10:00 a.m. The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany
With Candlemas, observed
February 7, 2021

The Word of God

Prelude
Prière à Notre Dame

Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

Opening Acclamation
Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

Glory to God for ever and ever.

Candlemas Procession

We have waited on your loving kindness,

O Lord, in the midst of your temple.

1. Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; in the city

of our God is his holy hill.

2. Beautiful and lofty,

the joy of all the earth is the hill of Zion, the very center
of the world and the city of the great King. [Ant.]

10. Let Mount Zion be glad and the cities of Judah rejoice,

because of your judgments. 11. Make the circuit of Zion; walk

round about her; count the number of her towers. [Ant.]

12. Consider well her bulwarks; examine her strongholds;

that you may tell those who come after. 13. This God is our God

for ever and ever; he shall be our guide for evermore. [Ant.]

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. A-men. [Ant.]

Setting: Mode 1 antiphon melody; adapt. Bruce E. Ford (b. 1947).
© 1985, Bruce E. Ford.
The Collect Of The Day
God be with you.
And also with you.
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.

First Reading
A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Malachi.

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.
1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O / Lord ' of / hosts! *  
   My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;  
   my heart and my flesh rejoice in the / liv'ing / God.

2 The sparrow has / found her ' a / house  
   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.

3 Happy are they who / dwell in ' your / house! *  
   they will always be / prais'ing / you.

4 Happy are the people whose / strength is ' in / you! *  
   whose hearts are set on the / pil'grims' / way.

5 Those who go through the desolate valley  
   will find it a / place ' of / springs,*  
   for the early rains have covered it with / pools ' of / water.

6 They will climb from / height ' to / height, *  
   and the God of gods will reveal him-/self ' in / Zion.

7 Lord God of hosts, / hear ' my / prayer; *  
   hearken, O / God ' of / Jacob.

8 Behold our de-/fender, ' O / God; *  
   and look upon the face of / your ' A-/nointed.

9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in / my ' own / room, *  
   and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God  
   than to dwell in the / tents of ' the / wicked.

10 For the Lord God is both / sun ' and / shield; *  
    he will give / grace ' and / glory;

11 No good thing will the / Lord ' with-/hold *  
    from those who / walk with ' in-/tegrity.

12 O / Lord ' of / hosts, *  
   happy are they who put their / trust ' in / you!
Second Reading
A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn

1 Virgin-born, we bow before thee: blessed was the womb that bore thee; world's salvation, and blessed they, for ever blest, who

2 Blessed she by all creation, who brought forth the Mary, Mother meek and mild, ever blest, who

Hymnal, #258
The Holy Gospel

The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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 our Savior.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Reflection

The Rev. David Erickson

The Lighting Of The Sanctuary And The Blessing Of The Candles

Six weeks 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 the promised One, a light to the world, and proclaimed him with joy. Today, we join our voices with their praise and testimony, that we may be heralds of his promise and reflect his light to the world.
The Lighting Of The Sanctuary
We light our lights in the name of the Maker, who lit the world and breathed the breath of life for us.

We light our lights in the name of the Son, who saved the world and stretched out his hand to us.

We light our lights in the name of the Spirit, who encompasses the world and blesses our souls with yearning.

We light these lights for the Trinity of Love: God above us, God beside us, God beneath us: The beginning, the end, the everlasting One. Amen.

The Blessing Of The Candles
Let us pray.
God our Father, source of all light, today you revealed to Simeon and Anna your Light of revelation to the nations. Bless + these candles and make them holy. May we who carry them to praise your glory walk in the path of goodness and come to that Light that shines forever. Grant this through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

God our Father, source of all light, 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 journey in goodness, and come to The Light that shines for ever, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers Of The People
With a new light that shines in our hearts, let us pray.

We pray for us, your faithful people, and those who lead us, that we may walk in your way of love and manifest your love to the world. Shine your light on your Church, And fill us with your glory.

We pray for all the nations of the world, that those in authority will work toward peace and equity for all their people. We pray especially for these global concerns (N.) Shine your light on the nations And fill us with your glory.
We pray for our nation and the community in which we live, that we be agents of healing and ever vigilant to threats to the integrity of our democracy. Shine your light on this nation.

