CONCORDIA SEMINARY Chapel of St. Timothy and St. Titus

The Fourth Week after the Epiphany, A.D. 2025

Monday, February 3 Morning Prayer The Purification of Mary and the Presentation of Our Lord (Candlemas Observed)

On February 2, forty days after Christmas, the church celebrates the Presentation of Our Lord, or Candlemas. In obedience to the Law of Moses, Mary, Joseph, and the infant Jesus travelled to the Temple in Jerusalem forty days after His birth so that they could offer the sacrifice for Mary's purification following childbirth and present Jesus to God. Through the words of Simeon and the prophetess Anna, the infant Jesus is proclaimed the Messiah, the light of the nations (Luke 2:22–40).

The church has traditionally used this day to bless the candles that will be used in the services throughout the year, thus the name "Candlemas." The candles we light today remind us that Jesus Christ is the light of the nations, the true light that gives light to every man. (John 1:4)

Blessing of the Candles

The assembly gathers in the Narthex around the font and Paschal Candle. The light of Christ is shared as the candles are lit. Please light your candle by tilting it into the flame of the candle from which you are lighting.

■ In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Dearly beloved, upon seeing the child Jesus in the temple, ancient Simeon declared: ". . . 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" (Luke 2:30–32).

C Amen.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and everlasting God, who on this day presented Your only-begotten Son in the holy temple to be received into the arms of Simeon, bless these candles and pour into our hearts the brilliance of Your eternal splendor, 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, the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

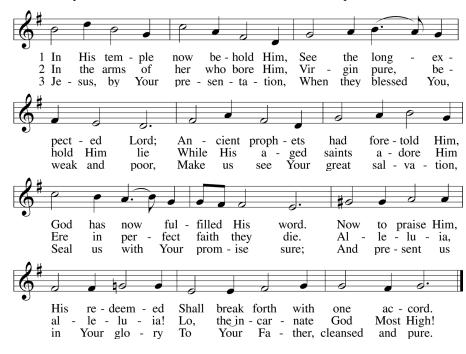
C Amen.

- **P** Let us go forth in peace,
- **C** in the name of the Lord. Amen.

As the Entrance Hymn is sung, the assembly follows the chancel party into the nave. You may keep your candle lit through the Scripture Reading.

Entrance Hymn

LSB 519 "In His Temple Now Behold Him"



Reading

Luke 2:22–40

After the reading:

L O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

L In many and various ways, God spoke to his people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Sermon

StandNunc DimittisLSB 938 "In Peace and Joy I Now Depart"CollectsLSB 241Lord's PrayerEnedicamus and BlessingBenedicamus and BlessingLSB 242AnnouncementsPostlude

In the Lord's Service

Preacher	Rev. Dr. Jon Vieker
Liturgist	Seminarian Daniel Johnson
Organist	Dr. Samuel Eatherton

Please return this service folder to the usher station following the service.

You are cordially invited to gather for Evening Services in the North Transept.

Mondays: Spanish Vespers Tuesdays: Evening Prayer Thursdays: Compline Services begin in silence at 8:15 p.m.