

South-West Chelmsford United Service



[Simeon](#), after taking Jesus in his arms, proclaimed him to be “a light of revelation to *the Gentiles*” (Lk. 2:32).

Go in the love and peace of Christ



Holy Communion and Candlemas Procession

Holy Communion

Processional Hymn: 419 Shine, Jesus, Shine

Welcome and Notices

The Opening

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.
Let us recognize his presence with us.

As God's people we have gathered:
let us worship him together.

The 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.**

Absolution

2

In the silence, you won't let go
In the questions, your truth will hold.

Your great love will lead me through

You are the peace in my troubled sea, oh oh

You are the peace in my troubled sea.

My lighthouse, my lighthouse

Shining in the darkness, I will follow you

My lighthouse, my lighthouse (oh oh oh oh oh)

I will trust the promise,

You will carry me safe to shore (oh-oh-oh-oh-oh)

Safe to shore (oh-oh-oh) x2 , Safe to shore.

I won't fear what tomorrow brings

With each morning I'll rise and sing

My Gods love will lead me through

You are the peace in my troubled sea, oh oh

You are the peace in my troubled sea, oh oh

You are my lighthouse.....

Fire before us, You're the brightest

You will lead us through the storms x4

My lighthouse.....

Father here we bring to an end our celebration of the Saviour's birth.
Help us in whom he has been born, it live his life that has no end.

Here we have offered the Church's sacrifice of praise.
Help us who have received the bread of life,
To be thankful for your gift.

Here we have rejoiced with faithful Simeon and Anna.
Help us, who have found the Lord in his temple, to trust in your eternal promises.

Here we have greeted the Light of the world.
Help us, who now extinguish these candles, never to forsake the light of Christ. *All now extinguish their candles.*

Here we now stand near the place of baptism.
Help us, who are marked with the cross, to share the Lord's death and resurrection.

Here we turn from Christ's birth to his passion.
Help us, for whom Lent is near, to enter deeply into the Easter mystery.

Here we bless one another in your name. Help us, who now go in peace, to shine with your light in the world. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Final Song

My Lighthouse

In my wrestling and in my doubts
In my failures You won't walk out.
You're great love will lead me through
You are the peace in my troubled sea, oh oh
You are the peace in my troubled sea.

The Peruvian Gloria

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Father.
To him be glory forever.
To him be glory forever.
Alleluia, amen.
Alleluia, amen.
Alleluia amen, alleluia amen

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to Christ Jesus....

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to the Spirit....

The Collect *we sit*

The Liturgy of the Word

Bible Reading

Hebrews 2. 14 - end

At the end the reader may say
This is the word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God**

Gradual Hymn: 399 Like a Candle Flame

Gospel Reading

We turn to face the Gospel procession

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke
Glory to you, O Lord

after the Gospel has been read

This is the Gospel of the Lord, **Praise to you, O Christ**

The Sermon

The Creed

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.
We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.
We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.
We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen**

Lord God, the springing source of everlasting light,
pour into the hearts of your faithful people the brilliance
of your eternal splendour
that we, who by these kindling flames
light up this temple to your glory,
may have the darkness of our souls dispelled,
and so be counted worthy to stand before you
in that eternal temple where you live and reign,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The NUNC DIMITTIS is said

**A light to lighten the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.**

Now, Lord, you let your servant go in peace:
your word has been fulfilled.

**A light to lighten the nations
and the glory of your people Israel.**

My own eyes have seen the salvation
which you have prepared in the sight of every people.

**A light to lighten the nations
and glory of your people Israel.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit:
as it was in the beginning, is now,
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Prayer activity and prayers

In the tender mercy of our God,
the dayspring from on high has broken upon us,
to give light to those who dwell in darkness
and the shadow of death,
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you
and also with you.

Let's offer one another a sign of God's peace

The Peace

The Candlemas Procession

We sing our next hymn whilst the candles are lit. The ministers and people go in procession towards the font.

Song: 10,000 Reasons

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before,
O my soul. I'll worship your holy name.*

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,
let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord.....

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger,
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord....

And on that day when my strength is failing,
the end draws near and my time has come,
still my soul will sing your praise unending:
Ten thousand years and then forevermore.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul,
Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul,
I'll worship Your holy name.
I'll worship Your holy name.
Yes, I'll worship Your holy name.

Offertory Song: 944 The Lord is my Light (Taize)

The Eucharistic Prayer

The Lord is here.
His Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

Almighty God, good Father to us all,
Your face is turned towards your world.
In love you gave us Jesus your Son
to rescue us from sin and death.
Your Word goes out to call us home
to the city where angels sing your praise.
We join with them in heaven's song:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Father of all, we give you thanks for every gift that comes from heaven.
To the darkness Jesus came as your light.
With signs of faith and words of hope he touched untouchables with
love and washed the guilty clean.

This is his story
This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

The crowds came out to see your Son, yet at the end they turned against him. On the night he was betrayed he came to table with his friends to celebrate the freedom of your people.

This is his story

This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Jesus blessed you, Father, for the food;
He took bread, gave thanks, broke it and said:
This is my body, given for you all.
Jesus then gave thanks for the wine;
He took the cup, gave it and said:
This is my blood, shed for you all for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this in remembrance of me.

This is his story

This is our song: Hosanna in the highest.

Therefore, Father, with this bread and this cup
we celebrate the cross on which he died to set us free.
Defying death he rose again
and is alive with you to plead for us and all the world.

This is his story

This is our song: hosanna in the highest.

Send your holy Spirit on us now
that by these gifts we may feed on Christ
with opened eyes and hearts on fire.

May we and all who share this food
offer ourselves to live for you
and be welcomed at your feast in heaven
where all creation worships you,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

Blessing and honour and glory and power be yours forever and ever. Amen

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

The Lord's 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 forever.
Amen**

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in the one bread.

We receive Communion

Post Communion Prayer

**Almighty God,
We thank you for feeding us
with the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ.
Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice.
Send us out in the power of your Spirit
to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen**