

Order of Service, Readings, and Prayer

Presentation of Our Lord

February 2, 2025

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****The Congregation will stand in reverence.***



Today's Readings

Presentation of Our Lord
February 2, 2025

Prayer of the Day

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.

First Reading

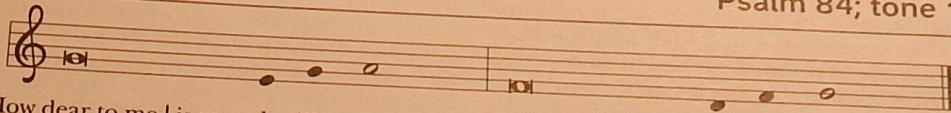
Malachi 3:1-4

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. 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.

Psalm

Psalm 84; tone 1



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

²My soul has a desire and longing
for the courts ¹ of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice
in the ¹ living God.

³Even the sparrow has found a home,
and the swallow a nest
where she may ¹ lay her young,
by the side of your altars,
O LORD of hosts,
my king ¹ and my God.

⁴Happy are they
who dwell ¹ in your house!
They will always be ¹ praising you.

⁵Happy are the people
whose strength ¹ is in you,
whose hearts are set
on the ¹ pilgrims' way.

⁶Those who go
through the balsam valley
will find it a ¹ place of springs,
for the early rains have covered it
with ¹ pools of water.

⁷They will climb from ¹ height to height,
and the God of gods
will be ¹ seen in Zion.

⁸LORD God of hosts, ¹ hear my prayer;
give ear, O ¹ God of Jacob.

⁹Behold our defend- ¹ er, O God;
and look upon the face
of ¹ your anointed.

¹⁰For one day in your courts is better
than a ¹ thousand elsewhere.
I would rather stand at the threshold
of the house of my God than dwell
in the tents ¹ of the wicked.

¹¹For the LORD God
is both sun and shield,
bestowing ¹ grace and glory;
no good thing will the LORD withhold
from those who walk ¹ with integrity.

¹²O ¹ LORD of hosts,
happy are they
who put their ¹ trust in you!

or Psalm 24:7-10 [not printed]

Second Reading

Hebrews 2:14-18

Since, 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.

Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

When 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.

TODAY'S READINGS February 2, 2025 (Presentation of Our Lord)

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Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]; Psalm 138; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11.

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