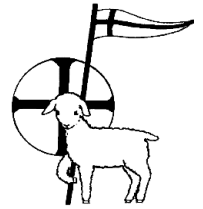


# St John the Baptist Church, Tisbury

reflecting Jesus Christ



**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2025**

## **The Presentation of Christ Candlemas**

### **Today's Service**

9.30am All-Age Service

Led by Canon Judy Anderson

Songs: Come on and celebrate; When candles are lighted; Let us light a candle; This little light of mine

Today the church celebrates the occasion on which Mary and Joseph took the baby Jesus to the temple, following Jewish custom, to present him to God. Here, the elderly Simeon recognised the baby as the promised Saviour, and spoke the words known by many as the Nunc Dimittis. The festival is called Candlemas because traditionally this was the day when all the Church's candles for the year were blessed. Our activity today will involve candles.

3.00pm Memorial Service for the Very Revd Robert Willis Salisbury Cathedral

All are welcome at this service for our former Rector, Robert Willis, who died in October. The service will be livestreamed at <https://bit.ly/3Pzv7Sr>

### **Services during the week**

Holy Communion is celebrated on Wednesdays at 10.00 in St Andrew's Chapel.

Please note, there is no service of Holy Communion on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February – these resume on 14<sup>th</sup> February.

### **Next Sunday, 9<sup>th</sup> February**

### **The Fourth Sunday before Lent**

There is no 9.30 service at St John's on 9<sup>th</sup> February

Those who wish are warmly invited to join the congregation of St John the Baptist, Hindon, for their All-Age Communion service at 9.30am.

3.00pm Choral Evensong with the Dedication of the Memorial East Window

The Rt Revd Andrew Rumsey, Bishop of Ramsbury, will lead the service and preach.

The Very Revd Nicholas Papadopoulos, Dean of Salisbury, will dedicate the window and lead the prayers.

Refreshments will be served after the service. All are welcome!

### **Can you help?**

Offers of a plate of food for the reception following the service on 9<sup>th</sup> February would be very gratefully received. Please contact Trish on 07765 226705. Thank you!

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> February from 10.00am

As part of the celebrations for the window a full peal of bells will be rung, beginning at 10.00am and lasting for about three hours.

### **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February**

### **Eye Witness: Stories of Israel-Palestine**

All are warmly invited to this open meeting of Chalke Deanery Synod to hear the Very Revd Nicholas Papadopoulos, Dean of Salisbury, speak about his three months spent in East Jerusalem last year.

**At Tisbury Methodist Church – please note change of venue.**

Tea/coffee from 6.30pm, business at 6.45pm, talk at 7.00pm.

### **Very last call for Advent Boxes!**

Thank you very much to those of you who took Advent boxes for the Save the Children Middle East Appeal. Please would you bring your box back in the next couple of days so that we can send our donation to the charity?

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## The Collect for the Presentation of Christ in the Temple

Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was this day presented in the Temple, in substance of our flesh: grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, by your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

### The Reading: Luke 2.22-40

The time came for Joseph and Mary to perform the ceremony of purification, as the Law of Moses commanded. So they took the child Jesus to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord, as it is written in the law of the Lord: "Every first-born male is to be dedicated to the Lord." They also went to offer a sacrifice of a pair of doves or two young pigeons, as required by the law of the Lord.

At that time there was a man named Simeon living in Jerusalem. He was a good, God-fearing man and was waiting for Israel to be saved. The Holy Spirit was with him and had assured him that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's promised Messiah. Led by the Spirit, Simeon went into the Temple. When the parents brought the child Jesus into the Temple to do for him what the Law required, Simeon took the child in his arms and gave thanks to God:

"Now, Lord, you have kept your promise,  
and you may let your servant go in peace.  
With my own eyes I have seen your salvation,  
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples:  
A light to reveal your will to the Gentiles  
and bring glory to your people Israel."

The child's father and mother were amazed at the things Simeon said about him. Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother, "This child is chosen by God for the destruction and the salvation of many in Israel. He will be a sign from God which many people will speak against and so reveal their secret thoughts. And sorrow, like a sharp sword, will break your own heart."

There was a very old prophet, a widow named Anna, daughter of Phanuel of the tribe of Asher. She had been married for only seven years and was now eighty-four years old. She never left the Temple; day and night she worshiped God, fasting and praying. That very same hour she arrived and gave thanks to God and spoke about the child to all who were waiting for God to set Jerusalem free.

When Joseph and Mary had finished doing all that was required by the Law of the Lord, they returned to their hometown of Nazareth in Galilee. The child grew and became strong; he was full of wisdom, and God's blessings were upon him.

### For your prayers

In our linked diocese of Cueibet, South Sudan, we are asked to pray for the Deanery visit by Sherwood Elcock this month, for the success of the visit, for his safe passage and return. Please pray too, for fruitful discussions, and his contribution to the health of all in Cueibet town and Diocese.

Please continue to pray that the ceasefire will hold in Israel-Palestine, and that the release of hostages and prisoners will proceed smoothly. Please continue to pray, too, for Ukraine and other troubled areas of the world.

As we celebrate Candlemas and the faithfulness of Simeon and Anna, we pray for the elderly in our community, for those at home and for those in Albany House and other care homes.



### Palm Crosses

Do you still have your palm cross from last year? If so, please could you bring it to church during February so that it can be burned and mixed with holy oil to form the ashes for Ash Wednesday? Thank you!

### Giving to the church



Thank you very much to those who continue to give regularly to the church. If you haven't committed to regular giving, why not consider joining the Parish Giving Scheme? If you go to [www.parishgiving.org.uk](http://www.parishgiving.org.uk) you can get onto the secure website and set up a login and password. This will enable you set up your own direct debit (and sign up for gift aid if applicable). Alternatively, you can pick up a leaflet in church. If you require help or advice on giving, please contact Paul Naish, email [sjgiftaid@gmail.com](mailto:sjgiftaid@gmail.com) tel 07587 072900. Any cheques should be made payable to Tisbury PCC.