

St. Andrew's Gorleston
WORSHIP TOGETHER
10am - Sunday 2nd February 2025
Presentation of Christ in the Temple



Welcome

We praise and worship you, Lord, as we celebrate the miracle of your Son, come to earth as a helpless baby to bring us light and life. **Lord, we are here with your welcome in our hearts. As we remember the young baby, who was just 40 days old, the light of the world, we welcome each other into God's house. We welcome first timers and those who have been coming forever. We come together to worship you, to receive your light, to marvel and to learn. Amen.**

Hymn *Fling wide the gates, unbar the ancient doors;
salute your king in his triumphant cause!*

Now all the world belongs to Christ our Lord:
let all creation greet the living Word!

Who has the right to worship him today?
All those who gladly serve him and obey.

He comes to save all those who trust his name,
and will declare them free from guilt and shame.

Who is the victor glorious from the fight?
He is our king, our life, our Lord, our right!

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Confession

Hear the words of our Saviour Jesus Christ: 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me shall never walk in darkness but shall have the light of life.' Let us therefore bring our sins into his light and confess them in penitence and faith. **Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us. We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.** Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon us, pardon and deliver us from all our sins, confirm and strengthen us in all goodness, and keep us in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The collect

Lord Jesus Christ, light of the nations and the glory of Israel: make your home among us, and present us pure and holy to your heavenly Father, your God, and our God. **Amen.**

Song Light of the world

You stepped down into darkness
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made
This heart adore You
Hope of a life spent with You

*So here I am to worship
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God
And You're altogether lovely
Altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me*

King of all days
Oh so highly exalted
Glorious in heaven above
Humbly You came
To the earth You created
All for love's sake became poor

And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross

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First Reading

Hebrews 2:14-18

Since the children have flesh and blood, he too shared in their humanity so that by his death he might break the power of him who holds the power of death—that is, the devil— and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by their fear of death. For surely it is not angels he helps, but Abraham's descendants. For this reason he had to be made like them, fully human in every way, in order that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God, and that he might make atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Song He walked where I walk (ECHO)

He stood where I stand (ECHO)

He felt what I feel (ECHO)
He understands (ECHO)
He knows my frailty (ECHO)
Shared my humanity (ECHO)
Tempted in ev'ry way (ECHO)
Yet without sin (ECHO)

God with us so close to us
God with us Immanuel (REPEAT)

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Second Reading

Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for the purification rites required by the Law of Moses, Joseph and Mary took him to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male is to be consecrated to the Lord”), and to offer a sacrifice in keeping with what is said in the Law of the Lord: “a pair of doves or two young pigeons.” Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not die before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying: “Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel. ”The child’s father and mother marvelled at what was said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: “This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too. ”There was also a prophet, Anna, the daughter of Penuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was very old; she had lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, and then was a widow until she was eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped night and day, fasting and praying. Coming up to them at that very moment, she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were looking forward to the redemption of Jerusalem. When Joseph and Mary had done everything required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong; he was filled with wisdom, and the grace of God was on him.

For the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

Talk

Hymn Longing for light, we wait in darkness.

Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people,
light for the world to see.

Christ, be our light!
Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.

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Prayers of Intercession

The Lords Prayer

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.

Birthdays and Notices

Hymn Lord, the light of your love is shining,

in the midst of the darkness shining:
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us;
set us free by the truth you now bring us:
shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.

*Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word, Lord,
and let there be light!*

Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness:
search me, try me, consume all my darkness:
shine on me, shine on me.

As we gaze on your kingly brightness
so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory:
mirrored here, may our lives tell your story:
shine on me, shine on me.

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Closing Prayer and Blessing

Emmanuel, God with us, open our eyes this week to see your light and salvation already there ahead of us in familiar, challenging and strange places. Amen. Christ, whose glory fills the skies, fill you with radiance and scatter the darkness from your path. **Amen.** Christ, the Sun of Righteousness, gladden your eyes and warm your heart. **Amen.** Christ the Dayspring from on high, draw near to guide your feet into the way of peace, **Amen.** And the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

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