



Eve of the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

EVENSONG

BLESSING OF CANDLES

BLESSING OF THROATS

February 1, 2026 • 5 pm

- *the presider blesses the candles for the blessing of throats*

Almighty and merciful God, who has created all things by the power of your Word, and who, for our salvation, has willed that the same Word, by whom all things were made, should become incarnate; you who are great and does wondrous things, awesome and worthy of praise: for the confession of whose faith the glorious Martyr and Bishop Blaise, spurning torment, was counted worthy to receive the martyr's palm: to whom you granted the virtue of healing illnesses of the throat through your almighty power; we humbly ask your majesty that, regarding not our sins, you would deign to bless this creature of wax, sanctifying it and hallowing it with your grace: that all who with faith receive its touch, may be freed from all ailments of the throat, and being restored to health, may offer thanksgiving in your holy Church for your grace by praising your glorious Name, which is worthy of eternal blessing, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

- *the candles may then be sprinkled with holy water*
- *candles for the procession are lit while the following chant is sung*

The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion; in
God I trust, in God I trust.

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Let us pray.

O God, 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.

Amen.

- *the deacon says:*

Let us go forth in peace.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

EVENSONG



INVITATORY AND PSALTER

PRECES S26

officiant

O God, make speed to save us.

people

O Lord, make haste to help us.

officiant and people

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.
except during Lent, may be added

Al - le - lu - ia.

PHOS HILARON *Hail, gladdening light*

Charles Wood

Hail, gladdening light, of his pure glory poured
Who is the immortal Father, heavenly, blest,
Holiest of holies, Jesu Christ, our Lord.

Now we are come to the sun's hour of rest,
The lights of evening round us shine,
We hymn the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit Divine.

Wotheist art thou at all times to be sung
With undefiled tongue,
Son of our God, giver of life alone!
Therefore in all the world thy glories, Lord, they own.

2nd or 3rd century, trans. John Keble (1792-1866)

I was glad when they said to me, *
“Let us go to the house of the LORD.”

Now our feet are standing *
within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city *
that is at unity with itself;
To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, *
the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the LORD.

For there are the thrones of judgment, *
the thrones of the house of David.

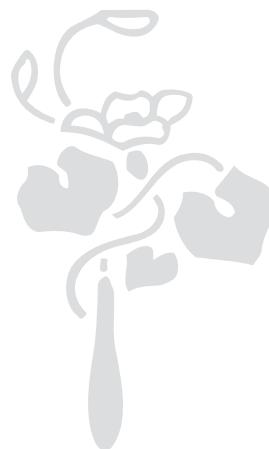
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
“May they prosper who love you.

Peace be within your walls *
and quietness within your towers.

For my brethren and companions’ sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.

Because of the house of the LORD our God, *
I will seek to do you good.”

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.



THE READINGS

- silence is kept after each reading for reflection

FIRST READING 1 Samuel 1:20-28a

In due time Hannah conceived and bore a son. She named him Samuel, for she said, "I have asked him of the Lord." The man Elkanah and all his household went up to offer to the Lord the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, "As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring him, that he may appear in the presence of the Lord, and remain there forever; I will offer him as a nazirite for all time." Her husband Elkanah said to her, "Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only—may the Lord establish his word." So the woman remained and nursed her

son, until she weaned him. When she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull, an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine. She brought him to the house of the Lord at Shiloh; and the child was young. Then they slaughtered the bull, and they brought the child to Eli. And she said, "Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the Lord. For this child I prayed; and the Lord has granted me the petition that I made to him. Therefore I have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives, he is given to the Lord." She left him there for the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

MAGNIFICAT (IN C)

Charles Stanford

My soul doth magnify the Lord, *
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded *
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth *
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me, *
and holy is his Name.
And his mercy is on them that fear him *
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm; *
he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat, *
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things, *
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, *
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

SECOND READING Romans 8:14-21

For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. 18I consider that the sufferings

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God.

NUNC DIMITTIS (IN C)

Charles Stanford

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, *
according to thy word;
For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, *
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, *
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen

- *all stand*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

officiant I believe in God,

all 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.

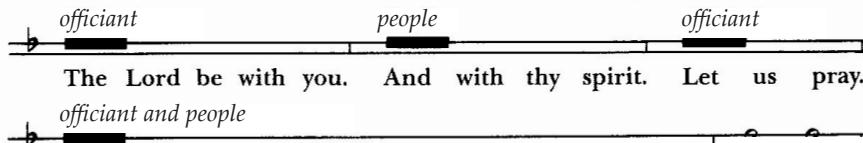
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

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 PRAYERS

THE RESPONSES



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.
Amen

SUFFRAGES S 22

officiant

V O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;
people

R And grant us thy salva - tion.

V Endue thy ministers with right - eous - ness;

R And make thy chosen people joy - ful.

V Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R For only in thee can we live in safe - ty.

V Lord, keep this nation un - der thy care;

R And guide us in the way of jus - tice and truth.

V Let thy way be known up - on earth;

R Thy saving health among all na - tions.

V Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgot - ten;

R Nor the hope of the poor be ta - ken a - way.

V Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R And sustain us with thy Holy Spi - rit.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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.

COLLECT FOR SUNDAYS

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise thee in that City of which he is the light; and where he liveth and reigneth for ever and ever.

Amen.

COLLECT

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work, or watch, or weep this night, and give thine angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, Lord Christ; give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for thy love's sake.

Amen.

- *all be seated*

DEAN'S WELCOME

- *an offering will be received during the singing of the anthem which will go to the support of the Cathedral Arts Program*

ANTHEM *O nata lux*

O nata lux de lumine,
Jesu redemptor saeculi,
Dignare clemens supplicum
Laudes precesque sumere.

Qui carne quondam contegi
Dignatus es pro perditis,
Nos membra confer effici
Tui beati corporis.

Morten Lauridsen

O Light born of Light,
Jesus, redeemer of the world,
with loving-kindness deign to receive
suppliant praise and prayer.

Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh
for the sake of the lost,
grant us to be members
of thy blessed body.

• *all stand*

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING • *said by all*

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving kindness to us and to all men.
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we beseech thee, give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen

PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Almighty God, who hast given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication unto thee; and hast promised through thy well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name thou wilt be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, the desires and petitions of thy servants as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of thy truth, and in the world to come life everlasting.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

officiant Let us bless the Lord.

all Thanks be to God.

THE GRACE

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Romans 15:13

HYMN 257 *O Zion, open wide thy gates*

1 O Zi - on, o - pen wide thy gates, let
 2 A - ware of hid - den de - i - ty, the
 3 The a - ged Si - meon sees at last his
 4 But si - lent knelt the mo - ther blest of
 5 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther be, all

1 sym - bols dis - ap - pear; a priest and vic - tim,
 2 low - ly Vir - gin brings her new - born babe, with
 3 Lord, so long de - sired, and An - na wel - comes
 4 the yet si - lent Word, and pon - dering all things
 5 glo - ry to the Son, all glo - ry, Ho - ly

1 both in one, the Truth him - self, is here.
 2 two young doves, her hum - ble of - fer - ings.
 3 Is - rael's hope, with ho - ly rap - ture fired.
 4 in her heart, with speech - less praise a - dored.
 5 Ghost, to thee, while end - less a - ges run.

The Presentation (February 2).

