King of Kings Lutheran Church and Preschool

Following Christ, Living Faithfully, Serving Others

The Presentation of our Lord

January 21, 2024

10 am In-Person and Online Worship Livestream at Facebook & kofk.org

Known originally as the Feast of the Purification of the Blessed Virgin, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord is a relatively ancient celebration. The Church at Jerusalem observed the feast as early as the first half of the fourth century, and likely earlier. The feast celebrates the presentation of Christ in the temple at Jerusalem on the 40th day after His birth.

Our Worship Assistant today is *Anna Chinnam*.

Our Greeters are *Mike Albrecht* and *Oscar von Bredow* and our Acolyte is *Henry Cushman*. *Zachary Cushman and Pam von Bredow* are assisting with ushering. *Barbara Cushman and Norma McMorrow* are serving on Altar Care.

A/V operations are provided by *Vinny Prinzivalli*.

+ GATHERING+

Prelude

Welcome and Worship Notes

You are invited to share in our table fellowship - gather with us around bread and wine/grape juice that you place on your table at home. As we are united by the Spirit of God who transcends all space and time, we are fed and nourished by Christ's gift of himself that fills us with holy love, divine peace, and new life.

*Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the Word made flesh, our life and our salvation. **Amen**

Trusting the goodness and lovingkindness of God our Savior, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security.

We nurture conflict and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of creation. Have mercy on us.

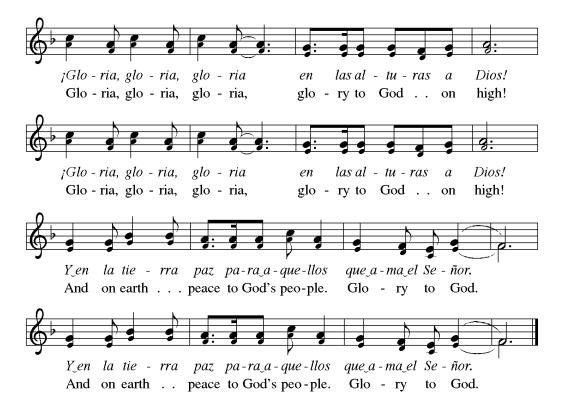
Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace.

Hear the good news: We are God's beloved and heirs of God's promises through the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. In \pm Jesus we are forgiven and redeemed. Sing with joy, for all the ends of the earth shall know the salvation of God. **Amen**

***Kyrie** *ELW* p.175



*Canticle of Praise ELW p.176



*Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

*Prayer of the Day

Let us pray... Almighty and ever-living God, your only-begotten Son was presented in the temple with great joy. May we be presented to you with clean and pure hearts by the same Jesus Christ, our great high priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

+ WORD +

Time with our Children

First Reading Psalm 24

We read responsively...

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it, for he has founded it on the seas and established it on the rivers. Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?

And who shall stand in his holy place?

Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,

who do not lift up their souls to what is false and do not swear deceitfully.

They will receive blessing from the Lord

and vindication from the God of their salvation.

Such is the company of those who seek him,

who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Lift up your heads, O gates!

and be lifted up, O ancient doors,

that the King of glory may come in!

Who is the King of glory?

The Lord, strong and mighty,

the Lord, mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O gates!

and be lifted up, O ancient doors,

that the King of glory may come in!

Who is this King of glory?

The Lord of hosts,

he is the King of glory.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

*Gospel Acclamation

ELW p.179



*Gospel Luke 2:21-40

The holy gospel according to St. Luke beginning in the 2^{nd} chapter. Glory to you, O Lord.

When the eighth day came, it was time to circumcise the child, and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

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 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 the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Lynn M. Miller Senior Pastor

*Hymn of the Day ELW #293

That Boy-Child of Mary



Text: Tom Colvin, 1925–2000

Music, P.I. ANTYPE, Malaysi traditional: adapt. Tom Colvin

Music: BLANTYRE, Malawi traditional; adapt. Tom Colvin
Text and music © 1969 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

*Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.

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

*Prayers of Intercession

Trusting in God's good news of great joy for all people, we offer our prayers for ourselves, our neighbors, and the world God loves.

A brief silence.

