



The Holy Communion

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

(Epiphany 4)

10:15 a.m. - FM 98.1

(8:15 a.m. – The Order of Service is found in the Book of Common Prayer beginning on page 67. Propers begin on page 231.)

George Atwell, organist

PRELUDE
“Sicilienne”

by Dushkin

INTROIT

""Sing To the Lord a New Song"

by Diane Hannibal

The Saint Luke Singers

HYMN 153RATISBON

“Christ, whose glory fills the skies”

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Minister: The Word was made flesh. Alleluia.

People: **And dwelt among us. Alleluia.**

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Minister: Let us pray.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY (kneel or sit)

ALMIGHTY God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ saith.

THOU shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

COLLECT FOR THE PRESENTATION

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we humbly beseech thy Majesty, that, as thy only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple in substance of our flesh, so we may be presented unto thee with pure and clean hearts, by the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

COLLECT FOR EPIPHANY 4

O GOD, who knowest us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers, that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright; Grant to us such strength and protection, as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – 1 Samuel 1:21-28

(RSV) (sit)

The presentation of the child Samuel in the House of God is the Old Testament counterpart of the presentation of the Christ Child in the Temple in the New Testament. Each child was dedicated to the Lord in a similar pious act by his mother.

1 ²¹ And the man Elka'nah and all his house went up to offer to the LORD the yearly sacrifice, and to pay his vow. ²² But Hannah did not go up, for she said to her husband, "As soon as the child is weaned, I will bring

him, that he may appear in the presence of the LORD, and abide there forever.”²³ Elka’nah her husband said to her, “Do what seems best to you, wait until you have weaned him; only, may the LORD establish his word.” So the woman remained and nursed her son, until she weaned him.²⁴ And when she had weaned him, she took him up with her, along with a three-year-old bull,^[b] an ephah of flour, and a skin of wine; and she brought him to the house of the LORD at Shiloh; and the child was young.²⁵ Then they slew the bull, and they brought the child to Eli.²⁶ And she said, “Oh, my lord! As you live, my lord, I am the woman who was standing here in your presence, praying to the LORD.²⁷ For this child I prayed; and the LORD has granted me my petition which I made to him.²⁸ Therefore I have lent him to the LORD; as long as he lives, he is lent to the LORD.”

And they worshiped the LORD there.

FOR THE EPISTLE – Malachi 3:1-5 (sit)

The coming messenger

BEHOLD, I will send my messenger, and he shall prepare the way before me: and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye delight in: behold, he shall come, saith the Lord of hosts. But who may abide the day of his coming? and who shall stand when he appeareth? for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fullers' sope: and he shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver: and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord an offering in righteousness. Then shall the offering of Judah and Jerusalem be pleasant unto the Lord, as in the

days of old, and as in former years. And I will come near to you to judgment; and I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, and against the adulterers, and against false swearers, and against those that oppress the hireling in his wages, the widow, and the fatherless, and that turn aside the stranger from his right, and fear not me, saith the Lord of hosts.

THE GOSPEL – St. Luke 2:22-40 (stand)

The infant Jesus is brought to the Temple

AND when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were accomplished, they brought him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord; (as it is written in the law of the Lord, Every male that openeth the womb shall be called holy to the Lord;) and to offer a sacrifice according to that which is said in the law of the Lord, A pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons. And, behold, there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon; and the same man was just and devout waiting for the consolation of Israel: and the holy Ghost was upon him. And it was revealed unto him by the Holy Ghost, that he should not see death, before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came by the Spirit into the temple: and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him after the custom of the law, then took he him up in his arms, and blessed God, and said, Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: for mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel. And Joseph and his mother

marvelled at those things which were spoken to him. And Simeon blessed them, and said unto Mary his mother, Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel; and for a sign which shall be spoken against; (yea, a sword shall pierce through thy own soul also,) that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed. And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; and she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And she coming in that instant gave thanks likewise unto the Lord. and spake of him to all them that looked for redemption in Jerusalem. And when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city Nazareth. And the child grew, and waxed strong in spirit, filled with wisdom: and the grace of God was upon him.

THE NICENE CREED (stand)

I BELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible: And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God; Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin

Mary, And was made man: And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried: And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures: And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father: And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end. And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the Prophets: And I believe one Catholic and Apostolic Church: I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins: And I look for the Resurrection of the dead: And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN 346.....ST. ELISABETH
“Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature”

ANNOUNCEMENTS, WELCOME..... The Rector

ANTHEM

“In Remembrance”

by Buryl Red

The Saint Luke Singers

SERMON – The Rector

OFFERTORY

"Air"

by G. F. Handel

Online Giving: A portal for on-line giving is now available on St. Luke's webpage page: www.stlukesblueridge.org.

