

St Mary's Church, Walkley



The Church on the Road:
Inclusive, Eucharistic, a safe place to be with God

Candlemas

The Presentation of Christ in the Temple

With the Baptism of Hannah Giles

2nd February 2025

Welcome to St Mary's Church, Walkley

President: The Revd Dr Beth Keith, Priest in Charge
Preacher: The Revd Dr Beth Keith, Priest in Charge
Churchwarden on duty: Vicky

The Gathering and Opening Hymn

*Before the service "Come to the water" is sung.
We stand and we sing the opening hymn.*

**Morning has broken
like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken
like the first bird.
Praise for the singing!
Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing
fresh from the Word!**

**Sweet the rain's new fall,
sunlit from heaven,
like the first dew-fall
on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness
of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness
where his feet pass.**

**Mine is the sunlight!
Mine is the morning
born of the one light
Eden saw play!
Praise with elation,
praise every morning,
God's recreation
of the new day!**

Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965

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President In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

The Greeting

President The Lord be with you.

All **and also with you.**

We remain standing and we sing:

The Gloria in Excelsis

Cantor Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,

All **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

Cantor Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

All **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

Cantor Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

All **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

Cantor For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

All **Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo,
Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

The Collect

President Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ,
light of the nations:
make your home among us,
and present us pure and holy
to your heavenly Father,
your God, and our God.

All **Amen.**

We sit.

The Reading: Romans 12. 1 - 5

Reader A reading from the Letter to the Romans.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think, but to think with sober judgement, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.

Reader This is the word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual Hymn

We stand and we sing. During the hymn we turn to face the processional cross as the book of the Gospels moves to the middle of the people.

**The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want;
he makes me lie in pastures green.
He leads me by the still, still waters,
his goodness restores my soul.
And I will trust in you alone,
and I will trust in you alone,
For your endless mercy follows me,
your goodness will lead me home.**

**He guides my ways in righteousness,
and he anoints my head with oil,
and my cup, it overflows with joy,
I feast on his pure delights.
And I will trust in you alone...**

**And though I walk the darkest path,
I will not fear the evil one,
For you are with me, and your rod and staff
are the comfort I need to know.
And I will trust in you alone...**

Psalm 23

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The Gospel Reading: Luke 2. 22 - 40

Minister Today the Lord is presented in the Temple
All **Alleluia. Praise to Christ, the light of the world.**

Minister Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they 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 turtle-doves 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 for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped 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 favour of God was upon him.

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

The Sermon

The Liturgy of Baptism

President Our Lord Jesus Christ has told us
that to enter the kingdom of heaven
we must be born again of water and the Spirit,
and has given us baptism as the sign and seal of this new birth.
Here we are washed by the Holy Spirit and made clean.
Here we are clothed with Christ,
dying to sin that we may live his risen life.
As children of God, we have a new dignity
and God calls us to fullness of life.

All **Amen.**

The Presentation

President Jesus said, 'Let the children come to me. Do not stop them'.
We thank God for Hannah who has come to be baptised today.
Christ loves her and welcomes her into his Church.

President So I ask you all:

All Will you support Hannah as she begins her journey of faith?
We will.

All Will you help her to live and grow within God's family?
We will.

The president addresses the parents and godparents.

President God knows each of us by name and we are his.
Parents and godparents, you speak for Hannah today.
Will you pray for her, and help her to follow Christ?

Parents & We will.

Godparents

The Decision

The president addresses Hannah, her parents and godparents.

President We all wander far from God and lose our way:
Christ comes to find us and welcomes us home.
In baptism we respond to his call.
Therefore I ask:

President Do you turn to Christ?

Baptism party I turn to Christ.

President Do you repent of your sins?

Baptism party I repent of my sins.

President Do you renounce evil?

Baptism party I renounce evil.

The Signing with the Cross

The president makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of Hannah, saying

President Christ claims you for his own.
Receive the sign of his cross.

President Do not be ashamed of Christ.
You are his forever.

All **Stand bravely with him
against all the powers of evil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

President May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.

All **Amen.**

President Faithful and loving God,
bless those who care for Hannah
and grant them your gifts of love, wisdom and faith.
Pour upon them your healing and reconciling love,
and protect their homes from all evil.
Fill them with the light of your presence
and establish them in the joy of your kingdom,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All **Amen.**

Water is poured into the font.