Encourage the ministry and mission of the church. Let its leaders be trustworthy and accountable stewards, that all its resources and outreach bring hope and healing. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Heal areas of the world harmed by human greed. Restore those recovering from natural disasters. Protect our forests and waterways and all the creatures that live in them. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Call the leaders of every neighborhood and nation to serve faithfully.

Give them visions of justice and unity. Lead them to action that promotes equitable partnership and uplifts those on the margins of society. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Hold in your care those who suffer and struggle. Be present with those who are oppressed, victims of racism or cultural bias, and all who long for respite or restoration. We especially remember in the silence of our hearts... Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Give our congregation here and in Dulles South the excitement of Simeon and Anna, that inspired and empowered to do your work in the world, we build communities of inclusion and mutual care. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We remember all who have died and are at peace among the saints. Bring us with them into your eternal glory. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Abide with us, O God of mercy, and receive our prayers according to your abundant grace. **Amen**

*Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. And also with you.

+ Meal +

Offering of Gifts

We appreciate your ongoing support of our work in the community and the world.

Sharing our gifts is a significant act of worship.

At King of Kings, we see our offering as a practice of gratitude, sacrifice, and joy.

If you are new to King of Kings and choose to give financially,
we thank you for your generosity and trust you'll be blessed through your giving.

You can give online at...Kofk.org Resources/Online Giving.

You can Text-to-Give at 844-251-6727 and follow the one-time setup.

Special Music "Jesus is all the world to me" The King's Ringers

*Offering Prayer

Let us pray... God of abundance, receive and bless these gifts we have offered. Join our hearts with the songs of the angels and gather us at your table of celebration. Strengthen us to share with all the world the abundance of your grace upon grace, poured out in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. **Amen**

*Dialog

The Lord be with you. Lift up your hearts. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. And also with you. We lift them to the Lord. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Words of Institution

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

*Lord's Prayer

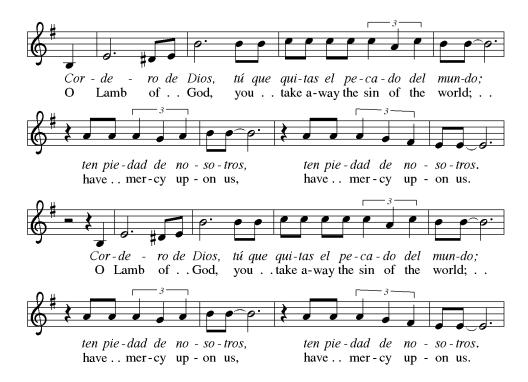
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen

These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

Distribution

All are welcome to the table, where Jesus is host and offers himself to all who desire to receive. This is truly our Lord's table. We believe Jesus is present in this meal – in the invitation, in the bread and cup, and in the precious words that his body and blood are given and shed "for you." This meal is indeed given for you for the forgiveness of sins and as a promise of our Lord's eternal presence with you. Take and eat – take and drink.

Communion Song ELW p.182





*Blessing

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. Amen

*Praver

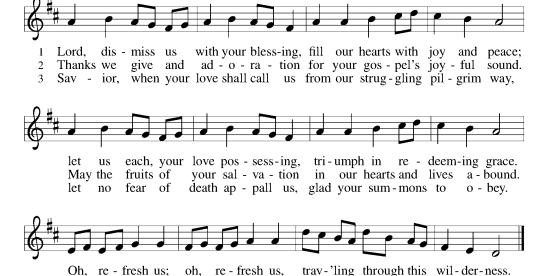
Let us pray... God our redeemer, you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

*Benediction

God bless you and keep you, \pm Jesus grant you grace and truth, and the Spirit send peace upon your hearts, now and forever. **Amen**

*Sending Song ELW #545

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



may we be found.

in end-less day.

your truth

reign with you

to

Text: attr. John Fawcett, 1740–1817, sts. 1–2, alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3, alt. Music: SICILIAN MARINERS. Sicilian. 18th cent.

ev - er faith-ful

may we ev - er

*Dismissal

We go out in mission: Following Christ, Living Faithfully, Serving Others.

Go in peace. You are God's beloved. Thanks be to God.

Ev - er faith-ful,

May we ev - er,

*Postlude

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