



Encouraging and strengthening faith in Jesus, and sharing the joy of God's love.

February 2, 2020

The Presentation of Our Lord

10:15am

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer, Pastor

Festival Holy Communion

INTRODUCTION to the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord

The Presentation of Our Lord is referred to in some corners of the church as Candlemas because of an ancient tradition of blessing all the candles to be used in the church in the coming year at the mass celebrated on this day. It is a way of underscoring the truth of Simeon's confession that this baby Jesus was "a light for revelation to the Gentiles" and a light for glory to Israel. Let the light of every candle in church be a little epiphany of the love of God for all people in the person of God's son, Jesus, the light of the world. Coming 40 days after Christmas, this is the official end of the extended Christmas season of the church. The vestments and paraments are white, the color of purity and joy. The Prayer of Thanksgiving over the bread and wine today is the oldest Eucharistic prayer in our worship book. It is ascribed to St. Hippolytus, who lived in the third century.



Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Choir Prelude

Welcome

BLESSING OF CANDLES

All may make the sign of the cross in remembrance of baptism as the pressing minister begins. In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

The presider addresses the assembly.

Forty days ago we celebrated the joyful feast of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. Today we recall the holy day on which he was presented in the temple, fulfilling the law of Moses and at the same time going to meet his faithful people. Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the temple, recognized Christ as their Lord, and proclaimed him with joy. United by the Spirit, may we now go to the house of God to welcome Christ the Lord. There we shall recognize him in the breaking of bread until he comes again in glory.

Our help is in the name of the Lord;

The maker of heaven and earth.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. You have enriched our lives with every good and perfect gift; you have commanded us to show your splendor to our children and to praise you with lives of love, justice, and joy. Accept these candles which we offer in thanksgiving +; may they be to us a sign of Christ, the Light of the world, the light no darkness can overcome. Bring us all at length to your perfect kingdom, where you live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

The candles to be used during this year are blessed with baptismal water.



Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 Music: HOUSTON, Kathleen Thomerson Text and music © 1970, 1975 Celebration

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APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

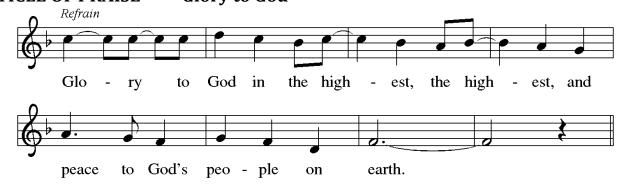
KYRIE





let us

pray to the Lord,



let us

pray

to the Lord.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept, then the presiding minister leads the prayer.

Almighty and ever-living God, your only-begotten Son was presented this day in the temple. May we be presented to you with clean and pure hearts by the same Jesus Christ, our great high priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly sits.



Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading and song.

FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

A reading from Malachi.

¹See, 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. ²But 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; ³he 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. ⁴Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 84

¹How dear to me is your dwelling, O LORD of hosts!

²My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;

my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

³Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young, by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts, my king and my God.

⁴Happy are they who dwell in your house! They will always be praising you.

⁵Happy are the people whose strength is in you,

whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

⁶Those who go through the balsam valley will find it a place of springs,

for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

⁷They will climb from height to height, and the God of gods will be seen in Zion.

⁸LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob.

⁹Behold our defender, O God; and look upon the face of your anointed.

 10 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather stand at the threshold of the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

¹¹For the LORD God is both sun and shield, bestowing grace and glory; no good thing will the LORD withhold from those who walk with integrity.

120 LORD of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:14-18

A reading from Hebrews.

¹⁴Since, therefore, the 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, ¹⁵and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷Therefore 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. ¹⁸Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

After a brief silence, the assembly stands to welcome the gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION AND PROCESSION (Please turn toward the reader)



GOSPEL: Luke 2:22-40

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, [Mary and Joseph] brought [Jesus] up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

²⁵Now 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. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. ²⁷Guided 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, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ²⁹"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; ³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation, ³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, ³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel." ³³And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then 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 ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

³⁶There 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, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At 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. ³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

The Gospel Acclamation is repeated as the procession returns.

