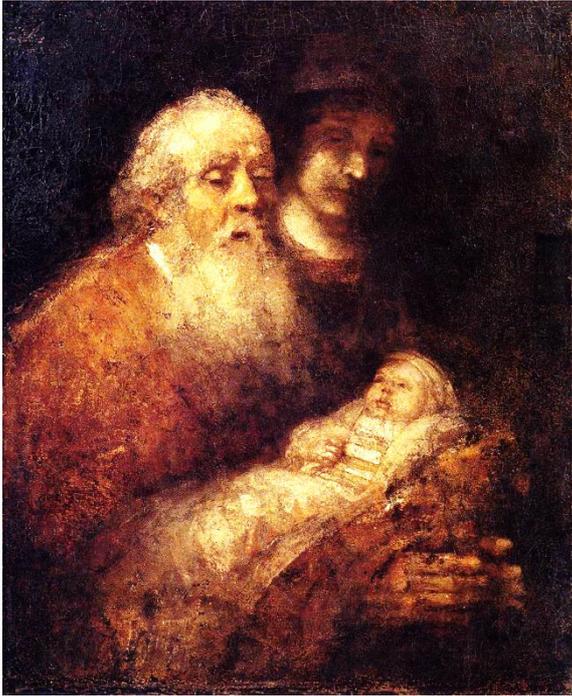




The Parish of Thorpe St Andrew

Weekly Newsletter and Service Sheet 31 January 2021 Candlemas (transferred)

‘Heaven doth with us as we with torches do...’



The Feast of the Presentation of Christ in the Temple, also known as the Purification of Mary, or Candlemas, crowns a densely packed sweep of the Church year, which – from Advent, to Christmas, through our Epiphany observance of the Magi, and on to Christ’s Baptism and the Wedding at Cana – reminds us time and again that the manifestation of God’s reign among us is always surprising and subversive. Candlemas throws this paradox into its sharpest relief: the ageing Simeon recognises Christ as a light to the whole world, and the glory of God’s chosen people, Israel. Yet his words – so memorably

translated in the Book of Common Prayer, from which our worship this morning comes – are taken from a passage of the Prophet Isaiah, which speaks of a ‘suffering servant’ by whom the nations will be disarmed and enlightened. God’s kingdom is ushered in not by a mighty warrior, but in the helplessness of a swaddled infant. God’s light and glory shine forth not from the proud and mighty, but through those who watch, and wait, and weep; those who, like Mary, know that conformity to Christ’s perfect offering of love will entail the sting of costly compassion. Such compassion is never more needed than here and now, amidst our daily suffering, confusion, and fear. Attentiveness to the needs of others is a spiritual undertaking, forged in the crucible of prayer, which is where we best open ourselves to God’s illuminating, glorifying work. As Shakespeare put it, ‘Heaven doth with us as we with torches do...’. So may we shine with that unendingly sublime light of Christ, which faithful Simeon saw. God bless you all.

Fr Taylor

Sung Matins for Candlemas

Organ Prelude 'Dearest Lord Jesus, we are here', *Johann Gottfried Walther*

Hymn *Hail to the Lord who comes!* (NEH 157)

**1. Hail to the Lord who comes,
Comes to his temple gate!
Not with his angel host,
Not in his kingly state;
No shouts proclaim him nigh,
No crowds his coming wait;**

**2. But, borne upon the throne
Of Mary's gentle breast,
Watched by her duteous love,
In her fond arms at rest;
Thus to his Father's house
He comes, the heav'nly Guest.**

**3. There Joseph at her side
In reverent wonder stands,
And, filled with holy joy,
Old Simeon in his hands
Takes up the promised Child,
The glory of all lands.**

**4. Hail to the great First-born
Whose ransom-price they pay!
The Son before all worlds,
The Child of man today,
That he might ransom us
Who still in bondage lay.**

**5. O Light of all the earth,
Thy children wait for thee!
Come to thy temples here,
That we, from sin set free,
Before thy Father's face
May all presented be!**

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.

GRANT, we beseech thee, merciful Lord, to thy faithful people pardon and peace; that they may be cleansed from all their sins, and serve thee with a quiet mind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Opening 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. Amen.

Praise ye the Lord
The Lord's name be praised.

Psalmody

The psalm appointed for the day, the forty-eighth, is said antiphonally.

1. GREAT is the Lord, and highly to be praised : in the city of our God, even upon his holy hill.
2. **The hill of Sion is a fair place, and the joy of the whole earth : upon the north-side lieth the city of the great King; God is well known in her palaces as a sure refuge.**
3. For lo, the kings of the earth : are gathered, and gone by together.
4. **They marvelled to see such things : they were astonished, and suddenly cast down.**
5. Fear came there upon them, and sorrow : as upon a woman in her travail.
6. **Thou shalt break the ships of the sea : through the east-wind.**
7. Like as we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God : God upholdeth the same for ever.
8. **We wait for thy loving-kindness, O God : in the midst of thy temple.**
9. O God, according to thy Name, so is thy praise unto the world's end : thy right hand is full of righteousness.
10. **Let the mount Sion rejoice, and the daughters of Judah be glad : because of thy judgements.**
11. Walk about Sion, and go round about her : and tell the towers thereof.
12. **Mark well her bulwarks, set up her houses : that ye may tell them that come after.**

13. For this God is our God for ever and ever : he shall be our guide unto death.

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.