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

PRAYER FOR THE CHURCH (kneel or sit)

Minister: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church.

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, who by thy holy Apostle hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men; We humbly beseech thee most mercifully to accept our [alms and] oblations, and to receive these our prayers, which we offer unto thy Divine Majesty; beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord: And grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love. We beseech thee also, so to direct and dispose the hearts of all Christian Rulers, that they may truly and impartially administer justice, to the punishment of wickedness and vice, and to the maintenance of thy true religion, and virtue.

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all Bishops and other Ministers, that they may, both by their life and

doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

And to all thy People give thy heavenly grace; and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear, and receive thy holy Word; truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succour all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service, and to give us grace so to follow their good examples, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom. Grant this, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

GENERAL CONFESSION

¶ *Then shall the Priest say to those who come to receive the Holy Communion,*

YE who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways; Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, devoutly kneeling.

ALMIGHTY God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men; We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty, Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; The remembrance of them is grievous unto us; The burden of them is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

¶ *Then shall the Priest (the Bishop if he be present) stand up, and turning to the People, say,*

ALMIGHTY God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him; Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE COMFORTABLE WORDS

¶ *Then shall the Priest say,*

Hear what comfortable words our Saviour Christ saith unto all who truly turn to him.

COME unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *St. Matt. xi. 28.*

So God loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *St. John iii. 16*

Hear also what Saint Paul saith.

This is a true saying, and worthy of all men to be received, That Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Tim. i. 15.*

Hear also what Saint John saith.

If any man sin, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the Propitiation for our sins. *1 St. John ii. 1, 2.*

SURSUM CORDA

Priest. Lift up your hearts.

Answer. **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Priest. Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

Answer. **It is meet and right so to do.**

IT is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God.

THEREFORE with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

SANCTUS (Merbecke, Hymnal Chant 704)

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, Lord God of hosts,
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory: Glory be
to thee, O Lord Most High. Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

ALL glory be to thee, Almighty God, our heavenly Father, for that thou, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there (by his one oblation of himself once offered) a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again: For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took Bread; and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you; Do this in remembrance of me. Likewise, after supper, he took the Cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all of this; for this is my Blood of the New Testament, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins; Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

The Oblation

WHEREFORE, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of thy dearly beloved Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, we, thy humble servants, do celebrate and make here before thy Divine Majesty, with these thy holy gifts, which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; rendering unto thee most hearty thanks for the innumerable benefits procured unto us by the same.

The Invocation

AND we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us; and, of thy almighty goodness, vouchsafe to bless and sanctify, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, these thy gifts and creatures of bread and wine; that we, receiving them according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

AND we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness, mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; most humbly beseeching thee to grant that, by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we, and all thy whole Church, may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee; humbly beseeching thee, that we, and all others who shall be partakers of this

Holy Communion, may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction, and made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him. And although we are unworthy, through our manifold sins, to offer unto thee any sacrifice; yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service; not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences, through Jesus Christ our Lord; by whom, and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost, all honour and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Minister: And now, as our Saviour Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made

clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us.

Amen.

AGNUS DEI

**O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world,
Have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world.
Have mercy upon us.**

**O Lamb of God that takest away the sins of the world.
Grant us thy peace.**

THE COMMUNION

All persons who have been baptized and have accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour are welcomed to receive Holy Communion.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost vouchsafe to feed us who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of his most precious death and passion. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do

all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS (*Old Scottish Chant*)

GLORY be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sins of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sins of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE BLESSING

THE Peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord:

And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. Amen.

HYMN 261.....TIDINGS

“O Sion, haste, thy mission high fulfillig”

DISMISSAL

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God!**

*At this point, feel free to leave or be seated for the **ORGAN VOLUNTARY** (as you are invited and encouraged to do).*

POSTLUDE

"Fanfare"

by Lemmens

IN YOUR PRAYERS

Members of St. Luke’s – Tim and Jennifer Higdon, Fr. Rick Gillert, Lynn Mentzer, Linda Gerlock, Stacy and Chris Johnson and Family, Patsy Williams, Sam Sartain, Kathy Butler, Jordan Van Horn, Christina Pinkerton, Bob Herrington, Jody Kautz, Bob Morgan, Judy Smith, David Johnston, Sheila McConnell, Glenda Robinson, Diane Wikander, Deacon Tony McConnell, Tom McCormick, Rodney Allen, Charles Sims, Barbara Newman, Mercedes Misinco, Elizabeth Ann White, Tim Higdon, Bruce Berkinshaw, Pat and Sherron Dearing, Tom Hoffer, Ann Thomason, MaryLynn Kipfmiller and Rosanne Johnston.