The Prayer over the Water

President Praise God who made heaven and earth,

All **who keeps his promise forever.**

President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

President We praise you, loving Father,
for the gift of your Son Jesus.
He was baptised in the River Jordan,
where your Spirit came upon him
and revealed him as the Son you love.
He sent his followers
to baptise all who turn to him.
Now, Father, we ask you to bless this water,
that those who are baptised in it
may be cleansed in the water of life,
and, filled with your Spirit,
may know that they are loved as your children,
safe in Christ forever.

All **Amen.**

We stand.

The Profession of Faith

President Brothers and sisters, I ask you to profess, together with Hannah, the faith of the Church.

All Do you believe and trust in God the Father?
**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

President Do you believe and trust in his Son Jesus Christ?

All **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

President Do you believe and trust in the Holy Spirit?

All **I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

We sit.

The Baptism

President Hannah, I baptise you
in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All **Amen.**

President May God, who has received you by baptism
into his Church,
pour upon you the riches of his grace,
that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people
you may daily be renewed by his anointing Spirit,
and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.

All **Amen.**

All **Do not be ashamed to confess
the faith of Christ crucified.
Remain faithful to your calling,
as God remains faithful to you. Amen.**

The Welcome

President There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism:
Hannah,
by one Spirit we are all baptised into one body.

All **We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are children of the same heavenly Father;
we welcome you.**

The congregation greets the newly baptised. We sit or kneel.

The Prayers of Intercession

Intercessor Creative God,
All **be with us in this journey.**

Or another response is used.

Intercessor Merciful Father,
All **accept these prayers
for the sake of your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

We stand.

The Liturgy of the Sacrament

The Peace

President 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.

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

Minister Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Luke 1.78,79

We remain in our seats, sharing the peace through waves to those around us.

The Offertory Hymn

We stand and we sing as the altar is prepared. If you would like to support St Mary's, donations can be made after the service at the back of church using the collection plate or contactless card giving station.

**All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful,
the Lord God made them all.**

**Each little flow'r that opens,
each little bird that sings,
he made their glowing colours,
he made their tiny wings.**

All things bright and beautiful...

**The purple-headed mountain,
the river running by,
the sunset and the morning
that brightens up the sky.**

All things bright and beautiful...

**The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden,
he made them every one.**

All things bright and beautiful...

**The tall trees in the greenwood,
the meadows for our play,
the rushes by the water,
to gather ev'ry day.**

All things bright and beautiful...

Cecil Frances Alexander, 1818-1895

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The Eucharistic Prayer

President The Lord is here.

All **His Spirit is with us.**

President Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

President Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

President It is indeed right and good,
always and everywhere to give you thanks and praise
through Jesus Christ, who is one with you from all eternity.

For on this day he appeared in the Temple
in substance of our flesh
to come near to us in judgement.

He searches the hearts of all your people
and brings to light the image of your splendour.

Your servant Simeon acclaimed him as the light to lighten the
nations
while Anna spoke of him to all who looked for your redemption.

Destined for the falling and rising of many,
he was lifted high upon the cross
and a sword of sorrow pierced his mother's heart
when by his sacrifice he made our peace with you.

And now we rejoice and glorify your name
that we, too, have seen your salvation
and join with angels and archangels
in their unending hymn of praise:

Cantor Holy Holy Holy Lord

All **Holy Holy Holy Lord**

Cantor God of power and God of might

All **God of power and God of might**

Cantor Heaven and earth are full of your glory

All **Heaven and earth are full of your glory**

Cantor Hosanna in the highest

All **Hosanna in the highest**

Cantor Blessed is he who comes

All **Blessed is he who comes**

Cantor In the name of the Lord most High

All **In the name of the Lord most High**

Cantor Hosanna

All **Hosanna**

Cantor Hosanna
All **Hosanna**
Cantor Hosanna in the highest
All **Hosanna in the highest**

President We praise and bless you, loving Father,
through Jesus Christ, our Lord;
and as we obey his command,
send your Holy Spirit,
that broken bread and wine outpoured
may be for us the body and blood of your dear Son.

On the night before he died he had supper with his friends
and, taking bread, he praised you.

He broke the bread, gave it to them and said:
Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.

When supper was ended he took the cup of wine.
Again he praised you, gave it to them and said:
Drink this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

So, Father, we remember all that Jesus did,
in him we plead with confidence his sacrifice
made once for all upon the cross.

Bringing before you the bread of life and cup of salvation,
we proclaim his death and resurrection
until he comes in glory.

Minister Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

Cantor Dying you destroyed our death
All **Dying you destroyed our death**

Cantor Rising you restored our life
All **Rising you restored our life**

Cantor Lord Jesus come
All **Lord Jesus come**

Cantor Lord Jesus come
All **Lord Jesus come**

Cantor Come again in glory
All **Come again in glory**

President Lord of all life,
help us to work together for that day
when your kingdom comes
and justice and mercy will be seen in all the earth.