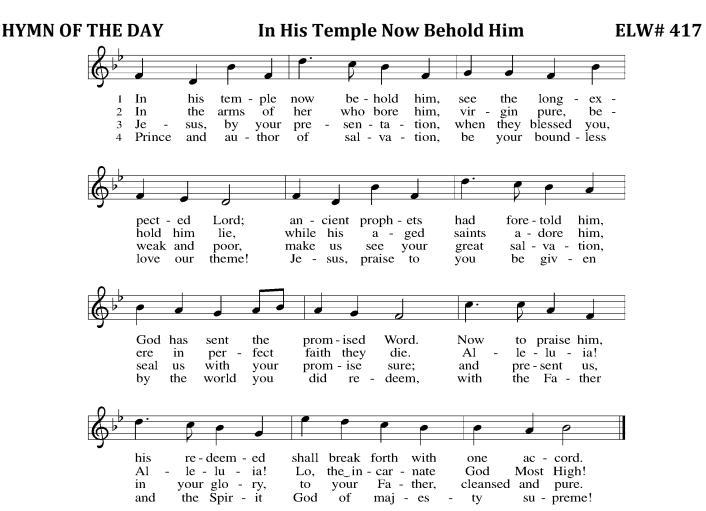
The assembly is seated.

Children and Youth Message

SERMON

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer

The assembly stands to proclaim the word of God in song.



Text: Henry J. Pye, 1825-1903, alt.

Music: REGENT SQUARE, Henry T. Smart, 1813-1879

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures: he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A: Called together through water and the Word, we boldly pray for the church, the world, and all who long to hear God's voice.

A brief silence.

After each petition:

A: Lord, in your mercy.

C: Hear our prayer.

P: We place our prayers before you, God, united in your Spirit; through your beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

After all exchange the Peace, the assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING

The assembly stands as the gifts are presented at the altar.



Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

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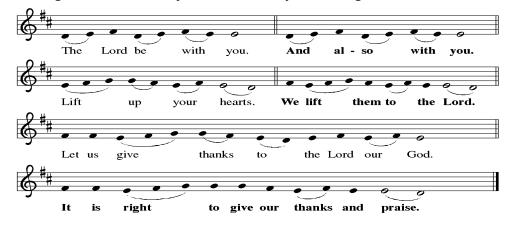
OFFERING PRAYER

A: Let us pray. Almighty God, as Mary and Joseph brought gifts to the temple in thanksgiving for the birth of their son, so we offer tokens of our thankfulness, this bread and wine, along with our very lives, for the blessings of that same Son. Accept them for the sake of the Child who was presented this day, Jesus Christ our Lord.

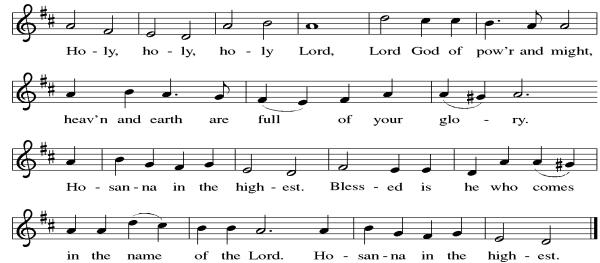
C: Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



The presiding minister continues to give thanks:

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son. ...

... in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Communion

P: Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

Come to the table of mercy and joy.

The bread is broken for the communion. The assembly is seated.

All baptized Christians are invited to participate in the celebration of holy communion. Those who are not baptized and children not yet communing may come forward for a blessing, please cross your arms on your chest if you desire a blessing.

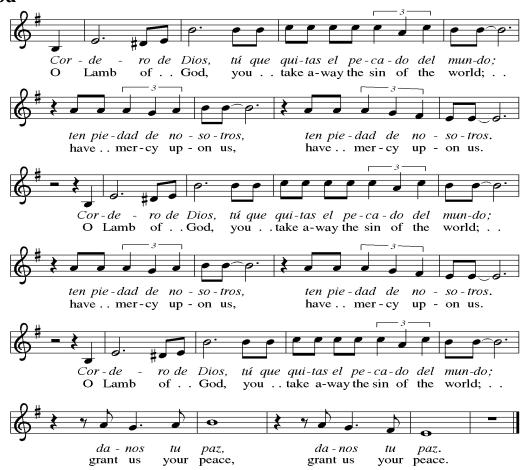
At St. Stephen we receive Holy Communion by receiving the bread and then either drinking directly from the cup or by intinction: That means that you may **receive the bread in your hand and then dip bread in the wine**.)

