

ST. GEORGE'S CHURCH

30 North Ferry St, Schenectady, NY



THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE CANDLEMAS

Solemn High Mass

10:00 a.m.
1 February 2026

THE BLESSING OF CANDLES AND CANDLEMAS PROCESSION*Before the Blessing of Candles, a banner presented by the Society of Mary will be blessed.***THE CANDLEMAS ENTRANCE RITE***(people stand)*

Dear friends, forty days ago we celebrated the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Now we recall the day on which he was presented in the Temple, when he was offered to the Father and shown to his people. As a sign of his coming among us, his mother was purified, as we now come to him for cleansing. In their old age Simeon and Anna recognized him as their Lord, as we today sing of his glory. In this Eucharist, we celebrate both the joy of his coming and his searching judgement, looking back to the day of his birth and forward to the coming days of his passion.

*The Celebrant now blesses candles that will be used in the church during the year,
as well as candles that have been presented by the People.*

*The People lift up their unlit candles.***V.** Our help is in the name of the Lord**R.** The maker of heaven and earth**V.** The Lord be with you.**R.** And with thy spirit.**V.** 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 Peoples' hand candles are now lighted as the Choir solemnly sings the Nunc Dimittis.**Antiphon:* A light to lighten the Gentiles: and the glory of thy people Israel.

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word. [Antiphon]

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation. [Antiphon]

Which thou hast prepared before the face of all people. [Antiphon]

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. [Antiphon]

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God our Father, source of all light, on this day thou hast revealed unto the aged Simeon thy light which doth enlighten the Gentiles. We beseech thee, O Lord, to fill our hearts with the light of faith, that we who bear these candles may ever walk in the path of thy goodness, and come the Light that shineth for ever, even Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CANDLEMAS PROCESSION*Deacon:* Let us go forth in peace.*People:* In the name of Christ. Amen.*The people join in the procession behind the banner***PROCESSION HYMN 257**

O Zion, open wide thy gates

Edmonton

*The procession stops at the altar gates for the station collect**Celebrant:* Let us pray.

O God, thou hast made this day holy by the presentation of thy Son in the Temple, and by the purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary: Mercifully grant that we, who delight in her humble readiness to be the birth-giver of the Only-begotten, may rejoice for ever in our adoption as his brethren, through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PROCESSION HYMN 259

Hail to the Lord who comes

Old 120th

THE MASS OF THE FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

Commonly called Candlemas

1 February 2026

THE INTROIT

Sung by the Cantor & Choir

We have waited O God for thy loving-kindness in the midst of thy temple; according to thy Name of God; so is thy praise unto the world's end: thy right hand is full of righteousness. Ps. Great is the Lord and highly to be praised: in the city of our God; even upon his holy hill. Glory be.

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith: Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it: Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

THE KYRIE ELEISON, HYMNAL S-91

Sung by all

(people kneel)

Lord, have mercy upon us. (3x)
Christ, have mercy upon us. (3x)

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS, HYMNAL S-202

Sung by all

(people stand)

Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.
We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee,
we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that taketh away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the
Father,
have mercy upon us.
For thou only art holy;
thou only art the Lord;
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
X art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Candlemas

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly beseech thee that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE LESSON

Malachi 3.14

A READING from the Book of the Prophet Malachi

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.

V. The Word of the Lord

R. Thanks be to God

THE GRADUAL

Sung by Cantor & Choir

We have waited O God for thy loving kindness in the midst of thy temple; according to thy name O God; so is thy praise unto the world's end. Like as we have heard; so have we seen in the city of our God, even upon his holy hill.

THE EPISTLE

Hebrews 2.14-18

A READING from the Letter to the Hebrews

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

A L - LE - LU - IA. Al - le - lu - ia.

Alleluia. Alleluia. The old man carried the Child; but the Child governed the old man. Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2.22-40

THE HOLY GOSPEL OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST ACCORDING TO SAINT JOHN

R. Glory be to thee, O Lord.

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.

V. The Gospel of the Lord.

R. Praise be to thee, O Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rector

THE NICENE CREED, HYMNAL S-103

Sung by All

(people stand)

I BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible; And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father; by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, and ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to Judge both the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost the Lord, and Giver of Life, who proceedeth from the Father (and the Son); who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified; who spake by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Catholic and Apostolic Church; I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins; and I look for the resurrection of the dead **¶** and the life of the world to come. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & GREETINGS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(people kneel)

Biddings are given before the Prayers of Intercession, which are then said without interpolation.

