

heart. I embrace you as if you are here. Never let me be separated from you. Amen.

Almighty God we thank you for feeding us with the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ. Through him we offer you our souls and bodies to be a living sacrifice. Send us out in the power of your Spirit to live and work to your praise and glory. Amen.

Candle procession prayer. *Please light a candle.* Amen.

Hymn

Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see. Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.

Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair. Your word alone has power to save us. Make us your living voice.

Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst. Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed.

Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold. Make us your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone.

Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong. Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come.

Nunc Dimittis blessing and dismissal *Luke 2.29-32*

A light to lighten the nations and the glory of your people Israel.

A prayer of blessing. Amen.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ.**
Amen.

Communion for Candlemas: Jesus is presented in the Temple

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A reading from Psalm 24 v 7-10

The Lord of glory be with you. **The Lord bless you.**

Lord Jesus Christ, light of the nations and glory of Israel: make your home among us and present us pure and holy to your heavenly Father, your God, and our God. Amen.

Hymn

1. Thou whose almighty word chaos and darkness heard and took their flight, hear us, we humbly pray, and where the gospel day sheds not its glorious ray Let There Be Light!

2. Saviour who came to bring on thy redeeming wing healing and sight, health to the sick in mind, sight to the inly blind, now to all humankind Let There Be Light!

3. Spirit of truth and love, lifegiving, holy Dove, speed forth thy flight; move o'er the waters' face, bearing the lamp of grace, and in earth's darkest place Let There Be Light!

4. Blessed and holy Three, glorious Trinity, Wisdom, Love, Might, boundless as ocean's tide rolling in fullest pride, through the world, far and wide, Let There Be Light!

Confession

Jesus says, 'I am the light of the world. Those who follow me shall not walk in darkness but will have the light of life.' Let us then bring the sins we often hide into his light and confess them in penitence and faith.

Father eternal, giver of light and grace, we have sinned against you and against our neighbour, in what we have thought, in what we have said and done, through ignorance, through weakness, through our own deliberate fault. We have wounded your love, and marred your image in us.

We are sorry and ashamed, and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and lead us out from darkness to walk as children of light. Amen.

Prayer of absolution. **Amen.**

Scripture Readings

Malachi 3 v 1-4

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Luke 2 v 22-40

This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection

Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

Peace

The peace of the Lord be always with you **and also with you.**

Preparation of the Table

Father, in Christ there has sprung up a light for the righteous; accept the gifts we bring before you and grant that Christ may shine in us to the praise and glory of your name. **Amen.**

Eucharistic prayer

The Lord is here **His Spirit is with us**

Lift up your hearts **We lift them to the Lord**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God **It is right to give thanks and praise**

...

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full of your glory

Hosannah in the highest

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord

Hosannah in the highest

...

Great is the mystery of faith

Christ has died Christ is risen Christ will come again.

... **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

Communion

God's holy gifts for God's holy people. **Jesus Christ is holy, Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**

A prayer based on a prayer of St Francis for Spiritual Communion.

Lord Jesus I believe that you are here in bread and wine.

I love you above all things and desire to receive you. Since I cannot receive you sacramentally come spiritually into my