the light of Christ, the fullness of grace.*

The kings have departed, the shepherds have gone,
the child and his parents are left on their own. *Refrain*

They go to the temple, obeying the law,
and offer two pigeons, the gift of the poor. *Refrain*

But Anna and Simeon recognize there
the Christ-child who came at the turn of the year. *Refrain*

The old who have suffered and waited so long
see hope for the world as they welcome the young. *Refrain*

The light is increasing and spring's in the air.
Look back with thanksgiving! Look forward with awe! *Refrain*

They see before Mary a heart-piercing grief,
but trust is complete at the end of their life. *Refrain*

For Mary will follow, with tears in her eyes,
her Saviour and Son to the foot of the cross. *Refrain*

Like Anna, like Simeon, may we have trust,
the eyes to see Jesus, and peace at the last. *Refrain*

The candles invite us to praise and to pray
when Christmas greets Easter on Candlemas Day. *Refrain*
We extinguish our candles

THE 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.

All 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.

All 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.

All 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.

All 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.

All 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.

All Amen.

Occasional Prayers

Let us pray with confidence to the Father, in the words our Saviour taught us and say, **Our Father....**

FINAL RESPONSORY

Father, soon we bring to an end our celebration of the Saviour's birth

Help us in whom he has been born to live his life that has no end

Here we have greeted the Light of the world

Help us never to forsake the light of Christ

Soon we turn from Christ's birth to his passion

Help us for whom Lent is coming to enter deeply into the Easter mystery

Here we bless one another in your name

Help us, who now go in peace, to shine with your light in the world

THE DISMISSAL

THE BLESSING

Final Hymn 204

When Jesus came to Jordan
To be baptised by John
He did not come for pardon
But as His Father's Son
He came to share repentance
With all who mourn their sins
To speak the vital sentence
With which good news begins

2

He came to share temptation
Our utmost woe and loss
For us and our salvation
To die upon the cross

So when the Dove descended
On Him the Son of Man
The hidden years had ended
The age of grace began

3

Come Holy Spirit aid us
To keep the vows we make
This very day invade us
And every bondage break
Come give our lives direction
The gift we covet most
To share the resurrection
That leads to Pentecost

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God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.

You have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

**Shine as a light in the world
to the glory of God the Father.**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord
in the name of Christ. Amen.

All turn to face the door

To a troubled world :	Peace from Christ
To a searching world:	Love from Christ
To a dying world:	Hope from Christ. Amen

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Services this week

Wednesday 7.30pm Zoom Compline.

Thursday 10.30am Eucharist (1) with intercessions for those in any kind of need
A cup of tea/coffee is available after this service.

Next Sunday 3rd before Lent.

9.00 a.m. Eucharist; 10.30 a.m. Sung Eucharist

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*Please take away the sheet to pray the collect during the week and to re-read the readings.
Please recycle when finished.*