Reading Malachi 3.1-5

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.

Then I will draw near to you for judgment; 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.

Canticle

The Benedictus is said antiphonally.

BLESSED be the Lord God of Israel : for he hath visited and redeemed his people;

And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us : in the house of his servant David;

As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets : which have been since the world began;

That we should be saved from our enemies : and from the hand of all that hate us.

To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers : and to remember his holy Covenant;

**To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather
Abraham : that he would give us;**

That we being delivered out of the hand of our enemies : might serve
him without fear;

**In holiness and righteousness before him : all the days of our
life.**

And thou, Child, shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest : for thou
shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;

**To give knowledge of salvation unto his people : for the
remission of their sins,**

Through the tender mercy of our God : whereby the day-spring from on
high hath visited us;

**To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of
death : and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

**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.**

Reading Luke 2.22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the law of
Moses, they 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 favour of God was upon him.

The Creed

**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 Catholick Church; The
Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of
the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.**

The Responses

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.

○ Lord, shew thy mercy upon us.

And grant us thy salvation.

○ Lord, save the Queen.

And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.

Endue thy Ministers with righteousness.

And make thy chosen people joyful.

○ Lord, save thy people.

And bless thine inheritance.

Give peace in our time, ○ Lord.

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

○ God, make clean our hearts within us.

And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

The Collects

ALMIGHTY and ever-living 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. Amen.

○ GOD, who art the author of peace and lover of concord, in knowledge of whom standeth our eternal life, whose service is perfect freedom: Defend us thy humble servants in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in thy defence, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

O LORD, our heavenly Father, Almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance, to do always that is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn *Hail, thou Source of every blessing* (NEH 51)

**1. Hail, thou source of every blessing,
sovereign Father of our kind!
Gentiles now, thy grace possessing,
in thy courts admission find.**

**2. Once far off, but now invited,
we approach thy sacred throne;
in thy covenant united,
reconciled, redeemed, made one.**

**3. Now revealed to eastern sages,
see the star of mercy shine,
mystery hid in former ages,
mystery great of love divine.**

**4. Hail, thou universal Saviour!
Gentiles now their offerings bring,
in thy temple seek thy favour,
Jesus Christ, our Lord and King.**

Sermon *The Reverend Taylor Wilton-Morgan, Assistant Curate*

Anthem

The Nunc Dimittis (The Song of Simeon) is sung whilst the paschal candle is lit.

Closing Prayers

Your light is come, O Jerusalem

And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you

O Lord Christ, thyself the temple of the heavenly city, and its light, and its surpassing splendour: Grant that we who in this earthly house offer to thee our worship, may be brought in peace to the vision of thy glory in heaven; where, with the Father and the Holy Spirit thou livest and reignest, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Ghost, be with us all, evermore. Amen.

Organ Voluntary No.1 of Six Occasional Preludes, op. 182, C V Stanford

Prayer Intentions

THE CHURCH

Our Ministry Team James Stewart, Taylor Wilton-Morgan, Nicole King

Our Bishops Graham and Alan. For Jonathan in his retirement and for the appointment of a new Bishop of Lynn. **Archdeacons** Karen Hutchinson, Steven Betts, Ian Bentley **Ecumenical** United Reformed Church: Eastern Synod Moderator, Paul Whittle. **Anglican Communion** Igreja Episcopal Anglicana do Brazil (Anglican Church in Brazil).

THE WORLD

All those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic all key workers in NHS and all fields of frontline work, particularly all those working in our local hospitals (NNUH), including doctors, nurses, porters, cleaners, cooks, administrative staff, chaplains, coping with unprecedented demand for treatment of Covid patients.

THE COMMUNITY

Streets of the Parish Highfield Close, Hillcrest Road, Hillside Avenue

Our community For all those in our community struggling with the third national lockdown, remembering all our civic leaders at Town, District and County level. **Vaccination** Giving thanks for those who have already received the first dose of their vaccine, for those working in the NHS to roll out the programme and for those waiting to hear.

THOSE IN NEED OF OUR PRAYER including Paul Carter, Mark Little, Monique Rowland, Jennifer Jones, Janet Fancy, Colin Hicks, Alan Harrison, Grace Howes, Peter and Gaynor Garrood, Rita Ward, Joy and Andy McCall, Jean High, Jean Mayhew, Brother Gabriel, Craig Fransham, Anthony Travis, Mark King, Chloe Smith MP, Alan Fleming

THE DEPARTED

The recently departed Kathleen Eglinton (2nd Feb), Ernest Webb (3rd Feb), Raymond Fountain (4th Feb), Tony Towers (5th Feb), Haydn Morris (26th February), Brian Riseborough, John Wright, Paul Rayner, Arthur Bowles (priest) **Those whose anniversary of death occurs at this time** including Martin Carruthers (30th Jan), Kathleen Scates (2nd Feb) and John Bussey (3rd Feb).