And fill us with your glory.

We pray for those who are suffering in ways that are known or hidden to us. We pray for those who struggle mightily in this life and those whose light is dimming. For those who are ill and those who care for them. For those who are born today and for those who will die. We pray especially for parishioners, family and friends (N.) Shine your light into the seasons and passages of our lives

And fill us with your glory.

We pray for those who have been called into larger life with you, especially (N.). Shine your perpetual light upon them

And fill us with your glory.

We pray for people everywhere, that their lives may be full, that their families may be secure, that their hearts be filled with your peace. We give thanks for your radiance into our own lives, especially (N.) Shine your light on all your children

And fill us with your glory.

Holy God, lead us forward on our own journeys: guide us by your teaching and fill us with your compassion. We offer our prayers and our hopes with gratitude for your love and presence among us, through the power of God made manifest. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer
As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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.

Save us from the time of trial
    and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power,
    and the glory are yours,
    now and forever. Amen.
1 Hail to the Lord’s Anointed, great David’s greater Son!
2 He comes with succor speedy to those who suffer wrong,
3 He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,
4 Kings shall bow down before him, and gold and incense bring;
5 O’er every foe victorious, he on his throne shall rest;

1 Hail, in the time appointed, his reign on earth begun!
2 to help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong;
3 and love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth;
4 all nations shall adore him, his praise all people sing;
5 from age to age more glorious, all blessing and all blest:

1 He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free;
2 to give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light,
3 before him on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go;
4 to him shall prayer unceasing and daily vows ascend;
5 the tide of time shall never his covenant remove;
Greeting And Announcements

General Thanksgiving
Almighty God, source of all mercies, we give you our thanks for all your goodness and loving kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation and all the blessings of this life; and above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ as we anxiously await his coming. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up our selves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

Blessing

Dismissal
Let us go forth in the name of Christ shining light into the world. Alleluia!
Thanks be to God. Alleluia!

Prelude
Chorale Prelude on "Mit Fried und Freud ich fahr dahin" J. S. Bach (1685-1750)
In Peace and Joy I Now Depart

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Thank you for worshipping with us. The community of St. Mary’s is gathering online in many days and ways throughout the week while we are sheltering-in-place. Strengthening our community and serving our neighbors is more important than ever in these challenging times. To learn more about the variety of our offerings, please email office@smvsf.org and we will stay in touch with you!

Please enjoy our online offerings from children, youth, and adults. We look forward to traveling this journey of faith with you.

9 A.M. FAMILY SERVICE ON ZOOM
St. Mary’s warmly welcomes you to our weekly virtual family worship service at 9 a.m.

Please join using the link found in Highlights or email The Rev. Marguerite Judson at marguerite@smvsf.org, or Ashley Ryan at ashley@smvsf.org for access.

We have a new songbook for the 9:00 zoom service. If you find it helpful, please print the booklet so that you can join us in song during our worship.

THE RETURN OF OUTDOOR WORSHIP GATHERINGS OF 20
St. Mary’s is delighted to revive our small group Morning Prayer services at 10:15 on Sundays, starting on February 7th. In recognition of Improved public health indicators, groups of up to 20 people will gather for worship in St. Mary’s Outer Courtyard, and in the Presidio.

Registration for each service is essential and can be made on our in-person worship service registration website HERE. Please register by 2:00pm on Friday for that Sunday’s service.

The service will be led by a layperson and, in keeping with prevailing health guidelines, there is no singing/chanting and no group recitations of any part of the service. This is not a Eucharist service. Participants have greatly appreciated the opportunity to pray and reflect on scripture together. We hope you will consider, if you are comfortable, joining one of these groups in worship.

Safety precautions will need to be maintained, which currently includes: social distancing, masks, no-touch/electronic bulletins (that will be posted on our website) and group leaders will keep attendance records of those who attend. For those meeting on campus, please note that the sanctuary, restrooms and offices remain closed.

Cancellations: In case of rain, or if the air quality in your location exceeds 100 Air Quality Index (AQI), services will be cancelled. We will inform registered participants via email one hour before the
event to let them know the event must be cancelled.