Gluten free bread is available on the right side. (please ask)

Alcohol free wine is available on the right side. (please ask)

The body of Christ, given for you. *Response:* **Amen.** The blood of Christ, shed for you. *Response:* **Amen.**

Lamb of God



Communion Song:

What Child Is This

ELW#296



- 1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep-ing?
- 2 Why lies he in such mean es-tate where ox and ass are feed-ing?
- 3 So bring him in cense, gold, and myrrh; come, peas-ant, king, to own him.



Whom an - gels greet with an-thems sweet while shep-herds watch are keep-ing? Good Chris-tian, fear; for sin-ners here the si - lent Word is plead-ing. The King of kings sal - va-tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en-throne him.



This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing; Nails, spear shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you; Raise, raise the song on high, the vir - gin sings her lul - la - by;



Text: William C. Dix, 1837–1898

Music: GREENSLEEVES, English ballad, 16th cent.

Additional Communion songs are sung as needed



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray. God our Father, source of all light, you revealed to aged Simeon and Anna your light that enlightens all nations and have now filled our hearts with the light of faith through this holy supper of Christ's body and blood. Lighten our path that we may walk in the way of holiness until we come to the Light that shines forever, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen.**



Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Announcements (The assembly is seated)

SOLEMN BLESSING

The assembly stands as the presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.

May Almighty God, who today revealed to Simeon the light which enlightens the nations, fill your hearts with the light of faith.

Amen.

May Jesus Christ, who was this day presented in the temple, present you before Almighty God with pure and clean hearts.

Amen.

May the Holy Spirit who guided Simeon to the temple to see God's salvation, guide you in the path of goodness and bring you to the Light that shines forever.

Amen.

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, + the Son, and the Holy Spirit be upon you and remain with you forever.

Amen.



O Lord, Now Let Your Servant

ELW# 313



Text: Ernest E. Ryden, 1886–1981, alt., based on the Nunc dimittis

Music: KUORTANE, Finnish folk tune
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DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace. Let your light shine.

C: Thanks be to God.

In response to the amazing love, mercy and grace of God, St. Stephen Lutheran Church is a community that openly welcomes all who are seeking God's divine love and grace. All are welcome in this place regardless of race or culture, sexual orientation or gender identity, economic situation or life situation, marital or relationship status, or your doubts about faith and church. Our unity is in Christ. Your family, children, friends, spouses and partners are welcome. Your diversity and uniqueness enriches and expands our community. We are a Reconciling in Christ congregation.

IN OUR PRAYERS...

In our prayers today are these members of our homebound and others of our parish family in need of healing: James Loggins, Edith Reichenbach, Don Schutt, Normagene Richardson, Mildred Grady, Laurel Blake, Katie Paff, Dorothy Johnson, Carol Chmelynski, Jimmy Fennelli, Roy and Barbara Kaptain, Bob & Jane Reinhold, and Shelley Amato.

Prayers for Friends of the parish: (Please renew your request every 3 weeks)

¥ Vilma, Joe, Christina, Henry, Medina's family, C.C., Greg, Donnie ¥ Greg, Valerie, Randy, Barbara, Carlota, Carol, Dorothy, Phil, Marti, Craig, Caroline ★ George, Jim, Antero, Waino's family, Cheryl, Robert, Chandler, Braemen, Aiden, Jerry, Craig, Becky, Nettie, Jerry, Melissa, Connor, Sal, Gary, Melissa, Melissa F., Richie, John, Michael, Donna, Edith, Bill, Kathy, Susan, Gene, Chris, Amanda, Pete, Annette, Donna, Joanna, Betty, Chuck, Susan, Leo, Sheila.

In a facility or homebound:

Barbara Kaptain – The Atrium Assistant Living at Boca Raton.

1080 NW 15TH Room 215 Boca Raton, Fl. 33486

Jane Reinhold – Platinum Loving Group, P. O. Box 410572, Melbourne, FL 32941

Evelyn Braun – 6152 Verde Trail Room 106 Boca Raton, Fl. 33433

Jim Loggins - John Knox Village – Woodlands 700 SW 4th St, Pompano Beach, FL 33060

Bud Danker - 3020 N. Ridge Road Apartment W-316 Ellicott City, MD 21043

Assisting at Worship in February 2020

(w) will give the cup at communion. Thank you all for serving.