Family & Friends – Carl Wikander, Mia Hurt Kirby, Evan Simpson, Janice Cary, Elma Donaldson, Helen Dotson, Cheryl Smith, Pam Chastain, Janet Thomas and Leland Thomas. Ethan Steinbaugh, Noah, Amy and unborn child, Jan Newberry, Patsy Horsford,, Gabriella Calla, Clara Bradley, Matt Cross, Michael Briggs, Bill Morgan, Charles Cecil, Mildred Woody, April Weich, Bob Jost, and Lynn Grimme.

THE PARISH STAFF

THE REVEREND VICTOR H. MORGAN, Rector

THE REVEREND W. A. “TONY” MCCONNELL,
Deacon

THE REVEREND WILLIAM “BILL” BAIO
Deacon

DIANA BURDEN, Parish Musician

RANDY WILBUR, Choir Director

D.J. FULTON, Treasurer

DR. AL CASH, Webmaster

KEVIN SARTAIN, Webmaster

www.stlukesblueridg.org stlukesblueridge@gmail.com

THE WARDENS AND VESTRY

Todd Lyons, Senior Warden

Jodi Beauregard

Jennifer Higdon, Junior Warden

Neil McDonald

Frank Rule

Kevin Sartain

Dr. Alvin Cash

Tim Kirby

BISHOPS AND AFFILIATIONS

The Rt. Rev. Steve Wood, Archbishop

Anglican Church in North America

The Rt. Rev. Dr. William Wesley Millsaps, Bishop

EMC Diocese of the South

The Rt. Rev. John Greaves, Coadjutor Bishop

EMC Diocese of the South

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers around the Altar are given to the glory of God.

BIRTHDAYS

Susan Gensel, Feb. 3; Meredith Maher, Feb. 4; Benjamin Bruce, Feb. 5; Cate Koerner, Feb. 5; joe Brandon, Feb. 6; John Connor, Feb. 6 and Amanda Cartwright, Feb. 7. “*Watch over thy children as their days increase.*”

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Ken and Betty Tucker, Feb. 5

“And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity” (Colossians 3:14).

IN MILITARY SERVICE

Please remember in your prayers those serving in the Armed Services, especially those who have connections with St. Luke’s particularly, Alex Mark, Tyler Ketron, Wesley Ryan McIntosh, Christian Wade Newman, Kyle Morgan, Sam Sonn, Marc Rodriguez, Brooks Johnson and Jessica Wyllie Andres-Jansz, Kyle Yates and Ian Yates.

CURRENT AND UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2025

- **St, Luke’s Men’s Group**, Tuesday, Feb. 4 at 11 a.m.
- **Women of St. Luke's Winter Bible Study**, Wednesday, Feb. 5, 10 a.m..
- **AARP Tax Preparation** begins Friday, Feb. 7, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. and continues through April 11.
- **Linda Dansky memorial service**, Tuesday, Feb. 18, 4 p.m.
- **HC, Feast of St. Matthias, Apostle**, Monday, Feb. 24, 12 p.m., Jennus Chapel.
- **St. Luke’s Outreach Committee**, Tuesday, Feb. 25

NEXT CONCERT

- **Ah Surely Celtic Trio** Saturday Feb. 15, 4 p.m.

DEADLINE FOR CALENDAR

All additions to the calendar should be submitted to the church office — stlukesblueridge@gmail.com — no later than Wednesday at 12 p.m.

FOM THE TREASURER

Summary for 1-26-25

Attendance:	8:15 at 15 / 10:15 at 56 = 71	
General Fund:	Contributions	/ Budget
01/26/2025	\$6,710	\$3,260
YTD:	\$18,032	\$13,040

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple: Candlemas

Forty days after Christmas, our celebration of Jesus' incarnation culminates in the feast of The Presentation of Christ in the Temple on 2 February — the end of the Christmas cycle. It is sometimes known as Candlemas, as traditionally on this day candles—sources of light—were blessed for use throughout the year.

Forty days after his birth, in accordance with the law of Moses, Jesus' parents presented him at the temple. There the Simeon called him a "Light to the Gentiles" and the "Glory of Israel". We know Simon's words as the *Nunc Dimittis* one of the canticles of evening prayer. Simeon also spoke prophetically to Mary that Jesus would be "the cause of the rise and fall of many in Israel," revealing the secrets of many hearts.

Candlemas is a pivot in the Church's calendar; from then on our focus changes from the person of Jesus towards the work of Jesus — towards Lent and his passion and death.



St. Luke's Church

The Parish Church of the Mountains

7 Ewing Street

P.O. Box 1821

Blue Ridge, Georgia, 30513

Telephone (706) 632-8245

The Mission of St. Luke's Church is to grow spiritually in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ and in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit and to share our faith, our hands and our hearts for the sake of the Gospel, our community and the world .