Our virtual gatherings for the Family Service, Morning Prayer and Coffee Hour will also continue on Sundays!

ASH WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17, WORSHIP SCHEDULE
Ash Wednesday, February 17, marks the beginning of the Lenten season this year. There are several worship options as we embark on this time of reflection and preparation turning our attention to the creative power of God’s ability to heal the brokenness in our lives.

12:10 p.m. Ash Wednesday Virtual Service. Live streamed service via Zoom, Facebook and St. Mary’s website. The service will be available throughout the day via Facebook or St. Mary’s YouTube page. You are invited to have ashes, dirt or dust available to participate in an at-home imposition of ashes.

2:00-2:30 p.m. Sprinkling of Ashes. Those who wish to observe the ancient Ash Wednesday tradition of the sprinkling of ashes that predates the familiar imposition of ashes on the forehead are invited to St. Mary’s courtyard anytime between 2:00 and 2:30 p.m. for this sacred ritual. In addition to the sprinkling of ashes, the rite will include brief prayers, chanting and seasonal laments. Masks are required. Prevailing safety and health protocols will be observed.

Ash Wednesday at Home. For those who prefer at-home worship, a brief ritual for observance of Ash Wednesday may be found HERE.

Please take advantage of one (or more) of these options as we begin the season of preparation in anticipation of the great joy of Easter.

LENTEN OFFERINGS 2021
This is the time of year when we are invited to deepen our walk of faith. For many of us, that means adding a practice which brings us closer to the Holy One. Here are some options to consider for this year.

Daily Lenten Reading - On Your Schedule!
We invite you to get a copy of “Ashes and the Phoenix” by Rachel Jones. Its brief daily reflections by a variety of authors expand on the prayers from the Book of Common Prayer and daily Scripture readings for Lent. The beautifully illustrated book is designed with space for you to respond.

And, as we did in Advent, beginning on Ash Wednesday (Feb. 17), there will be brief - three minute - videos each day posted to St. Mary’s YouTube channel created by different members of the congregation. Fit the readings and the videos into your schedule. Get the hardcopy now for $5.00, or download for Kindle, Nook or on iTunes. And stay tuned for the link to the videos.
**God With Us in the Wilderness** is the focus of our Lenten series on four Wednesdays of Lent. Our Zoom meetings from 7:00-8:00 pm will be led by members of St. Mary’s. Mark your calendars and join us [HERE](#) to learn and share together:

- Feb. 24th, Encountering God in the Wilderness
- Mar. 3rd, Help in the Pandemic Wilderness
- Mar. 10th, When We are the Wilderness
- Mar. 17th, Waking through the Wilderness of Grief and Loss

**Lenten Quiet Day** –
Sat. March 20th, 12:45 - 3:00pm

Pause for refreshment as we ponder **God’s Grace in the Wilderness**. Gather with others for an afternoon of peaceful reflection and time for practicing the presence of God. This gathering on Zoom is sponsored by The Daughters of the King and open to everyone. Join us [HERE](#) to savor the gifts of God during Lent by exploring Biblical stories, enjoying periods of silence for personal reflection, and sharing a simple closing prayer service. The meeting will be led by The Rev. Marguerite Judson.

**WALKING TOGETHER THROUGH COVID**  
(MON., FEB. 15, 7 P.M.)

Join in prayers and conversations about living our faith and finding healing in the Pandemic. This one hour Zoom meeting on Monday, February 15 at 7 p.m. combines an interactive Evening Prayer with an opportunity to reflect on our journeys through the changing terrain of the pandemic.

The link to the gathering is [HERE](#) and will be hosted by The Rev. Marguerite Judson and The Rev. Tim Smith.

**CANDLEMAS - SHARING THE LIGHT**

On February 7th, St. Mary’s will be celebrating Candlemas and blessing small candles which will be distributed to members of the congregation before Lent, for use throughout that season.

We are very grateful to more than twenty-five volunteers who will help deliver the candles in a safe, socially distanced way, before Ash Wed. (February 17), to members of St. Mary the Virgin. The drivers will contact households on or soon after Feb. 7th to let members know the day and window of time when they can make the delivery.