For the sick and the suffering;

For those who have died;

For those who celebrate their birthdays and anniversaries this week

Let us pray to the Father through Christ who is our light and life. Father, thy Christ is acclaimed as the glory of Israel: look in mercy upon thy Church, sharing his light.

Deacon Lord, have mercy.

People Christ, have mercy.

Father, thy Christ in his temple bringeth judgement upon the world:

look in mercy upon the nations, which long for his justice.

Deacon Lord, have mercy.

People Christ, have mercy.

Father, thy Christ, who was rich, for our sakes became poor:

look in mercy upon the needy, suffering with him.

Deacon Lord, have mercy.

People Christ, have mercy.

Father, thy Christ is the one in whom faithful servants find their peace:
look in mercy upon the departed, that they may see thy salvation.

Deacon Lord, have mercy.

People Christ, have mercy.

Father, thy Christ is revealed as the one destined to be rejected:
look in mercy upon us who now turn towards his passion.

Deacon Lord, have mercy.

People Christ, have mercy.

Celebrant: Lord God, thou didst keep faith with Simeon and Anna, and didst show them the infant King: give us grace to put all our trust in thy promises, and the patience to wait for their fulfilment; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

People Amen

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

(*people kneel*)

Deacon Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, maker of all things, judge of all men: We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which we from time to time most grievously have committed, by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous unto us, the burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of thy Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

THE PEACE

(*people stand*)

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Sung by the Cantor & Choir

Full of grace are thy lips: because God hath blessed thee for ever.

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM
(b. 1958)

In principio erat Verbum

Brian J. Taylor

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word was made flesh and dwelt among us. [Thanks be to God.]

OFFERTORY HYMN 324 Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Picardy

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Celebrant sings the Proper Preface of the Epiphany

THE SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS QUI VENIT, HYMNAL S-114

Sung by all

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy Glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
✠ Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

(people kneel)

ALL GLORY BE TO THEE, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." **¶**

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me." **†**

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy **☩** grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord; By whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

THE FRACTION

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE AGNUS DEI, HYMNAL S-158

Sung by all

(people kneel)

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Said by all

(people kneel)

WE DO NOT PRESUME to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.

THE INVITATION

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.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF COMMUNION

All baptized Christians may receive communion. If you wish to not receive, you are invited to come forward and cross your arms, indicating that you wish to receive a blessing. Gluten-free hosts are available.

THE COMMUNION SENTENCE

Sung by the Cantor & Choir

It was revealed unto Simeon by the Holy Spirit: that he should not see death; before he had seen the Lord's anointed.

- St. John 1.1, 14

THE COMMUNION HYMN 82

Of the Father's Love begotten

Divinum mysterium

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER *Said by All*

(people kneel)

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING

(people kneel)

May Christ, the Son of God, be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light to the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, + the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE CLOSING HYMN, HYMN 657

Love divine, all loves excelling

Hyfrydol

Closing Voluntary

Fugue in C (BWV 564c)

J. S. Bach

MINISTERS OF TODAY'S LITURGY

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|-----------------------|--|
| Celebrant & Preacher: | The Reverend Thomas J. Pettigrew, Rector |
| Deacon: | The Reverend Abigail Bee |
| SubDeacon: | David Kennison |
| Master of Ceremonies: | Kevin Decker |
| Organist | Dr. Brian J. Taylor |
| Cantor: | Louisa Carr |
| Thurifer: | Chris Henry |
| Boat Boy: | James Smigelski |
| Crucifer: | Paul Smigelski |
| Acolytes: | Eric Bassant, J. J. Moran |
| Lector: | Jonathan Ewbank |
| Greeters: | Jonathan Pearson, Meg Hughes |
| Counters: | Jonathan Pearson, Jerry Trant |
| Altar Guild: | Wendy Madelone & Natasha Bassant |
| Sacristans: | David & Anne Kennison |

YOUR PRAYERS ARE ASKED FOR:

The Sick and those in need: Jamie, Pat, Gabriella Rose, Katie, Chase, Pedro, Isabella, Dan Bornt, Dinorah Jimenez, Lula Fite, Nancy, Karen Perretta, Sharon A. Wemtle, Lorna, Mike T., Richard, Abigail, Suzanne, Ann, Josh, Den, Sherrie, Ann-Marie, Lynn Paska, Larry, Robbie, Aubrey, Tamara, Mtr. Lisa Schoonmaker, Anne, Fred, Anna, James, Suzie, Dennis, Warren Crow, Ruth, Simon, Shannon, Robert, and Diane.