Words: Jean Baptiste de Santeüil (1630-1697); tr. Edward Caswall (1814-1878), alt.
 Music: Edmonton, from *Harmonia Sacra*, ca. 1760

CM

POSTLUDE *Improvisation*

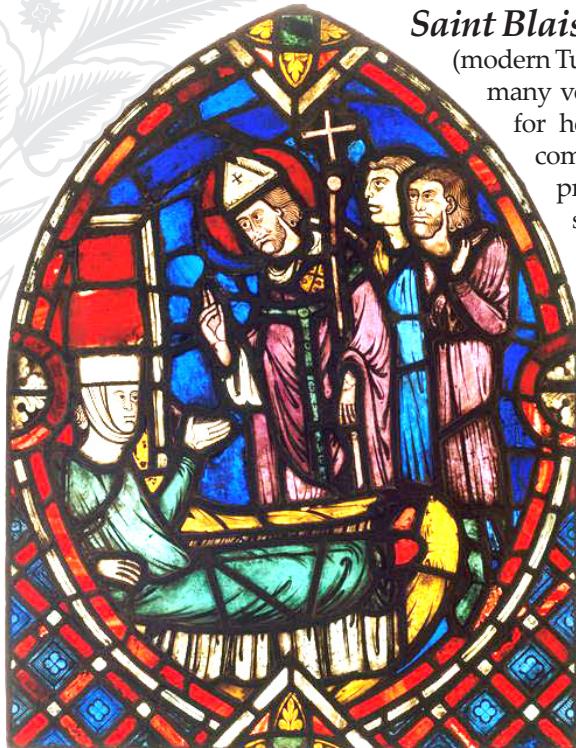
Robert Lee

THE BLESSING OF THROATS



- traditionally, this blessing for health is given on February 3, the feast of Saint Blaise, Bishop and Martyr—however, it may be given as desired at any time during the year, and in any place
- placing the two candles in the form of a cross, the celebrant applies them to the throats of those who desire the blessing, saying:

✚ Through the intercession of blessed Blaise, may God free you from all illness of the throat, and from all other ailments: In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.



Saint Blaise was the Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia (modern Turkey) around 1,700 years ago. There are many versions of his life but he is best known for healing the sick—even animals would come to him to be cured. On his way to prison, Saint Blaise met a mother whose son was choking to death on a fish bone. He cured the boy and to show her gratitude, the mother brought candles to light his prison cell. In another version of the story, Saint Blaise met a woman whose pig had been taken by a wolf. He commanded the wolf to return the pig and it was this woman who brought the candles for his cell. In prison, Saint Blaise was ordered to renounce his faith. He refused so was beaten with wool combs and beheaded. After his death, he was made a saint and has become the patron saint of wool combers, wild animals, candle makers and ailments of the throat.

The Very Rev. Matthew Bradley, *officiant*

The Rev. Charles Myers, *associate dean*

The Rev. Dr. Eva Markham, *deacon*

Austin Echols, *organist & choir director*

Jan Margerum, Bryan Platt, *lectors*

Blossom Marshall *acolyte*

Carol Brown, Bobbie Fritton, Jim Monin, *greeters/ushers*

Rob Guillen, *bell ringer*

Tim Tice, *live stream*



*... as for
me and my
household,
we will
serve the
Lord*
Joshua 24:15

Christ Church Cathedral Land Acknowledgement

Christ Church Cathedral of the Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky gathers and stands on land which has been home, for over 11,000 years, to primarily Shawnee, Cherokee, Osage, Haudenosaunee Seneca, Hopewell and Adena peoples.

Today we acknowledge the role our Church has played in colonialism's devastating legacy of death, stolen lands, dehumanizing removals, and forced assimilation of native people.

We repent of our complicity in perpetuating the dominance of white European culture, even to the present day.

We seek forgiveness.

We honor the original peoples of this land and the presence of native people still living in Kentucky.

We honor with respect their Elders, past, present, and future, their traditions, and the land itself.

We commit to listen, learn, and walk in love.





Christ Church Cathedral

→ a church in the heart of the city with a heart for the city ←

Episcopal Diocese of Kentucky

The Rt. Rev. Terry Allen White, Bishop

The Very Rev. Matthew Bradley, Dean

The Rev. Charles Myers, Associate Dean

The Rev. Dr. Eva Markham, Deacon

Austin Echols, Music Director & Organist

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