Look with favour on your people,
gather us in your loving arms
and bring us with Mary, Mark, John and all the saints
to feast at your table in heaven.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honour and glory are yours, O loving Father,
for ever and ever.

All **Amen.**

We sit or kneel.

The Lord's Prayer

President Believing the promises of God,
as our Saviour taught us, so we pray:

All **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 for ever.
Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

President We break the bread of life,
and that life is the light of the world.

All **God here among us,
light in the midst of us,
bring us to light and life.**

The Giving of Communion

President Jesus is the Christ, the Chosen of God,
All **the one who will bring healing to the nations.**

The president will give instructions on how to come forward for communion and on returning to our seats. All are welcome to come to front for the bread and wine or a blessing. If you would like a blessing please keep your arms folded across your chest at you approach the front. We are now able to receive the wine as well as the bread. The president will dip the wafer in the wine before giving it to you. Gluten free wafers are available, please ask at the altar.

Once you have received communion please pick up and light a candle and return to your seat.

The Communion Hymns

During the distribution we sing and music is played.

**Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know,
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you, and you in me?**

**Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind,
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare,
will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?**

**Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free,
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you, and you in me?**

**Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around
through my sight and touch and sound
in you, and you in me?**

**Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you, and you in me.**

John Bell, b.1949

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**Born in the night, Mary's Child,
a long way from your home;
coming in need, Mary's Child,
born in a borrowed room.**

**Clear shining light, Mary's Child,
your face lights up our way;
Light of the world, Mary's Child,
dawn on our darkened day.**

**Truth of our life, Mary's Child,
you tell us God is good;
yes, it is true, Mary's Child,
shown on your cross of wood.**

**Hope of the world, Mary's Child,
you're coming soon to reign;
King of the earth, Mary's Child,
walk in our streets again.**

Ainger, Geoffrey, 1925-2013

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Nunc dimittis

The musical score is for the hymn 'Nunc dimittis'. It is written in 3/4 time with a tempo marking of quarter note = 66. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The score consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are in Latin and English. The first system of lyrics is: 'Nunc di - mit - tis ser - vum tu - um Do - mi - ne, Do - mi - ne se -'. The second system is: 'cun - dum ver - bum tu - um in pa - ce. Do - mi - ne Nunc di -'. The music features a simple, hymn-like melody with a steady bass accompaniment.

Let your ser-vant now— go in peace, O— Lord,— now— go in peace
ac—cord-ing to your word.— / De-ja_a-ho—ra a tu sier—vo ir en paz,

Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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The Giving of a Lighted Candle

President God has delivered us from the dominion of darkness
and has given us a place with the saints in light.
Hannah, you have received the light of Christ;
walk in this light all the days of your life.

All **Shine as a light in the world,
to the glory of God the Father.**

We stand.

The Candlemas liturgy

President 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 city where you live and reign,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

All **Amen.**

The Closing Hymn

We remain standing and we sing.

**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.**

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

**Longing for peace, our world is troubled.
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has power to save us.
Make us your living voice.**

**Christ, be our light...
Longing for food, many are hungry.
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others,
shared until all are fed.**

Christ, be our light...

**Longing for shelter, many are homeless.
Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us your building, sheltering others,
walls made of living stone.**

Christ, be our light...

**Many the gifts, many the people,
many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another,
making your kingdom come.
Christ, be our light...**

Bernadette Farrell

Christ, Be Our Light lyrics © Sony/ATV Music Publishing LLC

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The Final Responsory

President Father, here we bring to an end our celebration
of the Saviour's birth.

All **Help us, in whom he has been born,
to live his life that has no end.**

President Here we have offered the Church's sacrifice of praise.

All **Help us, who have received the bread of life,
to be thankful for your gift.**

President Here we have rejoiced with faithful Simeon and Anna.

All **Help us, who have found the Lord in his temple,
to trust in your eternal promises.**

President Here we have greeted the light of the world.

All **Help us, who bear these candles,
never to forsake the light of Christ.**

President Here we stand near the place of baptism.

All **Help us, who are marked with the cross,
to share the Lord's death and resurrection.**

President Here we turn from Christ's birth to his passion.

All **Help us, for whom Lent is near,
to enter deeply into the Easter mystery.**

President Here we bless one another in your name.

All **Help us, who now go in peace,
to shine with your light in the world.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Music is played as the robed ministers process.

Coffee and tea are served after the service, all are welcome.

For more information: stmaryswalkley.co.uk