The prayer list will be reset every 3 months. Did we miss an important date for our birthday and faithful departed intentions? If you would like a name included on the prayer list or on the annual rota of intentions, send an email to rector@stgeorgesschenectady.org

The Departed: Wesley Rose (2)

Birthdays: Jon Ewbank (1), Meredith Ewbank (3), Richard Forshaw (4)

Baptismal Anniversaries: Amanda Dillion (2), Jonah Thiessen II (2)

Wedding Anniversaries: Jon & Meredith Ewbank (2)

SERVICES THIS WEEK

Sunday, February 1 – 10:00 a.m. – Candlemas Procession & Solemn High Mass –

The Presentation of Our Lord Jesus Christ in the Temple

Coffee Hour follows in the Great Hall

Monday, February 2 – 9:00 a.m. – Low Mass – Purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday, February 3 – 8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer

Bible Study Group follows in Cranmer House at 9:00 a.m.

Wednesday, February 4 – 9:00 a.m. – Low Mass

Thursday, February 5 – 6:00 p.m. The Holy Eucharist, Rite I, with Healing

Friday, February 6 – 12:00 p.m. – Low Mass – feria

Sunday, February 8 – 10:00 a.m. – Sung Mass – Epiphany 5

WELCOME VISITORS! We'd like to extend a warm welcome to our visitors today. Whether you live in our area and decided to worship with us today or if you are visiting from out of town, we offer you a warm Georgian welcome! There are visitor cards in most of the pews and we ask that you fill one out and give it to the Greeters at the door or simply drop it in the offering plate. We'd love to see you again. Our website, www.stgeorgesschenectady.com.

Parish Life and Beyond

LITTLE RED WAGON SUNDAY is next Sunday, February 8th. This is our monthly ingathering of non-perishable food for the Sycamore Collaborative food pantry. You may bring your contributions to the back of the church any time between now and then. They will be blessed at Mass and then taken to the pantry for distribution to their clients.

YWCA INGATHERING – The next ingathering for the YWCA Women's Shelter is Sunday, March 8th, the First Sunday in Lent. The shelter is once again in need of twin sheets as well as hygiene and sanitary products. In addition NEW children's underwear in any size is needed. To give some idea of the need, the emergency shelter has 20 rooms which are almost always occupied. Our generosity for this important service is greatly appreciated.

ALL ON THE SAME PAGE BOOK CLUB – All are invited to read *The Snow Child* by Eowyn Ivey. This memorable Pulitzer-nominated novel will give you chills and keep you guessing. A middle-aged couple, barely surviving a frigid Alaskan winter, catch glimpses of a child roaming alone in the forest. Are they losing their minds or witnessing a miracle: Both things may be true! Read it to find out and join in the book club discussion after Mass on March 15th.

Looking Ahead

Ash Wednesday, February 18th – Masses with Imposition of Ashes at 9:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

PRAYER LIST – If you have a name that you would like added to the prayer list please email the church office at office@StGeorgesSchenectady.org and we will insure that this person will be remembered in the prayers.

PARISH MINISTRY SCHEDULES POSTED ONLINE – The most recent schedule of greeters, lectors, counters, and altar guild is published online. If you are interested in serving as a lector, greeter, counter, or acolyte, please speak to Fr. Pettigrew or email him at rector@StGeorgesSchenectady.org for more information.

SHAPE NOTE SINGING: All are welcome to experience the joy of singing together the beautiful a cappella harmonies and stirring songs of the Sacred Harp, a tune book and hymnal published in Georgia in 1844 and used in community singing throughout the world. We sing in the Great Hall on Saturday afternoons from 1-3:30pm. For schedule updates or more information, please contact Tarik Wareh or visit www.albanyssacredharp.org