10:15 AM	<u>February 2</u> <u>Presentation of</u> <u>Our Lord</u>	<u>February 9</u>	February 16	<u>February 23</u> <u>Feast of the</u> <u>Transfiguration</u>
ASSISTING MINISTER	Sera Butz	Natalie Prego	Eric Castaneda	Carol Jacobson
ACOLYTE	Carol Jacobson	Sera Butz	Pat Belanger	Natalie Prego
TORCH BEARER	Eric Castaneda Chris Belanger			Eric Castaneda Zachary Smith
BOOK BEARER	Pat Belanger			Pat Belanger
LECTOR	Catherine Zippay	Laurie Matarazzo	Erika Flanigan	Rita Sharkey
CRUCIFIX CARRIER	Carol Jacobson			Natalie Prego
USHERS –Need 4 to Serve	Suzanne Loggins Jeanne Pettit Lisa Casataneda (w) Karen Breslin	Erika Flanigan R. Mottesheard Lynda Smith Zachary Smith (w)	Rosie Fennelli Lisa Castaneda (w) Pat Engle Jeanne Pettit	Marsha Kibler (w) Drew Kibler Darin Kibler Catherine Zippay
Head Usher	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli	Rosie Fennelli
GREETERS - Need 2 to Serve	Caroline Smith Linda Adelsberger Dennis Magarrell	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones Eric Castaneda	Caroline Smith Ruth Wagle Dennis Magarrell	Kelly Jacobson Rose Jones Eric Castaneda
PROJECTION	Jake VanZile	Larry Jones	Jake VanZile	Jake Waldecki

February Holy Grill Serving Volunteers:

9am 5pm

2/05 Rita Sharkey - Karen Breslin Joe Leone

2/12 Joan Possiel – Carol/Kelly Jacobson Jake Waldecki

2/19 Juliet Crawford – Judy Dooge Judy Hoyer – Annie Mandler

2/26 Laurie Matarazzo – Suzanne Loggins Jake Waldecki

STEWARDSHIP CORNER:

Last Sunday Attendance: 117 Last Sunday Income (all sources): \$3,574

WORSHIP EVERY SUNDAY.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!!!



Sunday Schedule

9:00am Bible Study in Pastor's Office

10:15 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

Church Staff

The Rev. Robert G. Schaefer – Pastor pastoratststephen@gmail.com 941-716-5687

Cesar Vidaud – Director of Music Clarence (Teddy) Rowe – Sexton Aidee Koach – Administrative Assistant sslcpompano@gmail.com

Office hours: 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 Mon-Fri

2020 Congregation Council

St. Stephen Lutheran Church, ELCA 2500 NE 14th Street Causeway, Pompano Beach, Florida, 33062

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Weekly Calendar

Sunday 2-Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord

9:00am Exodus Bible Study (Pastor's Office)

10:15am Festival Holy Communion/Blessing of Candles

11:30am Worshipping Commission

Monday 3-St. Ansgar, Bishop and Missionary 865AD

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

Tuesday 4—Weekday

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

7:00pm Women's AA (Fellowship Hall)

7:00pm Exodus Bible Study (Luther Room)

Wednesday 5—The Martyrs of Japan, 1597AD

9:00-10:00am Holy Grill Feeding Ministry

9:00-12pm Threads of Love

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

5:00-6:00pm Holy Grill Feeding Ministry

7:00pm Congregation Council Meeting (Luther Room)

Thursday 6—Weekday

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

7:00pm Choir Rehearsal

Friday 7-Weekday

9:30am-12:30pm Office Open

7:00pm-8:30pm Vision 2020 Retreat (Fellowship Hall)

Saturday 8—Weekday

9:00am-2:00pm Vision 2020 Retreat (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday 9— Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

9:00am Exodus Bible Study (Pastor's Office)

10:15am Holy Communion

Online Giving

We offer you the opportunity to give online through our website and also to set up automatic offerings so you don't wish to fill an envelope each week, if you choose. Electronic gifts are fast and secure. Go to www.ststephenlutheran.net and click on "GIVE"

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