Other notices and announcements

A reminder that public services are suspended until further notice. Our worship will be provided online, and the church will remain open for private prayer between 10 and 4 Tuesday to Sunday, but will be closed on Mondays.

RECTOR'S HOLIDAY Fr James remains on annual leave until 1 February. Please do be in touch with Fr Taylor in his absence, if needed (01603 387401).

ZOOM COFFEE This will take place as usual at **11.00am on Friday 5 February 2021**. Please do support this if you can. It is a great way of staying in touch. Zoom details will come out on **2 February** through our email system.

HAYDN MORRIS RIP Many of you will be aware of the death of Haydn who has died, aged 92, after a fall. A much-respected member of our community and within the sporting life of our city and county as Director of Sport of UEA, he was also a long serving and respected Magistrate and stalwart of our 8.00am congregation. A great privilege to minister to and a shining example of the best that his native Wales can produce. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Jean and Ian, Gill and Richard and their families. His funeral is sadly by invitation only, but will be live streamed. Details to follow.

GREETINGS FROM FR PATRICK KERLEY Fr Patrick reports that, after quite a lot of pain from having had his pacemaker fitted in November, he is now getting better. He sends his love and best wishes.

GIFT AID The treasury team would like to say "thank you" to all of you who have returned the completed gift aid forms so far. If you haven't done so yet, please can you get this back as soon as you can.

WINNER OF THE NATIVITY COLOURING COMPETITION AND 12 AND OVER 'CREATIVE CHALLENGE' As announced last Sunday we are pleased to confirm that the winner of the 11 and under colouring competition is: **Joseph Squirrell (aged 6)**. The winner of the 'creative challenge' to link Christmas to Covid-19 is: **Jo Sanders (over 11)** for her 'Our Covid-19 Year' Collage, made up of many individual pieces cut from Parish Life magazines in the pandemic. Well done to them both. Both pieces will be displayed in church, and we have had a kind offer to mount and frame the collage. Thank you.

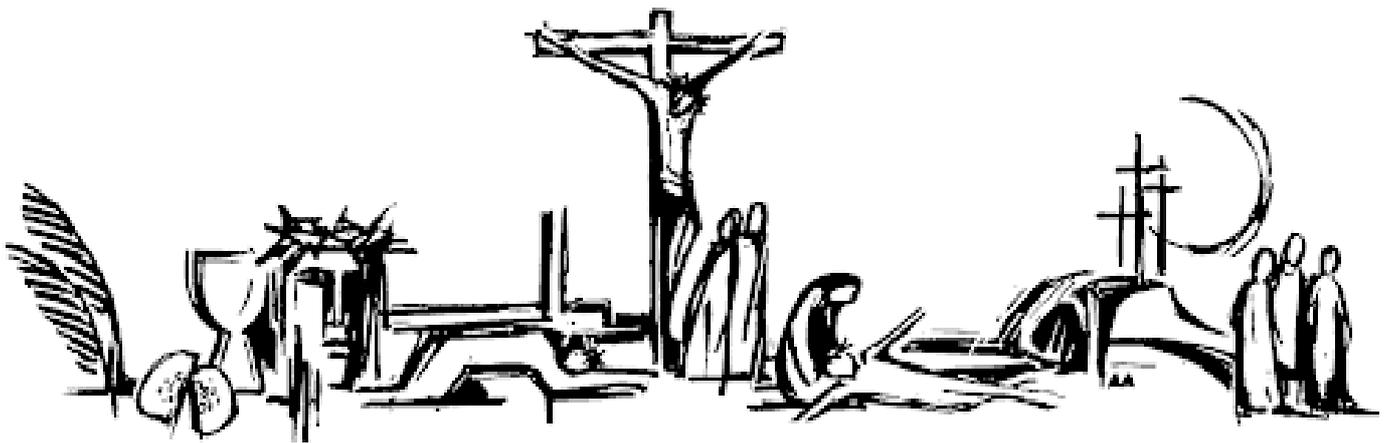
Lent 2021 – our online programme

17 February Ash Wednesday Service online: 6pm

19 February, 5 March, 19 March Virtual Lent Lunches by Zoom. A chance to come together (and a change from Zoom Coffee) – 12.30pm. Bring your own soup. More info to follow!

24 February, 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 March Lent Study Group.

A real chance to join together this Lent when other commitments are not possible. Details from Fr Taylor or Fr James in due course. Each session takes place at 2.30pm



Further information

Rector: The Revd James Stewart

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Curate: The Revd Taylor Wilton-Morgan

Tel: 01603 387401 email: fr.taylor@outlook.com