



Service of Midday Prayer
Wednesday, February 3
The Presentation of the Lord - Candlemas

Opening Sentences

Our help is in the name of the Lord. Ps. 124:8
Maker of heaven and earth.

The mighty one, God the Lord, Ps. 50:1
Speaks and summons the earth
From the rising of the sun to its setting.

Praise the Lord.
The Lord's name be praised.

Hymn 545

The Song of Simeon

LAND OF REST

1. Lord, bid your servant go in peace; your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn, the child so long foretold.
2. This is the Savior of the world, the Gentiles' promised light.
God's glory dwelling in our midst, the joy of Israel.

Prayer

God of steadfast love,
you sent your Son to be the light of the world,
saving people everywhere from sin and death.
As Anna gave thanks for the freedom he would bring,
and Simeon saw in him the dawn of redemption,
complete your purpose once made known in him.
Make us the vessels of his light,
that all the world may glory in the splendor of your peace. Amen.

Scripture Lessons

Malachi 3:1-4
Luke 2:22-40

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Affirmation of Faith

from The Confession of 1967

The reconciling work of Jesus was the supreme crisis in the life of humankind. His cross and resurrection become personal crisis and present hope for people when the gospel is proclaimed and believed. In this experience, the Spirit brings God's forgiveness to all, moves people to respond in faith, repentance, and obedience, and initiates the new life in Christ

The members of the church are emissaries of peace and seek the good of all in cooperation with powers and authorities in politics, culture, and economics. But they have to fight against pretensions and injustices when these same powers endanger human welfare. Their strength is in their confidence that God's purpose rather than human schemes will finally prevail.

Hymn 314

Christ, Be Our Light

CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT

1. Longing for light, we wait in darkness
Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people
Light for the world to see.

Refrain:

**Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light!
Shine in Your church gathered today.**

2. Longing for peace, our world is troubled
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*
3. Longing for food, many are hungry
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us Your bread, broken for others
Shared until all are fed. *Refrain*
4. Longing for shelter, many are homeless
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us Your building, sheltering others
Walls made of living stone. *Refrain*

5. Many the gift, many the people
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another
Making Your kingdom come. *Refrain*

Dismissal

The God of peace be with us. **Amen.**
Bless the Lord. **The Lord's name be praised.**