To observe all safety precautions, drivers will be masked and maintain social distancing. They will ring the doorbell and leave the small white bag containing the candle on your porch. If you are home and can briefly chat- while wearing a mask, feel free to do so! In a perfect world, we would...
be delighted to have a photo of members receiving their candles.

These candles are a small but tangible way that we can exchange and share in the light and love of Christ.

**ST. MARY MAGDALENE SCHOLARSHIP 2021-2022**
The St. Mary Magdalene Scholarship Fund was created by a generous bequest of a long-time parishioner of St. Mary the Virgin. This gift funds college scholarships for young women from the parish. Scholarships will be available to young women attending college for the 2021-2022 school year. More information and 2 application forms are available on the St. Mary's website [HERE](#). One form is for new applicants and there is a different form for previous applicants who received scholarships last year. Applications will be due March 1, 2021. If you have any questions, please contact Ruth Tatum at ruth.tatum@gmail.com.

**HOPE AND THE HOLY SPIRIT:  
ST. MARY’S ANNUAL APPEAL 2021**
Even in the midst of these unprecedented times, The Holy Spirit is present sustaining us and inspiring us to be witnesses of Christ’s hope for the world. Now, St. Mary’s needs your partnership in continuing to be an Instrument of God’s grace in the world. We humbly ask that you prayerfully consider making a meaningful pledge towards the 2021 annual campaign. Pledge packets were recently mailed out. If you did not receive one, or if you have any questions about pledging, please contact Rev. David at david@smvsf.org. Pledge cards may be returned to the church via the mail or you may make a pledge at [https://smvsf.org/donation](https://smvsf.org/donation).

**ONGOING OPPORTUNITIES FOR VIRTUAL WORSHIP DURING THE WEEK (WEDNESDAYS, AND SUNDAYS)**
To see the full extent of our weekly opportunities, check out the schedule listed on our website and weekly Highlights!

**YOUTH GROUP UPDATE**
All 6th-12th graders are invited to attend Zoom Youth Group from 5-6pm! [Follow this link](#) to hang out with your friends, have some fun conversation, and play some games. See you there!
We Pray For…

PARISHIONERS, RELATIVES and FRIENDS
Susan Sims
David Ostrander
Sandy Stadtfeld
Vicki Akin
John
The Spaht Family
Patty Williams
David
Annette Buckmaster
Yesenia
Donna K. Stadtfeld

CONTINUING PRAYERS
Prayers are offered for ongoing concerns during the Wed. 12:10 service.
André Diedrichs
June
Pat Okimoto
Dorris Howard
Kevin Teeney
The Community at the Heritage
The Community of St. Francis
San Francisco Night Ministry
Jane
Pete
Quinn Charles Fay
Erich
Tim Eland
Forester Davis
Phyllis Shepherd
Simon

RECENTLY DECEASED
Nigel Renton
Brenda Flores Aranda
Jean Justice McNeil
Lindley Dodson
Luis Alberto Zuluaga Henao
Hati Parkinson
Johnathan Sellers
Douglas Kramlich
Florence Hauser

GLOBAL CONCERNS
For the people of Myanmar where a military coup has placed food security and basic human rights in peril.

For victims of structural racism that prevents people of color from obtaining and retaining safe, affordable housing.

THANKSGIVINGS
For Black liberators, Sojourner Truth and Harriet Ross Tubman, prophetic champions for justice and equality.
The Episcopal Church of St. Mary the Virgin
Tel. (415) 921-3665   2325 Union Street, San Francisco, California   www.smvsf.org

Church Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Vestry
Arthur Perkins, Senior Warden
Will Long, Junior Warden
Ava Eichler, Gloria Galindo, Lauren MacDonald, Matt Spitzer
John Adair, Nancy Clothier, Stephen Gamboa,
Cynthia Harper, Will Long, Rebecca Peacock, Sheila Santangelo
email: vestry@smvsf.org

St. Mary’s Staff Directory
All phone extensions are for 415.921.3665

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**LITURGICAL STAFF**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>The Rev. David Erickson</td>
<td>Rector</td>
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<td>Natalie Hala</td>
<td>Verger &amp; Liturgist</td>
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