

# THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

## Prelude

*Fantasy in c minor*

Johann Sebastian Bach

## The Word of God

### The Processional Hymn 543

*Verses 1 and 4 only, at 8:00 a.m.*

*Eastview*

*The people standing, the Celebrant says*

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

*The Celebrant then continues*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Gloria in excelsis

*Said at 8:00 a.m.*

*Sung at 10:15 a.m.*

Book of Common Prayer (BCP), 356  
Hymnal, S 277

### The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you

*People* And also with you

*Celebrant* Let us pray

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### A Reading from the Book of Malachi [3:1-4]

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.

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 24:7-10 *Domini est terra*

7 Lift up your heads, O gates;  
lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.

8 "Who is this King of glory?" \*  
"The LORD, strong and mighty,  
the LORD, mighty in battle."

9 Lift up your heads, O gates;  
lift them high, O everlasting doors; \*  
and the King of glory shall come in.

10 "Who is he, this King of glory?" \*

"The LORD of hosts,  
he is the King of glory."

**A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews** [2:14-18]

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 able to help those who are being tested.

The Word of the Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

**The Gradual Hymn 259** 10:15 a.m.

*Old 120th*

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to Luke** [2:22-40]

*People* Glory to you, Lord Christ.

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.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**The Sermon**

The Very Rev. Robert Douglas

**The Nicene Creed**

BCP, 358

**The Prayers of the People Form II**

BCP, 385

**The Blessing of the Candles** *The congregation stands*

Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

*People* Thanks be to God.

Dear people of God, forty days ago we celebrated the joyful feast of the Incarnation of Jesus. Today we recall the day on which he was presented in the temple, fulfilling the law of Moses. Led by the Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the temple, recognized the child as the Christ, and proclaimed him with joy. United by the same Spirit, we now enter the house of God, where we shall recognize Christ in the breaking of bread.

**The Song of Simeon** *Said responsively*

A Light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.

*A Light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.*

Lord, you now have set your servant free to go in peace as you have promised.

*A Light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.*

For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior, whom you have prepared for all the world to see.

*A Light to enlighten the nations, and the glory of your people Israel.*

Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who on this day did present your only-begotten Son in your holy temple to be received into the arms of hallowed Simeon; we humbly entreat you of your mercy that you would vouchsafe to bless, hallow, and kindle with the light of your heavenly benediction these candles which we your servants desire to carry, lighted in honor of your Holy Name. By offering them to you our Lord and God, may we be inflamed with the fire of your love, and made worthy to be presented in the holy temple of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

**Hymn (Insert)**

*Candlemas*

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 Peace** *Standing*

BCP, 360

**Announcements**

**The Holy Communion**

**The Offertory**

*Wir eilen, mit Schwachen (soprano/alto duet from Cantata No. 78)*

Estrella Dedios and Léonel Mendez, *clarinets*

Bach

*The Altar is prepared for Communion. Please note that the ministry of St. Mark's is funded exclusively through the generosity of parishioners and visitors. We deeply appreciate your generosity this morning. If you would like to make a gift, you can access our secure donation page using this QR code, or text "GIVE" to 1-844-584-9160 to receive the link via text.*



**The Doxology**

*Everton Place*

**Eucharistic Prayer C** *Standing*

BCP, 369

**Sanctus**

*After the Sanctus, the people remain standing or kneel*

Hymnal, S 125

<b>Memorial Acclamation</b>		BCP, 371
<b>The Lord's Prayer</b>		Hymnal, S 119
<b>The Breaking of the Bread</b>		Hymnal, S 154
<b>Agnus Dei</b>		Hymnal, S 161
<b>The Communion Anthem</b> <i>I Stand By Your Manger Here</i>	Chancel Choir	Bach
<b>The Post-Communion Hymn 499</b> 10:15 a.m.		Song 1
<b>The Post-Communion Prayer</b>		BCP, 366
<i>Celebrant and people</i>		
<p>Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.</p>		
<b>The Blessing</b>		
<p>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.</p>		
<b>The Closing Hymn 278</b>		<i>Rustington</i>
<i>Verses 1 and 4 only, at 8:00 a.m.</i>		
<b>The Dismissal</b>		
<i>The People respond saying "Thanks be to God."</i>		
<b>Postlude</b>		
<i>Fugue in c minor</i>		Bach

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS**

Joel, Phillip, Rebecca, Rachel, Deno, Zack, Alex, Marie, Anike, Stephen, Carol, David, Julie, Josh, Mickey, Denise, Jeff, Rosemarie, Sue, Chris, Vincent, Anita, Jane, Tracie, Doug, Janet, Carlos, Juan Carlos, Carol, Lou, Attlee, Gabe, Jim, Lynn, Kim, Megan, Beverly, Lloyd, John, Gordon, Connie, Francene, Stephen, Barbara, Carla, Denise, Mareynah, Anthony, June, Enil, Joe, Susan, Marysue, Juliet. (Please help us update our prayer list; call the church office, 962-3089, with names to be added or removed).

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for:** The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia.

**In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for:** The Diocese of Southwest Florida, The Rt. Rev. Douglas Scharf, for our Companion Dioceses of the Dominican Republic, Georgia, South Carolina and Western Louisiana; for St. James' House of Prayer, Tampa; St. John's, Tampa; St. Mark's, Tampa; St. Mary's, Tampa; St. Catherine's, Temple Terrace; Holy Innocents Church, Valrico; St. Paul's Wesley Chapel, and St. Elizabeth's, Zephyrhills.

## SERVING TODAY

**8:00**

**Vergers:** Gretchen Feldman

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Dawn Kita, Ed Bouchard

**Lectors:** Jan Fisher, Dawn Kita

**Usher:** Bob Stringer

**Greeter:** Beth Ries

**Sound Board:** Jim Minsterl

**10:15**

**Vergers:** Doug Rhea

**Eucharistic Ministers:** Scott Silverman, Gipcell Free, Gretchen White

**Acolyte:** Marie Dorman

**Lectors:** Melvin Ridley, Cathy Szelistowski

**Ushers:**

**Greeters:** Bibi Duke, Candy Brandt, Ellen Purdy, Jill Fischer-Peters

**Sound Board:** Alex Weissing

**Flowers:** Becky Jenkins, Sue Adderley

**Altar:** Sue Adderley, Ed Bouchard, Becky Jenkins, Marie Dorman, Petra Consolo, Sandra Potts