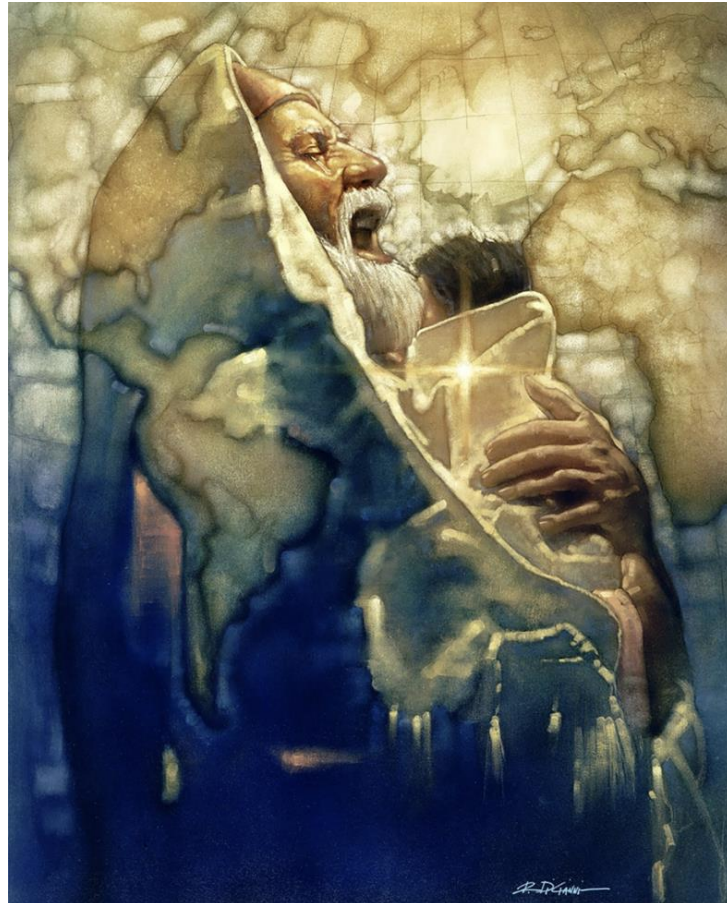




St Mark's
NATIONAL THEOLOGICAL CENTRE



"Simeon's Moment" by Ron DiCianni.

Morning Prayer

Wednesday 14th December 2022

Welcome to our livestreamed chapel. Join live 10.30am

<https://charlessturt.zoom.us/j/692025370>

further info: <https://stmarks.edu.au/about/worship-at-st-marks/>

If what we do is new to you, please feel free to let it wash over you, and join in as you are able. We say the short **bold sections** together, not caring if internet latency makes it a little garbled. If you are attending in person please make sure you are registered as being on site.

This is the message we have heard from Christ:

**that God is light, in whom there is
no darkness at all.**

1 John 1.5

Glory to God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

as in the beginning, so now, and forever. Amen.

The Opening Canticle, A Song of God's Herald

Go up to a high mountain
herald of good tidings to Zion:
lift up your voice with strength,
herald of good tidings to Jerusalem.
Lift up your voice, fear not:
say to the cities of Judah, 'Behold your God!'
See the Lord God, coming with power:
coming to rule with his mighty arm.
He brings his reward for the people of God:
the recompense for those who are saved.
God will feed his flock like a shepherd:
and gather the lambs in his arms;
He will hold them to his breast:
and gently lead those that are with young.

Isaiah 40.9–11

The Opening Prayer

The night has passed and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

Silence may be kept.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and forever.

Amen.

The Psalms as appointed. A pause is observed after each.

Psalm 108:1-6

¹ My heart is fixed, O God, my heart is fixed:

I will sing and make melody.

² **Awake my soul, awake lute and harp:**

for I will awaken the morning.

³ I will give you thanks, O Lord, among the peoples:

I will sing your praise among the nations.

⁴ **For the greatness of your mercy reaches to the heavens:**

and your faithfulness to the clouds.

⁵ Be exalted, O God, above the heavens:

and let your glory be over all the earth;

⁶ **That those whom you love may be delivered:**

O save us by your right hand, and answer me.

At the end of the (last) pause there may follow

Almighty God, who wonderfully created us in your own image and yet more wonderfully restored us in your Son Jesus Christ: grant that, as he came to share our human nature, so we may be partakers in his divine glory; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

One or two Readings from the Bible as appointed.

1st Reading

Luke 1:22-35

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."

2nd Reading

Hebrews 12: 1-2

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

The readings may be followed by a period of silence for reflection, a hymn or

May your word live in us

and bear much fruit to your glory.

The Canticle, The Hymn of the Word

In the beginning was the Word:
and the Word was with God,
And the Word was God:
He was in the beginning with God.
All things were made through him:
and without him, was not anything made that was made.
In him was life:
and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness:
and the darkness has not overcome it.
He was in the world:
and the world was made through him
yet the world knew him not.
He came to his own home:
and his own people received him not.
But to all who received him who believed on his name:
he has given power to become children of God;
Who were born not of blood
nor of the will of the flesh:
nor of the will of a man but of God.
And the Word became flesh:
and dwelt among us full of grace and truth;
We have beheld his glory:
glory as of the only Son from the Father.
And from his fullness have we all received:
and grace upon grace.

John 1.1–5, 10–14, 16

The Prayers

Lord have mercy.

Christ have mercy.

Lord have mercy.

The Lord's Prayer and the Collect of the Day

**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.**

Third Sunday of Advent

Almighty God,
you have made us and all things to serve you:
come quickly to save us,
so that wars and violence shall end
and your children may live in peace,
honouring one another with justice and love;
through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord,
who lives with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

Intercessions and Thanksgivings may be made according to local custom and need.

The Morning Collect

Lord and heavenly Father,
you have brought us safely to this new day:
keep us by your mighty power, protect us from sin,
guard us from every kind of danger,
and in all we do this day
direct us in the fulfilling of your purpose,
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us praise the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

May the God of peace equip us with everything good so that we may do his will; and may he work in us that which is pleasing in his sight; through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever.

Amen.

see Hebrews 13.20-21