

St Michael and St Mary Magdalene

Easthampstead

READINGS and NOTICES

Sunday 5th February 2012

Candlemas

Post Communion Prayer:

Lord, you fulfilled the hope of Simeon and Anna,
who did not die until they welcomed the Messiah.
may we, who have received these your gifts beyond words
prepare to meet Christ Jesus
when he comes to bring us eternal life;
for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Amen

THE CANDLEMASS PROCESSION *(see insert)*

Recessional Hymn:

Lord, the light of your love is shining

LORD, THE LIGHT OF YOUR LOVE is shining,

In the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us,
Set us free by the truth You now bring us,
Shine on me, shine on me.

Shine, Jesus, shine,

Fill this land with the Father's glory;

Blaze, Spirit, blaze,

Set our hearts on fire.

Flow, river, flow,

Flood the nations with grace and mercy;

Send forth Your word,

Lord, and let there be light.

Lord, I come to Your awesome presence,
From the shadows into Your radiance;
By the blood I may enter Your brightness,
Search me, try me, consume all my darkness.
Shine on me, shine on me.

As we gaze on Your kingly brightness
So our faces display Your likeness.
Ever changing from glory to glory,
Mirrored here may our lives tell Your story.
Shine on me, shine on me.

A Songs of Fellowship Worship Resource
CCL Licence Number: 63819

Notices

Parents: To comply with our Safe from Harm policy please ensure that all children are accompanied to the toilet during services. For Health & Safety reasons please keep your children with you in the Annexe after the service as no one is in church to supervise them. Youth Children & Safe from Harm Committee.

Growing for Gold: Now it's getting warmer and you are thinking about doing some gardening, sowing seeds, dividing plants etc., why not pot some up and nurture them for the plant stall at the fete this July.

Church Flowers: If you would like to sponsor the flowers for a particular Sunday in 2012, to celebrate a special occasion, remember a loved one or just because you would like to, there is a list at the back of church under the tower.
Barbara Wells (01344 452202)

Giving Letter Autumn 2011: I would like to thank all those who responded either in writing or in person to the Giving Letter.

As a result an extra £10,616 per year, including Gift Aid, has been promised.

8.00am

Celebrant:

Said Eucharist

Fr Guy Cole

9.30am

Celebrant:

Preacher:

Parish Eucharist

Fr Guy Cole

Fr Guy Cole

3.30pm

Church 4 U

Hymns: *Hymn numbers are on the boards at the front of church. The numbers are shown below as they are sung.*

Introit:	4	Christ, whose glory fills the skies
Gradual:	311	Virgin born, we bow before thee
Intercessional:	274	Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face
Offertory:	180	Thou whose almighty word (Let there be light)
Communion:		Great and marvelous
Communion:		You are the vine
Recessional:		Lord, the light of your love is shining

Introit Hymn: 4

Christ, whose glory fills the skies

Collect

God our creator who in the beginning commanded the light to shine out of darkness: we pray that the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, may dispel the darkness of ignorance and unbelief, shine into the hearts of all your people, and reveal the knowledge of your glory in the face of Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, In the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever.

Amen

Old Testament Reading:

Malachi 3: 1-5

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.

Then I will draw near to you for judgement; I will be swift to bear witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired workers in their wages, the widow, and the orphan, against those who thrust aside the alien, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Psalm 24: 1-10

R: The Lord of hosts, he is the King of Glory.

- 1 The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it,
the compass of the world and all who dwell therein.
For he has founded it upon the seas
and set it firm upon the rivers of the deep. **R**
- 2 'Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord,
or who can rise up in his holy place?'
'Those who have clean hands and a pure heart,
who have not lifted up their soul to an idol, nor
sworn an oath to a lie; **R**
- 3 'They shall receive a blessing from the Lord,
a just reward from the God of their salvation.'
Such is the company of those who seek him,
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob. **R**
- 4 Lift up your heads, O gates;
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;
and the King of glory shall come in. **R**
- 5 'Who is the King of glory?'
'The Lord, strong and mighty,
the Lord who is mighty in battle.' **R**
- 6 Lift up your heads, O gates;
be lifted up, you everlasting doors;
and the King of glory shall come in. **R**
- 7 'Who is this King of glory?'
'The Lord of hosts,
he is the King of glory.' **R**

New Testament Reading: Hebrews 2: 14-18

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he 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.

This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn: 311

Virgin born, we bow before thee

Gospel: Luke 2: 22-40

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.

This is the gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

The service continues at section 8 in Order of Service

Intercessional Hymn: 274

Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face

The service continues at section 11 in Order of Service

Offertory Hymn: 180

Thou whose almighty word (Let there be light)

The service continues at section 13 in Order of Service

GREAT AND MARVELLOUS are Thy works,

O Lord God the Almighty.

Righteous and true are Thy ways,

O Thou King of the nations.

Who will not fear, O Lord,

And glorify Thy name?

For Thou alone art holy,

And all the nations will come before Thee

And worship, worship, worship before Thee,

And worship, worship, worship before Thee.

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YOU ARE THE VINE,

We are the branches,

Keep us abiding in You.

You are the Vine,

We are the branches,

Keep us abiding in You.

Then we'll grow in Your love,

Then we'll go in Your name,

That the world will surely know

That You have power to heal and to save.

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